



**ACC**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
CONSULTANTS CANADA

# Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment

Bridgeburg North Secondary Plan

Part of Lots 1 to 4, First Cross Concession, Lots 9 & 10, Concession 1 Niagara River, and Lots 9 & 10, Concession 2 Niagara River, Town of Fort Erie, Regional Municipality of Niagara, Formerly Part of Lots 8 to 12, Concession 2, Geographic Township of Bertie, Welland County, Ontario

Original Report

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**Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Archaeological Consultants Canada (ACC) was contracted by the Proponent to conduct a Stage 1 archaeological background assessment as part of a proposed development. An archaeological assessment was required as part of the pre-approval process for future development under the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990*. The area of assessment, or the “subject property”, is located on Part of Lots 1- 4, First Cross Concession, Lots 9 & 10, Concession 1 Niagara River, and Lots 9 & 10, Concession 2 Niagara River, Geographic Township of Bertie, Fort Erie, Regional Municipality of Niagara, Ontario. The subject property measures 282.48 hectares (“ha”) in size.

The Stage 1 assessment was conducted under Professional Archaeological License P066, held by Kristy O’Neal. The Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM) assigned Project Information Form (PIF) number P066-0472-2025 (Stage 1) to this project.

Stage 1 background research indicated that the subject property has general archaeological potential due to the following factors:

- The presence of historical homesteads and orchards and schoolhouse within the subject property (Tremaine, 1862; Page & Co., 1876).
- The presence of an early settler cemetery within the subject property.
- The subject property is adjacent to Thompson Road and Niagara River Parkway two early historical transportation routes (Tremaine, 1862; Page & Co., 1876).
- Two historic plaques are located within the subject property, McAfee Cemetery and Frenchman’s Creek, indicating that historically significant events occurred within the subject property.
- Frenchman’s Creek runs throughout the subject property
- Forty- three archaeological sites have been registered within 1 km of the subject property; nine of which are located within the subject property.

A 36.14 ha portion of the subject property has been previously subject to a Stage 1 assessment by ASI (2016; PIF P0946-0166-2016) and Stage 2 assessment by Detritus (2021; PIF P017-0811-2020). Portions of the subject property have been subject to Stage 3 and Stage 4 assessment by Detritus (Detritus, PIF P017-0842-2020, P462-0083-2021, P017-0843-2020, P462-0067-2021, P389-0623-2022, P389-0621-2022, P389-0643-2022). A 0.63 ha portion of the subject property has been previously subject to a Stage 1 and 2 assessments by ASI (ASI, 2018a, 2018b; PIFs Stage 1, P128-0135-2016; Stage 2 P094-0203-2016). An additional 0.90 ha portion of the subject property has been previously subject to Stage 1 and 2 assessments by ASI (ASI, 1999; PIF 1999-007-062). In total, 36.77 ha have been subject to previous assessments that are compliant with the MCM’s 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologist* and require no further fieldwork.

Aerial imagery and topographic mapping indicates that 18.69 ha, 6.61%, of the subject property consists of a watercourse and is permanently wet. Additionally, 150.65 ha, 55.29%, of the subject property has been previously intensively and extensively disturbed by major landscaping

and construction activities involving grading below topsoil for construction of a residential house, agricultural buildings, driveways and roadways. As no property inspection was conducted as part of the Stage 1 assessment, visual inspection to confirm, document and map these areas of low to no archaeological potential is recommended during the Stage 2 assessment.

The remainder of the subject property, 78.33 ha, 27.73%, retains archaeological potential and requires Stage 2 property survey. Agricultural fields account for 25.25 ha, 8.93%, of the subject property. As the fields are ploughable land, the Stage 2 assessment of the fields should be completed by pedestrian survey at 5 m intervals. Woodlot, tree rows, and lawn areas account for 53.08 ha, 18.79%, of the subject property. As these areas cannot be ploughed, Stage 2 assessment should be completed by test pit survey at 5 m grid intervals.

According to the OASD, and previous reports filed with MCM, there are nine registered sites located within the subject property, including eight Indigenous lithic scatters, camps, hunting loss and a multi component Indigenous and Euro-Canadian artifact scatter, The OASD lists three sites as having no further CHVI, one site as having unknown CHVI, and five sites as having further CHVI. (MCM, 2025a). Special care should be taken during any future Stage 2 survey near these sites to relocate and evaluate these sites to determine whether these resources retain CHVI, and, if necessary, recommend appropriate Stage 3 strategies.

There is one cemetery located within the subject property, McAfee Cemetery, established in 1809. As the boundary of the cemetery can be conclusively determined based on records, maps, and plans, there is little potential for finding burials outside the current extant cemetery limits. However, if any development should occur within the extant cemetery limits at either cemetery, the Registrar, FBCSA, 2002, BAO, requires that a professionally licensed archaeologist be retained to conduct Stage 2 to 4 archaeological fieldwork (invasive ground disturbances), as necessary, within the cemetery. A CIA should be obtained from the BAO prior to any fieldwork conducted within the McAfee Cemetery.

Detailed recommendations for proposed future fieldwork methods are provided in Section 5.0 within the body of this report.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|                                                        |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----|
| EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....                                | 2  |
| LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS .....                            | 7  |
| PROJECT PERSONNEL .....                                | 8  |
| 1.0 PROJECT CONTEXT .....                              | 9  |
| 1.1 Development Context .....                          | 9  |
| 1.2 Historical Context .....                           | 10 |
| 1.2.1 Background Research .....                        | 10 |
| 1.2.2 A Cultural Chronology for Southern Ontario ..... | 10 |
| 1.3 Archaeological Context .....                       | 14 |
| 1.3.1 Natural Environment .....                        | 15 |
| 1.3.2 Current Land Use .....                           | 15 |
| 1.3.3 Previous Archaeological Investigations .....     | 16 |
| 1.3.4 Archaeological Master Plans .....                | 23 |
| 1.3.5 McAffee Cemetery .....                           | 23 |
| 1.3.6 Historic Plaques .....                           | 24 |
| 2.0 FIELD METHODS .....                                | 26 |
| 3.0 RECORD OF FINDS .....                              | 27 |
| 3.1 Previously Assessed Areas .....                    | 27 |
| 3.3 Areas of Archaeological Potential .....            | 28 |
| 3.3 Documentary Record .....                           | 28 |
| 4.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS .....                     | 30 |
| 4.1 Potential for Archaeological Resources .....       | 30 |
| 4.2 Discussion .....                                   | 31 |
| 4.3 Registered Archaeological Sites .....              | 32 |
| 4.3.1 AfGr-11 .....                                    | 32 |
| 4.3.2 AfGr-88 to AfGr-95 .....                         | 33 |
| 4.4 McAffee Cemetery .....                             | 34 |

|                                                 |    |
|-------------------------------------------------|----|
| 5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS .....                       | 35 |
| 6.0 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION ..... | 39 |
| 7.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND SOURCES .....              | 40 |
| 8.0 FIGURES .....                               | 44 |

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#### LIST OF TABLES

---

|                                                                          |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| 1. General Cultural Chronology for Southern Ontario                      | 11 |
| 2. Landowners Listed in 1862 and 1876 Historical Maps of Welland County  | 14 |
| 3. Registered Archaeological Sites within the Subject Property           | 17 |
| Registered Archaeological Sites within 1 km of the Subject Property      | 19 |
| 4. Inventory of Documentary and Material Records                         | 29 |
| 5. Status of Registered Archaeological Sites within the Subject Property | 33 |



## LIST OF FIGURES

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1. Location of the Subject Property on a Topographic Map
2. Location of the Subject Property on Tremaine's' 1862 Map of Welland County, Canada West
3. Location of the Subject Property on Page & Co.'s 1876 Illustrated Historical Atlas Map of Bertie Township, Lincoln and Welland Counties
4. Location of the Subject Property on a Map of the Soils of The Regional Municipality of Niagara
5. Current Land Use of the Subject Property
6. Location of the Subject Property on 1934 Aerial Imagery
7. Previous Archaeological Assessments Conducted Within 50 m of the Subject Property
8. Location of the Subject property on the Region of Niagara's Archaeological Potential Map
9. 1954 Plan of McAffee Cemetery Showing a Proposed Addition to the North of the Cemetery
10. 1954 Plan of McAffee Cemetery Showing the Proposed Addition to the Cemetery Overlaid on Aerial Imagery of a Portion of the Subject Property
11. 1961 Plan of McAffee Cemetery Showing a Proposed Addition to the East and South of the Cemetery
12. 1961 Plan of McAffee Cemetery Showing a Proposed Addition to the Cemetery Overlaid on Aerial Imagery of a Portion of the Subject Property
13. Plan of McAffee Cemetery with Proposed Road Addition
14. 1963 Plan of McAffee Cemetery with a Proposed Road Overlaid on Aerial Imagery of a Portion of the Subject Property
15. Aerial Imagery Showing the Results of the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of the Subject Property



## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

The following is a list of abbreviations and acronyms used throughout this report.

|          |                                              |
|----------|----------------------------------------------|
| ACC      | Archaeological Consultants Canada            |
| ASI      | Archaeological Services Inc.                 |
| BAO      | Bereavement Authority of Ontario             |
| CIA      | Cemetery Investigation Authorization         |
| CHVI     | Cultural Heritage Value or Interest          |
| cm       | centimetre                                   |
| Detritus | Detritus Consultants Ltd.                    |
| FBCSA    | Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act   |
| ha       | hectares                                     |
| km       | kilometre                                    |
| m        | metre                                        |
| MCM      | Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism |
| OASD     | Ontario Archaeological Sites Database        |
| PHC      | Parslow Heritage Consultancy Inc.            |
| PIF      | Project Information Form                     |
| %        | percent                                      |



## PROJECT PERSONNEL

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# Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment

## Bridgeburg North Secondary Plan

Part of Lots 1 to 4, First Cross Concession, Lots 9 & 10, Concession 1 Niagara River, and Lots 9 & 10, Concession 2 Niagara River, Town of Fort Erie, Regional Municipality of Niagara, Formerly Part of Lots 8 to 12, Concession 2, Geographic Township of Bertie, Welland County, Ontario

### 1.0 PROJECT CONTEXT

#### 1.1 Development Context

Archaeological Consultants Canada (ACC) was contracted by the Proponent to conduct a Stage 1 archaeological assessment of the proposed development. An archaeological assessment was required as part of the pre-planning process for the Bridgeburg North Secondary Plan. The assessment was required under the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990*. The area of assessment, or the “subject property”, is located on Part of Lots 1 to 4, First Cross Concession, Lots 9 & 10, Concession 1 Niagara River, and Lots 9 & 10, Concession 2 Niagara River, in the Town of Fort Erie, Regional Municipality of Niagara, Ontario. Historically, the subject property was located on Part of Lots 8 to 12, Concession 2, in the Geographic Township of Bertie, Welland County.

The subject property measures 282.48 hectares (ha) in size (Figure 1). It is bounded on the north and east by Niagara River, to the south by Bowen Road and Phipps Street, and to the west by Thompson Road. It is made up of a mix of residential, agricultural and forested lands.

The objective of a Stage 1 background study is to provide information about the subject property’s geography, history, previous archaeological fieldwork, and current land conditions. A Stage 1 study evaluates the subject property’s archaeological potential in order to recommend appropriate strategies for the Stage 2 survey.

The Stage 1 assessment was conducted under Professional Archaeological License P066, held by Kristy O’Neal. The Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM) assigned Project Information Form (PIF) number P066-0472-2025 to this project. No fieldwork was completed for this desktop study, therefore no permission to enter the property was required.

All fieldwork and reporting were completed using MCM’s 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. This report documents the research, the field methods and results, and the conclusions and recommendations based on the Stage 1 archaeological assessment. All documents and records related to this project will be curated at the offices of ACC, in accordance with subsection 66(1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* (OHA).

## 1.2 Historical Context

### 1.2.1 Background Research

Stage 1 background research was conducted to determine the potential for finding and identifying archaeological resources including sites within the current subject property and to determine the necessity of conducting a Stage 2 survey. This is done by reviewing geographic, archaeological, and historical data for the property and the surrounding area. The background research was conducted to:

- amass all the readily available information on any previous archaeological surveys in the area.
- determine the locations of any registered and unregistered sites within and around the subject property.
- develop an historical framework for assigning levels of potential significance to any new sites discovered during fieldwork.

### 1.2.2 A Cultural Chronology for Southern Ontario

Over their thousands of years of occupation in the general region, Indigenous peoples have left behind, to a greater or lesser degree, physical evidence of their lifeway activities and settlements at many locations. Based upon a published synthesis of Indigenous cultural occupations (Wright, 1968). Table 1 is a general outline of the cultural history of southern Ontario that is applicable to the subject property. Ellis and Ferris (1990) provide greater detail of the distinctive characteristics of each time period and cultural group. It should be noted that this general outline uses longstanding labels that are used to describe the archaeological record in North America. Archaeological terms like Paleoindian, Archaic, and Woodland, are used here as a way to divide time and should be treated as such.

It is likely that Ontario was occupied soon after the retreat of the Ice Age glaciers. The earliest known human occupation in the area was during the Paleoindian period (between 12,000 and 9,500 years ago) wherein small groups of nomadic peoples hunted big game such as caribou in a cool sub-arctic climate. Sites are typically found near glacial features such as the shorelines of glacial lakes or kettle ponds which would have allowed access to the low-lying environments that were favoured by caribou and other wildlife. These people were few and their small, temporary campsites are relatively rare. Paleoindian sites are recognized by the presence of distinctive artifacts such as fluted projectile points, beaked scrapers, and gravers and by the preference for light colored chert, such as Collingwood chert. The Paleoindian Period is divided into two sub-periods, Early Paleoindian, and Late Paleoindian. During the Archaic period (*circa* 10,000 to 2,800 years ago) people were still primarily nomadic hunters, but they adapted to a more temperate climate. Groups were dispersed during winter months and converged around watercourses from the spring to fall in large fishing campsites. The Archaic period is characterized by the appearance of ground stone tools, notched, or stemmed projectile points. The Archaic Period is divided into three sub-periods, Early, Middle, and Late Archaic. During the Archaic Period, groups began to establish territorial settlements and introduce burial



ceremonialism. There is a marked increase in the number and size of sites, especially during the Late Archaic period.

Table 1: General Cultural Chronology for Southern Ontario

| PERIOD      | SUBDIVISION I                             | SUBDIVISION II                                                       | YEARS BEFORE PRESENT | COMMENTS                            |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| PALEOINDIAN | Early Paleoindian                         | Fluted Point Horizon                                                 | 12,000-10,500        | big game hunters                    |
|             | Late Paleoindian                          | Holcombe & Hi-Lo Horizons                                            | 10,500-9,500         | small nomadic groups                |
| ARCHAIC     | Early Archaic                             | Side Notched Horizon                                                 | 10,000-9,700         | nomadic hunters and gatherers       |
|             |                                           | Corner-Notched Horizon                                               | 9,700-8,900          |                                     |
|             |                                           | Bifurcate Horizon                                                    | 8,900-8,000          |                                     |
|             | Middle Archaic                            | Middle Archaic I/Stemmed Horizon                                     | 8,000-5,500          | territorial settlements             |
|             |                                           | Middle Archaic II                                                    | 5,500-4,500          | polished ground stone tools         |
|             | Late Archaic                              | Narrow Point Horizon                                                 | 4,500-3,500          |                                     |
|             |                                           | Broad Point Horizon                                                  | 4,000-3,500          |                                     |
|             |                                           | Small Point Horizon (including Haldimand and Glacial Kame Complexes) | 3,500-2,800          | burial ceremonialism                |
| WOODLAND    | Early Woodland                            | Meadowood Complex                                                    | 2,900-2,400          | introduction of pottery             |
|             |                                           | Middlesex Complex                                                    | 2,500-2,000          |                                     |
|             | Middle Woodland                           | SW Ontario: Saugeen                                                  | 2,300-1,500          | long distance trade networks        |
|             |                                           | Western Basin: Couture                                               | 2,300-1,500          |                                     |
|             | Transitional Woodland                     | SW Ontario:                                                          |                      |                                     |
|             |                                           | Princess Point                                                       | 1,500/1,400-1,200    | incipient agriculture               |
|             |                                           | Western Basin:                                                       |                      |                                     |
|             |                                           | Riviere au Vase                                                      | 1500/1400-1200/1100  |                                     |
|             | Late Woodland: Ontario Iroquois Tradition | Early: Glen Meyer                                                    | 1200/100-750/700     | transition to village life          |
|             |                                           | Middle I: Uren                                                       | 720/700-710/670      | large villages with palisades       |
|             |                                           | Middle II: Middleport                                                | 710/670-670/600      | wide distribution of ceramic styles |
|             |                                           | Late: Neutral                                                        | 600-450              |                                     |
|             | Late Woodland: Western Basin Tradition    | Younge Phase                                                         | 1200/1100-800        |                                     |
|             |                                           | Springwells Phase                                                    | 800-600              |                                     |
|             |                                           | Wolf Phase                                                           | 600-450              |                                     |
| HISTORIC    | SW Ontario Iroquois                       | Historic Neutral                                                     | 450-350              | tribal warfare                      |
|             | European Contact                          | Initial Contact                                                      | 380-300              | tribal displacement                 |
|             |                                           | European Settlement                                                  | 200 >                | European settlement                 |
|             |                                           | First Nations Resettlement                                           | 200 >                |                                     |

(Compiled from Adams, 1994, Ellis *et al.*, 1990, Wright, 1968)

The Woodland period is distinguished by the introduction of pottery vessels for storage and cooking. Sites of the Woodland period (*circa* 3,000 to 400 years ago) are usually the most numerous because the population levels in southern Ontario had significantly increased, especially along the shores of Lakes Erie and Ontario. The Woodland Period is also marked by the establishment of complex long distance trading networks. The Woodland Period is divided

into three sub-periods, Early, Middle and Late Woodland. During the Late Woodland Period, there is increasing sedentarism and the establishment of horticulture, a reliance on tribal warfare, and the introduction of semi-permanent villages with large protective palisades. The Late Woodland period also envelops the emergence of Iroquoian tribes and confederacies.

The historic period (from A.D. 1650 to 1900) begins with the arrival of Euro-Canadian groups. Sites of this period document European exploration, trade, and the displacement and devastation of native groups caused by warfare and infectious disease. The most common sites of this period include Euro-Canadian homesteads, industries, churches, schools, and cemeteries.

While North America had been visited by Europeans on an increasing scale since the end of the 15<sup>th</sup> century, the first European to venture into what would become southern Ontario was Étienne Brûlé. Brûlé was sent by Samuel de Champlain in the summer of 1610 to consolidate an emerging relationship between the French and the First Nations, and to learn their languages and customs. Other Europeans would subsequently be sent by the French to train as interpreters. These men played an essential role in communications with the First Nations (Gervais and Rothe, 2004:182).

The late 17<sup>th</sup> and early 18<sup>th</sup> centuries saw the growth and spread of the fur trade, with the establishment and maintenance of trading posts along the Great Lakes. In 1754, hostilities over trade and the territorial ambitions of the French and the British led to the Seven Years' War, which ended when the French surrendered in 1760 (Smith, 1987:22). In addition to cementing British control over the Province of Quebec, the British victory over the French also proved pivotal in catalyzing the Euro-Canadian settlement process.

During pre-contact and early contact times, the vicinity of the subject property would have contained a mixture of deciduous trees, coniferous trees, and open areas. In the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, Euro-Canadian settlers arrived via easily accessible colonization routes and began to clear the forests for agricultural purposes. In the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, the subject property and surrounding land were primarily used for agricultural purposes. Mixed farming was common, with wheat crops and beef cattle dominating the landscape (Chapman and Putnam, 1984:177).

The subject property was historically located on Part of Lots 8 to 12, Concession 2, in the Geographic Township of Bertie, Welland County. The earliest recorded European visitor to the county was a Jesuit priest Father Louis Hennepin, who explored the area as a missionary in 1678. He is best known for publishing an account of his travels, which include the first written description of Niagara Falls, published in 1689 (Page, 1876).

Welland County was formed in 1851, when land from the southern section of Lincoln County broke away (Mika & Mika, 1983). The county was named after the Welland River, which, in turn, was named by John Graves Simcoe, after a stream in Lincolnshire, England (Middleton, 1927). The townships in this county were among the earliest settlements in Upper Canada, made up of United Empire Loyalists who came to the area after the American Revolutionary war (Carter, 1984). The building of the first Welland Canal in the 1820's also helped stimulate the growth of settlement in the area (Mika & Mika, 1983).

The township of Bertie was named after Sir Peregrine Bertie, the third Duke of Ancaster and a member of the British House of Lords in the 1760s. The first settler to the area was Father Hennepin who wintered in the area from 1678 to 1679. A French post was established in 1750, it was later destroyed by the British. Shortly after, in 1764, the British built a fort close to the current Fort Erie. Settlement in the township began on the banks of the Niagara River the area was surveyed into lots by 1780, with United Empire Loyalists emigrating to the area by 1784 (Mika and Mika, 1977).

The townships' location on the Niagara River became a strategic defense point for British troops during the War of 1812, with many battles fought within the area (Smith, 1846). Fort Erie separated from the township and incorporated as a village in 1857. The Battle of Lime Ridge occurred in the community of Ridgeway in 1866. The township was positioned in a prime location for the export of goods such as grain and produce with the United States and an international bridge was opened here in 1873. By the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century the area had moved away from industries based around manufacturing and towards tourism with large summer resorts and an amusement park (Mika and Mika, 1977).

The nearest historic village was Victoria, located 530 metres (m) to the southeast of the subject property. Originally called Victoria, it was also known as Waterloo and International Bridge, before incorporating as a village called Bridgeburg in 1895 (Carter, 1984).

Frenchmans Creek is depicted throughout the subject property. The mouth of the creek, where it meets the Niagara River is in the northwest of the current subject property. A minor skirmish during the War of 1812 occurred here. The American soldiers attempting to invade Canada went across the Niagara River planning to destroy the bridge that crossed Frenchmans Creek. However, the attack failed, and the soldiers fled back across the river to the United States (Hitsman, 1968).

This was also the landing point for the troops of the Fenian Raids. The Fenian brotherhood, in an attempt to gain Irish freedom from British rule, planned an invasion of Canada in 1866. They landed at the mouth of Frenchmans Creek after crossing the Niagara River. The troops comprised of Irish Veterans from the American Civil war, captured the town of Ridgeway. They went on to battle the Canadian volunteer militia troops at the battle of Ridgeway (Senior, 1991). After the Canadians were defeated the Fenians fled back to the United States fearing more Canadian troops were on the way.

Historical records and mapping were examined for evidence of early Euro-Canadian occupation within and near the subject property. Areas within 300 m of areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement have archaeological potential. This includes places of early military or pioneer settlement (i.e., homesteads, cabins, farmsteads, communities), early wharf or dock complexes, pioneer churches, and cemeteries. Areas within 100 m of early historic transportation routes, including trails, passes, roads, railways, and portage routes, are considered to have archaeological potential. Figures 2 and 3 represent the Euro-Canadian settlement in and around the current subject property in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Table 2 lists the landowners shown within 1862 and 1876 mapping of the subject property. Historical features are listed after a landowner's name in parentheses.

Table 2: Landowners Listed in 1859 and 1875 Historical Maps of Wentworth County

| CONCESSION | LOT | LISTED OWNER(S)<br>1862 (Tremaine)        | LISTED OWNER(S)<br>1876 (Page & Co.)                                                             |
|------------|-----|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2          | 8   | Sarah Forsyth (school)                    | Helen Anderson<br>Sarah Forsyth<br>William B. Forsyth<br>Crammer Risdale                         |
| 2          | 9   | Helen Anderson (three homesteads)         | Helen Anderson (homestead and orchard)<br>Henry Thorton (homestead)                              |
| 2          | 10  | Thomas Newbigging J.P. (three homesteads) | Thomas Newbigging (five homesteads, orchard)                                                     |
| 2          | 11  | Thomas Newbigging (homestead)             | Thomas Newbigging                                                                                |
| 2          | 12  | John Stockdale (two homesteads)           | SLS John (cemetery, homestead, orchard)<br>P. Anthony<br>George Nettle (two homesteads, orchard) |

Tremaine's 1862 *Map of the Welland County, Canada West* illustrates that the subject property was surrounded by three early concession roads: Thompson Road, Niagara River Parkway, and Bowen Road. Frenchman's Creek runs through the subject property. Landowners are listed for all the lots within the subject property (Table 2). Of particular note is Thomas Newbigging, a Justice of the Peace, and landowner of the property along Frenchman's Creek at the time of the 1866 Fenian raids. There are 10 structures shown within the subject property including nine homesteads and one school (Figure 2).

Page & Co.'s 1876 map of Bertie Township in the *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the counties of Lincoln and Welland, Ontario* indicates the subject property was still surrounded by Thompson Road, Niagara River Parkway, and Bowen Road. Frenchman's Creek runs through the subject property. A railway is located approximately 110 m south of the subject property. Landowners are listed for all the lots within the subject property (Table 2). Ten structures, all homesteads, and three orchards are illustrated within the subject property. The school depicted in the southwest corner of the subject property on Tremaine's map is no longer shown. A cemetery is shown in the northwest portion of the subject property. The cemetery is associated with a church located to the west of Thompson Road, outside the subject property. The cemetery, McAfee Cemetery, is discussed in further detail in Section 1.3.5.

It should be noted that while multiple structures are illustrated within the subject property on the historical atlas mapping, this does not necessarily mean that more additional structures were not present at that time, earlier or later. Not all features of interest were mapped systematically on the Ontario series of historical maps and atlases, given that they were financed by subscription, and subscribers were given preference regarding the level of detail provided on the maps (Caston, 1977:100). Given that the subject property fronts three historic concession roads there is the potential for 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings to be present, depending on the level of disturbance.

### 1.3 Archaeological Context

### 1.3.1 Natural Environment

The subject property is located within the Haldimand Clay Plain physiographic region (Chapman and Putnam, 1984:113). Lying between the Niagara Escarpment and Lake Erie, this area is made up of a series of parallel belts that were once submerged in Lake Warren. The highest ground adjoins the Niagara Escarpment. The main part of Welland County is characterized by level topography and poor drainage and several square miles are covered in peat bogs. The drainage in the belt is controlled by several parallel streams, such as Twenty Mile Creek, Forty Mile Creek, and the Welland River (Chapman and Putman, 1984:157).

The *Soils of the Regional Municipality of Niagara, Ontario* (Kingston and Presant, 1989) indicates that there are seven dominant surface soil types within the subject property (Figure 4). Oneida clay loam is a mainly reddish hue clay loam till that drains well. This soil has a smooth basin to level to smooth very gently sloping topography. Alluvium is made up of variable floodplain deposits of clay loam till, with variable drainage and variable topography. Peel clay loam type 10 consists of 40 to 100 centimetres (cm) of reddish hue lacustrine heavy clay over clay loam with imperfect to poor drainage. This soil has a smooth basin to level topography. Cashel 7, the soil consists of 40-100 cm reddish hue lacustrine heavy clay over clay loam till. The soil drains well and has smooth, very gently sloping topography. Jeddo clay loam is mainly a reddish hue clay loam till with poor drainage and smooth basin to level topography. Peel clay loam type 3 consists of 40 to 100 cm of reddish hue lacustrine heavy clay over clay loam till with imperfect drainage. The soil has a smooth very gently sloping topography. Malton clay loam consists of 40 to 100 cm of reddish hue lacustrine heavy clay over clay loam till. The soil is characterized by poor drainage and smooth basin to level topography.

Water has been identified as the major determinant of site selection, and the presence of potable water is the single most important resource necessary for any extended human occupation or settlement. Primary water sources include, among others, lakes, rivers, creeks, and streams. Secondary water sources include intermittent streams, creeks, springs, marshes, and swamps. Past water sources, such as raised beach ridges, relic water channels, and glacial shorelines are also considered to have archaeological potential. Swamps and marshes are also important as resource extraction areas, and any resource areas are considered to have archaeological potential. The nearest water source is Frenchman's Creek, located within the subject property. The creek is connected to the Niagara River, which bounds the subject property to the north and east. the runs throughout the subject property.

### 1.3.2 Current Land Use

Figure 5 shows the current land use of the subject property. The northeastern edge of the subject property consists of multiple residential houses and roadways, primarily along Niagara River Parkway. There is a sewage treatment plant located within the southern half of the property. In the very southeasternmost corner of the subject property there is a baseball field and playground. Along the southern edge of the property is a subdivision consisting of houses, driveways and roads. The southwestern corner consists of an abandoned golf course. The western edge of the property is primarily scrubland and woodlot surrounding Frenchman's Creek. McAfee Cemetery is in the northwestern corner, with agricultural fields located to the east and north.



Frenchman's Creek and its tributaries run throughout the centre of the subject property from the Niagara River to a pond within the former golf course.

The subject property is located within a mixture of a residential and rural area of Fort Erie. Niagara River Parkway is located along the north and east, Bowmen Drive and Phipps Street are south, and Thompson Road is along the western edge of the subject property.

Figure 6 shows an aerial photograph of the subject property dated to 1934 (Niagara Region, 2023). There are a few houses along the north and eastern edge of the property. A subdivision is present near the southeast corner of the subject property. The southwestern corner consists of scrubland. McAfee Cemetery and a farm complex are present in the northwestern area. The centre of the property consists of agricultural fields and woodlots surrounding Frenchman's Creek. Niagara River Parkway, Phipps Street, and Thompson Road are in their current position. Bowen Road extends through the southwestern area of the subject property; this portion of the road is no longer present.

No fieldwork was conducted for the Stage 1 assessment.

### 1.3.3 Previous Archaeological Investigations

#### 1.3.3.1 Registered Archaeological Sites

Previously registered archaeological sites can be used to indicate archaeological potential. To determine if any previous assessments have yielded archaeological sites, either within or surrounding the current subject property, two main sources were consulted. These include the *Ontario Archaeological Sites Database* (OASD) and the *Public Register of Archaeological Reports*, both of which are maintained by MCM.

The OASD contains archaeological sites registered within the Borden system (Borden, 1952). The Borden system divides Canada into 13 kilometres ("km") by 18.5 km blocks based on longitude and latitude. Each Borden block is designated with a four-letter label and sites identified within the block are numbered sequentially as they are registered. The subject property is located within the *AfGr* Borden block.

According to the OASD, nine archaeological sites have been registered within the subject property, and additional 34 sites have been registered within 1 km of the subject property (MCM, 2025a). One of these additional sites is located within 300 m of the subject property. Twenty sites are of Euro-Canadian cultural affiliation or have a Euro-Canadian component. Thirty-five are of Indigenous cultural affiliation or have an Indigenous component. One site is of an unknown cultural affiliation. Sites include hunting losses, farmsteads, camps, agricultural, dumps, findspots, homesteads, scatters, middens, schools, cemeteries, and ossuaries.

Table 3 lists the sites within 1 km along with the current Cultural Heritage Value or Interest (CHVI) for each site. CHVI is a term used by MCM and consultant archaeologists to describe archaeological resources that meet one or more criteria that recommend further fieldwork in MCM's *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. Under the *Ontario Heritage Act* and its regulations, archaeological resources that have been determined to possess CHVI are

protected as archaeological sites under Section 48 of the act. Information in Table 2 is provided by MCM through the OASD (MCM, 2025a).

Table 3: Registered Archaeological Sites within the Subject Property

| BORDEN NUMBER | NAME          | TIME PERIOD               | CULTURAL AFFILIATION      | SITE TYPE          | STATUS          |
|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| AfGr-11       | Central Beach | Pre-Contact               | Indigenous                | unknown            | unknown         |
| AfGr-89       | -             | Pre-Contact               | Indigenous                | camp/campsite      | No further CHVI |
| AfGr-88       | -             | Pre-Contact               | Indigenous                | camp/campsite      | No further CHVI |
| AfGr-90       | -             | Pre-Contact               | Indigenous                | camp/campsite      | Further CHVI    |
| AfGr-91       | -             | Pre-Contact               | Indigenous                | camp/campsite      | Further CHVI    |
| AfGr-92       | -             | Pre-Contact               | Indigenous                | camp/campsite      | Further CHVI    |
| AfGr-93       | -             | Pre-Contact               | Indigenous                | camp/campsite      | Further CHVI    |
| AfGr-94       | -             | Pre-Contact, Post-Contact | Indigenous, Euro-Canadian | unknown, farmstead | Further CHVI    |
| AfGr-95       | -             | Woodland, Late            | Unknown                   | hunting loss       | No further CHVI |

A summary fieldwork conducted at each of the nine sites located within the sites is provided below. Supplementary Documentation accompanying this report shows the location of each site within the subject property.

- Archaeological site AfGr-11, Central Beach, was documented by Archaeological Services Inc. (ASI) during a pedestrian survey. Four Indigenous lithic artifacts were recovered. ASI recommended further fieldwork if the area was to be developed (ASI, 1999).
- Archaeological Site AfGr-88 was documented by Detritus Consulting Ltd. (Detritus) during pedestrian survey and test pit survey. A total of 485 Indigenous lithic artifacts were recovered from a 44 m by 28 m area. The site was determined to represent a large activity area and was recommended for Stage 3 assessment (Detritus, 2021a:39-40). A Stage 3 assessment was completed by Detritus and documented 908 lithic artifacts. The site was recommended for Stage 4 assessment (Detritus, 2021b). A Stage 4 assessment was completed in 2023 by Detritus. The site was determined to be a camp dating to the Late Archaic to Woodland Period. Detritus recommended that the site had been fully excavated with no further CHVI (Detritus, 2023a).
- Site AfGr-89 was first documented by Detritus during a pedestrian survey. A total of 117 Indigenous lithic artifacts were recovered from a 29 m by 12 m area. The site was determined to represent a small activity area and was recommended for Stage 3 assessment (Detritus, 2021a:39-40). A Stage 3 assessment was completed by Detritus, with 164 artifacts recovered (Detritus, 2021b). The site was determined to retain CHVI and was recommend for Stage 4 assessment. A Stage 4 assessment was completed in 2023 by Detritus. The site was determined to be a camp dating to the Late Archaic to Woodland Period. Detritus recommended that the site had been fully excavated with no further CHVI (Detritus, 2023b).

- Archaeological Site AfGr-90 was documented by Detritus during a pedestrian survey. A total of 59 Indigenous lithic artifacts were recovered from a 43 m by 17 m area. The site was determined to represent a late-stage lithic reduction camp and was recommended for Stage 3 assessment (Detritus, 2021a:39-40). A Stage 3 assessment was completed by Detritus and determine that the site had further CHVI and was recommended for Stage 4 assessment (Detritus, 2022).
- Archaeological Site AfGr-91 was documented by Detritus during a pedestrian survey and test pit survey. A total of 264 Indigenous lithic artifacts were recovered from a 44 m by 55 m area. The site was determined to represent a late-stage lithic reduction camp and was recommended for Stage 3 assessment (Detritus, 2021a:39-40).
- Archaeological Site AfGr-92 was documented by Detritus during a pedestrian survey and test pit survey. A total of 39 Indigenous lithic artifacts were recovered from a 26 m by 9 m area. The site was determined to represent a late-stage lithic reduction camp and was recommended for Stage 3 assessment (Detritus, 2021a:39-40). A Stage 3 assessment was completed by Detritus and determine that the site had further CHVI and was recommended for Stage 4 assessment (Detritus, 2022).
- Archaeological Site AfGr-93 was documented by Detritus during test pit survey. A total of 27 Indigenous lithic artifacts were recovered from a 15 m by 10 m area. The site was determined to represent a late-stage lithic reduction camp and was recommended for Stage 3 assessment (Detritus, 2021a:39-40). A Stage 3 assessment was completed by Detritus and determine that the site had further CHVI and was recommended for Stage 4 assessment (Detritus, 2022).
- Archaeological Site AfGr-94 was documented by Detritus during test pit survey. A total of 125 Euro-Canadian artifacts and 7 Indigenous artifacts were recovered from a 15 m by 5 m area. Detritus determined the site to be a Euro-Canadian refuse pit with an occupation throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century. A projectile point dating to the Early Woodland period was recovered. The site was determined to retain CHVI and recommended for Stage 3 assessment (Detritus, 2021a:39-40).
- Archaeological Site AfGr-95 was documented by Detritus during pedestrian survey. The site consists of an isolated Naticoke Triangular projectile point dating to the Late Woodland period. Due to the isolated nature of the find, Detritus determined the site had no further CHVI (Detritus, 2021:40).

Table 4 lists the sites within 1 km of the subject property along with the current CHVI for each site. Information in Table 4 is provided by MCM through the OASD (MCM, 2025a).

Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment  
Bridgeburg North Secondary Plan  
Town of Fort Erie, R. M. Niagara, ON

Table 4: Registered Archaeological Sites within 1 km of the Subject Property

| BORDEN NUMBER | NAME               | TIME PERIOD                                                                       | CULTURAL AFFILIATION      | SITE TYPE                                            | STATUS          |
|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| AfGr-1        | Orchid             | Woodland, Middle, Woodland, Late, Post-Contact                                    | Indigenous, Iroquoian     | cemetery, ossuary                                    | unknown         |
| AfGr-2        | Surma              | Archaic, Middle, Archaic, Late, Woodland, Early, Woodland, Middle, Woodland, Late | Indigenous                | burial, scatter, village                             | unknown         |
| AfGr-7        | Walnut Street      | Archaic, Late, Woodland, Middle, Woodland, Late                                   | Indigenous, Iroquoian     | midden, unknown                                      | unknown         |
| AfGr-8        | Lavinia            | Woodland, Middle                                                                  | Indigenous                | unknown                                              | unknown         |
| AfGr-9        | Peace Bridge       | Pre-Contact, Post-Contact                                                         | unknown                   | unknown, residential                                 | Further CHVI    |
| AfGr-11       | Central Beach      | Pre-Contact                                                                       | Indigenous                | scatter                                              | unknown         |
| AfGr-16       | Liam's Point       | Pre-Contact, Archaic, Late, Woodland, Early                                       | Indigenous                | camp/campsite                                        | unknown         |
| AfGr-26       | -                  | Pre-Contact                                                                       | Indigenous                | unknown                                              | unknown         |
| AfGr-37       | -                  | Pre-Contact                                                                       | Indigenous                | unknown                                              | unknown         |
| AfGr-38       | -                  | Pre-Contact                                                                       | Indigenous                | unknown                                              | unknown         |
| AfGr-39       | -                  | Post-Contact                                                                      | Euro-Canadian             | house                                                | unknown         |
| AfGr-40       | -                  | Post-Contact                                                                      | Euro-Canadian             | school                                               | unknown         |
| AfGr-48       | -                  | Pre-Contact, Woodland, Late                                                       | Indigenous, Neutral       | unknown                                              | unknown         |
| AfGr-74       | Location 1         | Post-Contact                                                                      | Euro-Canadian             | homestead                                            | Further CHVI    |
| AfGr-75       | Location 3         | Post-Contact                                                                      | Indigenous, Euro-Canadian | camp/campsite, homestead                             | Further CHVI    |
| AfGr-76       | -                  | Pre-Contact, Post-Contact                                                         | unknown                   | homestead, scatter                                   | Further CHVI    |
| AfGr-87       | -                  | Pre-Contact, Post-Contact                                                         | Indigenous, unknown       | camp/campsite, dump, findspot, scatter, agricultural | No further CHVI |
| AfGr-99       | -                  | Post-Contact                                                                      | Euro-Canadian             | house                                                | No further CHVI |
| AfGr-101      | NP Bell Location 2 | Pre-Contact, Post-Contact                                                         | unknown                   | camp/campsite, unknown                               | Further CHVI    |
| AfGr-102      | Miller Creek 1     | Pre-Contact, Post-Contact                                                         | unknown                   | scatter, unknown                                     | Further CHVI    |
| AfGr-103      | -                  | Post-Contact                                                                      | Euro-Canadian             | scatter                                              | Further CHVI    |
| AfGr-104      | -                  | Post-Contact                                                                      | Euro-Canadian             | scatter                                              | Further CHVI    |
| AfGr-105      | -                  | Post-Contact                                                                      | Euro-Canadian             | scatter                                              | Further CHVI    |
| AfGr-106      | -                  | Pre-Contact, Post-Contact                                                         | Indigenous, Euro-Canadian | scatter, unknown                                     | Further CHVI    |



| BORDEN NUMBER | NAME       | TIME PERIOD               | CULTURAL AFFILIATION      | SITE TYPE              | STATUS       |
|---------------|------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| AfGr-107      | Cairns-2   | Pre-Contact               | Indigenous                | scatter                | Further CHVI |
| AfGr-108      | Cairns-4   | Pre-Contact, Post-Contact | Indigenous, Euro-Canadian | camp/campsite, unknown | Further CHVI |
| AfGr-109      | Cairns-3   | Pre-Contact, Post-Contact | Indigenous, Euro-Canadian | scatter, unknown       | Further CHVI |
| AfGr-110      | Cairns-5   | Pre-Contact               | Indigenous                | camp/campsite          | Further CHVI |
| AfGr-111      | Cairns-6   | Pre-Contact               | Indigenous                | scatter                | Further CHVI |
| AfGr-112      | Location 1 | Pre-Contact, Post-Contact | Indigenous, Euro-Canadian | scatter, homestead     | Further CHVI |
| AfGr-113      | -          | Other                     | unknown                   | unknown                | Further CHVI |
| AfGr-114      | South      | Pre-Contact, Post-Contact | unknown                   | scatter, residential   | Further CHVI |
| AfGr-115      | -          | Pre-Contact, Post-Contact | Indigenous, Euro-Canadian | unknown, homestead     | Further CHVI |
| AfGr-116      | -          | Pre-Contact               | Indigenous                | unknown                | Further CHVI |
| AfGr-120      | P1         | Pre-Contact               | Indigenous                | unknown                | Further CHVI |

One additional registered archaeological site is located within 300 m of the subject property (MCM, 2025a). A summary of each of the site is provided below.

- Archaeological site AfGr-115 is located approximately 30 m west of the subject property. The site was first documented in 2024 by Parslow Heritage Consultancy Inc. (PHC). A total of 505 Indigenous and Euro-Canadian artifacts were recovered from test pits covering a 177 m by 63 m area. The Euro-Canadian artifacts were determined to relate to a homestead dating to between 1830 and 1870. No diagnostic artifacts were identified within the Indigenous assemblage. Stage 3 site-specific assessment was recommended for the site (PHC, 2024).

Information concerning specific site locations is protected by provincial policy and is not fully subject to the *Freedom of Information Act*. 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. MCM 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.

### 1.3.3.2 Previous Archaeological Reports

A review of archaeological reports within the *Public Register of Archaeological Reports* indicated that there are eight archaeological reports detailing previous archaeological fieldwork within the subject property. There is one additional report detailing fieldwork within 50 m of the subject property filed with the MCM at the time this report was written. Reports were searched based on registered site information, historic lots and concessions, and nearby streets. Figure 7 shows the location of these assessments in relation to the current subject property.

***Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment of Niagara Boulevard – Sewer and Watermain Replacement, from Dufferin Street to Central Avenue, Town of Fort Erie, R. M. of Niagara. Archaeological Services Inc. Report dated 1999. PIF 1999-007-062.***

ASI conducted a Stage 1 & 2 assessment for sewer works along Niagara Boulevard, in the southeastern portion of the current subject property and lands to the south. The assessment resulted in the documentation of Indigenous site AfGr-11, located within the current subject property. ASI recommended monitoring of construction activities within 100 m of the site (ASI, 1999:6).

***Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of 85 Crooks Street, Part of Lot 8, Concession 2 N.R., Geographic Township of Bertie, County of Welland, Town of Fort Erie, Regional Municipality of Niagara. ASI Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Services. Report dated December 12, 2016. PIF P046-0166-2016***

ASI conducted a Stage 1 assessment of a 34-ha parcel of land within the southwest portion of the current subject property in advance of the construction of the 9-hole Rio Vista Golf Course. A property inspection was conducted as part of their assessment. ASI concluded that 75 percent (%) of their assessment area retained archaeological potential and required Stage 2 assessment (ASI, 2016). The remaining lands had low potential due to low-lying and permanently wet conditions or previous disturbance.

***Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment, d Rio Vista Golf Course, 85 and 87 Crooks Street, Part of Lot 8, Concession 2 Niagara River, Geographic Township of Bertie, Historical County of Welland, now in the Town of Fort Erie, Regional Municipality of Niagara, Ontario. Detritus Consulting Ltd. Report dated August 27, 2021. PIF P017-0811-2020.***

Detritus conducted a Stage 2 assessment of a 34.14-ha parcel of land within the southwest portion of the current subject property in advance of the construction of the 9-hole Rio Vista Golf Course. Stage 2 assessment was conducted by pedestrian survey at test pit survey at 5 m intervals. Seven pre-contact Indigenous artifact scatters and eleven isolated findspots were documented during the assessment. The seven scatters and one diagnostic isolated findspot were registered in the OASD as AfGr-88 to AfGr-95 and are discussed above. Detritus recommended Stage 3 site specific assessment for the seven scatters. The isolated finds were determined to have no further CHVI (Detritus, 2021a).

***Stage 3 Archaeological Assessment, 85 Crooks Street, Part of Lot 8, Concession 2 Niagara River, Geographic Township of Bertie, County of Welland, Town of Fort Erie, Regional Municipality of Niagara. Detritus Consulting Inc. Report dated 2021. PIFs P017-0842-2020, P017-0843-2020.***

Detritus conducted Stage 3 site-specific assessments of two Indigenous sites located within the current subject property, AfGr-88 and AfGr-89. Both sites, as discussed above, were recommended for Stage 4 mitigation (Detritus, 2021b).

***Stage 3 Archaeological Assessment, Rio Vista Golf Course, 85 and 87 Crooks Street Part of Lot 8, Concession 2 Niagara River, Geographic Township of Bertie, Historical***



***County of Welland, now the Town of Fort Erie, Regional Municipality of Niagara, Ontario. Detritus Consulting Inc. Report dated 2022. PIFs P389-0623-2022, P389-0621-2022, P389-0634-2022.***

Detritus conducted Stage 3 site-specific assessments of three Indigenous sites located within the current subject property, AfGr-90, AfGr-92, and AfGr-93. All three sites, as discussed above, were recommended for Stage 4 mitigation (Detritus, 2022).

***Stage 4 Archaeological Assessment, AfGr-88, 85 Crooks Street Part of Lot 8, Concession 2 Niagara River, Geographic Township of Bertie, County of Welland, Town of Fort Erie, Now the Regional Municipality of Niagara. Detritus Consulting Inc. Report dated 2023. PIF P462-0083-2021.***

Detritus conducted Stage 4 mitigation at site AfGr-88, located within the current subject property. Mitigation was conducted through full excavation, with nearly 49,000 lithic artifacts dating to the Late Archaic and Woodland periods recovered. Hand excavation of units was followed by mechanical topsoil removal and feature excavation. Detritus recommended that the site has been fully excavated and has no further CHVI (Detritus, 2023a).

***Stage 4 Archaeological Assessment, AfGr-89, 85 Crooks Street Part of Lot 8, Concession 2 Niagara River, Geographic Township of Bertie, County of Welland, Town of Fort Erie, Now the Regional Municipality of Niagara. Detritus Consulting Inc. Report dated 2023. PIF P462-0067-2021.***

Detritus conducted Stage 4 mitigation at site AfGr-89, located within the current subject property. Mitigation was conducted through full excavation, with over 5,000 lithic artifacts dating to the Late Archaic and Woodland periods recovered. Hand excavation of units was followed by mechanical test trenching. Detritus recommended that the site has been fully excavated and has no further CHVI (Detritus, 2023b).

***Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment Highland Avenue Reconstruction Crooks Street to Niagara Boulevard Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Lot 8, Concession 1, Niagara River Town of Fort Erie (Former Township of Bertie, County of Welland) Regional Municipality of Niagara, Ontario. Archaeological Services Inc. Report dated February 1, 2018. PIF P128-0135-2016.***

ASI conducted a Stage 1 assessment of Highland Avenue for a proposed reconstruction project that included lands within the current subject property as well as lands directly to the east. Portions of the property were determined to be disturbed. The remainder was determined to retain archaeological potential and was recommended for Stage 2 assessment (ASI, 2018a).

***Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment (Property Assessment), Highland Avenue Reconstruction Crooks Street to Niagara Boulevard Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Lot 8, Concession 1, Niagara River Town of Fort Erie (Former Township of Bertie, County of Welland) Regional Municipality of Niagara, Ontario. Archaeological Services Inc. Report dated February 1, 2018. PIF P094-0203-2016.***



ASI conducted a Stage 2 assessment of Highland Avenue for a proposed reconstruction project that included lands within the current subject property as well as lands directly to the east. Assessment was conducted through test pit survey and no archaeological resources were identified. No further fieldwork was recommended for the property (ASI, 2018b:9).

***Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment, Vacant Lands West of Thompson Road, Part of Lot 5, First Cross Concession, Geographic Township of Bertie, Welland County, now Town of Fort Erie, Ontario. Parslow Heritage Consultancy Inc. PIF P1056-0202-2023.***

PHC conducted a Stage 1 & 2 archaeological assessment of a parcel of land located within 50 m to the west of the current subject property. Stage 2 test pit survey resulted in the documentation of one multi-component archaeological site, registered in the OASD as AfGr-115. As discussed above, this site is 30 m from the current subject property and has further CHVI (PHC, 2024).

#### 1.3.4 Archaeological Master Plans

Niagara Region has an official plan that sets out directions and policies that guide economic, environmental, and community planning decisions for the region. In 2023, Niagara Region developed an Archaeological Management Plan. The plan is to be a comprehensive approach for the conservation of archaeological resources. The plan provides policies and process recommendations for planning and developmental approvals for the conservation of archaeological resources. The recommendations and policies are consistent with the Provincial Policy statement and makes them standard clauses for Niagara region and municipalities (Niagara Region, 2023a).

The document also includes an Archaeological Potential Model for Niagara Region which highlights the lands within the Region that contain archaeological potential. The model was based on inductive and deductive approaches to determined potential. The Pre-Contact Indigenous site layer uses data from the Ontario Archaeological Site Database. While the historical site potential layer uses digitization of residential, commercial and industrial features and transportation routes from historical mapping; along with all previously discovered historical sites. The Archaeological Potential Model indicates that portions of the subject property have potential for archaeological resources (Figure 8).

#### 1.3.5 McAfee Cemetery

McAfee Cemetery is located within the northwest portion of the subject property. The cemetery was established in 1819 by a society of Methodists that were early United Empire Loyalists and early settlers to the area. One of the oldest burials is Esther Hershey Troup, who was born in 1774 and died in 1815 (Find A Grave, 2025). There is no mention of the cemetery in the Abstract Land Index land registry records. The Crown granted a land patent for Lot 4, Cross Concession to John Wintermute in 1802. Wintermute sold the lot along with Lot 10, Concession 3 to John Hersey and his wife in 1805 (Ontario Land Registry, 2025).

The cemetery is named after the McAfee family who lived north of the property on Lot 5, Cross Concession. In 1861 they sold a portion of land, directly across from the original cemetery, and

to the west of Thompson Road, to the trustees of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. The McAffees aided in William Lyon MacKenzie's 1837 rebellion efforts and are not buried in the cemetery as they relocated to the United States, some time after the rebellion (Ontario Land Registry, 2025).

McAfee Cemetery is identified within the current subject property in 1876 historical atlas mapping (Page & Co., 1876). Today the McAfee Cemetery is located on both sides of Thompson Road, having been expanded multiple times since the 1950's. It is listed as active and non-denominational. It is operated by the Town of Fort Erie.

The Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) and the Town of Fort Erie's licensed cemetery operator of McAfee Cemetery were contacted for information regarding the cemetery. BAO confirmed that the cemetery was registered and provided seven maps of the cemetery. Three of the maps relate to the eastern half of the cemetery and are located within the current subject property (Figures 9 to 14). The earliest map, dated to 1954, shows the original cemetery boundaries, with proposed additional lands to be acquired illustrated on the map. These additional lands extended the cemetery 15 m to the north. An updated plan shows additional burial plots added to the east of the cemetery as well as to the north. A plan from 1963 shows the extension of the cemetery 6 m to the south and south and 19 m to the west of the original cemetery. A survey from after 1963 is for a proposed new plots and roadway to the south of the original cemetery extending the cemetery 30 m further to the south.

#### 1.3.6 Historic Plaques

There are two heritage and monument plaques located within the subject property. Additionally, there is one heritage plaque adjacent to the subject property off Thompson Road.

##### 1.3.6.1 McAfee Cemetery

The McAfee Cemetery located in the northwest of the subject property, just west of Thompson Road, has a plaque honouring the founders. The plaque reads, "founded 1819 by the Society of Methodists who were United Empire Loyalist and pioneer settlers in the township of Bertie" (Niagara Parks, 2025).

##### 1.3.6.2 Frenchman's Creek

Frenchman's Creek, a National Historic Site, was designated in 1921 in recognition of action here during the War of 1812 (Parks Canada, 2025). There are two plaques located at the intersection of Niagara River Parkway and Frenchman's Creek. One plaque reads, "In an effort to regain the initiative lost at Queenston, the Americans planned a general invasion for 28 November 1812. The attackers failed to destroy the bridge over Frenchman's Creek and the batteries they had overrun were soon taken by British reinforcement. After confused fighting the advanced parties returned to the American shore. The main assault failed to materialize. The fiasco ended American hopes for victory on the Niagara Frontier in 1812." (Niagara Parks, 2025).

The second plaque is to mark the landing place of the Fenian Raiders and in memory of the non-commissioned officers and men of the Royal Artillery, 49<sup>th</sup> Regiment and Norfolk Militia. The Fenian Brotherhood was a society of Irish descent with the goal of freeing Ireland from the British rule during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. On May 31, 1866, the Fenian Raiders crossed the Niagara River arriving just south of Frenchman's creek, camping there while awaiting reinforcements. The following day, the Fenians captured the town of Ridgeway. The battle of Ridgeway was fought between the Fenians (Irish veteran from the American Civil War) and a Canadian government organized volunteer militia man and part time soldiers. The Fenians defeated the Canadian troops who fled, nine militiamen were killed. The Fenians believing more Canadian troops were on the way, soon too fled, other skirmishes occurred as they fled back to the United States (Senior, 1991).

#### 1.3.6.3 Mackenzie Crossing 1837

Approximately 25 m west of the subject property is a plaque for the Mackenzie Crossing 1837. The plaque marks the defeat of the patriot William Lyon MacKenzie by the Loyalist militia. The plaque reads, "On December 7<sup>th</sup>, 1837, William Lyon Mackenzie's "Patriot" forces were defeated north of Toronto by Loyalist militia, and he fled towards the United States...reaching this vicinity on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Captain Samuel McAfee who owned the property at the time provided Mackenzie with a boat to cross the Niagara River..." The plaque was erected by the Ontario Archaeological and Historic Sites Board in 1959 (Niagara Parks, 2025).



## 2.0 FIELD METHODS

An optional visual property inspection was not completed for the project. However, the entirety of the property was assessed and documented through background research of the geography, topography, and current condition of the property. This research was sufficient to identify the presence or absence of features of archaeological potential, and to make recommendations regarding further fieldwork.

Results of the Stage 1 assessment are shown in Figure 15.



### 3.0 RECORD OF FINDS

The subject property measures 282.44 ha.

Aerial imagery and topographic mapping indicate that 18.36 ha, 6.50% of the subject property is made up of watercourses and waterbodies associated with Frenchman's Creek.

#### 3.1 Previously Assessed Areas

A 34.14 ha parcel of land within the subject property have been previously assessed. ASI completed a Stage 1 assessment on a 34-ha property recommending the property for Stage 2 assessment (ASI, 2016; PIF P046-0166-2016). Detritus completed Stage 2 assessment of the previous 34.14 ha property, identifying seventeen archaeological resources and recommending seven for Stage 3 assessment (Detritus, 2021; PIF P017-0811-2020). This area totalling 34.14 ha, 12.08% of the subject property, has been assessed using Stage 1 & 2 fieldwork methods that are compliant with MCM's 2011 *Standards & Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. Reports documenting the fieldwork this area have been reviewed and entered into MCM's *Public Register of Archaeological Reports*. Therefore, these lands do not require further Stage 2 survey. Registered sites with outstanding concerns are present in parts of the previously assessed areas.

A 0.63 ha area of land within the subject property has been previously assessed. ASI completed a Stage 1 and Stage 2 assessment of Highland Avenue (ASI, 2018a, 2018b; PIFs Stage 1, P128-0135-2016; Stage 2 P094-0203-2016). This area totalling 0.63 ha, 0.22% of the subject property, has been assessed using Stage 1 & 2 fieldwork methods that are compliant with MCM's 2011 *Standards & Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. Reports documenting the fieldwork this area have been reviewed and entered into MCM's *Public Register of Archaeological Reports*. Therefore, these lands do not require further Stage 2 survey. Registered sites with outstanding concerns are present in parts of the previously assessed areas.

A 0.90 ha area of land within the subject property has been previously assessed. ASI conducted a Stage 1 & 2 assessment on the area in the southwest corner of the subject property for a sewer and watermain replacement (ASI, 1999; PIF 1999-007-062). During the assessment one Indigenous archaeological resource was identified AfGr-11. The methods of the Stage 1 & 2 fieldwork are compliant with the MCM's 2011 *Standards & Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. However, the CHVI of the site is unknown, therefore the area requires reassessment to confirm the archaeological potential.

#### 3.2 Areas of Low to No Archaeological Potential

Areas of low to no archaeological potential include lands that have been previously disturbed, lands that have steeply sloping topography, and lands that are low-lying and permanently wet.

Aerial imagery and topographic mapping indicates that 18.69 ha, 6.61%, of the subject property is low-lying and permanently wet. These areas consist of marshes with standing water as well as vegetation indicative of permanent wetness.

Aerial imagery and topographic mapping indicates that 150.65 ha, 55.29%, of the subject property has been previously intensively and extensively disturbed by major landscaping and construction activities involving grading below topsoil for construction of roads, laneways, sidewalks, residential buildings, agricultural buildings, outbuildings, and commercial buildings.

No areas of steeply sloping topography, characterized by slopes in excess of 20 degrees, were observed within the subject property.

Figure 15 shows the areas that have been identified during background research as having low to no archaeological potential. As no visual property inspection has been completed for this assessment, the Stage 2 assessment must confirm, document, and map all areas of low to no archaeological potential identified during this Stage 1 archaeological assessment.

### 3.3 Areas of Archaeological Potential

Areas of archaeological potential include undisturbed and well-drained lands such as agricultural fields, wooded areas, and manicured greenspaces.

Based on background research, 78.33 ha, 27.73% of the subject property retains archaeological potential. Agricultural fields account for 25.25 ha, 8.93% of the subject property. According to Section 2.1.1 of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MCM, 2011), pedestrian survey is required in actively or recently cultivated fields that can be ploughed. Therefore, Stage 2 archaeological assessment in these areas should be conducted by pedestrian survey at 5 m intervals.

According to 2.1.2 of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MCM, 2011), test pit survey is required on terrain where ploughing is not viable, such as wooded areas, properties where existing landscaping or infrastructure would be damaged, overgrown farmland with heavy brush or rocky pasture, and narrow linear corridors up to 10 m wide. Wooded areas, tree rows, scrub, and manicured greenspace account for 53.08 ha, 18.79 %, of the subject property. These portions meet the requirements of Section 2.1.2 1e of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*, that ploughing or cultivation is not viable. Because these portions of the property cannot be ploughed, the Stage 2 assessment of these areas should be completed by test pit survey at 5 m grid intervals.

Figure 15 shows the areas that have been identified during background research to retain archaeological potential and require Stage 2 assessment.

### 3.3 Documentary Record

All research-related activities were documented and kept, including notes and observations and detailed maps.

A detailed list of records is presented in Table 4. All digital items have been duplicated, and all paper items have been scanned and stored as digital documents. All items are housed in the corporate offices of ACC.

Under Section 6 of Regulation 881 of the OHA, ACC will keep in safekeeping all objects of archaeological significance that are found under the authority of the license and all field records that are made in the course of the work authorized by the license, except where the objects and records are donated to His Majesty the King in right of Ontario or are directed to be deposited in a public institution under subsection 66 (1) of the Act.

Table 4: Inventory of Documentary and Material Records

| PROJECT INFORMATION |                |                                        |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------|
| ACC project number  | 295-01-25      |                                        |
| licensee            | Kristy O'Neal  |                                        |
| MCM PIF numbers     | P066-0472-2025 |                                        |
| DOCUMENT/MATERIAL   | NUMBER         | DESCRIPTION                            |
| notes               | 2              | pages (paper, with digital copies)     |
| maps                | 1              | aerial imagery of the subject property |
|                     | 1              | nap of archaeological potential        |
|                     | 2              | historic maps                          |

## 4.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS

### 4.1 Potential for Archaeological Resources

Archaeological potential is defined as the likelihood of finding archaeological sites within a subject area. For planning purposes, determining archaeological potential provides a preliminary indication that significant sites might be found within the subject area, and consequently, that it may be necessary to allocate time and resources for archaeological survey and mitigation.

The framework for assigning levels of potential archaeological significance is drawn from provincial guidelines found in the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MCM, 2011: Sections 1.3.1 and 1.3.2). The following are features or characteristics that can indicate archaeological potential:

- previously identified archaeological sites
- water sources (It is important to distinguish types of water and shoreline, and to distinguish natural from artificial water sources, as these features affect site locations and types to varying degrees.).
  - primary water sources (e.g., lakes, rivers, streams, creeks)
  - secondary water sources (e.g., intermittent streams and creeks, springs, marshes, swamps)
  - features indicating past water sources (e.g., glacial lake shorelines indicated by the presence of raised sand or gravel beach ridges, relic river or stream channels indicated by clear dip or swale in the topography, shorelines of drained lakes or marshes, cobble beaches)
  - accessible or inaccessible shoreline (e.g., high bluffs, swamp or marsh fields by the edge of a lake, sandbars stretching into marsh)
- elevated topography (e.g., eskers, drumlins, large knolls, plateaus)
- pockets of well-drained sandy soil, especially near areas of heavy soil or rocky ground
- distinctive land formation that might have been special or spiritual places, such as waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, and promontories and their bases. There may be physical indicators of their use, such as burials, structures, offerings, rock paintings or carvings.
- resource areas, including:
  - food or medicinal plants (e.g., migratory routes, spawning areas, prairie)
  - scarce raw materials (e.g., quartz, copper, ochre or outcrops of chert)
  - early Euro-Canadian industry (e.g., fur trade, logging, prospecting, mining)



- areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement. These include places of early military or pioneer settlement (e.g., pioneer homesteads, isolated cabins, farmstead complexes), early wharf or dock complexes, pioneer churches and cemeteries. There may be commemorative markers of their history, such as local provincial, or federal monuments or heritage parks
- early historical transportation routes (e.g., trails, passes, roads, railways, portages)
- property listed on a municipal register or designated under the OHA or that is in a federal, provincial, or municipal historic landmark site
- property that local histories or informants have identified with possible archaeological sites, historical events, activities, or occupations

Archaeological potential can be determined not to be present for either the entire property or parts of it when the area under consideration has been subject to extensive and deep land alterations that have severely damaged the integrity of any archaeological resources. This is commonly referred to as “disturbed” or “disturbance” and may include:

- quarrying
- major landscaping involving grading below topsoil
- building footprints
- sewage and infrastructure development
- activities such as agricultural cultivation, gardening, minor grading, and landscaping do not necessarily affect archaeological potential.

## 4.2 Discussion

Section 1.3.1 of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MCM, 2011) lists criteria indicative of archaeological potential. Stage 1 background research indicated that the subject property has general archaeological potential due to the following factors:

- The subject property is largely comprised of well-drained land that is suitable for human habitation.
- The presence of historical homesteads, orchards, and a schoolhouse within the subject property (Tremaine, 1862; Page & Co., 1876).
- The presence of an early settler cemetery within the subject property.
- The subject property is adjacent to Thompson Road and Niagara River Parkway two early historical transportation routes (Tremaine, 1862; Page & Co., 1876).
- Two historic plaques are located within the subject property, McAfee Cemetery and Frenchman’s Creek, indicating that historically significant events occurred within the subject property.
- Frenchman’s Creek runs throughout the subject property

- Forty-three archaeological sites have been registered within 1 km of the subject property; nine of which are located within the subject property.

A 36.14 ha portion of the subject property has been previously subject to a Stage 1 assessment by ASI (2016; PIF P0946-0166-2016) and Stage 2 assessment by Detritus (2021a; PIF P017-0811-2020). Portions of the subject property have been subject to Stage 3 and Stage 4 assessment by Detritus (Detritus, PIFs P017-0842-2020, P462-0083-2021, P017-0843-2020, P462-0067-2021, P389-0623-2022, P389-0621-2022, P389-0643-2022). A 0.63 ha portion of the subject property has been previously subject to a Stage 1 and 2 assessments by ASI (ASI, 2018a, 2018b; PIFs Stage 1, P128-0135-2016; Stage 2 P094-0203-2016). An additional 0.90 ha portion of the subject property has been previously subject to Stage 1 and 2 assessments by ASI (ASI, 1999; PIF 1999-007-062). In total, 36.77 ha have been subject to previous assessments that are compliant with the MCM's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologist* and require no further fieldwork.

Aerial imagery and topographic mapping indicates that 18.69 ha, 6.61%, of the subject property consists of a watercourse and is permanently wet. Additionally, 150.65 ha, 55.29%, of the subject property has been previously intensively and extensively disturbed by major landscaping and construction activities involving grading below topsoil for construction of a residential house, agricultural buildings, and driveway. As no property inspection was conducted as part of the Stage 1 assessment, visual inspection to confirm, document and map these areas of low to no archaeological potential is recommended.

The remainder of the subject property, 78.33 ha, 27.73%, retains archaeological potential and requires Stage 2 property survey. Agricultural fields account for 25.25 ha, 8.93%, of the subject property. As the fields are ploughable land, the Stage 2 assessment of the fields should be completed by pedestrian survey at 5 m intervals. Woodlot, tree rows, and lawn areas account for 53.08 ha, 18.79%, of the subject property. As these areas cannot be ploughed, Stage 2 assessment should be completed by test pit survey at 5 m grid intervals.

### 4.3 Registered Archaeological Sites

According to the OASD, and previous reports filed with MCM, there are nine registered sites located within the subject property, including seven Indigenous lithic scatters, camps, a hunting loss, and a multi-component Indigenous and Euro-Canadian artifact scatter. The OASD lists three sites as having no further CHVI, one site as having unknown CHVI, and five sites as having further CHVI. (MCM, 2025a). Special care should be taken during any future Stage 2 survey near these sites to relocate and evaluate these sites to determine whether these resources retain CHVI, and, if necessary, recommend appropriate Stage 3 strategies.

#### 4.3.1 AfGr-11

AfGr-11, Central Beach, is an Indigenous lithic scatter documented in 1999 by ASI. ASI recommended monitoring of the area if any construction works were to disturb the site (ASI, 1999). The site has unknown CHVI. Any future Stage 2 assessment in the vicinity of the site should attempt to relocate and document the site. As the site is now located in a manicured green

space area should be assessed by test pit survey at 5 m intervals followed by intensified survey, as required.

#### 4.3.2 AfGr-88 to AfGr-95

Detritus conducted a Stage 2 survey of a portion of the current subject property. Seventeen sites and findspots were identified during the survey, eight of which were registered in the OASD as AfGr-88 to AfGr-95. AfGr-88, AfGr-89, AfGr-90, AfGr-91, AfGr-92, and AfGr-93 are Indigenous campsites, AfGr-94 is a multicomponent Euro-Canadian and Early Woodland site, and AfGr-95 is a Late Woodland isolated findspot. Detritus recommended Stage 3 assessment for seven of the 8 registered sites, with the isolated find determined to have no further CHVI.

Sites AfGr-88 and AfGr-89 have been subject to Stage 3 assessment followed by Stage 4 mitigation through excavation (Detritus 2021b, 2023a, 2023b). Detritus recommended that the sites have been fully excavated and have no further CHVI (Detritus 2023a, 2023b). However, the Stage 3 and Stage 4 reports for these sites have not been accepted into the *Public Register of Archaeological Reports*. Until MCM acceptance is received, these sites have further CHVI.

Sites AfGr-90, AfGr-92, and AfGr-93 have been subject to Stage 3 mitigation and were recommended for Stage 4 mitigation. These three sites have further CHVI (Detritus, 2022).

Table 5 summarizes the development review status and fieldwork recommendations for the registered sites documented within the subject property. Supplementary Documentation accompanying this report shows the location of each site within the subject property.

Table 5: Status of Registered Archaeological Sites within the Subject Property

| SITE    | SITE TYPE                                | DEVELOPMENT REVIEW STATUS         | RECOMMENDED FIELDWORK                                                                                                                                       |
|---------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| AfGr-11 | Indigenous lithics                       | unknown                           | Stage 2 recommended to relocate site and make appropriate recommendations for further fieldwork                                                             |
| AfGr-89 | Indigenous camp                          | Further CHVI pending MCM approval | Stage 4 mitigation through full excavation completed, no further fieldwork recommended<br>Site has further CHVI pending MCM acceptance of project reporting |
| AfGr-88 | Indigenous camp                          | Further CHVI pending MCM approval | Stage 4 mitigation through full excavation completed, no further fieldwork recommended<br>Site has further CHVI pending MCM acceptance of project reporting |
| AfGr-90 | Indigenous camp                          | Further CHVI                      | Stage 4 mitigation required                                                                                                                                 |
| AfGr-91 | Indigenous camp                          | Further CHVI                      | Stage 3 site-specific assessment required                                                                                                                   |
| AfGr-92 | Indigenous camp                          | Further CHVI                      | Stage 4 mitigation required                                                                                                                                 |
| AfGr-93 | Indigenous camp                          | Further CHVI                      | Stage 4 mitigation required                                                                                                                                 |
| AfGr-94 | Indigenous camp, Euro-Canadian farmstead | Further CHVI                      | Stage 3 site-specific assessment required                                                                                                                   |
| AfGr-95 | hunting loss                             | No further CHVI                   | none                                                                                                                                                        |



#### 4.4 McAffee Cemetery

There is one cemetery located within the subject property, McAffee Cemetery. The cemetery was established in 1819 as a Methodist cemetery by early United Empire Loyalist settlers to the area. The cemetery is still open for burials today. This is a licensed and registered cemetery with multiple surveys, records, and maps available. Mapping indicated the cemetery boundaries have been expanded 45 m to the north and south and 18 m east during the 1950s and 1960s (Figures 9 to 14). The west edge of the cemetery is adjacent to Thompson Road. Furthermore, detailed maps of grave plots are registered with the BAO.

Burials within early settler cemeteries were often not highly regulated and early cemetery boundary limits were known to change over time. Burials at the time often employed markers that would not survive beyond a few decades. In addition, there are documented occurrences of family members who would bury loved ones that were not permitted in a consecrated cemetery just outside the cemetery limits. Due to the poorly defined nature of these early cemeteries, the lands immediately surrounding the boundaries of early settler cemeteries often have the potential for human burials. Given the recent nature of the cemetery expansions, there is little potential of encountering burials in lands immediately adjacent to the current cemetery limits.

If any development should occur within the extant limits of the cemetery itself, the Registrar, *Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act* (FBCSA) 2002, BAO, requires that a professionally licensed archaeologist be retained to conduct Stage 2 to 4 archaeological fieldwork (invasive ground disturbances), as necessary, within the cemetery. A Cemetery Investigation Authorization (CIA) should be obtained from the BAO prior to any fieldwork conducted within the limits of the McAffee Cemetery.

## 5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Subject to acceptance of the results and approval of the recommendations, MCM is requested to deem this report compliant with ministry requirements for archaeological fieldwork and reporting and to issue a letter accepting this report into the *Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports*.

The following recommendation is provided for consideration by the Proponent and by the MCM:

1. Aerial imagery and topographic mapping indicate 150.65 ha of the subject property exhibits low to no potential for the recovery of archaeological resources due to previous disturbance, as shown in Figure 15 of this report. Stage 2 assessment should confirm the presence and extent of these areas of low archaeological potential, and they should be mapped and documented by photography.
2. Aerial imagery and topographic mapping indicate that 18.69 ha of the subject property is made up of watercourses and waterbodies associated with Frenchman's Creek, as shown in Figure 15 of this report. If impacts to these water sources are proposed, marine archaeological potential may be evaluated through a separate process following the MCM's 2016 *Criteria for Evaluating Marine Archaeological Potential* checklist.
3. Stage 2 archaeological assessment in the form of a pedestrian survey should be conducted on all ploughable lands, accounting for 25.25 ha of the subject property. The land to be assessed must be recently ploughed and must be disked after ploughing if the soils are heavy clay. Direction should be provided to the contractor undertaking the ploughing that the ploughing should be deep enough to provide total topsoil exposure, but not deeper than previous ploughing. The ploughed lands must be weathered by one heavy rainfall or several light rains to improve the visibility of archaeological resources. At least 80% of the ground surface must be visible to conduct a pedestrian survey. If the fields to be assessed do not meet the above conditions, then the land may need to be reploughed prior to survey. The ploughed lands should be surveyed at 5 m intervals.

When archaeological resources are found, the survey intervals will be decreased to 1 m intervals over a minimum of 20 m radius around the archaeological find to determine if it is an isolated find or part of a larger scatter. The 1 m interval survey should continue until the full extent of the surface scatter has been identified.

4. Stage 2 archaeological assessment in the form of a test pit survey should be conducted in all areas where ploughing is not possible or viable, including wooded, scrub, and lawn areas which account for 54.71 ha of the subject property. Test pits should be excavated by hand at 5 m intervals. Test pits should be at least 30 centimetres in diameter and should be dug into the first 5 centimetres of subsoil. Test pits should be conducted to within 1 m of any disturbances or until test pits show evidence of recent ground disturbance. Each pit should be examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, or evidence of fill. All soil should be screened through wire mesh



with an aperture no greater than 6 millimetres to facilitate artifact recovery. All artifacts should be collected according to their associated test pit. All test pits should be backfilled unless otherwise instructed.

When artifacts are found, the survey grid should be continued to determine whether there are further positive test pits. This may produce sufficient archaeological resources to meet criteria for requiring a Stage 3 archaeological assessment. When insufficient archaeological resources are found through continued grid survey to meet criteria for Stage 3 assessment, survey coverage around the positive test pit should be continued, by means of eight additional test pits and one or more 1 m by 1 m square test unit placed above the positive test pit.

5. 34.14 ha of the subject property has been assessed using Stage 1 & 2 strategies and methods that are compliant with MCM's 2011 *Standards & Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. Reports documenting the fieldwork of these areas have been reviewed and entered into MCM's *Public Register of Archaeological Reports*. These lands, as shown on Figure 15 of this report do not require further Stage 1 & 2 assessment.
6. There are 9 registered sites documented within the subject property. Recommended fieldwork strategies for each site are provided below.
  - a. Site AfGr-11 is an Indigenous lithic scatter with unknown CHVI. As the site was documented prior to the 2011 *Standards & Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*, any future Stage 2 assessment should attempt to relocate and document the site.
  - b. Site AfGr-88, an Indigenous camp, has been subject to Stage 4 mitigative excavation. The site was determined to be fully excavated and documented, and no further fieldwork was recommended. Reports documenting Stage 3 assessment and Stage 4 mitigation at the site have not been accepted into MCM's Public Register of Reports. Until such time as MCM acceptance is provided, the site is deemed to have further CHVI.
  - c. Site AfGr-89, an Indigenous camp, has been subject to Stage 4 mitigative excavation. The site was determined to be fully excavated and documented, and no further fieldwork was recommended. Reports documenting Stage 3 assessment and Stage 4 mitigation at the site have not been accepted into MCM's Public Register of Reports. Until such time as MCM acceptance is provided, the site is deemed to have further CHVI.
  - d. Site AfGr-90 is an Indigenous camp with further CHVI according to MCM's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultants Archaeologists*. Stage 4 mitigation is required for site AfGr-90. Stage 4 excavation must comply with the standards listed in Section 4.2.1 (general requirements for the excavation and documentation of all archaeological sites) and Section 4.2.2 (general standards for



archaeological sites and parts of archaeological sites excavated by hand) of the MCM's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*.

- e. Site AfGr-91, is an Indigenous camp with further CHVI according to MCM's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultants Archaeologists*. Stage 3 site specific assessment is required for site AfGr-91. It is not yet evident that the level of CHVI at this site will result in a recommendation to proceed to Stage 4 excavation. Stage 2 fieldwork conducted a Stage 3-equivalent controlled surface artifact pickup. Therefore, Stage 3 fieldwork will involve hand excavation of 1 m by 1 m square units placed in a 5 m grid across the extent of the site. Grid unit excavation should be followed by the excavation of additional test units amounting to 20% of the grid unit total, focusing on areas of interest within the site extent (such as distinct areas of higher concentration of artifacts or adjacent to high- yield units) as per Section 3.2.2 and Table 3.1 of MCM's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. If any features are encountered, they will be addressed as Per Section 3.2.2 Standard 6 where a Planview will be recorded, be covered in geotextile fabric and backfilled.
- f. Site AfGr-92, is an Indigenous camp with further CHVI according to MCM's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultants Archaeologists*. Stage 4 mitigation is required for site AfGr-92. Stage 4 excavation must comply with the standards listed in Section 4.2.1 (general requirements for the excavation and documentation of all archaeological sites) and Section 4.2.2 (general standards for archaeological sites and parts of archaeological sites excavated by hand) of the MCM's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*.
- g. Site AfGr-93, is an Indigenous camp with further CHVI according to MCM's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultants Archaeologists*. Stage 4 mitigation is required for site AfGr-93. Stage 4 excavation must comply with the standards listed in Section 4.2.1 (general requirements for the excavation and documentation of all archaeological sites) and Section 4.2.2 (general standards for archaeological sites and parts of archaeological sites excavated by hand) of the MCM's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*.
- h. Site AfGr-94, is a multi component Indigenous and Euro-Canadian site with further CHVI according to MCM's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultants Archaeologists*. Stage 3 site specific assessment is required for site AfGr-94. It is not yet evident that the level of CHVI at this site will result in a recommendation to proceed to Stage 4 excavation. Stage 2 fieldwork conducted a Stage 3-equivalent controlled surface artifact pickup. Therefore, Stage 3 fieldwork will involve hand excavation of 1 m by 1 m square units placed in a 5 m grid across the extent of the site. Grid unit excavation should be followed by the excavation of additional test units amounting to 20% of the grid unit total, focusing on areas of interest within the site extent (such as distinct areas of higher concentration of artifacts or adjacent to high- yield units) as per Section 3.2.2 and



Table 3.1 of MCM's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. If any features are encountered, they will be addressed as Per Section 3.2.2 Standard 6 where a Planview will be recorded, be covered in geotextile fabric and backfilled. Detailed archival research should be conducted to determine the land use history for the Euro-Canadian component of the site.

- i. Site AfGr-95 is a Late Woodland period Indigenous findspot. This isolated find has no further CHVI, and no further fieldwork is recommended.
7. McAffee Cemetery, dating to as early as 1819, is an early settler cemetery located within the subject property. The cemetery limits were expanded in throughout the 1950s and 1960s, and there is reliable mapping of cemetery boundaries and grave plots available. As such, lands immediately adjacent to the current cemetery boundaries do not require a CIA. However, if any proposed development occurs within the current cemetery limits, the cemetery lands will require Stage 2, 3, and/or Stage 4 assessments, as necessary. A CIA should be obtained from the BAO prior to any fieldwork conducted within the McAffee Cemetery. Pursuant to Subsection 96. (1) (2) and (3) of the FBCSA, the CIA will relieve the licensed archaeologist of the prohibition and liability related to the intentional disturbance of a human burial within a cemetery during this fieldwork.



## 6.0 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

The following advice on compliance with current legislation is provided for consideration:

- a. This report is submitted to the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 2005, c O.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.
- b. It is an offence under Sections 48 and 69 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for any party other than a licensed archaeologist to make any alteration to a known archaeological site or to remove any artifact or other physical evidence of past human use or activity from the site, until such a time as a licensed archaeologist has completed archaeological fieldwork on the site, submitted a report to the Minister stating that the site has no further cultural heritage value or interest, and the report has been filed in the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports referred to in Section 65.1 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
- c. Should previously undocumented archaeological resources be discovered, they may be a new archaeological site and therefore subject to Section 48 (1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The proponent or person discovering the archaeological resources must cease alteration of the site immediately and engage a licensed consultant archaeologist to carry out archaeological fieldwork, in compliance with Section 48 (1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
- d. The *Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act*, 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33 requires that any person discovering human remains must notify the local police or coroner and the Registrar, Burials Unit, at the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery.
- e. It is an offence to destroy or alter an archaeological site without approval from the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism. Archaeological sites recommended for further archaeological fieldwork or protection remain subject to Section 48(1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* and may not be altered, or have artifacts removed from them, except by a person holding an archaeological license.

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CONSULTANTS CANADA

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## 8.0 FIGURES

See the following pages for detailed assessment mapping and figures. Maps illustrating site locations do not form part of this public report; they may be found in the Supplementary Documentation.



Figure 1: Location of the Subject Property on a Topographic Map

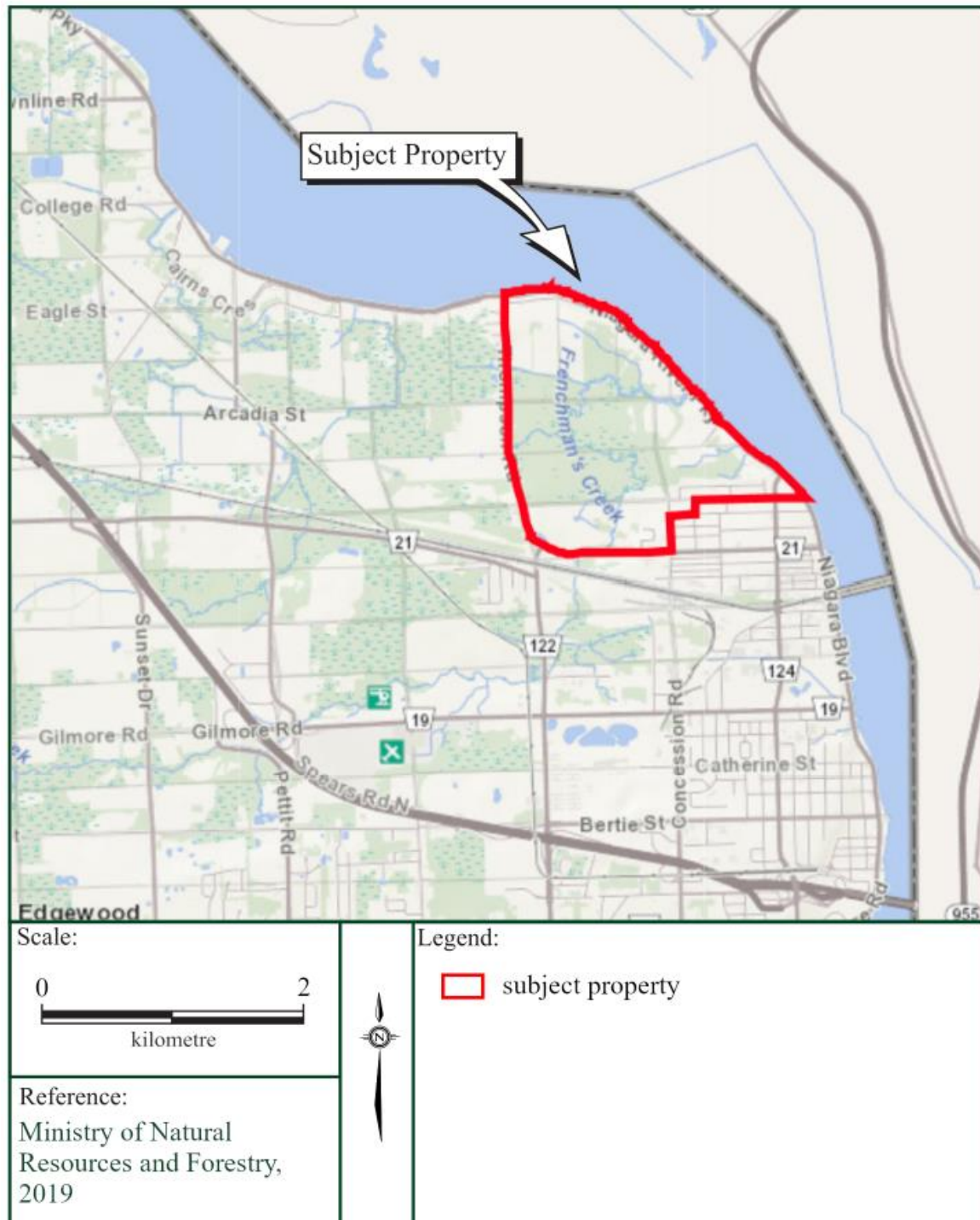


Figure 2: Location of the Subject Property on Tremaine's' 1862 Map of Welland County, Canada West

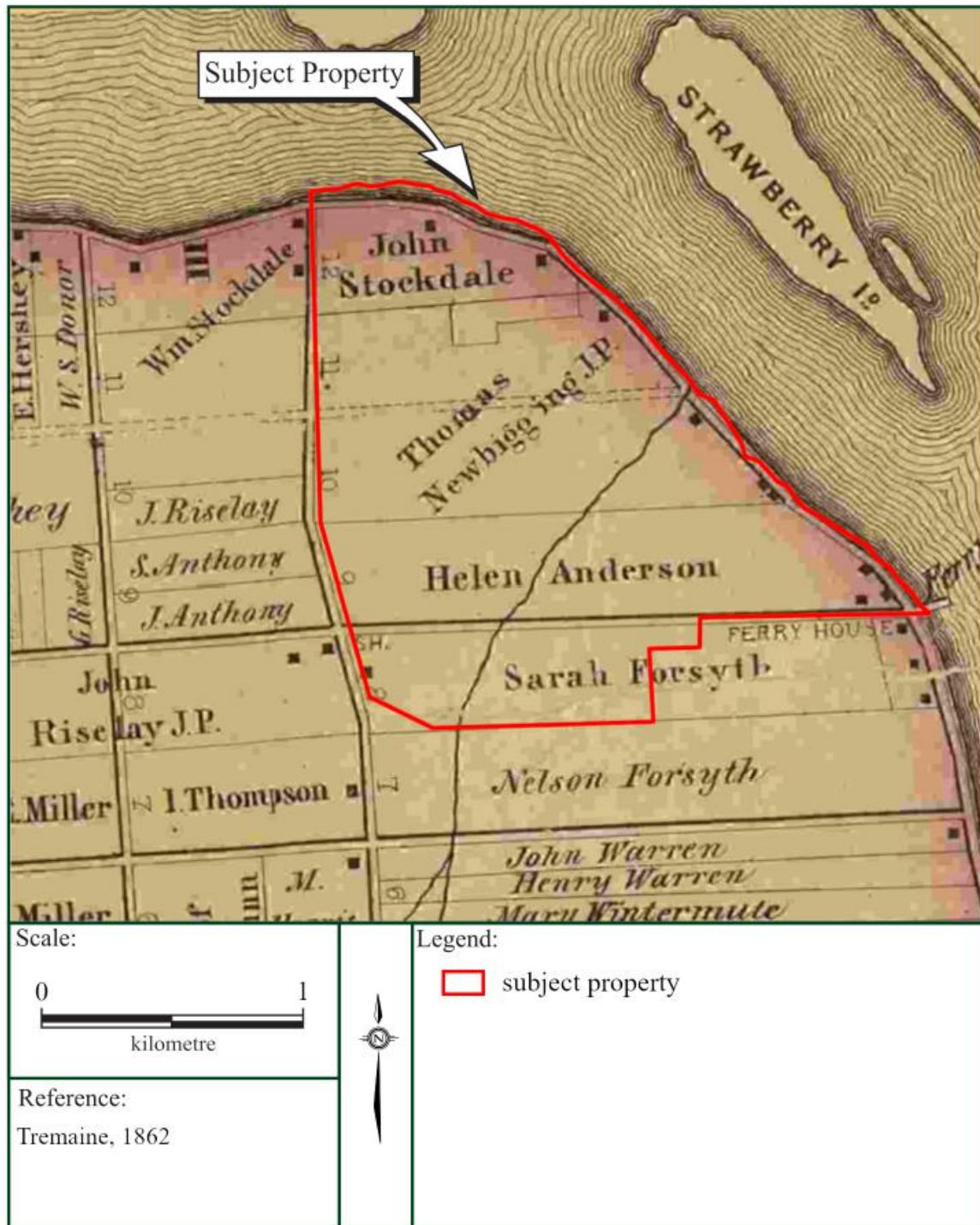


Figure 3: Location of the Subject Property on Page & Co.'s 1876 Illustrated Historical Atlas Map of Bertie Township, Lincoln and Welland Counties

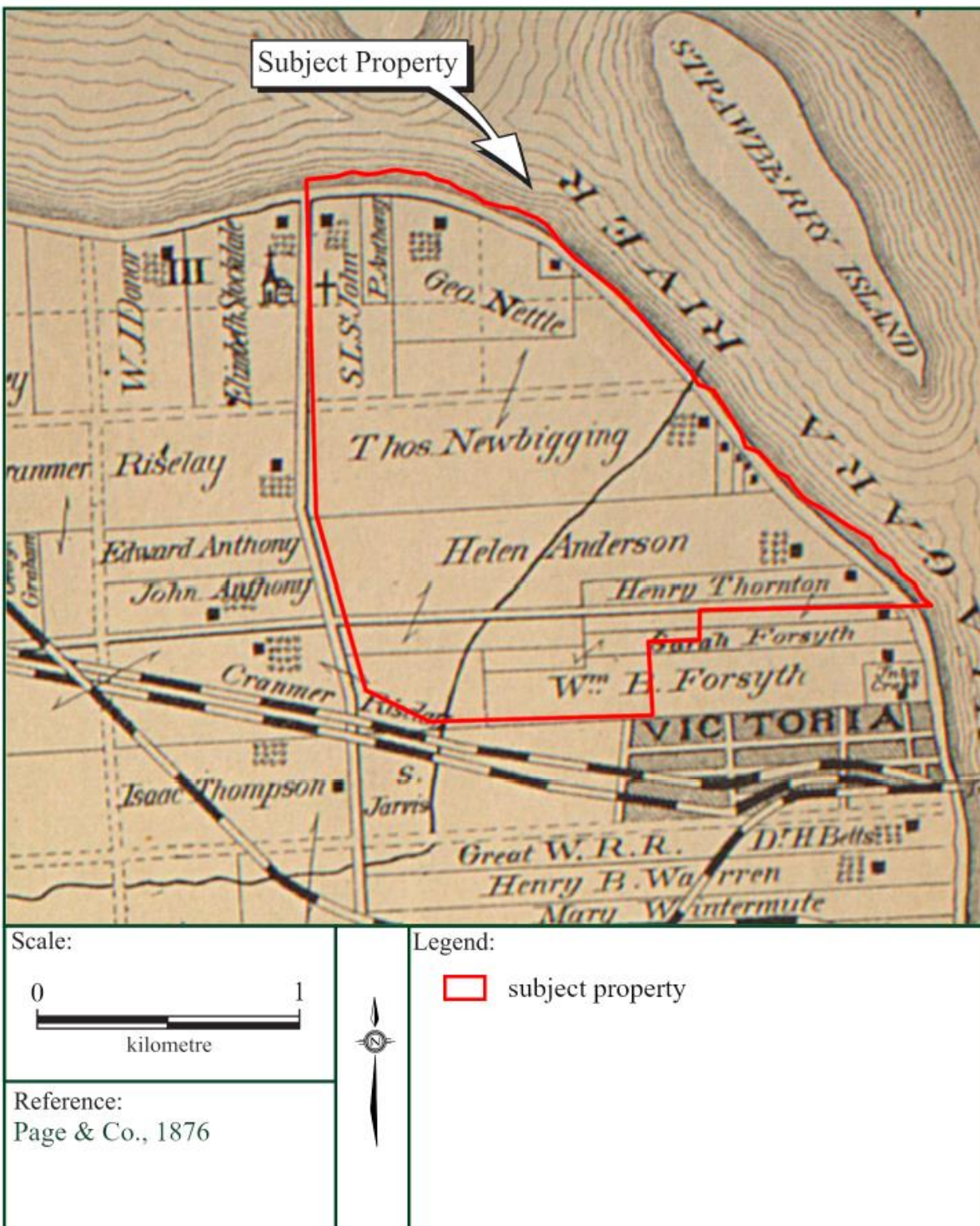


Figure 4: Location of the Subject Property on a Map of the Soils of the Regional Municipality of Niagara

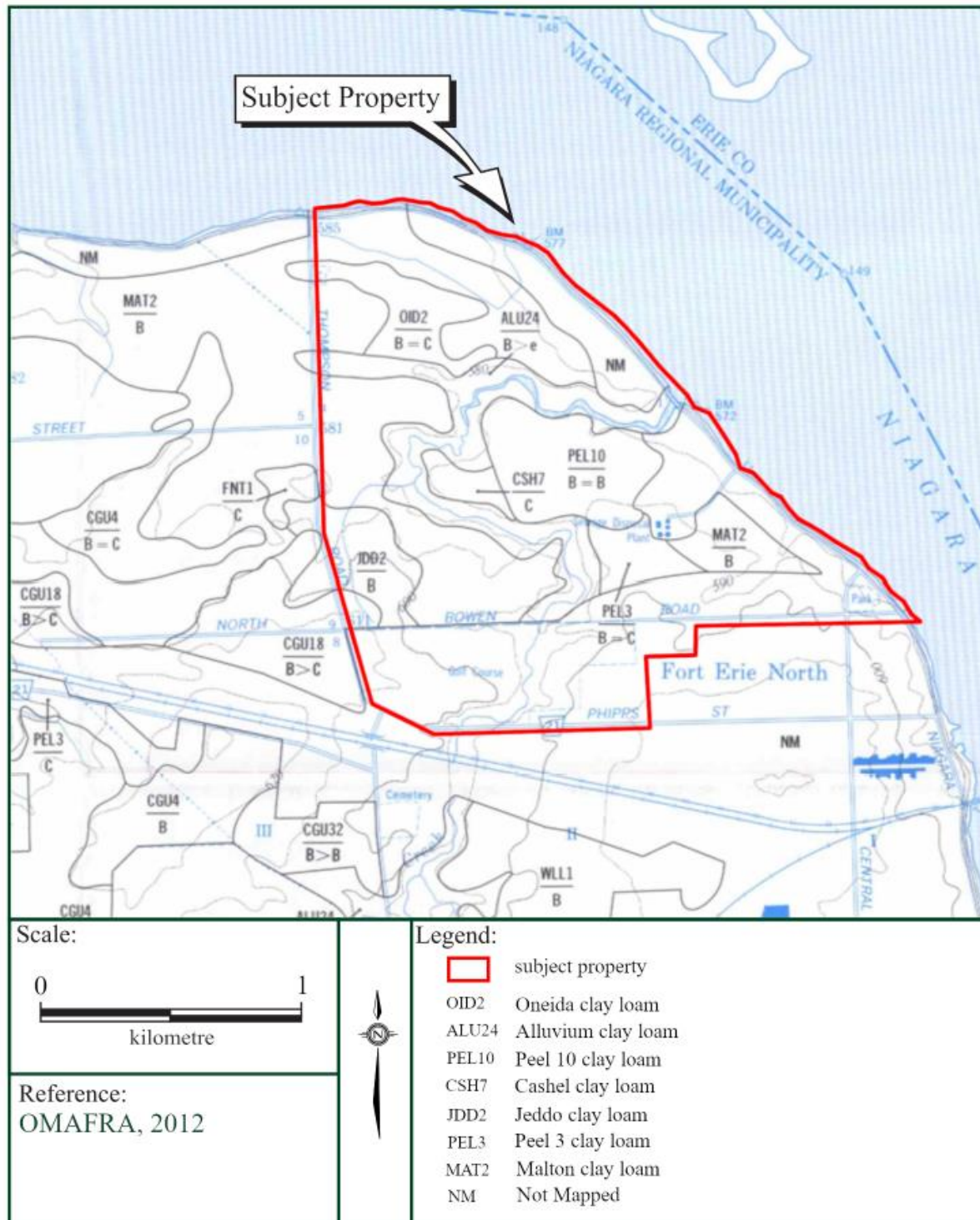


Figure 5: Current Land Use of the Subject Property



Figure 6: Location of the Subject Property on 1934 Aerial Imagery



Figure 7: Previous Archaeological Assessments Conducted Within 50 m of the Subject Property

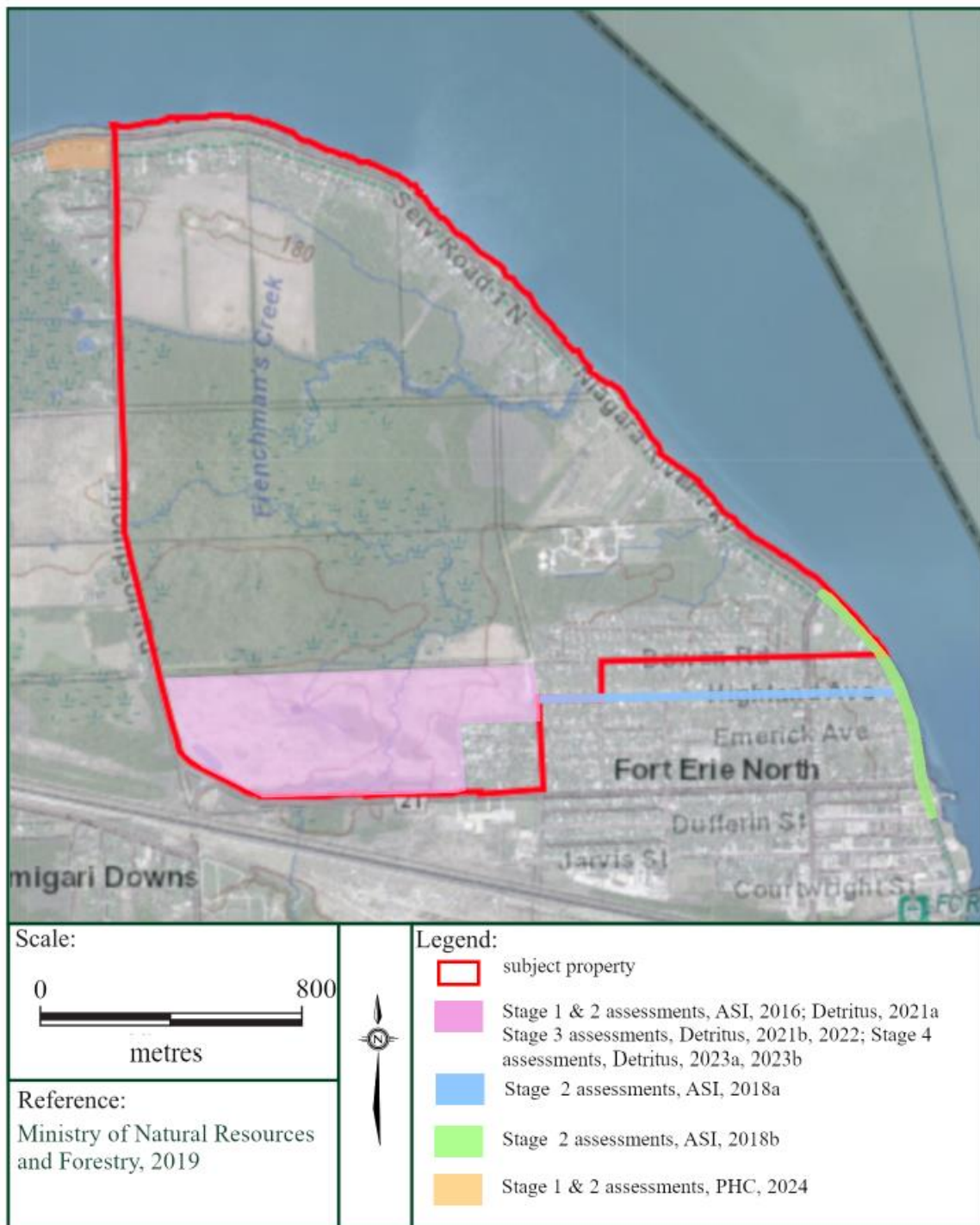


Figure 8: Location of the Subject property on the Region of Niagara's Archaeological Potential Map



Figure 9: 1954 Plan of McAffee Cemetery Showing a Proposed Addition to the North of the Cemetery

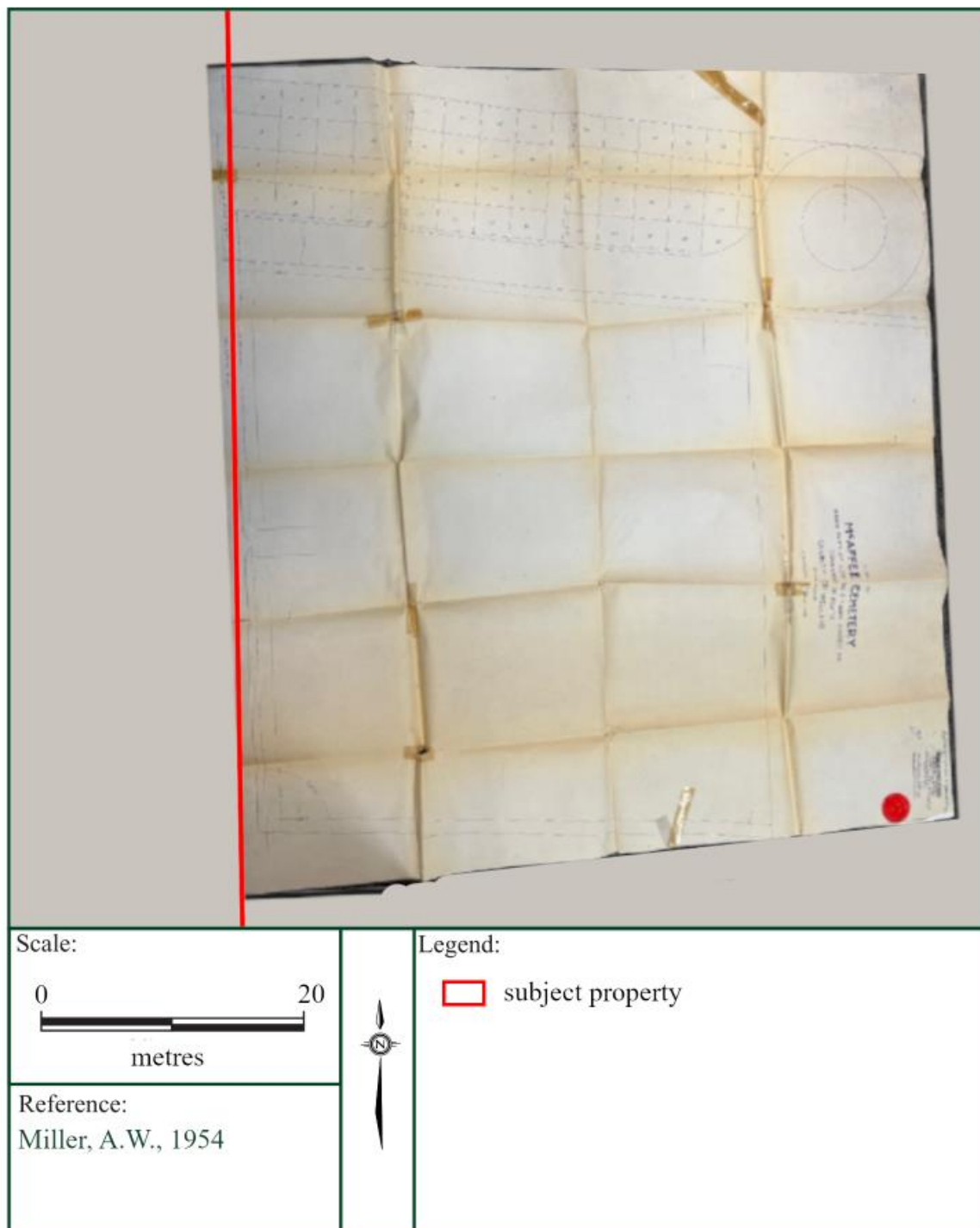


Figure 10: 1954 Plan of McAffee Cemetery Showing the Proposed Addition to the Cemetery Overlaid on Aerial Imagery of a Portion of the Subject Property

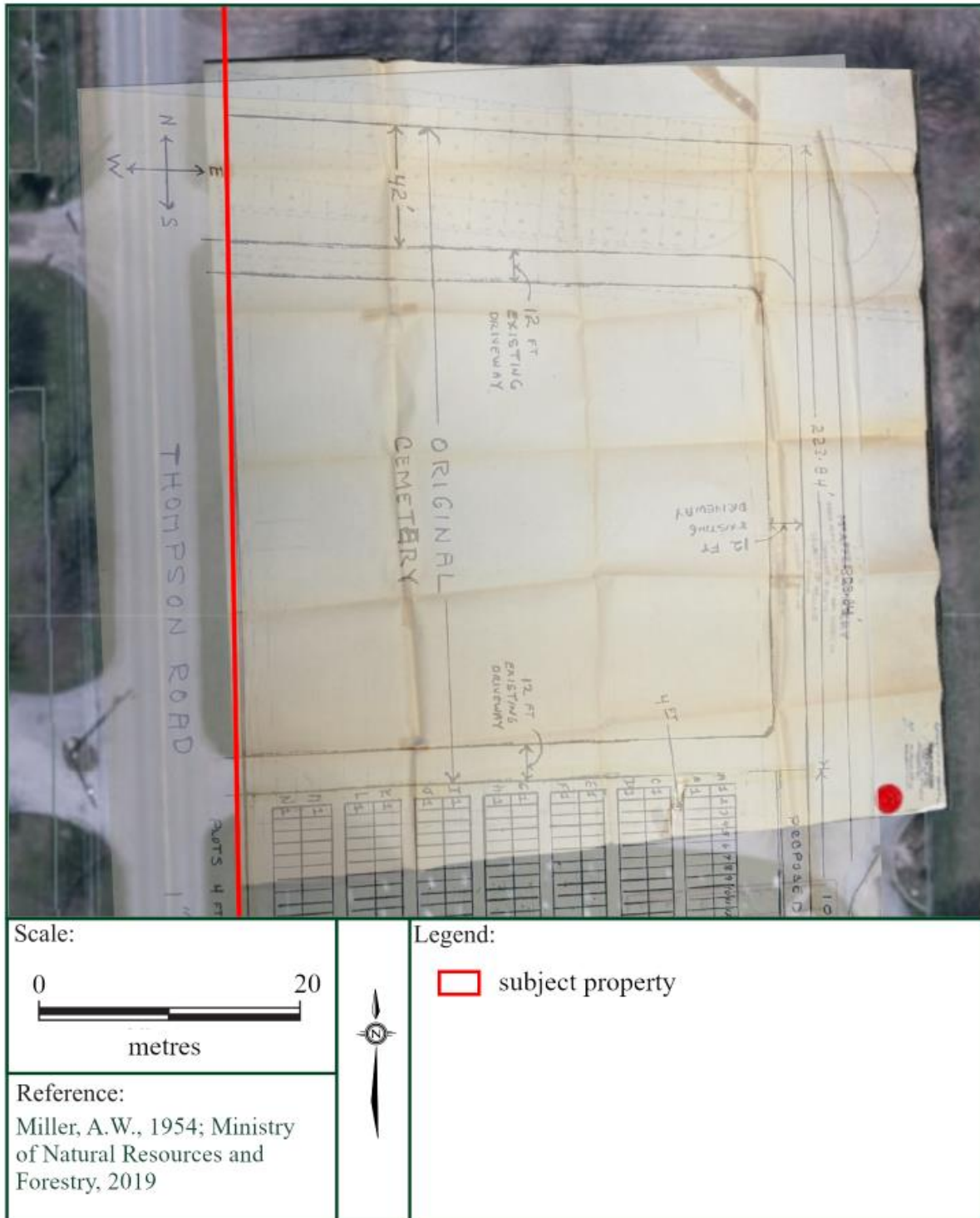


Figure 11: 1961 Plan of McAffee Cemetery Showing a Proposed Addition to the East and South of the Cemetery

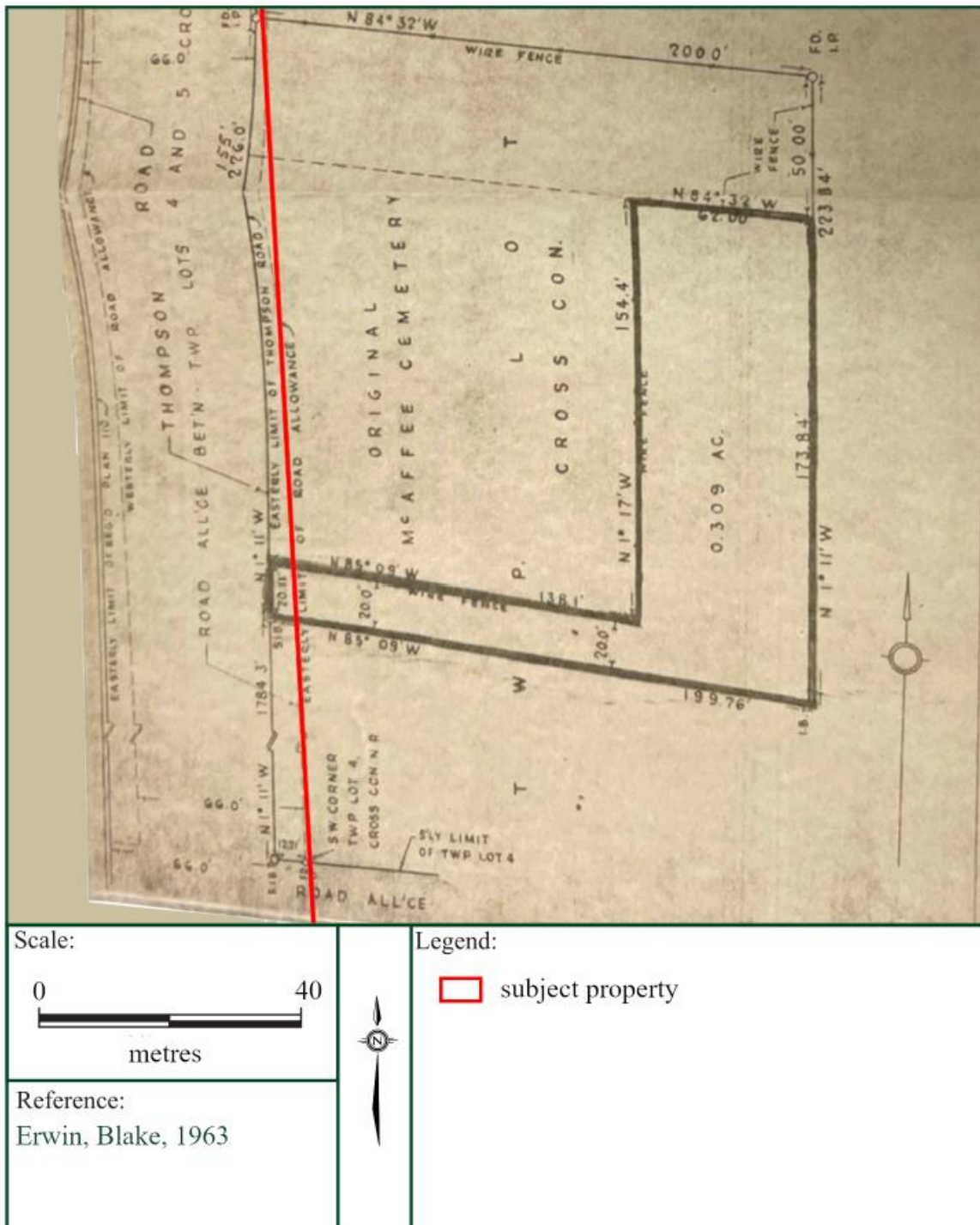


Figure 12: 1961 Plan of McAffee Cemetery Showing a Proposed Addition to the Overlaid on Aerial Imagery of a Portion of the Subject Property

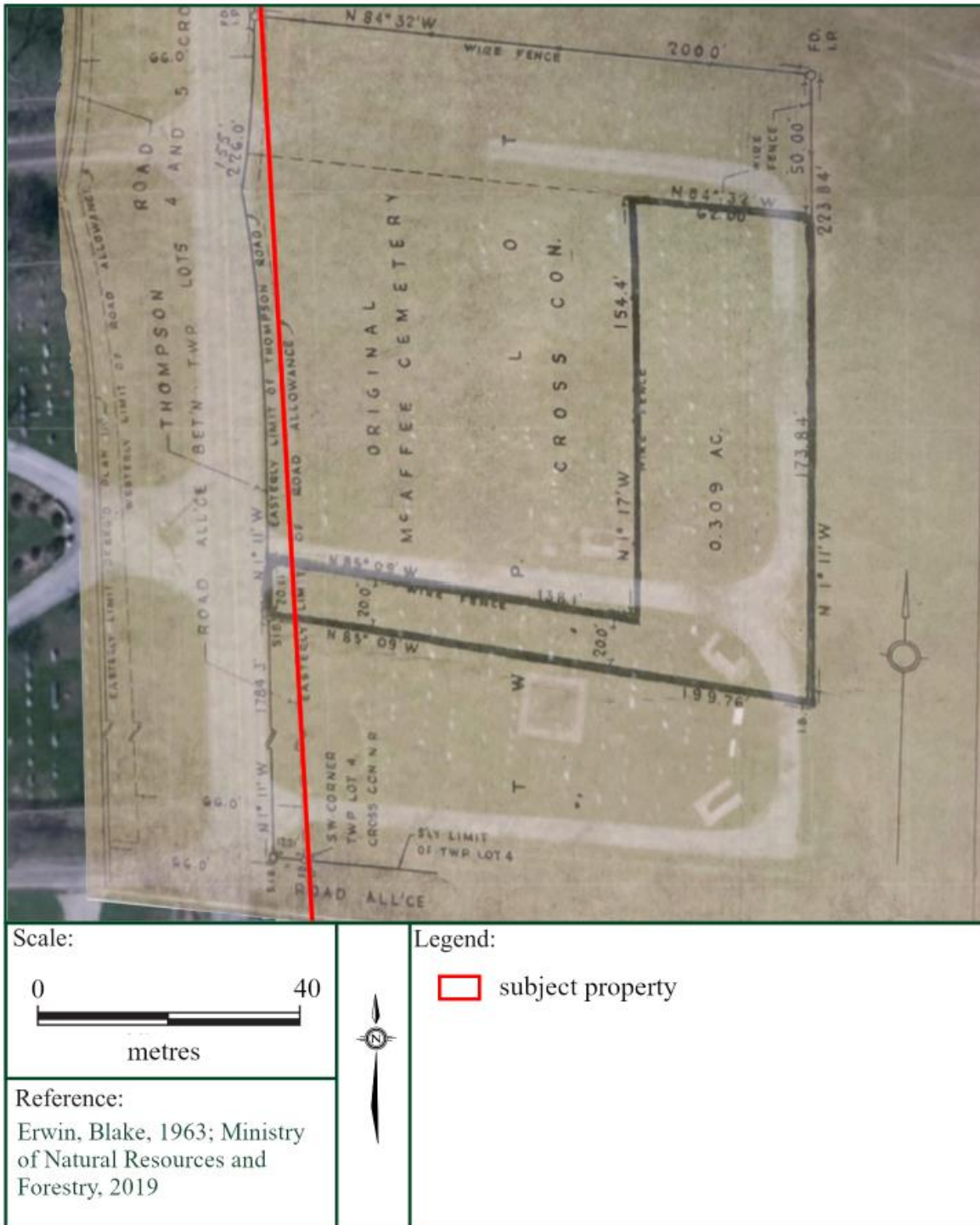


Figure 13: Plan of McAfee Cemetery with Proposed Road Addition

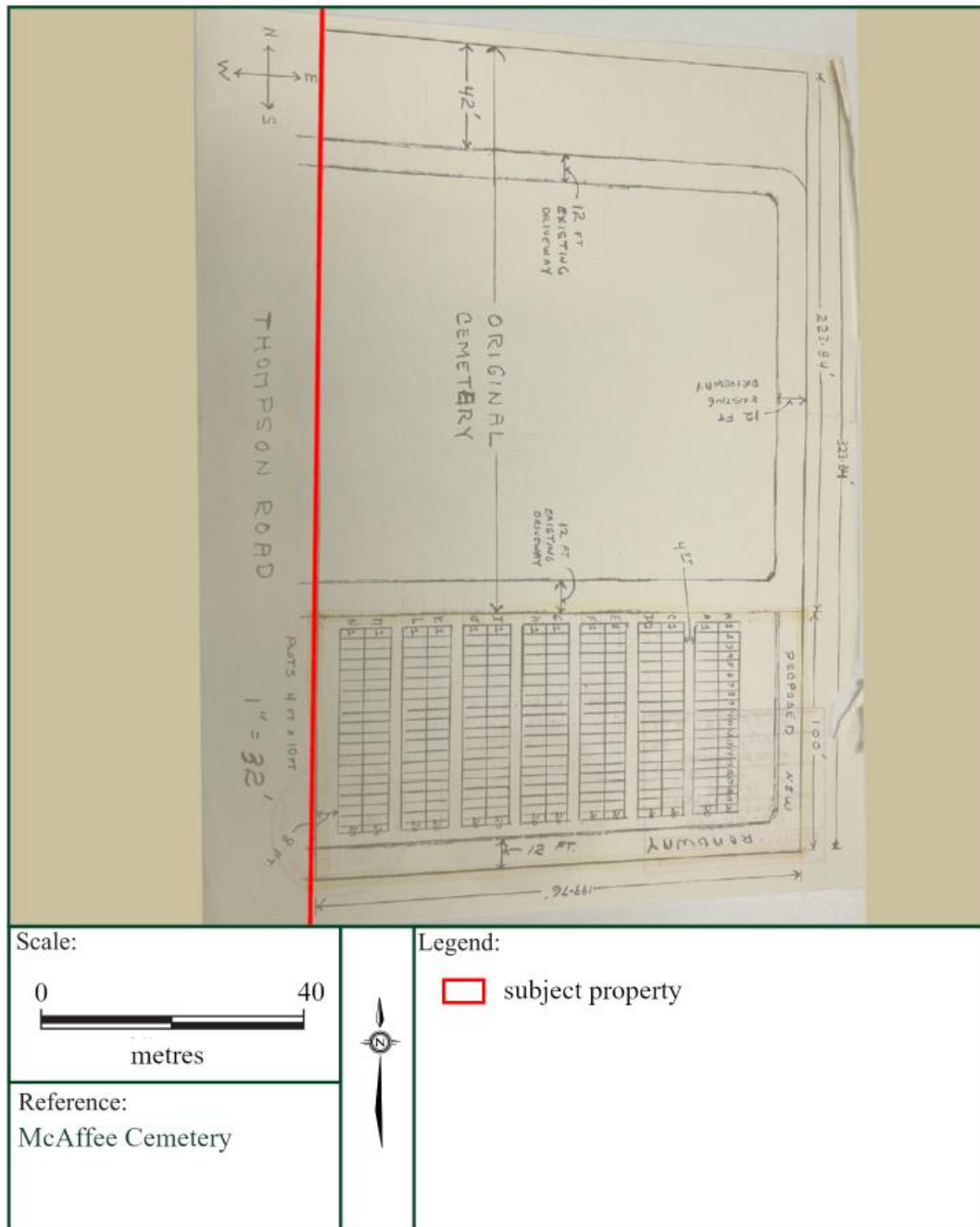


Figure 14: 1963 Plan of McAfee Cemetery with a Proposed Road Overlaid on Aerial Imagery of a Portion of the Subject Property

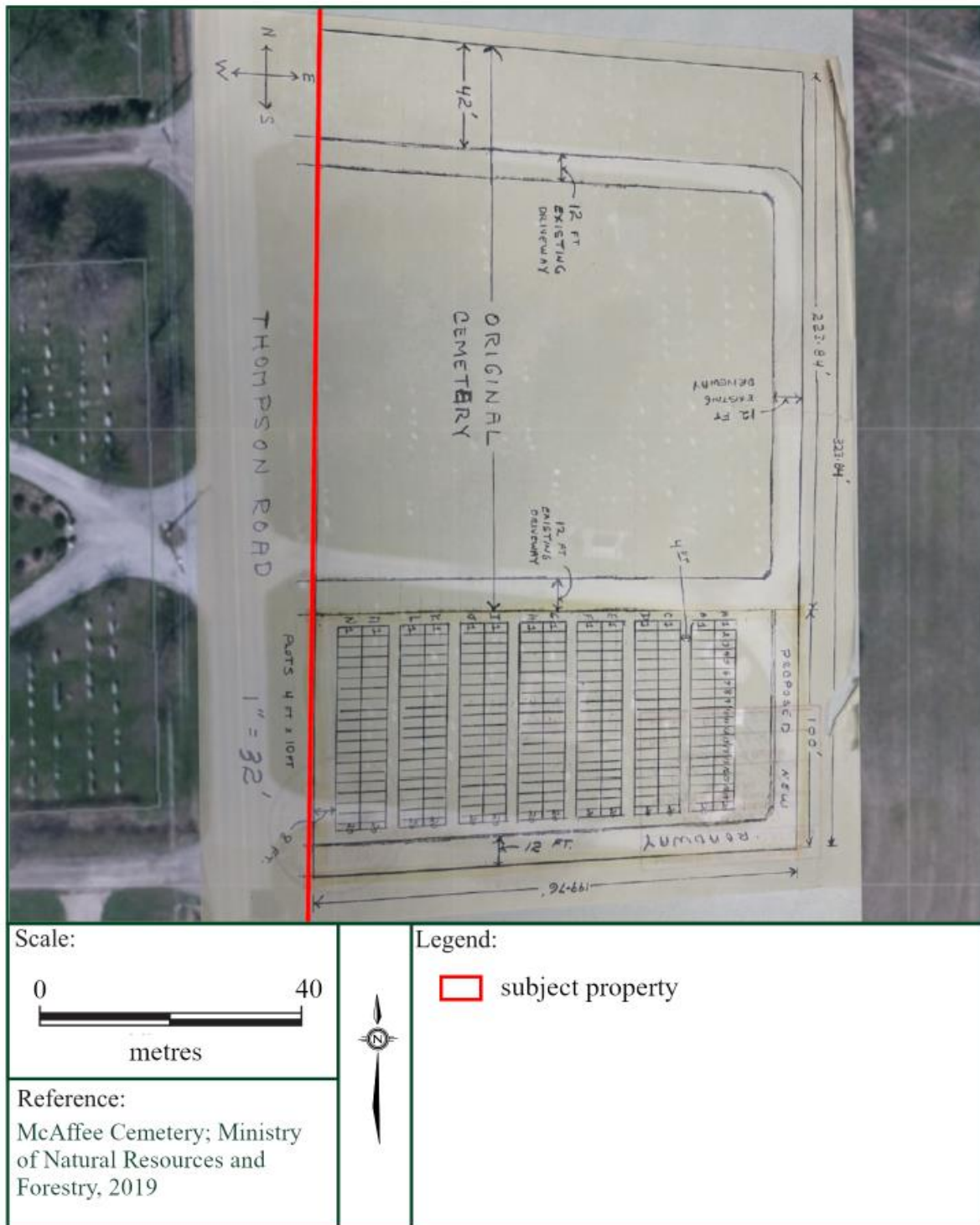


Figure 15: Aerial Imagery Showing the Results of the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of the Subject Property

