

Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM)

Archaeology Program Unit
Programs and Services Branch
Heritage, Tourism and Culture Division
5th Floor, 400 University Ave.
Toronto ON M7A 2R9
Tel.: (416) 418-0949
Email: Zeeshan.Abedin@ontario.ca

Ministère des Affaires civiques et du Multiculturalisme (MCM)

Unité des programme d'archéologie
Direction des programmes et des services
Division du patrimoine, du tourisme et de la culture
5e étage, 400 ave. University
Toronto ON M7A 2R9
Tél. : (416) 418-0949
Email: Zeeshan.Abedin@ontario.ca



Oct 13, 2022

Jamie Houston-Dickson (P398)
ASI Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Services
528 Bathurst Toronto ON M5S 2P9

RE: Entry into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports: Archaeological Assessment Report Entitled, "Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of 272 Ridge Road South, Part of Lot 23, Broken Front Concession Lake Erie, Geographic Township of Bertie, Welland County, now in the Town of Fort Erie, Regional Municipality of Niagara", Dated Sep 30, 2022, Filed with MHSTCI Toronto Office on N/A, MHSTCI Project Information Form Number P398-0119-2022, MHSTCI File Number 0017847

Dear Ms. Houston-Dickson:

The above-mentioned report, which has been submitted to this ministry as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c 0.18, has been entered into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports without technical review.¹

Please note that the ministry makes no representation or warranty as to the completeness, accuracy or quality of reports in the register.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to send your inquiry to Archaeology@Ontario.ca

cc. Archaeology Licensing Officer
Craig DeVries, Culture Developments
Pat Busnello, Niagara Region
Anamika Dilwaria, Town of Fort Erie

¹In no way will the ministry be liable for any harm, damages, costs, expenses, losses, claims or actions that may result: (a) if the Report(s) or its recommendations are discovered to be inaccurate, incomplete, misleading or fraudulent; or (b) from the issuance of this letter. Further measures may need to be taken in the event that additional artifacts or archaeological sites are identified or the Report(s) is otherwise found to be inaccurate, incomplete, misleading or fraudulent.

Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of 272 Ridge Road South, Part of Lot 23, Broken Front Concession Lake Erie, Geographic Township of Bertie, Welland County, now in the Town of Fort Erie, Regional Municipality of Niagara

Original Report

Prepared for:

Culture Developments

5824 Main Street

Niagara Falls, ON, L2G 5Z5

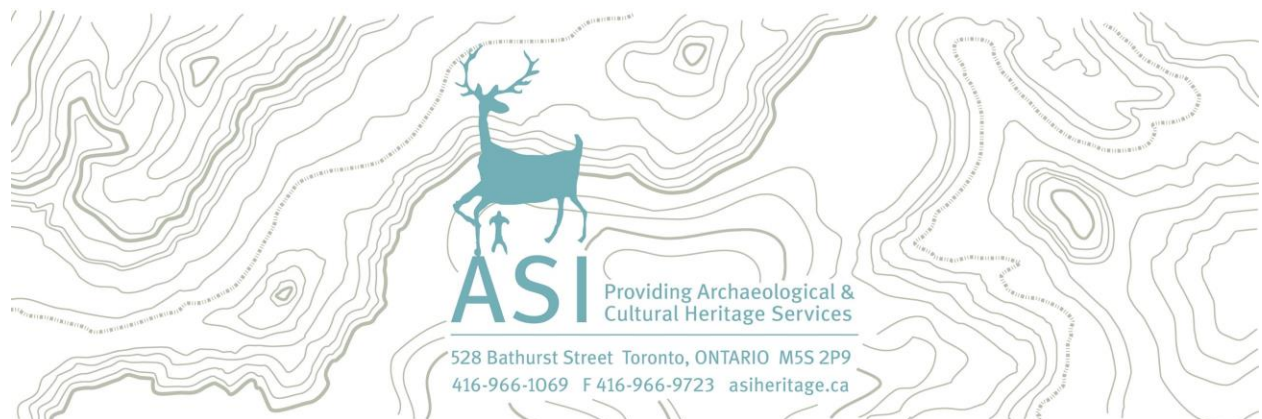
(289) 929-2165

Archaeological Licence: P398 (Houston-Dickson)

Project Information Form P398-0119-2022

Archaeological Services Inc. File: 22PL-338

30 September 2022



Executive Summary

Archaeological Services Inc. was contracted by Culture Developments to undertake a Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of 272 Ridge Road South, located on part of Lot 23, Broken Front Concession Lake Erie, in the Geographic Township of Bertie, Welland County, now in the Town of Fort Erie, Regional Municipality of Niagara. The subject property is approximately 0.59 hectare. Permission to access the subject property and to carry out all activities necessary for the completion of the assessment was granted by the proponent on August 19, 2022.

The Stage 1 background research entailed consideration of the proximity of previously registered archaeological sites and the original environmental setting of the subject property, along with nineteenth- and twentieth-century settlement trends, as well as guidance from *The Archaeological Master Plan for the Town of Fort Erie* (Archaeological Services Inc., 2003). This research indicated there was potential for the presence of both Indigenous and Euro-Canadian archaeological resources within the subject property.

The Stage 2 field assessment was conducted on September 20-21, 2022, by means of a test pit survey across all portions of the subject property with archaeological potential. Despite careful scrutiny, no archaeological resources were encountered during the survey.

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



Project Personnel

- **Senior Project Manager:** Jennifer Ley, Honours Bachelor of Arts (R376), Lead Archaeologist, Manager, Planning Assessment Division
- **Project Manager:** Jamie Houston-Dickson, Master of Arts (P398), Associate Archaeologist, Project Manager, Planning Assessment Division
- **Project Director:** Jamie Houston-Dickson
- **Project Administrator:** Lauren Vince, Honours Bachelor of Arts (R1235), Archaeologist, Project Administrator, Planning Assessment Division
- **Field Director:** Sean Haefner, Bachelor of Science (R1253), Archaeologist, Field Director, Planning Assessment Division
- **Field Archaeologists:** Nicole Hopper, Bachelor of Arts; Gareth Nielsen; Oli Oliveira, Honours Bachelor of Arts
- **Report Preparation:** Dana Millson, Doctor of Philosophy, Archaeologist, Technical Writer, Planning Assessment Division
- **Graphics:** Andrew Clish, Bachelor of Environmental Science (P046), Senior Archaeologist, Senior Field Director, Laboratory and Fieldwork Services, Operations Division; Jonas Fernandez, Master of Science (R281), Lead Archaeologist, Manager, Geomatics, Operations Division
- **Report Reviewer:** Jennifer Ley



Table of Contents

Executive Summary	1
Project Personnel	2
1.0 Project Context	6
1.1 Development Context	6
1.2 Historical Context	6
1.2.1 Pre-Contact Settlement	7
1.2.2 Post-Contact Settlement	8
1.2.3 Review of Map Sources	10
1.2.4 Review of Aerial Imagery	12
1.3 Archaeological Context	12
1.3.1 Registered Archaeological Sites	13
1.3.2 Previous Assessments	13
1.3.3 Physiography	13
1.3.4 Existing Conditions	14
1.3.5 Review of Pre-Contact Archaeological Potential	14
1.3.6 Review of Historical Archaeological Potential	15
2.0 Field Methods	17
2.1 Areas of No Potential	17
2.2 Test Pit Survey	17
3.0 Record of Finds	18
4.0 Analysis and Conclusions	18
5.0 Recommendations	19
6.0 Advice on Compliance with Legislation	20
7.0 Bibliography and Sources	21
8.0 Images	24
9.0 Maps	30



Appendix A: Registered Sites within One Kilometre of the Subject Property	36
---	----

List of Tables

Table 1: Pre-Contact Indigenous Temporal Culture Periods in Southern Ontario	7
--	---

List of Images

Image 1: View of the residence and its associated gravel driveway and parking area.	24
Image 2: View of the gravel driveway connecting the residence to Ridge Road South.	24
Image 3: Looking northwest towards the residence and gravel parking area adjacent to the residence.	25
Image 4: Looking southwest at the lawn to the rear of the residence.	25
Image 5: View of the backyard of the residence in the centre of the subject property.	26
Image 6: View of portion of the front yard showing marked buried utility locates between road and house.	26
Image 7: View of portion of the front yard showing marked buried utility locates between road and house.	27
Image 8: View of field crew test pitting in the southwest of the subject property.	27
Image 9: Field crew test pitting in the east of the subject property in the area containing redeposited soils.	28
Image 10: Test pit soil profile showing redeposited soil over sod, followed by A- and B-horizon.	28
Image 11: Test pit soil profile in the southwest of the subject property, adjacent to the driveway.	29

List of Maps

Figure 1: Location of the Subject Property	31
Figure 2: Subject Property Located on the 1862 <i>Tremaine Map of the Counties of Lincoln and Welland</i>	32
Figure 3: Subject Property Located on the 1876 <i>Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Lincoln and Welland</i>	32



Figure 4: Subject Property Located on the 1907 Welland Topographic Map	32
Figure 5: Subject Property Located on 1934, 1954, 2000, and 2002 Aerial Imagery	33
Figure 6: Existing Conditions of the Subject Property	34
Figure 7: Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment Results	35



1.0 Project Context

Archaeological Services Inc. was contracted by Culture Developments to undertake a Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of 272 Ridge Road South, located on part of Lot 23, Broken Front Concession Lake Erie, in the Geographic Township of Bertie, Welland County, now in the Town of Fort Erie, Regional Municipality of Niagara (Figure 1). The subject property is approximately 0.59 hectare.

1.1 Development Context

This assessment was conducted under the senior project management of Jennifer Ley (R376), the project management and project direction of Jamie Houston-Dickson (P398); the work was completed under Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (hereafter referred to as the Ministry) Project Information Form P398-0119-2022. All activities carried out during this assessment were completed for a site plan application, as required by the Town of Fort Erie and the *Planning Act* (Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, 1990). All work was completed in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act* (Ministry of Culture [now the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport], 1990) and the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (hereafter referred to as the Standards) (the Ministry of Tourism and Culture [now the Ministry], 2011).

All work carried out for this assessment is also guided by *The Archaeological Master Plan for the Town of Fort Erie* (Archaeological Services Inc., 2003) which provides further refinement with regards to potential buffers surrounding any noted features or characteristics which affect archaeological potential.

Permission to access the subject property and to carry out all activities necessary for the completion of the assessment was granted by the proponent on August 19, 2022. Buried utility locates were obtained prior to fieldwork.

1.2 Historical Context

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



1.2.1 Pre-Contact Settlement

Table 1 provides a general summary of the pre-contact Indigenous settlement history of southern Ontario.

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

Period	Description
Paleo 13,000 Before Present – 9,000 Before Present	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● First human occupation of Ontario ● Astronomers/ Artists/ Hunters/ Gatherers/ Foragers ● Language Unknown ● Small occupations ● Non-stratified populations
Archaic 9,000 Before Present – 3,000 Before Present	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Astronomers/ Artists/ Hunters/ Gatherers/ Foragers ● Small occupations ● Non-stratified populations ● Mortuary ceremonialism ● Extensive trade networks for raw materials and finished objects
Early Woodland 3,000 Before Present – 2,400 Before Present	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Astronomers/ Artists/ Hunters/ Gatherers/ Foragers ● General trend in spring/summer congregation and fall/winter dispersal ● Small and large occupations ● First evidence of community identity ● Mortuary ceremonialism ● Extensive trade networks for raw materials and finished objects



Period	Description
Middle Woodland 2,400 Before Present – 1,300 Before Present, Transitional Woodland 1,300 Before Present – 1,000 Before Present	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Astronomers/ Artists/ Hunters/ Gatherers/ Foragers • A general trend in spring/summer congregation and fall/winter dispersal into large and small settlements • Kin-based political system • Increasingly elaborate mortuary ceremonialism • Incipient agriculture in some regions • Longer term settlement occupation and reuse
Late Woodland (Early) <i>Anno Domini</i> 900 – <i>Anno Domini</i> 1300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foraging with locally defined dependence on agriculture • Villages, specific and special purpose sites • Socio-political system strongly kinship based
Late Woodland (Middle) <i>Anno Domini</i> 1300 – <i>Anno Domini</i> 1400	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major shift to agricultural dependency • Villages, specific and special purpose sites • Development of socio-political complexity
Late Woodland (Late) <i>Anno Domini</i> 1400 – <i>Anno Domini</i> 1650	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complex agricultural society • Villages, specific and special purpose sites • Politically allied regional populations

1.2.2 Post-Contact Settlement

The Niagara Purchase

Following the 1764 Niagara Peace Treaty and the follow-up treaties with Pontiac, the English colonial government considered the Mississaugas to be their allies since they had accepted the Covenant Chain. The English administrators followed the terms of the Royal Proclamation and insured that no settlements were made in the hunting grounds that had been reserved for their use (Johnston, 2004; Lytwyn, 2005). The subject property is within Treaty 381, the Niagara Purchase, signed in 1781 between the Crown and the Chippewa and Mississaugas for the



tract of land not previously agreed upon in the 1764 Niagara Peace Treaty on the west side of “the Straits” that lead from Lake Erie to Lake Ontario at Niagara Falls (Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs, 2016).

Bertie Township

The land within Bertie Township was partly acquired by the British from the Mississaugas in 1764, while the remainder was purchased in 1781. The first township survey was undertaken in 1784, and the first legal settlers occupied their land holdings in the same year. The township was named after the Sir Peregrine Bertie (1714-1778), 3rd Duke of Ancaster, whose family seat was in Lincolnshire, England. Bertie was initially settled by disbanded soldiers, mainly Butler’s Rangers, following the end of the American Revolutionary War. They were followed by Pennsylvania Dutch settlers (Armstrong, 1985:141; Boulton, 1805:74; Rayburn, 1997:30; Smith, 1846:15). The first settlers were Loyalists, among them were James Secord and Phillip Bender, who were responsible for securing government funds to build the first grist mill and sawmill in the township, to be located on Secord’s farm. Around that time, the government instructed Lieutenant Tinling of Kingston to survey the township into lots and surveyor Amos Chapman was dispatched in 1789 to complete the first map of the area. Since no official name had been given to the survey lands his map was entitled “Quaker Township” in reference to the many Quakers settlers he encountered (Fort Erie Museum Board, 1997:35). Bertie was named by an Act of Parliament in 1793 and by 1808, there were around forty homes in the township as a whole. Besides a small cluster of houses near the fort and landing, nine farmhouses lined the riverside between the ferry and Frenchman’s creek, seven between Frenchmen’s and Black Creek, six on the lakeshore between Fort Erie and Point Abino, three near the Garrison Road, three along the Ridge Road, seven west of that road near the lake, and three or four isolated farmsteads in other parts of the township.

In 1812, the township had several mills, schools and churches, and the largest community was Stevensville. Other growing communities included Point Abino, Mulgrave, Ridgeway, Amigari, Bridgeburg, Snyder, Windmill Point, Ridgemount, Crystal Beach, Shipyards, and Erie Beach (Davies and Felstead, 1996).



Crystal Beach

The subject property is located in the community of Crystal Beach, which was settled in the late 1700's, like other parts of Bertie Township, by United Empire Loyalists. In the 1880's, the area surrounding Rebstock Road, located approximately 200 metres north of the current subject property, was locally known as Hauntown because of the Haun families who lived in the area. At this time, fields and orchards made up the landscape between Hauntown and Lake Erie (Davies and Felstead, 1996:44).

In 1888, the development of the area took a significant turn when John Rebstock's religious assembly grounds began to transform into the Crystal Beach Amusement Park, located at the end of Ridgeway Road, along the lake. As a result of the park, the Crystal Beach area transformed into one of Canada's most popular resort areas. By 1895, Crystal Beach was incorporated as a Police Village, and in 1896, it received a summer post office which became year-round by 1908. By 1921, it was incorporated as a village and the permanent population was 298. In the summer months, the population would significantly increase to over 10,000 people, including many residents from Buffalo who bought practically all of the beach-front properties during the 1800s (Davies and Felstead, 1996:44-45).

In 1970, Crystal Beach was amalgamated with the Town of Fort Erie and Bertie Township to form the greater Fort Erie area. In 1989, the amusement park closed (Davies and Felstead, 1996:45).

1.2.3 Review of Map Sources

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



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

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

The subject property, as overlaid on the 1862 *Tremaine Map of the Counties of Lincoln and Welland* (Tremaine & Tremaine, 1862), is depicted within the south half of Lot 23 under the ownership by Isaac S. Haun (Figure 2). While there are no settlement features within the subject property limits, a house is located fronting Rebstock Road, approximately 200 metres to the north. A second road, approximately 150 metres distant at its closes point, is shown following the north shore of Lake Erie, and the unopened portion of present-day Prospect Point Road South is illustrated approximately 40 metres to the east.

The subject property, as overlaid on the 1876 *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Lincoln and Welland* (Page, 1876), shows the subject property is now under the ownership of Henry A. Haun (Figure 3). The house from previous mapping, now with a sizeable orchard adjacent, is indicated in a corresponding location to the previous map.

Early topographic mapping was also reviewed for the presence of potential historical features. Land features, such as waterways, wetlands, woodlots, and elevation, are clearly illustrated on this series of mapping, along with roads and structure locations. On the 1907 Welland Topographic Map (Department of Militia and Defence, 1907), the subject property appears in an area of declining elevation between the 618-foot (188-metre) and 586-foot (178-metre) contour lines (Figure 4). Rebstock Road is illustrated north of the subject property, and present-day Prospect Point Road South has been extended south to pass the



property approximately 80 metres to the east. An unfenced road is illustrated following the north shore of the lake along the general course of the road indicated on the previous 1862 and 1876 mapping, which passes the property approximately 100 metres to the southeast at its closest point. The house to the north of the subject property is not mapped, but there are now three houses fronting Prospect Point Road South and the road fronting the lake, immediately east and within 100 metres to the southeast, respectively. The village of Crystal Beach is depicted to the southwest fronting the lake.

1.2.4 Review of Aerial Imagery

Aerial imagery from 1934 and 1954, along with orthographic imagery from 2000 and 2002 were reviewed to better understand the land use and development of the subject property (Brock University, 2018; Google Earth Pro, 2022). The 1934 image shows the subject property within part of a large open field lined with trees along the south limit (Figure 5). Ridge Road South is visible aligning with the property's west limit and Brunswick Avenue, Roxborough Avenue, and Matthewson Avenue can be seen to the west, fronted by sparse housing. By 1954, although the subject property remained part of an open field, the development of further housing can be seen to the west (Figure 5).

The image from 2000 shows that Brunswick Avenue had been extended north of the subject property linking Ridge Road South to Prospect Point Road South (Figure 5). All three streets now were lined with residences and there was an extensive woodlot within the centre of the block, which the subject property partially occupied. The 2002 image shows the residence at 272 Ridge Road South had been constructed in the west of the property, while the remainder still comprised wooded areas (Figure 5).

1.3 Archaeological Context

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



1.3.1 Registered Archaeological Sites

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

In Ontario, information concerning archaeological sites is stored in the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database, which is maintained by the Ministry. This database contains archaeological sites registered within the Borden system. The Borden system was first proposed by Doctor Charles E. Borden and is based on a block of latitude and longitude. Each Borden block measures approximately 13 kilometres east to west by 18.5 kilometres north to south and is referenced by a four-letter designator. Sites within a block are numbered sequentially as they are found. The subject property is located in the south of the AfGs Borden block.

Fifteen archaeological sites have been registered with an approximate one-kilometre radius of the subject property (the Ministry, 2022). A detailed summary of these sites is in Appendix A. The nearest site, AfGs-97, a pre-contact Indigenous site, is approximately 165 metres north of the subject property.

1.3.2 Previous Assessments

No previous archaeological assessments are known to have been conducted on or within 50 metres of the subject property.

1.3.3 Physiography

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



Niagara peninsula, a number of environmental sub-regions have been described, including the Niagara Slough Clay Plain, the Fort Erie Clay Plain, the Calcareous Rock Plain (Onondaga Escarpment), the Buried Moraines, the Lake Erie Coast, and the Niagara River Valley (MacDonald 1980). The distribution and nature of these sub-regions, and the specific environmental features they contain, have influenced land use in the region throughout history and pre-history.

The subject property is approximately 200 metres north/northwest of the Lake Erie shoreline and is situated on the south-facing slope of the Crystal Beach Moraine. The top of the moraine is approximately 200 metres above sea level while the Lake Erie shoreline is approximately 175 metres above sea level; the subject property is approximately 180 metres above sea level. The surficial geology of the subject property is comprised of coarse-textured glaciolacustrine deposits of sand, gravel, minor silt and clay (Ontario Geological Survey, 2000).

1.3.4 Existing Conditions

The subject property is approximately 0.59 hectare in size fronting Ridge Road South to the west (Figure 6). It comprises a residence that was constructed in the early twenty-first century, a gravel driveway and parking area, and surrounding lawns and trees.

1.3.5 Review of Pre-Contact Archaeological Potential

Section 1.3.1 of the Standards stipulates that undisturbed lands within 300 metres of primary water sources (such as, lakes, rivers, streams, creeks), secondary water sources (for example, intermittent streams and creeks, springs, marshes, swamps), ancient water sources (glacial lake shorelines indicated by the presence of raised sand or gravel beach ridges, relic river or stream channels indicated by clear dip or swale in the topography, shorelines of drained lakes or marshes, and cobble beaches), and accessible and inaccessible shorelines (bluffs, swamp or marsh fields by the edge of a lake, and sandbars stretching into marsh) are considered, at a generic level, to exhibit archaeological potential.

Potable water is the single most important resource necessary for any extended human occupation or settlement. Since water sources have remained relatively



stable in south-central Ontario after the Pleistocene era, proximity to water can be regarded as a useful index for the evaluation of archaeological site potential. Indeed, distance from water has been one of the most common variables used for predictive modelling of site location.

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

The master plan document completed for the Town of Fort Erie considers similar criteria for determining potential for pre-contact archaeological sites (Archaeological Services Inc., 2003). Pertinent to the subject property are the buffers within 250 metres from water sources, within 100 metres of registered pre-contact sites, and on lands above 186.9 metres above sea level.

The subject property is located on the south-facing slope of a moraine, at approximately 180 metres above sea level, and is approximately 200 metres from the north shore of Lake Erie. There is also an Indigenous site, AfGs-97, which has been registered approximately 165 metres north of the property limits. Therefore, based on proximity to water, there is potential for the presence of Indigenous archaeological sites within the subject property, depending on the degree of subsequent land disturbance.

1.3.6 Review of Historical Archaeological Potential

Section 1.3.1 of the Standards stipulates those areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement, including places of early military pioneer settlement (pioneer homesteads, isolated cabins, farmstead complexes), early wharf or dock complexes, pioneer churches, and early cemeteries, are considered to have



archaeological potential. There may be commemorative markers of their history, such as local, provincial, or federal monuments or heritage parks. Also considered to have archaeological potential are early historical transportation routes (trails, passes, roads, railways, portage routes), properties listed on a municipal register or designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* or a federal, provincial, or municipal historical landmark or site, and properties that local histories or informants have identified with possible archaeological sites, historical events, activities, or occupations.

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

The master plan document completed for the Town of Fort Erie considers a similar suite of criteria (Archaeological Services Inc., 2003). There is potential for historical sites within settlement centres, within 100 metres of registered and unregistered historical sites, and within 100 metres of cemeteries, settlement roads, and features illustrated on historical maps.

Historical mapping indicates that the subject property was located within 200 metres of a house and orchard that fronted the historical settlement road of Rebstock Road, which formed the area known as Hauntown in the late nineteenth century (Figures 2-3). Mapping also indicates that there was an early road that followed the north shore of Lake Erie approximately 150 metres to the southeast; the north shore of Lake Erie is presently 200 metres distant. As such, based on proximity to water, there is considered potential for Euro-Canadian archaeological sites within the subject property, depending on the degree of subsequent land disturbance



2.0 Field Methods

The Stage 2 field assessment was conducted on September 20-21, 2022, in order to inventory, identify, and describe any archaeological resources extant within the subject property prior to development. All fieldwork was conducted under the field direction of Sean Haefner (R1253) and was carried out in accordance with the Standards. The weather conditions were appropriate for the completion of fieldwork, permitting good visibility of the land features.

Representative photographs documenting the field conditions during the Stage 2 fieldwork are presented in Section 8.0 of this report (Images 1-11), and photo locations and field observations have been compiled on project mapping (Figure 7). Field observations and photographs were recorded with a Trimble Catalyst Global Navigation Satellite System receiver using World Geodetic System 1984.

2.1 Areas of No Potential

The assessment was initiated by conducting a visual review to identify areas of no archaeological potential. During this review, approximately 24% of the subject property was identified as having no potential for the presence of archaeological resources due to previous ground disturbance (Figure 7). The areas of disturbance included the footprints of the house and its adjacent driveway in the centre of the subject property, comprising approximately 17% of the total area (Images 1-5), and an area in front of the house in the northwest, comprising approximately 7%, that contained a concentration of buried utilities (Images 6-7). In accordance with the Standards, Section 2.1, Standard 2b, these areas retain no archaeological potential on account of deep and extensive land alteration.

2.2 Test Pit Survey

The remaining portions of the subject property, comprising approximately 76%, in the southwest, centre, and east were assessed by means of a test pit survey at five-metre intervals (Figure 7). In accordance with the Standards, Section 2.1.2, all test pits were excavated stratigraphically by hand no less than five centimetres into sterile subsoil, and all topsoil was screened through six-millimetre mesh to facilitate artifact recovery (Image 8). The test pits were examined for stratigraphy,



cultural features, and evidence of fill. All test pits were at least 30 centimetres in diameter and excavated within one metre all structures and/or disturbances when possible. Upon completion, all test pits were backfilled.

Undisturbed soil profiles were encountered in all areas test pitted, typically comprising approximately 25-40 centimetres of brown (10YR 3/2) clay loam A-horizon, over yellowish-brown (10YR 6/8) clay B-horizon. It is notable that a portion of the backyard had recently been cleared of trees and a layer of redeposited soil been placed on top of the lawn as a result of a neighbouring excavation (Image 9). Hence, a deposit varying between five and 25 centimetres of mixed soils was present over the sod, followed by the A- and B-horizon in this location (Image 10).

In the southwest of the subject property, adjacent to the driveway, soil profiles showed that the A-horizon layer had been mostly stripped, consisting of no more than five centimetres of brown (10YR 3/2) clay loam A-horizon, over yellowish-brown (10YR 6/8) clay B-horizon (Image 11).

3.0 Record of Finds

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

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

4.0 Analysis and Conclusions

Archaeological Services Inc. was contracted by Culture Developments to complete a Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of 272 Ridge Road South, located on part of Lot 23, Broken Front Concession Lake Erie, in the Geographic Township of



Bertie, Welland County, now in the Town of Fort Erie, Regional Municipality of Niagara. The subject property is approximately 0.59 hectare.

The Stage 1 background research entailed consideration of the proximity of previously registered archaeological sites and the original environmental setting of the subject property, along with nineteenth- and twentieth-century settlement trends, as well as guidance from *The Archaeological Master Plan for the Town of Fort Erie* (Archaeological Services Inc., 2003). This research indicated there was potential for Indigenous and Euro-Canadian archaeological resources within the subject property based on the proximity to Lake Erie.

The Stage 2 field assessment was conducted on September 20-21, 2022, by means of a test pit survey of all undisturbed parts of the subject property. Despite scrutiny, no archaeological resources were encountered during the survey.

5.0 Recommendations

In light of these results, and in accordance with the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (2011)*, the following recommendation is made:

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

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

The above recommendations are subject to Ministry approval, and it is an offence to alter any archaeological site without Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport concurrence. No grading or other activities that may result in the destruction or disturbance of any archaeological sites are permitted until notice of Ministry approval has been received.



6.0 Advice on Compliance with Legislation

Archaeological Services Inc. advises compliance with the following legislation:

- This report is submitted to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, RSO 2005, c 0.18. The report is reviewed to ensure that it complies with the standards and guidelines that are issued by the Minister, and that the archaeological field work and report recommendations ensure the conservation, preservation, and protection of the cultural heritage of Ontario. When all matters relating to archaeological sites within the subject property of a development proposal have been addressed to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, a letter will be issued by the Ministry stating that there are no further concerns with regards to alterations to archaeological sites by the proposed development.
- It is an offence under Sections 48 and 69 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for any party other than a licensed archaeologist to make any alteration to a known archaeological site or to remove any artifact or other physical evidence of past human use or activity from the site, until such time as a licensed archaeologist has completed archaeological field work on the site, submitted a report to the Minister stating that the site has no further cultural heritage value or interest, and the report has been filed in the Ontario Public Register of Archaeology Reports referred to in Section 65.1 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
- Should previously undocumented archaeological resources be discovered, they may be a new archaeological site and therefore subject to Section 48 (1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The proponent or person discovering the archaeological resources must cease alteration of the site immediately and engage a licensed consultant archaeologist to carry out archaeological fieldwork, in compliance with Section 48 (1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
- The Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33, requires that any person discovering or having knowledge of a burial site shall immediately notify the police or coroner. It is recommended that the Registrar of Cemeteries at the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services is also immediately notified.



- Archaeological sites recommended for further archaeological field work or protection remain subject to Section 48(1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* and may not be altered, nor may artifacts be removed from them, except by a person holding an archaeological license.

7.0 Bibliography and Sources

Archaeological Services Inc. (2003). *Archaeological Master Plan of the Town of Fort Erie*. Report on file with the Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries.

Armstrong, F. H. (1985). *Handbook of Upper Canadian Chronology*. Dundurn Press.

Boulton, D. (1805). *Sketch of His Majesty's Province of Upper Canada* (Reprinted in Toronto by the Baxter Publishing Company, 1961). C. Rickaby.

Brock University. (2018). *Niagara Air Photo Index*. Brock University Maps, Data & GIS.
<http://www.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=33873be71555423db62472eebf317042>

Chapman, L. J., and Putnam, F. (1984). *The Physiography of Southern Ontario* (Vol. 2). Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources.

Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs. (2016). *Niagara Treaty of 1781 No. 381*. Treaty Texts – Upper Canada Land Surrenders.
<https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1370372152585/1370372222012#ucls2>

Davies, J., and Felstead, J. L. (1996). *Many Voices: A Collective History of Greater Fort Erie*. Fort Erie Museum Board.

Department of Militia and Defence. (1907). *Welland Sheet* [Map].

Fort Erie Museum Board. (1997). *Fort Erie's Heritage Master Plan: Phase 1 Inventory*.



Google Earth Pro. (2022). *Google Earth v7.3.4.8573* [Map]. Google Inc.
<http://www.google.com/earth/index.html>

Johnston, D. (2004). *Connecting People to Place: Great Lakes Aboriginal in Cultural Context* (Unpublished Paper Prepared for the Ipperwash Commission of Inquiry).
<http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/inquiries/ipperwash/transcripts.pdf>

Lytwyn, V. P. (2005). *Historical research report: Aboriginal Settlement and Use of the North Pickering Development Planning Area and Adjacent Lands, 1690-1923*.

MacDonald, I. D. (1980). *Life Science Features of the Haldimand Clay Plain Physiographic Region*. Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation Section, Central Region.

Ministry of Culture (now the Ministry). (1990). *Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. c.O.18, 1990 [as amended in 2021]*.

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. (1990). *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, (1990)*.

Ministry of Tourism and Culture. (2011). *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. Cultural Programs Branch, Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport.

Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport. (2022). *Ontario's PastPortal*. PastPortal.
<https://www.pastport.mtc.gov.on.ca>

Ontario Geological Survey. (2000). *Quaternary Geology of Ontario* [Map].
<https://www.mndm.gov.on.ca/en/mines-and-minerals/applications/ogsearth/quaternary-geology>

Page, H. R. (1876). *Illustrated Atlas of the Counties of Lincoln & Welland, Ontario* [Map]. H. R. & Page Co.

Rayburn, A. (1997). *Place Names of Ontario*. University of Toronto Press.



Smith, W. H. (1846). *Smith's Canadian Gazetteer, Comprising Statistical and General Information Respecting All Parts of the Upper Province, or Canada West*. H. & W. Rowsell.

Tremaine, G. M., and Tremaine, G. R. (1862). *Map of the Counties of Lincoln and Welland* [Map].



8.0 Images



Image 1: View of the residence and its associated gravel driveway and parking area.



Image 2: View of the gravel driveway connecting the residence to Ridge Road South.



Image 3: Looking northwest towards the residence and gravel parking area adjacent to the residence.



Image 4: Looking southwest at the lawn to the rear of the residence.



Image 5: View of the backyard of the residence in the centre of the subject property.



Image 6: View of portion of the front yard showing marked buried utility locates between road and house.



Image 7: View of portion of the front yard showing marked buried utility locates between road and house.



Image 8: View of field crew test pitting in the southwest of the subject property.



Image 9: Field crew test pitting in the east of the subject property in the area containing redeposited soils.



Image 10: Test pit soil profile showing redeposited soil over sod, followed by A- and B-horizon.

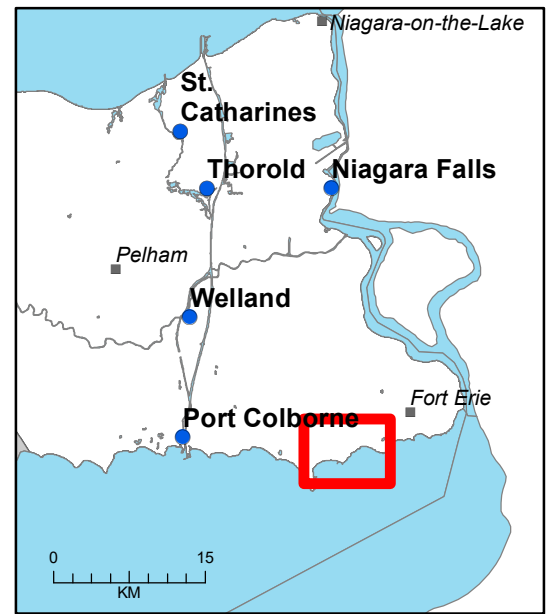
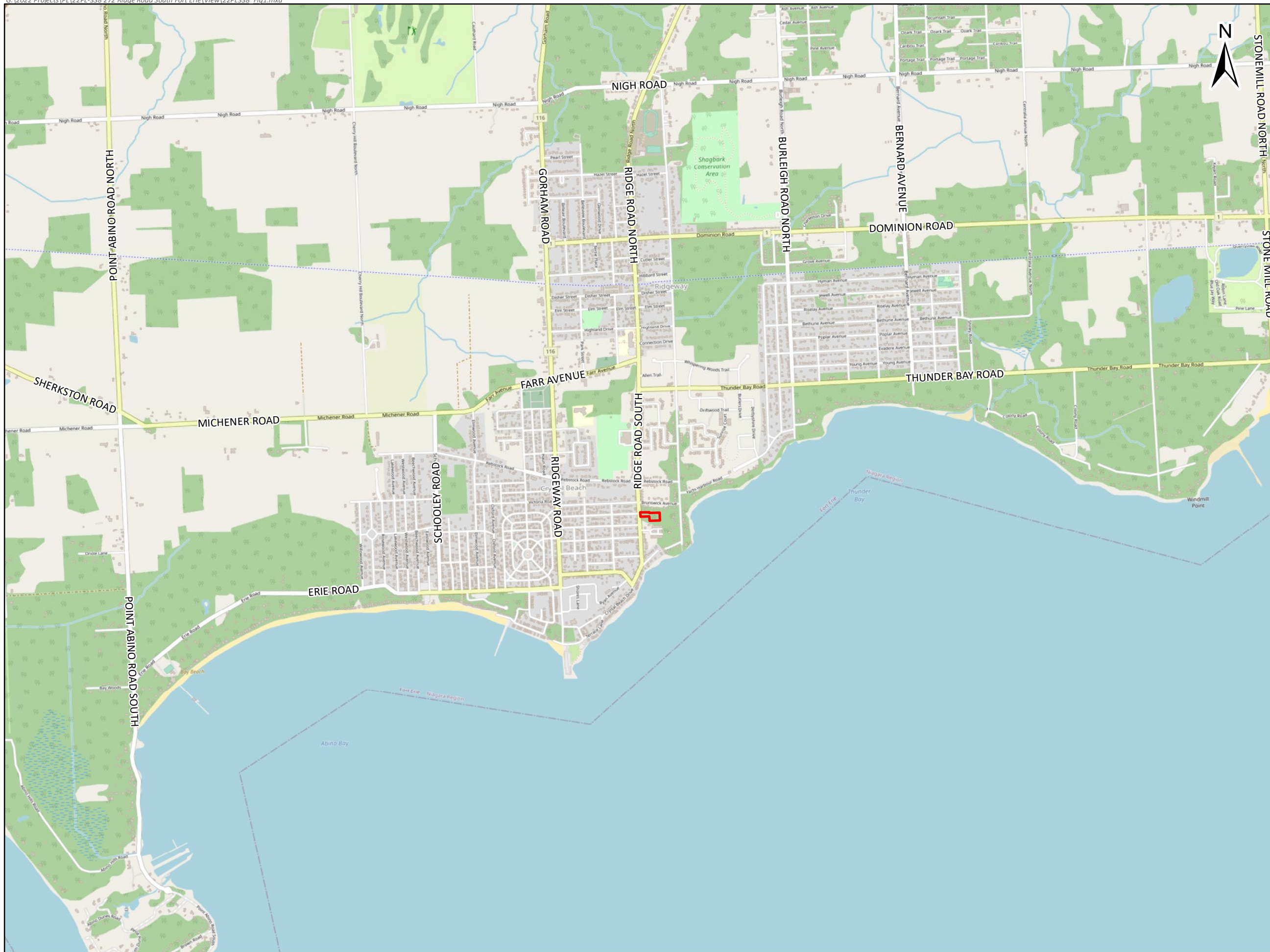


Image 11: Test pit soil profile in the southwest of the subject property, adjacent to the driveway.

9.0 Maps

See following pages for detailed assessment mapping and figures





 SUBJECT PROPERTY

Sources: Open Street Map
 Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N
 Scale: 1:25,000
 Page Size: 11 x 17



ASI PROJECT NO.: 22PL-338
 DATE: 2022-08-30
 DRAWN BY: A.C.
 FILE: 22PL338_Fig1



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

Figure 1: Location of the Subject Property






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

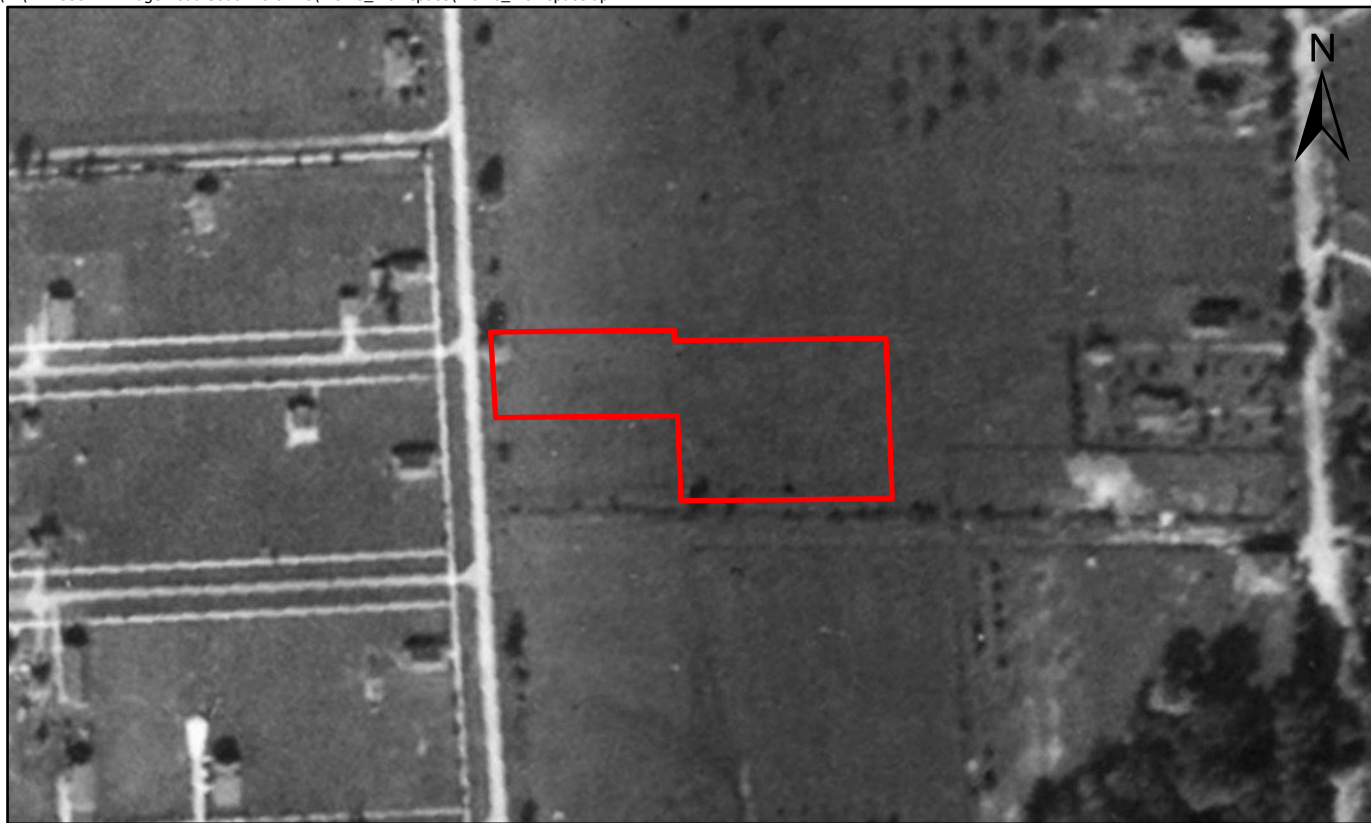


Figure 3: Subject Property Located on the 1876 *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Lincoln and Welland*



Figure 4: Subject Property Located on the 1907 *Welland Topographic Map*

	 SUBJECT PROPERTY	Sources: Fig 2: Tremaine Map, Lincoln & Welland (Tremaine & Tremaine, 1862) Fig 3: Illustrated Historical Atlas, Lincoln & Welland (Page, 1876) Fig 4: Welland Sheet (Department of Militia and Defence, 1907)		0 500  Metres	
		Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N Scale: 1:15,000 Page Size: 11 x 17	ASI Project No.: 22PL-338 Date: 9/14/2022 1:07 PM	Drawn By: jfernandez File: 22PL338_fig2_3_4_hist	



1934



1954



2000



2002

	 SUBJECT PROPERTY	Source: Niagara Region, Brock University Map, Data & GIS Library			
		Projection NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N Scale: 1:2,500 Page Size: 11 x 17	ASI Project No.: 22PL-338 Date: 9/9/2022 1:23 PM	Drawn By: jfernandez File: 22PL338_fig5_aerial	


Figure 5: Subject Property Located on 1934, 1954, 2000, and 2002 Aerial Imagery



 SUBJECT PROPERTY

Source:
Google Earth, 05/2022

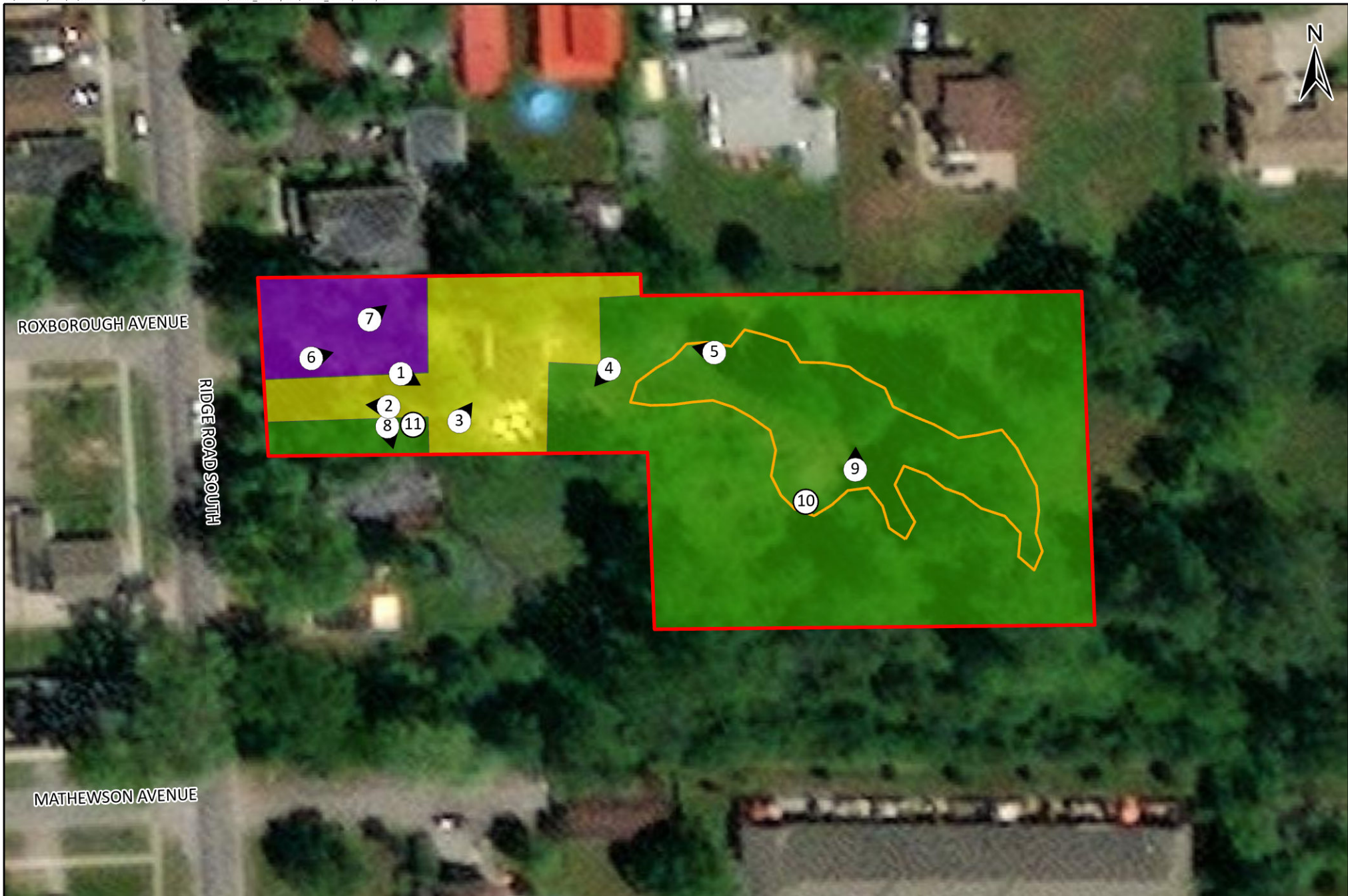
Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N
Scale: 1:500
Page Size: 11 x 17

0 15

Metres

ASI Project No.: 22PL-338
Date: 9/9/2022 1:30 PM

Drawn By: jfernandez
File: 22PL338_fig6

Figure 6: Existing Conditions of the Subject Property



	SUBJECT PROPERTY	REDEPOSITED FILL	Source: Maxar, Microsoft	
	PHOTO LOCATION AND DIRECTION	DISTURBED - AREA OF NO POTENTIAL	Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N Scale: 1:800 Page Size: 8.5x11	
	PROFILE PHOTO LOCATION	DISTURBED - UTILITY LOCATES	Drawn By: cnettleton File: 22PL338_Fig7_Stg2	
	TEST PIT SURVEY - 5-METRE INTERVALS			

Figure 7: Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment Results

Appendix A: Registered Sites within One Kilometre of the Subject Property

Borden Number	Site Name	Temporal/Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Researcher
AfGs-97		Pre-contact	Scatter	Archaeological Services Inc., 1999
AfGs-104	Ridgeway Shores	Pre-contact	Campsite	D.R. Poulton and Associates, 1999; 2000a
AfGs-105	Location 1	Pre-contact	Campsite	D.R. Poulton and Associates 2000b
AfGs-106	Location 3	Pre-contact	Campsite	D.R. Poulton and Associates 2000b; 2001
AfGs-107	Location 5	Pre-contact	Campsite	D.R. Poulton and Associates 2000b; 2001
AfGs-108	Location 9	Pre-contact	Campsite	D.R. Poulton and Associates, 2000b
AfGs-109	Location 11	Pre-contact, Euro-Canadian	Campsite, homestead	D.R. Poulton and Associates, 2000b

Borden Number	Site Name	Temporal/Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Researcher
AfGs-110	Wood Tick Ridge	Middle Archaic	Campsite	Archaeologix, 2004a; 2004b; 2004c
AfGs-129		Pre-contact	Findspot	Detritus Consulting Limited, 2007
AfGs-130		Pre-contact; Euro-Canadian	Findspot; Midden	Detritus Consulting Limited, 2007
AfGs-131		Pre-contact		Detritus Consulting Limited, 2007
AfGs-132		Euro-Canadian	Midden	Detritus Consulting Limited, 2007
AfGs-136	Lot 34 Site	Late Archaic	Campsite	Amick Consulting Limited 2014; Detritus Consulting Limited, 2015a; 2015b
AfGs-137	Block 80	Middle Archaic	Campsite	Amick Consulting Limited 2014; Detritus Consulting Limited, 2015a; 2015b
AfGs-141		Pre-contact	Scatter	Archaeological Services Inc., 2018
