

## **Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment 242-246 West Side Road, Port Colborne**

Part of Lot 30, Concession 2,  
Geographic Township of Humberstone,  
Historical County of Welland,  
now the City of Port Colborne,  
Regional Municipality of Niagara, Ontario

**Submitted to:**

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and

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**Submitted by:**



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PIF Number: P462-0255-2023  
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**ORIGINAL REPORT**

**April 16, 2024**

## Executive Summary

Detritus Consulting Ltd. ('Detritus') was retained by Mr. Eric Potts of Quartek Group on behalf of Bensanti Developments Ltd. ('the Proponent') to conduct a Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment on a residential lot located on part of Lot 30, Concession 2, in the Geographic Township of Humberstone within the historical County of Welland, now the City of Port Colborne in the Regional Municipality of Niagara, Ontario (Figure 1). This assessment was undertaken in advance of the planning phase of proposed residential development at 242-246 West Side Road, Port Colborne ('Study Area'; Figure 5).

The assessment was triggered by the Provincial Policy Statement ('PPS') that is informed by the *Planning Act* (Government of Ontario 1990a), which states that decisions affecting planning matters must be consistent with the policies outlined in the larger *Ontario Heritage Act* (1990b). According to Section 2.6.2 of the PPS, "development and site alteration shall not be permitted on lands containing archaeological resources or areas of archaeological potential unless significant archaeological resources have been conserved." To meet the condition, a Stage 1-2 assessment of the Study Area was conducted during the application phase of in advance of the planning phase of proposed residential development, under archaeological consulting license P462 issued to Mr. Michael Pitul by the Ministry of Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism ('MCM') and adheres to the archaeological license report requirements under subsection 65 (1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* (Government of Ontario 1990b) and the MCM 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists ('Standards and Guidelines')*; (Government of Ontario 2011).

The Study Area was irregularly shaped and measured 0.69 hectares ('ha'). At the time of the assessment, the Study Area was composed of a residential house, pool, pavement driveway, manicured lawn, fallow grass field and treed area (Figure 4). The Study Area made up the entirety of the assessment property. The Study Area was bound by residential properties along the north and south property lines along the west frontage of West Side Road, with the rear yard extending behind these neighbouring properties confined by a forested area to the east, with the north portion of the rear yard fronting onto a right-of-way for a proposed Franklin Avenue Road.

The Stage 1 background research indicated that the Study Area exhibited moderate to high potential for the identification and recovery of archaeological resources; therefore, a Stage 2 assessment was recommended for the manicured lawn, fallow grass field and treed area portions of the Study Area.

The subsequent Stage 2 assessment was conducted on November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 and April 5, 2024. This investigation began with a property inspection, conducted according to Section 2.1.8, which is informed by Section 1.2 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). The residential house, pool and pavement driveway were determined to retain low or no archaeological potential based on the Stage 2 identification of extensive a deep land alteration that has severely damaged the integrity of archaeological resources. The previously disturbed areas, as confirmed during a Stage 2 property inspection, were mapped and photo documented only. The remainder of the Study Area comprising the manicured lawn, fallow grass field and treed area were test pit surveyed at a five-metre interval. This investigation resulted in the identification and documentation of no archaeological resources.

The Stage 2 assessment of the Study Area resulted in the identification of no archaeological resources; **therefore, no additional archaeological assessment of the Study Area is recommended.**

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

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## Project Personnel

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## Project Acknowledgements

Generous contributions by Eric Potts of Quartek Group and Tirdad Gharachorloo of Sutton Group Admiral Realty Inc. for making this report possible.

## 1.0 Project Context

### 1.1 Development Context

Detritus Consulting Ltd. ('Detritus') was retained by Mr. Eric Potts of Quartek Group on behalf of Bensanti Developments Ltd. ('the Proponent') to conduct a Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment on a residential lot located on part of Lot 30, Concession 2, in the Geographic Township of Humberstone within the historical County of Welland, now the City of Port Colborne in the Regional Municipality of Niagara, Ontario (Figure 1). This assessment was undertaken in advance of the planning phase of proposed residential development at 242-246 West Side Road, Port Colborne ('Study Area'; Figure 5).

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

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

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

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

The purpose of a Stage 2 Property Assessment is to provide an overview of any archaeological resources within the Study Area, and to determine whether any of the resources might be archaeological sites with cultural heritage value or interest ('CHVI'), and to provide specific direction for the protection, management and/or recovery of these resources. In compliance with the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011), the objectives of the following Stage 2 assessment are as follows:

- To document all archaeological resources within the Study Area;
- to determine whether the Study Area contains archaeological resources requiring further assessment; and
- to recommend appropriate Stage 3 assessment strategies for archaeological sites identified.

## 1.2 Historical Context

### 1.2.1 Post-Contact Aboriginal Resources

The earliest documented pre-European settlers arrived to the Niagara Peninsula from southwestern Ontario during the 14<sup>th</sup> century AD, at the peak of Iroquois culture. By 1400, the majority of the region was occupied by an Iroquoian speaking tribe referred to as the Attawandaran (aka the Atiquandaronk or Attouanderonks), who exploited the fertile land and abundant water sources throughout the region for fishing, hunting, and agriculture (Niagara Falls Info 2022). This moniker was given to the community by the neighbouring Wendat as a slur against their unusual dialect. Those Attawandaran tribes who settled along the Niagara River were referred to as the Onguiaahra (later the Ongiara), which has been loosely translated as one of “the Straight,” “the Throat,” or “the Thunder of Waters” (Niagara-on-the-Lake 2016; Niagara-on-the-Lake Realty 2022). The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake derives its name from the Onguiaahra village site on which it was founded. The name ‘Neutral’ was given to the Attawandaran by French explorers who began arriving in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. This new designation referred to the community’s status as peacekeepers between the warring Huron and Iroquois tribes (Niagara Falls Info 2022).

The earliest recorded European visit to the Niagara region was undertaken by Étienne Brûlé, an interpreter and guide for Samuel de Champlain. In June 1610, Brûlé requested permission to live among the Algonquin people and to learn their language and customs. In return, Champlain agreed to take on a young Huron named Savignon, to teach him the language and customs of the French. The purpose of this endeavour was to establish good relations with Aboriginal communities in advance of future military and colonial enterprises in the area. In 1615, Brûlé joined twelve Huron warriors on a mission to cross enemy territory and seek out the Andaste people, allies of the Huron, to ask for their assistance in an expedition being planned by Champlain (Heidenreich 1990). The mission was a success, but took much longer than anticipated. Brûlé returned with the Andaste two days too late to help Champlain and the Hurons, who had already been defeated by the Iroquois (Heidenreich 1990).

Throughout the middle of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the Iroquois Confederacy sought to expand upon their territory and to monopolize the fur trade between the European markets and the tribes of the western Great Lakes region. A series of bloody conflicts followed known as the Beaver Wars or the French and Iroquois Wars, contested between the Iroquois Confederacy and the Algonkian speaking communities of the Great Lakes region. Many communities were destroyed including the Huron, Neutral, Susquehannock and Shawnee leaving the Iroquois as the dominant group in the region. By 1653 after repeated attacks, the area comprising the Niagara Peninsula and most of Southern Ontario had been vacated (Heidenreich 1990), while the Neutral had been assimilated by the Five Nations (Jamieson 1992; Noble 1978). By 1667, all members of the Five Nations had signed a peace treaty with the French and allowed their missionaries to visit their villages (Heidenreich 1990).

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

Throughout the late 17<sup>th</sup> and early 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, various Iroquoian-speaking communities had been migrating into southern Ontario from New York State. In 1722, the Five Nations adopted the Tuscarora in New York becoming the Six Nations (Pendergast 1995). This period also marks the arrival of the Mississaugas into Southern Ontario and, in particular, the watersheds of the lower Great Lakes (Konrad 2003; Schmalz 1991). The oral traditions of the Mississaugas, as told by Chief Robert Paudash suggest that the Mississaugas defeated the Mohawk nation, who retreated to their homeland south of Lake Ontario. Following this conflict, a peace treaty was negotiated and, at the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the Mississaugas settled permanently in Southern Ontario

(Praxis Research Associates n.d.). Around this same time, members of the Three Fires Confederacy (the Chippewa, Ottawa, and Potawatomi) began immigrating from Ohio and Michigan into southwestern Ontario (Feest and Feest 1978).

The Study Area first entered the Euro-Canadian historical record on December 7<sup>th</sup> 1792 as part of Treaty No. 3, which included land acquired in the 'Between the Lakes Purchase' dating to May 22, 1784. According to the terms of the treaty, the Mississaugas ceded to the Crown approximately 3,000,000 acres of land between Lake Huron, Lake Erie and Lake Erie in return for trade goods valued at £1180.

The limits of the Treaty 3 lands are documented as comprising...

*Lincoln County excepting Niagara Township; Saltfleet, Binbrook, Barton, Glanford and Ancaster Townships, in Wentworth County; Brantford, Onondaga, Tusc[a]r[o]ra, Oakland and Burford Townships in Brant County; East and West Oxford, North and South Norwich, and Dereham Townships in Oxford County; North Dorchester Township in Middlesex County; South Dorchester, Malahide and Bayham Township in Elgin County; all Norfolk and Haldimand Counties; Pelham, Wainfleet, Thorold, Cumberland and Humberstone Townships in Welland County.*

Morris 1943:17-18

One of the stated objectives of the Between the Lakes Purchase was "to procure for that part of the Six Nation Indians coming into Canada a permanent abode" (Morris 1943: 17). Shortly after the transaction had been finalised in May of 1784, Sir Frederick Haldimand, the Governor of Québec, made preparations to grant a portion of land to those Six Nations who remained loyal to the Crown during the American War of Independence. More specifically, Haldimand arranged for the purchase of approximately 550,000 acres of land adjacent to the Treaty 3 limits from the Mississaugas. This tract of land, referred to as either the Haldimand Tract or the 1795 Crown Grant to the Six Nations, was provided for in the Haldimand Proclamation of October 25<sup>th</sup>, 1784 and was intended to extend a distance of six miles on each side of the Grand River from mouth to source (Weaver 1978). By the end of 1784, representatives from each constituent nation of the Six Nations, as well as other allies, relocated to the Haldimand Tract with Joseph Brant (Weaver 1978; Tanner 1987).

Throughout southern Ontario, the size and nature of the pre-contact settlements and the subsequent spread and distribution of Aboriginal material culture began to shift with the establishment of European settlers. By 1834 it was accepted by the Crown that losses of portions of the Haldimand Tract to Euro-Canadian settlers were too numerous for all lands to be returned. Lands in the Lower Grand River area were surrendered by the Six Nations to the British Government in 1832, at which point most Six Nations people moved into Tuscarora Township in Brant County and a narrow portion of Oneida Township (Page & Co. 1879; Weaver 1978; Tanner 1987). Following the population decline and the surrender of most of their lands along the Credit River, the Mississaugas were given 6000 acres of land on the Six Nations Reserve, establishing the Mississaugas of New Credit First Nation, now the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation ('MCFN'), in 1847 (Smith 2002).

Despite the encroachment of European settlers on previously established Aboriginal territories, "written accounts of material life and livelihood, the correlation of historically recorded villages to their archaeological manifestations, and the similarities of those sites to more ancient sites have revealed an antiquity to documented cultural expressions that confirms a deep historical continuity to Iroquoian systems of ideology and thought" (Ferris 2009: 114). As Ferris observes, despite the arrival of a competing culture, First Nations communities throughout Southern Ontario have left behind archaeologically significant resources that demonstrate continuity with their pre-contact predecessors, even if they have not been recorded extensively in historical Euro-Canadian documentation.



### 1.2.2 Euro-Canadian Resources

The current Study Area occupies part of lot 30, concession 2, within the geographic township of Humberstone and historical county of Welland, now the City of Port Colborne, Regional Municipality of Niagara, Ontario.

The history of the region began in 1763, when the Treaty of Paris brought an end to the Seven Years War, contested between the French and the British and their respective allies. Under the Royal Proclamation of that same year, the large stretch of land from Labrador in the east, moving southwest through the Saint Lawrence River Valley to the Great Lakes, and on to the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers became the British Province of Québec (Niagara Historical Society and Museum 2008).

On July 24, 1788, Sir Guy Carleton, the Governor-General of British North America, divided the Province of Québec into the administrative districts of Hesse, Nassau, Mecklenburg, and Lunenburg (Archives of Ontario 2012-2015). Further change came in December 1791 when the former province was rearranged into Upper Canada and Lower Canada under the provisions of the Constitutional Act. Colonel John Graves Simcoe was appointed as Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada and he spearheaded several initiatives to populate the province including the establishment of shoreline communities with effective transportation links between them (Coyne 1895).

In July 1792, Simcoe divided Upper Canada into 19 counties stretching from Essex in the west to Glengarry in the east. Each new county was named after a county in England or Scotland; the constituent townships were then given the names of the corresponding townships from each original British county (Powell and Coffman 1956). Later that year, the four districts originally established in 1788 were renamed the Western, Home, Midland, and Eastern Districts. As population levels in Upper Canada increased, smaller and more manageable administrative bodies were needed resulting in the establishment of many new counties and townships. As part of this realignment, the boundaries of the Home and Western Districts were shifted and the London and Niagara Districts were established. Under this new territorial arrangement, the Study Area became part of the Niagara District (Archives of Ontario 2012-2015).

In 1845, after years of increasing settlement that began after the War of 1812, the southern portion of Lincoln County was severed to form Welland County. The two counties would be amalgamated once again in 1970 to form the Regional Municipality of Niagara. Welland County takes its name from the Welland River, which runs through the centre of the county and was itself named by Simcoe after a stream in Lincolnshire, England. This county was home to the Niagara Falls as well as many of the earliest settled townships in Upper Canada (Middleton & Landon 1927).

Humberstone Township was settled in 1785. In 1817 it featured 75 inhabited houses, a grist mill, and a saw mill. By 1850 the number of inhabited houses had increased to 279, and the population to 2,377 inhabitants. At this time, the township also contained a grist mill, three saw mills, a foundry, two churches, and eight public schools. The township continued to grow throughout the 19th century. By 1875, the population had increased to 3,200 (Page & Co. 1876).

The *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Lincoln and Welland* ('Historic Atlas'), demonstrates the extent to which the Township of Humberstone had been settled by the late 19<sup>th</sup> century (Page, H.R. and Co. 1876; Figure 3). Landowners are listed for a large majority of the lots within the township, many of which had been subdivided multiple times into smaller parcels to accommodate an increasing population throughout the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Structures and orchards are prevalent throughout the township, almost all of which front early roads. According to the *Historic Atlas*, the Study Area occupies a part of Lot 30, Concession 2, in the southwest portion of the township. The Study Area is situated within the western center portion of the lot and was owned by R. Blamey (Page, H.R. and Co. 1876). No structures are depicted within the extent of the owner's lot.

Although significant information was provided on the *Historical Atlas* of the Township of Humberstone, it should be recognized that such historical county atlases were funded by



subscriptions fees and were produced primarily to identify factories, offices, residences, and landholdings of subscribers. Landowners who did not subscribe were not always listed on the maps (Caston 1997:100). Moreover, associated structures were not necessarily depicted or placed accurately (Gentilcore and Head 1984).

## 1.3 Archaeological Context

### 1.3.1 Property Description and Physical Setting

The Study Area was irregularly shaped and measured 0.69 hectares ('ha'). At the time of the assessment, the Study Area comprised a residential house, pool, pavement driveway, manicured lawn, fallow grass field and treed area (Figure 4). The Study Area made up the entirety of the assessment property. The Study Area was bound by residential properties along the north and south property lines along the west frontage of West Side Road, with the rear yard extending behind these neighbouring properties confined by a forested area to the east, with the north portion of the rear yard fronting onto a right-of-way for a proposed Franklin Avenue Road.

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

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

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

Huffman and Dumanski 1986

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

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

The closest source of potable water is an unnamed wetland, which is located approximately 800 metres (m) to the northwest of the Study Area.

### 1.3.2 Pre-Contact Aboriginal Land Use

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

**Table 1: Cultural Chronology for Humberstone Township**

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

### 1.3.3 Previously Identified Archaeological Work

To compile an inventory of archaeological resources, the registered archaeological site records were consulted. In Ontario, information concerning archaeological sites stored in the ASDB (Government of Ontario n.d.) is maintained by the MCM. This database contains archaeological sites registered according to the Borden system. Under the Borden system, Canada is divided into grid blocks based on latitude and longitude. A Borden Block is approximately 13 kilometres ('km') east to west and approximately 18.5km north to south. Each Borden Block is referenced by a four-letter designator and sites within a block are numbered sequentially as they are found. The Study Area under review is situated within Borden Block AfGt.

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

An examination of the ASDB has shown that there are no archaeological sites registered within a 1km radius of the Study Area.

To the best of Detritus' knowledge, no assessments have been conducted adjacent to the Study Area, and no sites are registered within 50m of the Study Area.

### 1.3.4 Archaeological Potential

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

Distance to modern or ancient water sources is generally accepted as the most important determinant of past human settlement patterns and, when considered alone, may result in a determination of archaeological potential. However, any combination of two or more other criteria, such as well-drained soils or topographic variability, may also indicate archaeological potential. When evaluating distance to water it is important to distinguish between water and shoreline, as well as natural and artificial water sources, as these features affect site locations and types to varying degrees. As per Section 1.3.1 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011), water sources may be categorized in the following manner:

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

As was discussed above, the closest source of potable water is an unnamed wetland which is located approximately 800m to the northwest of the Study Area.

The Study Area is situated within the Haldimand Clay Plain physiographic region. As was discussed earlier, the soils within this region are well drained and suitable for pre-contact and post-contact Aboriginal agricultural. Given this, and the length of occupation of historical Humberstone Township prior to the arrival of Euro-Canadian settlers, the pre-contact and post-contact Aboriginal archaeological potential of the Study Area is judged to be moderate to high.

For Euro-Canadian sites, archaeological potential can be extended to areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement, including places of military or pioneer settlements; early transportation routes; and properties listed on the municipal register or designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* (Government of Ontario 1990b) or property that local histories or informants have identified with possible historical events.

The *Tremaine Map* (Figure 2; Tremaine 1861) and *Historic Atlas* (Figure 3; Page, H.R. and Co. 1876) demonstrate that Humberstone Township was densely occupied by Euro-Canadian farmers by the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Much of the established road system and agricultural settlement from that time is still visible today. Considering the intensity of nearby rural historical settlement, and the proximity of the Study Area to the early community of Humberstone as well as the nearby Niagara, St. Catharines and Toronto Railway Railway, the Euro-Canadian archaeological potential of the Study Area is judged to be moderate to high.

Finally, despite the factors mentioned above, extensive land disturbance can eradicate archaeological potential within a Study Area, as per Section 1.3.2 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). Current aerial imagery identified a number of potential disturbance areas within the Study Area including residential house, Pool and pavement driveway (see Section 1.3.1 above). It is recommended that these areas be subject to a Stage 2 property inspection, conducted according to Section 2.1.8, Section 1.2 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011), to confirm and document the degree and extent of the disturbance.

## 2.0 Field Methods

The Stage 2 assessment of the Study Area was conducted on November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 and April 5, 2024, under archaeological consulting license P462 issued to Mr. Michael Pitul by the MCM.

During the Stage 2 field work assessment, the weather was sunny and -5°C; the soil was dry and screened easily. Assessment conditions were excellent and at no time were the field, weather, or lighting conditions detrimental to the recovery of archaeological material as per Section 2.1, Standard 3 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). Photos 1-17 demonstrate the land conditions at the time of the survey throughout the Study Area, including areas that met the requirements for a Stage 2 archaeological assessment, as per Section 7.8.6, Standards 1a of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario, 2011). Figure 4 illustrates the Stage 2 assessment methods, as well as photograph locations and directions all in relation to the proposed development of the Study Area.

The limits of the Study Area were not staked out prior to the assessment; therefore, shapefiles were created based on the development mapping provided by the Proponent and uploaded to Detritus' handheld GPS.

The Stage 2 field assessment began with a property inspection conducted as per Section 2.1.8, of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). According to the results of the inspection, approximately 5% of the Study Area comprised the possible disturbance areas identified on the current aerial imagery of the Study Area (see Section 1.3.4 above). These areas included a residential house, pool and pavement driveway (Photos 1-3, 11,13). Based on the Stage 2 assessment these areas were evaluated as having no potential based on the identification of extensive and deep land alteration that has severely damaged the integrity of archaeological resources, as per Section 2.1, Standard 2b of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). These areas of disturbance were mapped, and photo documented in accordance with Section 2.1, Standard 6 and Section 7.8.1, Standard 1b of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011).

The remaining 95% of the Study Area comprised manicured lawn, fallow grass field and a treed area which were inaccessible for ploughing. These areas were subject to a typical test pit survey at 5m intervals following Section 2.1.2 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). Test pits were excavated to within 1m of all standing structures, or until test pits demonstrated evidence of recent ground disturbance as per Section 2.1.2, Standard 4 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011; Photos 2-10, 12, 14-17). All test pits were at least 30 centimetres ('cm') in diameter and were excavated 5cm into sterile subsoil. The soils were then examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, or evidence of fill. The test pits ranged in depth from 16 to 27cm and featured a single soil layer (topsoil) above the subsoil. Given that the test pits were excavated 5cm into subsoil the topsoil ranged in depth from 11 to 22cm. All soil was screened through six-millimetre mesh hardware cloth to facilitate the recovery of small artifacts and then used to backfill the pit, as per Section 2.1.2, Standards 7 and 9 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). No further archaeological methods were employed since no artifacts were identified during the test pit survey.

### 3.0 Record of Finds

The Stage 2 archaeological assessment was conducted employing the methods described in Section 2.0. An inventory of the documentary record generated by fieldwork is provided in Table 3 below.

**Table 3: Inventory of Document Record**

<b>Document Types</b>	<b>Current Location</b>	<b>Additional Comments</b>
1 Page of Field Notes	Detritus Offices	Stored Digitally in project files
1 Map provided by the Proponent	Detritus Offices	Stored Digitally in project files
1 Field Map	Detritus Offices	Stored Digitally in project files
19 Digital Photographs	Detritus Offices	Stored Digitally in project files

No archaeological resources were identified within the Study Area and so no material culture was collected. As a result, no storage arrangements were required.

## 4.0 Analysis and Conclusions

Detritus was retained by the Proponent to conduct a Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment in advance of the planning phase of proposed residential development at 242-246 West Side Road in Port Colborne.

The Stage 1 background research indicated that the Study Area exhibited moderate to high potential for the identification and recovery of archaeological resources; therefore, a Stage 2 assessment was recommended for the manicured lawn, fallow grass field and treed area portions of the Study Area. The residential house, pool and pavement driveway were determined to retain low or no archaeological potential based on the Stage 2 identification of extensive a deep land alteration that has severely damaged the integrity of archaeological resources. The previously disturbed areas, as confirmed during a Stage 2 property inspection, were mapped and photo documented only.

The subsequent Stage 2 assessment was conducted on November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 and April 5, 2024. This investigation began with a property inspection, conducted according to Section 2.1.8, which was informed by Section 1.2 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario, 2011). The residential house, pool and pavement driveway were determined to retain low or no archaeological potential based on the Stage 2 identification of extensive a deep land alteration that has severely damaged the integrity of archaeological resources. The remainder of the Study Area comprising the manicured lawn, fallow grass field and treed area were test pit surveyed at a five-metre interval. No archaeological resources were observed.

## 5.0 Recommendations

The Stage 2 assessment of the Study Area resulted in the identification of no archaeological resources; therefore, **no additional archaeological assessment of the Study Area is recommended.**



## 6.0 Advice on Compliance with Legislation

This report is submitted to the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. 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.

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

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

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

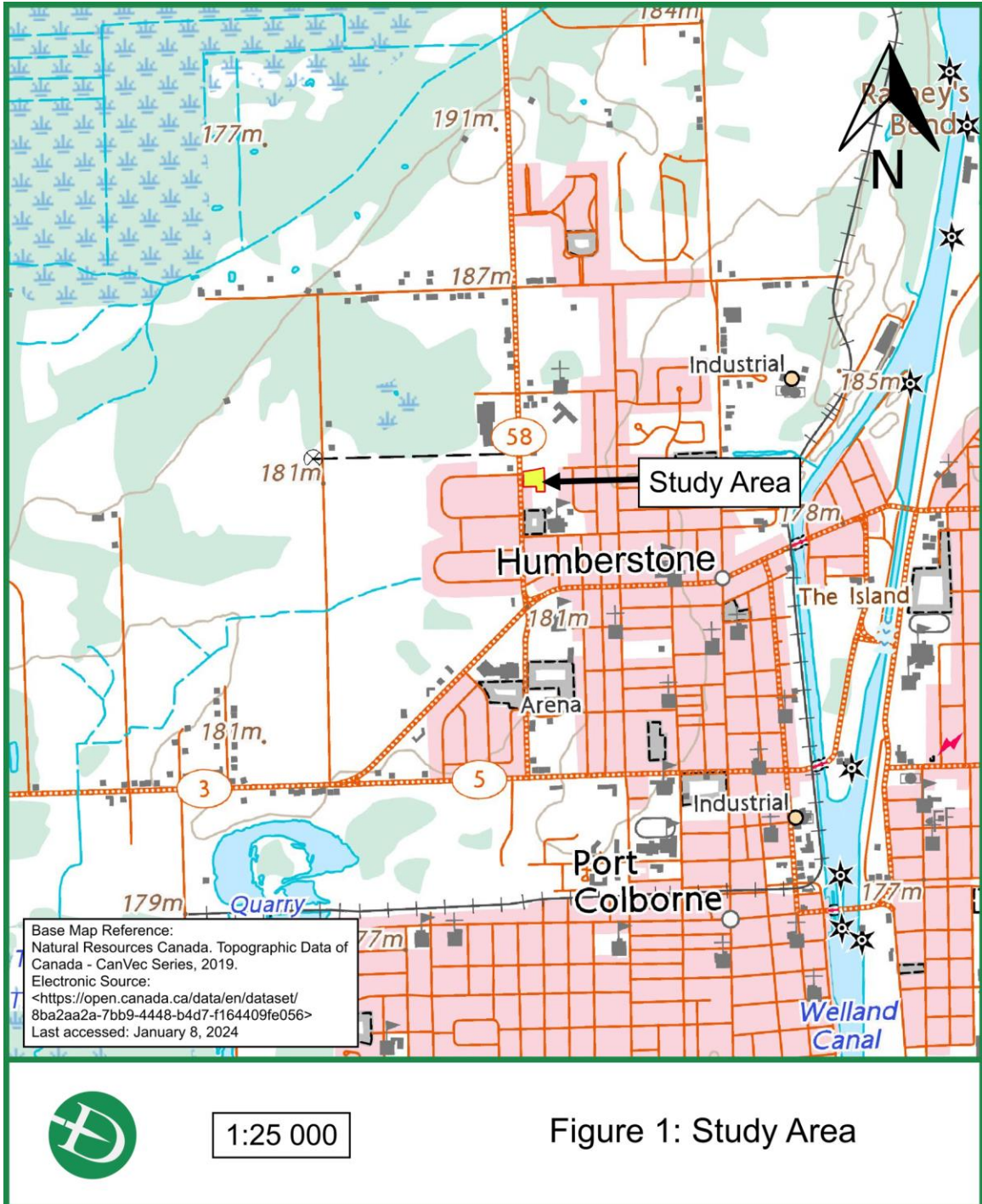
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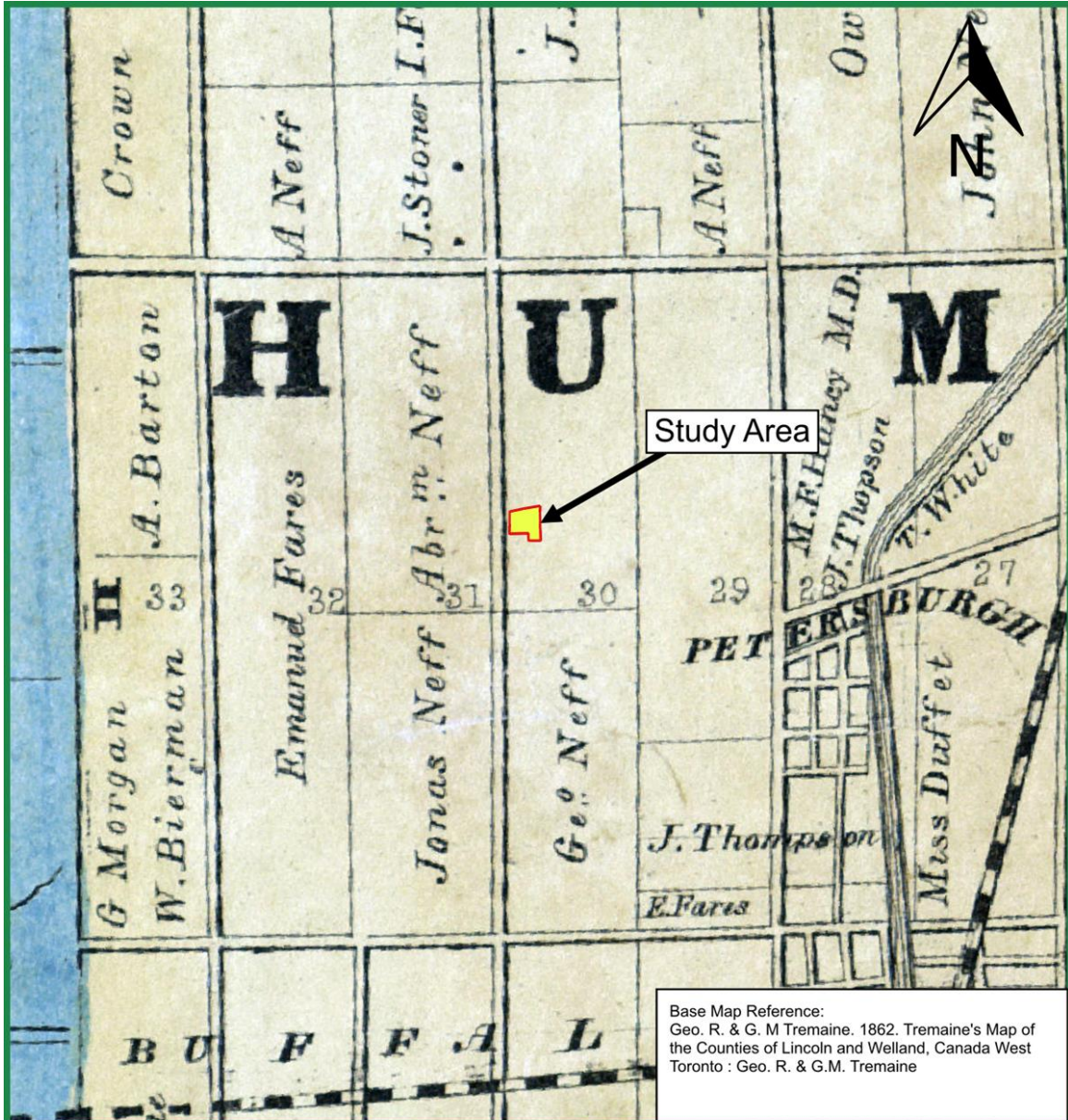
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## Images

## Maps







Not to Scale

Figure 2:  
1862 Tremain Map of the Counties of  
Lincoln and Welland.  
Part of Humberstone Township Map

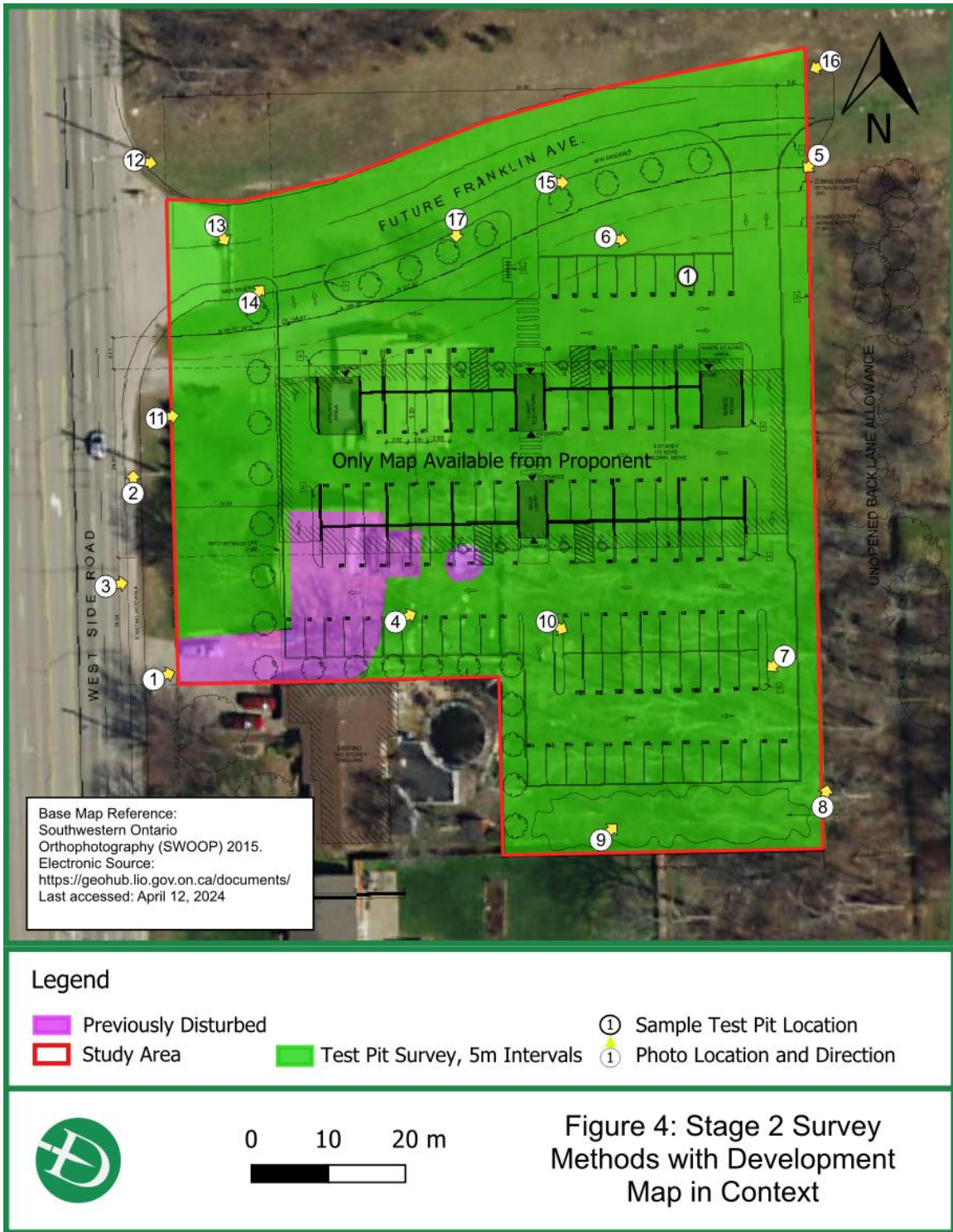




Not to Scale

Figure 3:  
1876 Illustrated Historical Atlas of the  
Counties of Lincoln and Welland.  
Part of Humberstone Township Map









## Photos

Photo 1: Pavement Driveway Disturbance, Not Assessed, facing east



Photo 2: Residential House and Manicured Lawn Test Pit Surveyed at 5m Intervals, facing southeast



Photo 3: Manicured Lawn Test Pit Surveyed at 5m Intervals, facing east



Photo 4: Manicured Lawn Test Pit Surveyed at 5m Intervals, facing northeast



Photo 5: Fallow Grass Field Test Pit Surveyed at 5m Intervals, facing southwest



Photo 6: Fallow Grass Field Test Pit Surveyed at 5m Intervals, facing east





Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment, 242-246 West Side Road, Port Colborne

Photo 7: Forested Area Test Pit Surveyed at 5m Intervals, facing southwest



Photo 8: Forested Area Test Pit Surveyed at 5m Intervals, facing north



Photo 9: Forested Area Test Pit Surveyed at 5m Intervals, facing northeast



Photo 10: Forested Area Test Pit Surveyed at 5m Intervals, facing southeast



Photo 11: Gravel Driveway Disturbance - Not Assessed, facing east



Photo 12: Manicured Lawn Test Pit Surveyed at 5m Intervals, facing east





Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment, 242-246 West Side Road, Port Colborne

Photo 13: Residential House Disturbance – Not Assessed, facing southeast



Photo 14: Manicured Lawn Test Pit Surveyed at 5m Intervals, facing northeast



Photo 15: Manicured Lawn Test Pit Surveyed at 5m Intervals, facing east



Photo 16: Manicured Lawn Test Pit Surveyed at 5m Intervals, facing southwest



Photo 17: Manicured Lawn Test Pit Surveyed at 5m Intervals, facing south



Photo 18: Sample Test Pit 1

