Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment Municipal Class EA Proposed Servicing Master Plan Port Albert Town Plot Geographic Township of Ashfield, Now Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh, Huron County, Ontario

Submitted to

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and

The Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries

Prepared by



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Executive Summary

A Stage 1 archaeological assessment was conducted for the proposed Servicing Master Plan for the Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh, Port Albert, Huron County, Ontario. The study area is bounded to the north by Russell Street (south of Nine Mile River), the south by South Street, the east by London Road and the west by the shore of Lake Huron. Timmins Martelle Heritage Consultants Inc. (TMHC) was contracted by B.M. Ross and Associates Limited to carry out the assessment which was conducted in accordance with the provisions of the *Environmental Assessment Act* (R.S.O. 1990). It is our understanding that as part of this project B.M. Ross will be recommending the implementation of a number of projects that would be classified as Schedule B activities under the MEA Class EA process. As such the Stage 1 background study will refine the archaeological potential for both the study area in general, but also each individual project area recommended for road construction, road improvements, stormwater management infrastructure and facilities. It will address whether Stage 2 assessment will be required and, where necessary, it will identify the appropriate methodology.

The Stage 1 background study included a review of current land use, historic and modern maps, aerial photographs, previous archaeological investigations, topographic and historic settlement maps, as well as a list of registered and known archaeological sites within 1 km. As a portion of the study area is a residential area with surface disturbance, background and archival research was also undertaken in an effort to summarize former land use, identify previous buildings on and occupants of the property, evaluate integrity and establish whether there is potential for *in situ* deeply buried archaeological deposits. The Stage 1 background research determined that much of the overall study area has archaeological potential. The specific project areas are also in proximity to features signaling archaeological potential; however, the Stage 1 property inspection determined that some areas had been disturbed by roadbuilding (Wellington Street).

Based on the information compiled in the background study and observations made during the Stage 1 property inspection, the following general recommendations are made:

- 1. The overall study area generally has archaeological potential. As such, Stage 2 archaeological assessment should be completed prior to ground disturbance activities; and
- 2. With the exception of the travelled portions of the existing roads and the proposed storm drainage outlet, the individual project areas have archaeological potential and will require Stage 2 archaeological assessment prior to ground disturbance activities.



With respect to individual project areas, the follow specific recommendations are made:

Project Areas	Proposed Development	Recommended Stage 2 Survey Method	
Ashfield Street	Road upgrades between Sydenham and Huron Street South.	Stage 2 test pit survey at a 5 m interval beyond the current travelled portion of the road allowance.	
Harvey Street	Road construction between Wellington and Sydenham Streets	Stage 2 test pit survey at 5 m interval	
Market Street	Road upgrades between Wellington and Sydenham Streets; road construction between Sydenham and Arthur Street	Stage 2 test pit survey at 5 m interval	
Victoria Street Road Allowance	Road construction between Huron and Colborne Streets	Combination of test pit and pedestrian survey at a 5 m interval	
Huron Street South	Road construction north of South Street; road upgrades between Harvey Street road allowance to north of Market Street road allowance; road construction from north of Market Street road allowance to Victoria Street road allowance	Stage 2 test pit survey at 5 m interval with the exception of the travelled portion of the road allowance between Harvey and Market Streets road allowances	
Colborne Street Road Allowance	Four segments of road construction from north of South Street to north of the Victoria Street road allowance	Combination of Stage 2 test pit and pedestrian survey at a 5 m interval	
Arthur Street Road Road construction between South and Russel Streets		Combination of Stage 2 test pit and pedestrian survey at a 5 m interval Combination of Stage 2 test pit	
Sydenham Street	Sydenham Street Road construction between South and Russell Streets with small section of road upgrade north of Market Street		
Wellington Street Road upgrades between South and Russel Streets		Stage 2 judgmental test pit survey at a 10 m interval where it is not clearly intensively and extensively disturbed	
SWM Facility New facility on the south side of Ashfield Street and west of Colborr Street road allowance		Stage 2 pedestrian survey at 5 m interval	
Storm Drainage Outlet	Within Ashfield Street road allowance to the west of Huron Street South	Steeply sloped and of low archaeological potential; no Stage 2 survey	

These recommendations are subject to the provisions outlined in Section 4.0 of this report, and to its review by the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries and its acceptance into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports.



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Project Personnel

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Kelly Vader Planner

B.M. Ross and Associates Limited



Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment
Municipal Class EA
Proposed Servicing Master Plan
Port Albert Town Plot
Geographic Township of Ashfield,
Now Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh,
Huron County, Ontario

1.0 PROJECT CONTEXT

1.1 Development Context

1.1.1 Introduction

A Stage 1 archaeological assessment was conducted for the proposed Servicing Master Plan for the Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh, Port Albert, Huron County, Ontario. The study area is bounded to the north by Russell Street (south of Nine Mile River), the south by South Street, the east by London Road and the west by the shore of Lake Huron. Timmins Martelle Heritage Consultants Inc. (TMHC) was contracted by B.M. Ross and Associates Limited to carry out the assessment which was conducted in accordance with the provisions of the *Environmental Assessment Act* (R.S.O. 1990). It is our understanding that as part of this project B.M. Ross will be recommending the implementation of a number of projects that would be classified as Schedule B activities under the MEA Class EA process. As such the Stage 1 background study will refine the archaeological potential for both the study area in general, but also each individual project area recommended for road construction, road improvements, stormwater management infrastructure and facilities. It will address whether Stage 2 assessment will be required and, where necessary, it will identify the appropriate methodology.

All archaeological assessment activities were performed under the professional archaeological license of Jim Sherratt, M.A. (P074) and in accordance with the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MTC 2011, "*Standards and Guidelines*"). Permission to begin the study was given by Kelly Vader of B.M. Ross and Associates Limited.

1.1.2 Purpose and Legislative Context

The *Ontario Heritage Act* makes provisions for the protection and conservation of heritage resources in the Province of Ontario. Heritage concerns are recognized as a matter of provincial interest in Section 2.6.2 of the *Provincial Policy Statement* (PPS) which states:

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.

In the PPS the term *conserved* means:

the identification, protection, management and use of *built heritage resources*, *cultural heritage landscapes* and *archaeological resources* in a manner that ensures their cultural heritage value or interest is retained. This may be achieved by the implementation of recommendations set out in a conservation plan, archaeological assessment and/or heritage impact assessment that has been approved, accepted or adopted by the relevant planning authority and/or decision-maker. Mitigative measures and/or alternative development approaches can be included in these plans and assessments.

The Environmental Assessment Act (R.S.O. 1990) also provides for the protection and conservation of the "environment," widely defined to cover "cultural heritage" resources. Section 5(3)(c) of the Act stipulates that heritage resources to be affected by a proposed undertaking be identified during the environmental screening process. Within the context of an Environmental Assessment, the purpose of a Stage 1 background study is to determine if the project has potential to negatively impact known or unknown archaeological resources. A Stage 2 assessment establishes if archaeological sites are present within the proposed impact areas, while a Stage 3 assessment evaluates their cultural heritage value. In the case of archaeological resources, potentially detrimental effects to archaeological resources are mitigated through Stage 4 protection and avoidance and/or excavation.

2.0 STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

2.1 Research Methods and Sources

A Stage 1 background study was conducted to gather information about known and potential archaeological resources within the study area. According to the *Standards and Guidelines*, a Stage 1 background study must include a review of:

- an up-to-date listing of sites from the Ontario's Past Portal for 1 km around the property;
- reports of previous archaeological fieldwork within a radius of 50 m around the property;
- topographic maps at 1:10,000 (recent and historical) or the most detailed scale available;
- historic settlement maps (e.g., historical atlas, surveys);
- archaeological management plans or other archaeological potential mapping (when available); and



• commemorative plaques or monuments on or near the property.

For this project, the following activities were carried out to satisfy or exceed the above requirements:

- a database search was completed through the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries' (MHSTCI) PastPortal (PastPort) system that compiled a list of registered archaeological sites within 1 km of the study area (completed April 16, 2020);
- a review of known prior archaeological reports for the property and adjacent lands (note: the MHSCTI currently does not keep a publicly accessible record of archaeological assessments carried out in the Province of Ontario, so a complete inventory of prior assessment work nearby is not available);
- Ontario Base Mapping (1:10,000) was reviewed through ArcGIS and mapping layers provided by geographynetwork.ca; detailed mapping providing by the client was also reviewed;
- a series of historic maps and photographs was reviewed related to post-1800 land settlement.

There are no commemorative plaques or monuments within the immediate vicinity of the study area and it is not covered by any archaeological management plan.

Additional sources of information were also consulted, including modern aerial photographs, local history accounts, soils and physiographic data provided by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), and both 1:50,000 (Natural Resources Canada) and finer scale topographic mapping.

When compiled, background information was used to create a summary of the characteristics of the study area, in an effort to evaluate its archaeological potential. The Province of Ontario (MTC 2011 – Section 1.3.1) has defined the criteria that identify archaeological potential as:

- previously identified archaeological sites;
- water sources;
 - o primary water sources (lakes, rivers, streams, creeks);
 - o secondary water courses (intermittent streams and creeks, springs, marshes, swamps);
 - o 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 topography, shorelines of drained lakes or marshes, cobble beaches);



- o 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, plateaux);
- pockets of well-drained sandy soil, especially near areas of heavy soil or rocky ground;
- distinctive land formations 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:
 - o food or medicinal plants (e.g., migratory routes, spawning areas, prairie);
 - o scarce raw materials (e.g., quartz, copper, ochre or outcrops of chert);
 - o early 19th century industry (e.g., fur trade, logging, prospecting, mining);
- areas of early-19th century 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 early 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, portage routes);
- property listed on a municipal register or designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* or that is a federal, provincial, or municipal historic landmark or site; and
- property that local histories or informants have identified with possible archaeological sites, historical events, activities or occupations.

In southern Ontario (south of the Canadian Shield), any lands within 300 m of any of the features listed above are considered to have potential for the discovery of archaeological resources.

Typically, a Stage 1 assessment will determine potential for Indigenous and historic era sites independently. This is due to the fact that lifeways varied considerably during these eras so that criteria used to evaluate potential for each type of site also varies.

It should be noted that some factors can also negate the potential for discovery of intact archaeological deposits. Subsection 1.3.2 of the *Standards and Guidelines* indicates that archaeological potential can be removed in instances where land has been subject to extensive and deep land alterations that have severely damaged the integrity of any archaeological resources. Major disturbances indicating removal of archaeological potential include, but are not limited to:

- quarrying;
- major landscaping involving grading below topsoil;
- building footprints; and



• sewage and infrastructure development.

Some activities (agricultural cultivation, surface landscaping, installation of gravel trails, etc.) may result in minor alterations to the surface topsoil but do not necessarily affect or remove archaeological potential. It is not uncommon for archaeological sites, including structural foundations, subsurface features and burials, to be found intact beneath major surface features like roadways and parking lots. Archaeological potential is, therefore, not removed in cases where there is a chance of deeply buried deposits, as in a developed or urban context or floodplain where modern features or alluvial soils can effectively cap and preserve archaeological resources.

2.2 Archaeological Context

2.2.1 Study Area: Overview and Physical Setting

The study area comprises rural agricultural and residential area within the village of Port Albert, Ontario. It falls within the Town Plot of Port Albert, Ashfield Township, now the Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh, Huron County, Ontario (Maps 1 and 2). The study area is bounded to the north by Russell Street (south of Nine Mile River), the south by South Street, the east by London Road and the west by the shore of Lake Huron.

The study area falls within the Huron Slope and Huron Fringe physiographic regions as defined by Chapman and Putnam (1984). The Huron Slope is an area occupying roughly 1,000 square miles along the eastern side of Lake Huron situated between the glacial Lake Algonquin shorecliff and the Wyoming Moraine (Chapman and Putnam 1984:160; Map 3). Essentially a vast clay plain, the Huron Slope is modified by a narrow strip of sand and the twin beaches of glacial Lake Warren which flank the moraine (Chapman and Putnam 1984:160). The Huron Fringe, as defined by Chapman and Putnam (1984:161), comprises the wave-cut terraces of glacial Lake Algonquin and Lake Nipissing. Although the fringe is narrow, it is over 300 km long and encompasses more than 1,100 km² (Chapman and Putnam 1984:161). The soils within the study area consist of poorly drained Brookston clay loam, a soil type that is particularly susceptible to gully erosion (Hoffman et al. 1952:49; Map 4).

The study area falls within the Lake Huron drainage basin (Map 5). Lake Huron lies along the western boundary and a number of artificial drains run through the study area. The Nine Mile River lies approximately 85 m to the north. The Port Albert drain, which empties into Lake Huron, appears to be a partially channelized natural watercourse and runs through the southern portion.



2.2.2 Summary of Registered or Known Archaeological Sites

According to Ontario's Past Portal, there are no registered archaeological sites within 1 km of the study area.

2.2.3 Summary of Past Archaeological Investigations Within 50 Metres

During the course of this study, it was established that two archaeological assessments had been previously conducted within 50 m of the study area. However, it should be noted that the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries currently does not provide an inventory of archaeological assessments to assist in this determination.

In 2006, TMHC conducted a Stage 1 archaeological assessment for the Kingsbridge II Wind Power Project (Map 16). The Stage 1 background review examined a large area incorporating much of Ashfield Township and indicated that overall, the study area had high potential for the recovery of Indigenous archaeological resources and 19th century historic material. As such, Stage 2 assessment of the proposed wind farm properties was deemed necessary. The larger Stage 1 project area overlaps with the current study area, but the closest turbine location is over 1 km east of the study area. The results on this assessment are presented in a report entitled *Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment, Kingsbridge Wind Power Project Phase II, Ashfield Township, Huron County, Ontario (Licensee Holly Martelle (P064); PIF # P064-61).*

In 2019, TMHC conducted a Stage 1 & 2 assessment for a proposed severance at 86 Wellington Street South in the Town Plot of Port Albert (Map 17). The proposed severance was comprised of an active agricultural field and was subject to pedestrian survey at a 5 m interval. No archaeological material was documented during the Stage 2 assessment. The results on this assessment are presented in a report entitled Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment, Proposed Severance Application (G-6276), 86 Wellington Street South, Town Plot of Port Albert, Geographic Township of Ashfield, Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh, Huron County, Ontario (Licensee Sherri Pearce (P316); PIF # P316-0405-2019).

2.2.4 Dates of Archaeological Fieldwork

A Stage 1 field review was conducted on June 2, 2020, in sunny, and warm weather conditions. Supplementary photos were taken September 9, 2020 in cool and overcast weather conditions. The field review was conducted by Jim Sherratt (P074)



2.3 Project Context: Historical Context

2.3.1 Indigenous Settlement in Huron County

In recent years, our archaeological knowledge of Huron County has improved greatly, largely due to various cultural resource management surveys that have accompanied *Green Energy Act* development projects. Nonetheless, our knowledge of past Indigenous land use in the area is still incomplete. Using province-wide and region-specific data, a generalized cultural chronology for Indigenous settlement in the area can be proposed. The following paragraphs provide a basic textual summary of the known general cultural trends and a tabular summary appears in Table 1.

Paleo Period

The first human populations to inhabit southern Ontario arrived between 12,000 and 10,000 years ago, coincident with the end of the last period of glaciation. Climate and environmental conditions were significantly different then they are today; local environs would not have been welcoming to anything but short-term settlement. Ontario's first peoples would have crossed the landscape in small groups (i.e., bands or family units) searching for food, particularly migratory game species. In this area, caribou may have provided the staple of Paleo diet, supplemented by wild plants, small game, birds and fish.

Given the low density of populations on the landscape at this time and their mobile nature, Paleo sites are small and ephemeral. They are sometimes identified by the presence of fluted projectile points manufactured with high quality raw materials. Sites or find spots are frequently located adjacent to the strandlines of large glacial lakes. This settlement pattern has been attributed to the strategic placement of camps in high, dry areas and at logistical points for the interception of migrating caribou herds.

Table 1: Cultural Chronology for Indigenous Settlement in Huron County

	Period		Time Range (circa)	Diagnostic Features	Complexes
Paleo	Early		9000 - 8400 B.C.	fluted projectile points	Gainey, Barnes, Crowfield
	Late		8400 - 8000 B.C.	non-fluted and lanceolate points	Holcombe, Hi-Lo, Lanceolate
Archaic	Early		8000 - 6000 B.C.	serrated, notched, bifurcate base points	Nettling
	Middle		6000 - 2500 B.C.	stemmed, side & corner notched points	Brewerton, Otter Creek, Stanly/Neville
	Late		2000 - 1800 B.C.	narrow points	Lamoka
			1800 - 1500 B.C.	broad points	Genesee, Adder Orchard, Perkiomen
			1500 - 1100 B.C.	small points	Crawford Knoll
	Terminal		1100 - 950 B.C.	first true cemeteries	Hind
Woodland	Early		950 - 400 B.C.	expanding stemmed points, Vinette pottery	Meadowood
	Middle		400 B.C A.D. 500	dentate, pseudo-scallop pottery	Saugeen
	Transitional		A.D. 500 - 900	first corn, cord-wrapped stick pottery	Princess Point
	Late		A.D. 900 - 1300	first villages, corn horticulture, longhouses	Glen Meyer
			A.D. 1300 - 1400	large villages and houses	Uren, Middleport
			A.D. 1400 - 1650	tribal emergence, territoriality, first Europeans	Odawa
Contact		Indigenous	A.D. 1700 - present	treaties, mixture of Native & European items	Ojibway, Odawa
		Settler	A.D. 1796 - present	English goods, homesteads	European settlement, pioneer life



Archaic Period

The archaeological record of early Indigenous life in southern Ontario indicates a change in lifeways beginning circa 8000 B.C. at the start of what archaeologists call the Archaic Period. The Ontario populations are better known than their Paleo predecessors, with numerous sites found throughout the area. The characteristic projectile points of early Archaic populations appear similar in some respects to early varieties and are likely a continuation of early trends. Archaic populations continued to rely heavily on game, particularly caribou, but diversified their diet and exploitation patterns with changing environmental conditions. A seasonal pattern of warm season river or lakeshore settlements and interior cold weather occupations has been documented in the archaeological record. Since the large cold weather mammal species that formed the basis of the Paleoindian subsistence pattern became extinct or moved northward with the onset of warmer climate, Archaic populations had a more varied diet, exploiting a range of plant, bird, mammal and fish species. Reliance on specific food resources like fish, deer and nuts becomes more pronounced through time and the presence of more hospitable environs and resource abundance led to the expansion of band and family sizes. In the archaeological record, this is evident in the presence of larger sites and aggregation camps, where several families or bands would come together in times of resource abundance.

The coniferous forests of earlier times were replaced by stands of mixed coniferous and deciduous trees by about 4000 B.C. The transition to more productive environmental circumstances led to a rise in population density. As a result, Archaic sites become more abundant over time. Artifacts typical of these occupations include a variety of stemmed and notched projectile points, chipped stone scrapers, ground stone tools (e.g., celts, adzes) and ornaments (e.g., bannerstones, gorgets), bifaces or tool blanks, animal bone and waste flakes, a byproduct of the tool making process.

Early, Middle and Transitional Woodland Periods

Significant changes in cultural and environmental patterns are witnessed in the Early, Middle and Transitional Woodland periods (c. 950 B.C. to 1000 A.D.). Occupations became increasingly more permanent, culminating in major semi-permanent villages by roughly 1,000 years ago. Archaeologically, the most significant changes by the Woodland Period are the appearance of artifacts manufactured from modeled clay and the emergence of more sedentary villages. The earliest pottery was crudely made by the coiling method and early house structures were simple oval enclosures. The Early and Middle Woodland periods are also characterized by extensive trade in raw materials, objects and finished tools, with sites in Ontario containing trade items with origins in the Mississippi and Ohio River valleys. A rise in mortuary ceremonialism is also evident, culminating in the construction of large burial mounds.



Late Woodland Period

Beginning circa 1000 A.D. the archaeological record of Southern Ontario documents the emergence of more substantial, semi-permanent settlements and the adoption of corn horticulture. These developments are most often associated with Iroquoian-speaking populations, the ancestors of the Wendat (Huron), Tionontati (Petun - Tobacco Nation) and Attawandaron (Neutral) nations who were known to have resided in the province upon the arrival of the first European explorers and missionaries. Iroquoian villages incorporated a number of longhouses, multi-family dwellings that contained several families related through the female line. Pre-contact Iroquoian sites may be identified by a predominance of well-made pottery decorated with various simple and geometric motifs, triangular projectile points, clay pipes and ground stone artifacts. Sites post-dating European contact are recognized through the appearance of various items of European manufacture. The latter include materials acquired by trade (e.g. glass beads, copper/brass kettles, iron axes, knives and other metal implements) in addition to the personal items of European visitors and Jesuit missionaries (e.g. finger rings, stoneware, rosaries, and glassware).

Algonquian Populations

At the time of European contact in the early 17th century the Bruce peninsula was occupied by Algonkian speaking groups (Odawa, Potawatomi, Ojibwa) who maintained a close relationship with the Iroquoian speaking Tionontati peoples living along the southern end of Georgian Bay (Fox 1990:461). Like other Indigenous people in the area, these groups were dispersed in the mid-17th century as a result of the conflict between the Five Nations Iroquois and the Huron-Wendat. Many moved along the Lake Huron shoreline, with others settling in the peninsula proper. Several probable Algonquin sites on the Bruce peninsula and Georgian Bay have been documented, including a component on the Inverhuron-Lucas site on the Lake Huron shoreline.

2.3.2 19th Century Municipal Settlement

The study area falls within Town Plot of Port Albert, Ashfield Township now the Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh, Huron County, Ontario. A brief discussion of early-19th century and municipal settlement in the Township is provided below, as a means of providing the general context for understanding former land use.

What was to become Ashfield Township formed part of a parcel of land that was subject to a surrender by the Ojibwa to the Crown in 1825 called Treaty Number 27½ (Lee 2004:21). Treaty 27½ formalized the surrender of much of the Huron Tract, of which Ashfield Township was a part:

...being an agreement made at Amherstburg in the Western District of the Province of Upper Canada on the 26th of April, 1825, between James Givens, Esquire,



Superintendent of Indian Affairs, on behalf of His Majesty King George the Fourth and the Chiefs and Principal Men of the part of the Chippewa Nation of Indians, inhabiting and claiming the tract of land... (Morris 1943:26, 27).

The Treaty was concluded on April 26, 1825 (ITS 1992:65).

Early municipal settlement in Huron County came with the creation of the Huron Tract, established through the efforts of John Galt and the Canada Company. Incorporated in 1824, the company was organized by Galt and a number of wealthy investors who wished to wrest some control from Clergy and Crown who held reserves amounting to two sevenths of lands in Upper Canada in the early-19th century. These lands were largely vacant, which served to impede any sustained settlement efforts in the area. Galt's plans were vehemently opposed by Church of England officials, and the church's considerable influence prevented the sale of its designated lands (Beecroft 1984:20). In May of 1826, the Canada Company purchased lands from the British Government that included all of the fifteen townships comprising Huron County. Nine of these townships would form part of the Huron Tract.

Huron County at this time was covered by dense forest that had to be cleared, and access to these areas was an obvious necessity. In 1827, William Dunlop and Mahlon Burwell were contracted to undertake a preliminary survey for a colonization road into the tract. The official survey for what would become the Huron Road (now Highway 8) was carried out by John McDonald in 1828-29 (Beecroft 1984:37). McDonald was responsible for surveying all of the townships in Huron County, with the exception of Goderich Township, which was undertaken by Deputy Provincial Surveyor David Gibson (Lee 2004:226). However, completion of the Huron Road did not initially attract settlers to the region. Five years after the road was finished there were only 385 inhabitants in all of Huron County (Scott 1966:52). In an attempt to remedy the situation and assist immigrants, Galt made plans for three "inns" to be erected along the course of the Huron Road. These would be placed where settlers could stay on their journey into the deeper reaches of the tract. In the following years hundreds of families utilized the inns as they made their way through Huron County (Scott 1966:44). The Canada Company often constructed temporary residences for the accommodation of the settlers until they were able to build their own homes (H. Belden & Co. 1879:8). Censuses for Huron County show that the population in 1837 was 385, in 1838 it was 1,168, and by 1842 it had reached 7,190 (Scott 1966:57).

The Township of Ashfield was given its name by Crown Surveyor William Hawkins, who drew inspiration from a similarly named village in the County of Suffolk, England (H. Belden 1879). The Township of Ashfield was first settled in the late 1830s by English, Irish and Scottish immigrants, many of whom were attracted to the region as early as 1837. The first recorded settler to acquire clear title to his land was George May, who settled on Lot 1, Concession 11 in 1835. May was followed a year later by John Runciman and William Dougherty who settled in what would later become Dungannon and Sheppardton, respectively (Scott 1966:186).



In 1837, Hawkins recognized the settlement potential of the area and laid out the town site for the Village of Port Albert (Scott 1966:185). Early records name Andrew McConnell, Jerome Sharpe and Stephen Martin as the first individuals to settle here, sometime between the years 1837 and 1841 (H. Belden 1879:15). The 1842 Return of the Populations of the Townships of Ashfield and Wawanosh shows Hawkins and all three of these men and their families as having cleared land and been successfully settled by that year (Huron County 1842). Hawkins was joined in 1841 by his brother John and his family who, along with the Sharpes, formed the backbone of the nascent community (Scott 1966:187). The Township held its first Municipal meeting on January 3, 1842 with Maurice Dalton serving as chair. The first gristmill was constructed by the government the following year and was followed by several privately funded mills including William Harris' in 1854 (Scott 1966:189). Between the years 1850 and 1861, the Township of Ashfield would grow from a population of 266 to 2617 (Scott 1966:187).

Historically the study area is within the original town for the village of Port Albert, Ashfield Township (Map 8). The early settlement of the village focused on the banks of the Nine Mile (also called the Lucknow River). The current study area is located within the southern portion of the town plot on the plateau beyond the river's valley. Hawkins' original town plan included a harbour on the south side of the river, mills at the first rapids, a market square at the intersection of Arthur and Market Streets and a burying ground west of London Road on the north side of South Street.

The first post office in Ashfield was located in Port Albert, opened in 1851 (Scott 1966:189). Port Albert was expected to develop into a port and a major settlement, but the original town plan was never realized. At its peak Port Albert had two stores, a sawmill, a gristmill, a hotel, two blacksmith shops and a telegraph office (Scott 1966:189-190).

The village saw a resurgence in the early 1940s with the establishment of the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan's No. 31 School of Air Navigation to the northeast of the village. At its peak, the base trained 1200 students. The base closed in February 1945 (McGee 1987).

The 1862 Tremaine map (Map 9) depicts the study area within the Town Plot of Port Albert. No owners' names are listed in associated with specific lots in the original town plot. South Street and London Road are depicted as open at this time. The 1879 historic atlas map (Map 10) also does not inventory the name of owners of individual lots. Russell Street, Wellington Street, Ashfield Street, South Street and London Road are all depicted as open at this time.

3.0 STAGE 1 PROPERTY INSPECTION

As the study area contained several features signaling archaeological potential, a Stage 1 property inspection was conducted to identify existing conditions and evaluate integrity.



The property inspection was conducted on June 2, 2020 in sunny and warm weather. The weather conditions allowed for good visibility for the inspection of the surface features.

The study area comprises rural agricultural and residential area that falls within the village of Port Albert, Ontario. As the majority of the study area consisted of active agricultural fields, manicured lawns and small forested areas, the field review focused on the roadways and other areas of low archaeological potential.

Table 2: Observations for Project Areas with the Overall Study Area

Project Areas	Description	Observations
Ashfield Street	Road upgrades between Sydenham and Huron Street South.	Currently a gravel road with shallow ditches; section between Sydenham Street and Huron Street South (Images 1 and 2)
Harvey Street	Road construction between Wellington and Sydenham Streets	Currently manicured lawn (Image 3)
Market Street	Road upgrades between Wellington and Sydenham Streets; road construction between Sydenham and Arthur Street	Overgrown road allowance with a short section in an agricultural field west of Colborne Street and east of Huron Street South (Image 4 and 5)
Victoria Street Road Allowance	Road construction between Huron and Colborne Streets	Partially in an agricultural field, some overgrown with a watercourse (Image 6)
Huron Street South	Road construction north of South Street; road upgrades between Harvey Street road allowance to north of Market Street road allowance; road construction from north of Market Street road allowance to Victoria Street road allowance	Poorly developed road with no ditch or utilities (Images 6 and 7); the new road construction to the north of South Street is in pasture (8 and 9)
Colborne Street Road Allowance	Four segments of road construction from north of South Street to north of the Victoria Street road allowance	Most sections are in active agricultural fields, overgrown section north of South Street (Images 10-12)
Arthur Street Road Allowance	Road construction between South and Russel Streets	Most sections are in active agricultural fields, with overgrown section to the north of South Street, and a tree line between Market Street and Victoria Street road allowance (Images 13-16)
Sydenham Street	Road construction between South and Russell Streets with small section of road upgrade north of Market Street	Two sections in active agricultural fields, remaining sections are overgrown; a small section to the north of Ashfield Street is an existing gravel lane (Images 17-23)
Wellington Street	Road upgrades between South and Russel Streets	Well-developed paved road with deep open ditches; above and



Project Areas	Description	Observations
		below ground utilities present (Images 24-27)
SWM Facility	New facility on the south side of Ashfield Street and west of Colborne Street road allowance	Active agricultural field (Images 28-29)
Storm Drainage Outlet	Within Ashfield Street road allowance to the west of Huron Street South	Slope down to shoreline of Lake Huron (Image 30)

The results of our Stage 1 archaeological assessment, as well as the location and orientation of report photographs, are presented in Map 12 and 14. Map 13 and 15 depicts these results on the proponent mapping, and Maps 3 to 5 presents unaltered proponent mapping.

Table 3: Documentary Records

Field Notes and Field Maps	Dated June 2, 2020; September 9, 2020	
Photo Catalogue	June 2 (43 digital photos) September 9, 2020 (23 digital photos)	
Location of Records	Timmins Martelle Heritage Consultants Inc., @ the Museum of Ontario Archaeology, 1600 Attawandaron Road, London, Ontario N6G 3M6	

4.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS

As noted in Section 2.1, the Province of Ontario has identified numerous factors that signal the potential of a property to contain archaeological resources. According to the map-based review and background research, the study area is in proximity (within 300 m) to: 1) water sources (Lake Huron, Nine Mile River and the Port Albert Drain); 2) area of 19th century settlement (Port Albert Town Plot); and 3) mapped 19th century thoroughfares (Russell Street, Wellington Street, Ashfield Street, South Street and London Road).

As the study area contained several features signaling archaeological potential, a Stage 1 property inspection was conducted to examine existing conditions and evaluate integrity. The Stage 1 property inspection has visually confirmed that the majority of the overall study area retained potential for the discovery of archaeological resources. The exceptions within the study area included traveled portions of roads, building footprints and areas of steep slope. The majority of the specific project areas and proposed infrastructure improvements also retain archaeological potential. The exceptions to this are the travelled portions of the roadway and their associated ditches. These are disturbed and are of low archaeological potential.

5.0 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Based on the information compiled in the background study and observations made during the Stage 1 property inspection, the following general recommendations are made:



1. The overall study area generally has archaeological potential. As such, Stage 2 archaeological assessment should be completed prior to ground disturbance activities; and

2. With the exception of the travelled portions of the existing roads and the proposed storm drainage outlet, the individual project areas have archaeological potential and will require Stage 2 archaeological assessment prior to ground disturbance activities.

With respect to individual project areas, the follow specific recommendations are made:

Project Areas	Proposed Development	Recommended Stage 2 Survey Method	
Ashfield Street	Road upgrades between Sydenham and Huron Street South.	Stage 2 test pit survey at a 5 m interval beyond the current travelled portion of the road allowance.	
Harvey Street	Road construction between Wellington and Sydenham Streets	Stage 2 test pit survey at 5 m interval	
Market Street	Road upgrades between Wellington and Sydenham Streets; road construction between Sydenham and Arthur Street	Stage 2 test pit survey at 5 m interval	
Victoria Street Road Allowance	Road construction between Huron and Colborne Streets	Combination of test pit and pedestrian survey at a 5 m interval	
Huron Street South	Road construction north of South Street; road upgrades between Harvey Street road allowance to north of Market Street road allowance; road construction from north of Market Street road allowance to Victoria Street road allowance	Stage 2 test pit survey at 5 m interval with the exception of the travelled portion of the road allowance between Harvey and Market Streets road allowances	
Colborne Street Road Allowance	Four segments of road construction from north of South Street to north of the Victoria Street road allowance	Combination of Stage 2 test pit and pedestrian survey at a 5 m interval	
Arthur Street Road Allowance	Road construction between South and Russel Streets	Combination of Stage 2 test pit and pedestrian survey at a 5 m interval	
Sydenham Street	Road construction between South and Russell Streets with small section of road upgrade north of Market Street	Combination of Stage 2 test pit and pedestrian survey at a 5 m interval excluding the travelled portions of the road allowance	
Wellington Street	Road upgrades between South and Russel Streets	Stage 2 judgmental test pit survey at a 10 m interval where it is not clearly intensively and extensively disturbed	
SWM Facility	New facility on the south side of Ashfield Street and west of Colborne Street road allowance	Stage 2 pedestrian survey at 5 m interval	





Project Areas	Proposed Development	Recommended Stage 2 Survey Method
Storm Drainage Outlet	Within Ashfield Street road allowance to the west of Huron Street South	Steeply sloped and of low archaeological potential; no Stage 2 survey

These recommendations are subject to the provisions outlined in Section 4.0 of this report, and to its review by the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries and its acceptance into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports.

6.0 SUMMARY

A Stage 1 archaeological assessment was conducted for the proposed Servicing Master Plan for the Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh, Port Albert, Huron County, Ontario. The study area is bounded to the north by Russell Street (south of Nine Mile River), the south by South Street, the east by London Road and the west by the shore of Lake Huron. TMHC was contracted by B.M. Ross and Associates Limited to carry out the assessment which was conducted in accordance with the provisions of the *Environmental Assessment Act* (R.S.O. 1990). The background research indicated that the study area is in proximity to features signaling archaeological potential and therefore a Stage 1 background study was undertaken. The Stage 1 property inspection visually confirmed that the majority of the overall study area retained potential for the discovery of archaeological resources. The exceptions within the study area included travelled portions of roads, building footprints and areas of steep slope. The majority of the specific project areas and proposed infrastructure improvements also retained archaeological potential. The exceptions to this are also the travelled portions of the roadway and their associated ditches. These are disturbed and are of low archaeological potential.

7.0 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

This report is submitted to the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O 1990, c 0.18. The report is reviewed to ensure that it complies with the standards and guidelines that are issued by the Minister, and that the archaeological fieldwork and report recommendations ensure the conservation, protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of Ontario. When all matters relating to archaeological sites within the study area of a development proposal have been addressed to the satisfaction of the MHSCTI, 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 (i.e., unknown or deeply buried) 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*. Further, 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 licence.

The Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33 requires that any person discovering human remains must notify the police or coroner and Nancy Watkins, the Registrar of Burial Sites, War Graves, Abandoned Cemeteries and Cemetery Closures, Ontario Ministry of Government and Consumer Services. Her telephone number is 416-212-7499 and her e-mail address is Nancy. Watkins@ontario.ca.

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9.0 IMAGES



Image 1: Ashfield Street from the Intersection with Sydenham Street (looking west)



Image 2: Ashfield Street from the Intersection with Huron Street South (looking east)



Image 3: Harvey Street Road Allowance West of Wellington Street (looking west)



Image 4: Market Street Road Allowance at Intersection with Sydenham Street (looking west)



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Image 6: Huron Street South from Intersection with Ashfield Street (looking south)



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Image 7: Huron Street South from Intersection with Ashfield Street (looking north)



Image 8: Huron Street South Road Allowance north of South Street (looking north)





Image 9: Huron Street South North of Market Street (looking north)



Image 10: Colborne Street to the North of South Street (looking north)



Image 11: Colborne Street to the South of Ashfield Street (looking south)



Image 12: Colborne Street to the North of Ashfield Street (looking north)



Image 13: Arthur Street to the North of South Street (looking north)



Image 14: Arthur Street to the South of Ashfield Street (looking south)



Image 15: Arthur Street to the North of Ashfield Street (looking north)



Image 16: Arthur Street to the South of Russel Street (looking south)





Image 17: Sydenham Street to the North of South Street (looking north)



Image 18: Sydenham Street near the intersection with Harvey Street Road Allowance (looking south)



Image 19: Sydenham Street from Intersection with Ashfield Street (looking north)



Image 20: Sydenham Street to the north of Ashfield Street (looking north)



Image 21: Sydenham Street North of Ashfield Street (looking south)

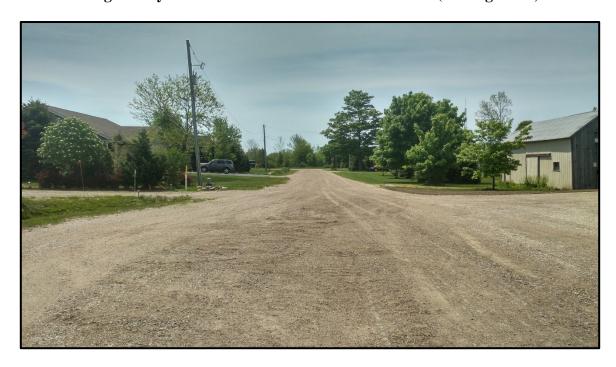


Image 22: Sydenham Road Allowance North of Ashfield Street, (looking north)





Image 23: Sydenham Street to the South of Russell Street (looking south)

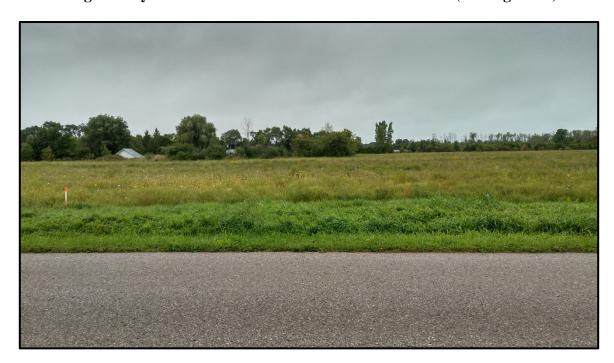


Image 24: Wellington Street from the Intersection with South Street (looking north)



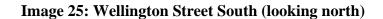




Image 26: Wellington Street South from Intersection with Russell Street (looking south)



Image 27: Wellington Street South to the North of Market Street (looking north)



Image 28: SWM Facility Location in the Southwest Corner of the Intersection of Ashfield Street and Arthur Street Road Allowance (looking south)



Image 29: SWM Facility Location in the Southwest Corner of the Intersection of Ashfield Street and Arthur Street Road Allowance (looking south)

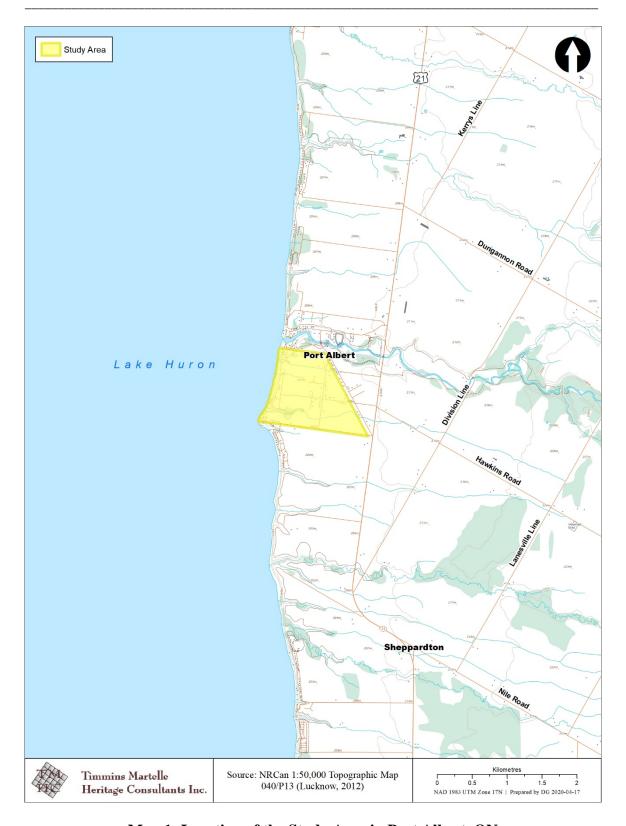


Image 30: Location of Proposed Storm Drainage Outlet at the Western Terminus of Ashfield Street (looking west)



10.0 MAPS





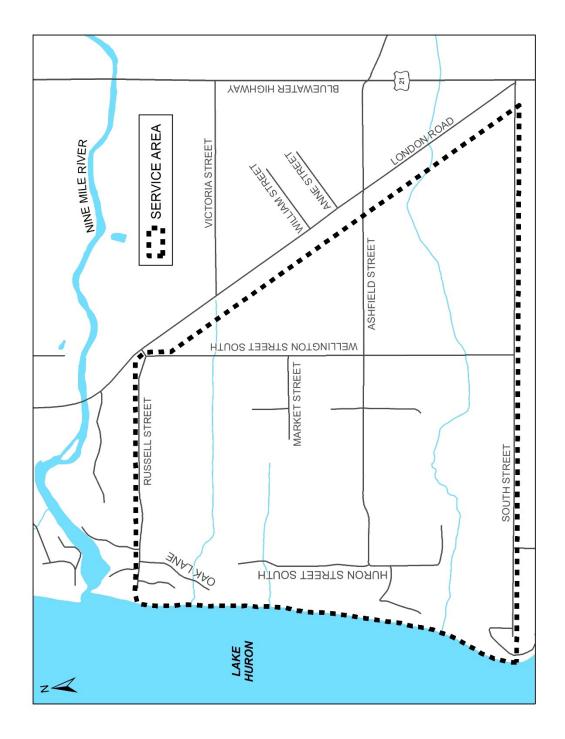
Map 1: Location of the Study Area in Port Albert, ON



Study Area PORT ALBERT Imagery Source: SWOOP (2010)
Data Sources: Ontario Geographic Named Extent (2015) and
Ontario Road Network (2016) Timmins Martelle Heritage Consultants Inc. 0 100 200 300 400 NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N | Prepared by DG 2020-04-16

Map 2: Aerial Photograph Showing the Location of the Study Area in Port Albert, ON





Map 3: Unaltered Proponent Map of the Study Area



Lake Huron BMROSS SWM Facility Road Upgrades
Other Construction
Existing Parcels

Map 4: Unaltered Proponent Mapping Showing Proposed Project Areas within the Study Area



Map 5: Proponent Mapping Showing Proposed Stormwater Management Improvements Within the Study Area





Map 6: Physiography within the Vicinity of the Study Area



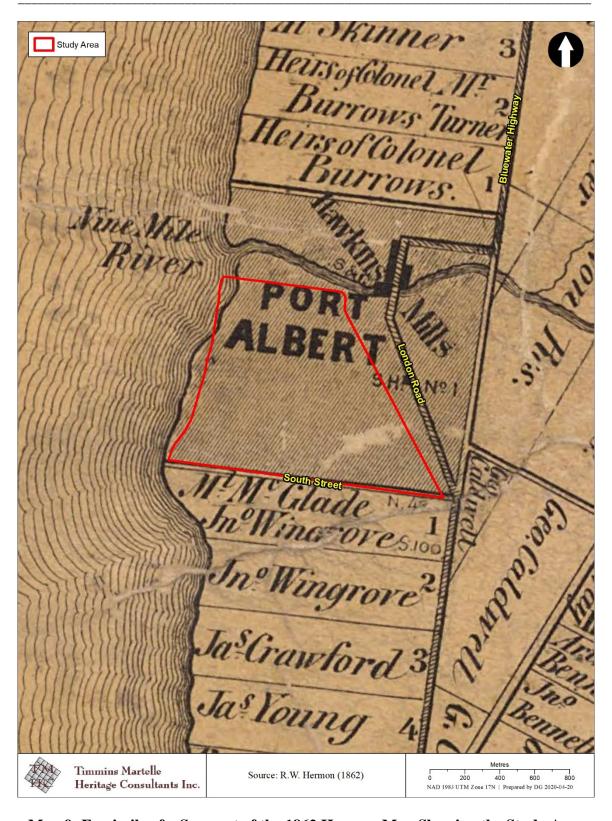


Map 7: Drainage within the Vicinity of the Study Area



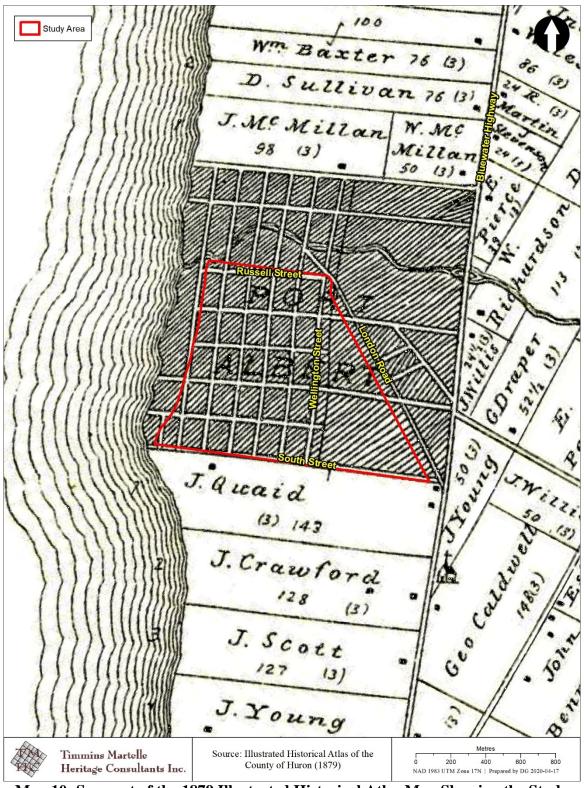
Map 8: 1837 Hawkins Patent Plan for the Town of Albert (now Port Albert)





Map 9: Facsimile of a Segment of the 1862 Hermon Map Showing the Study Area





Map 10: Segment of the 1879 Illustrated Historical Atlas Map Showing the Study Area





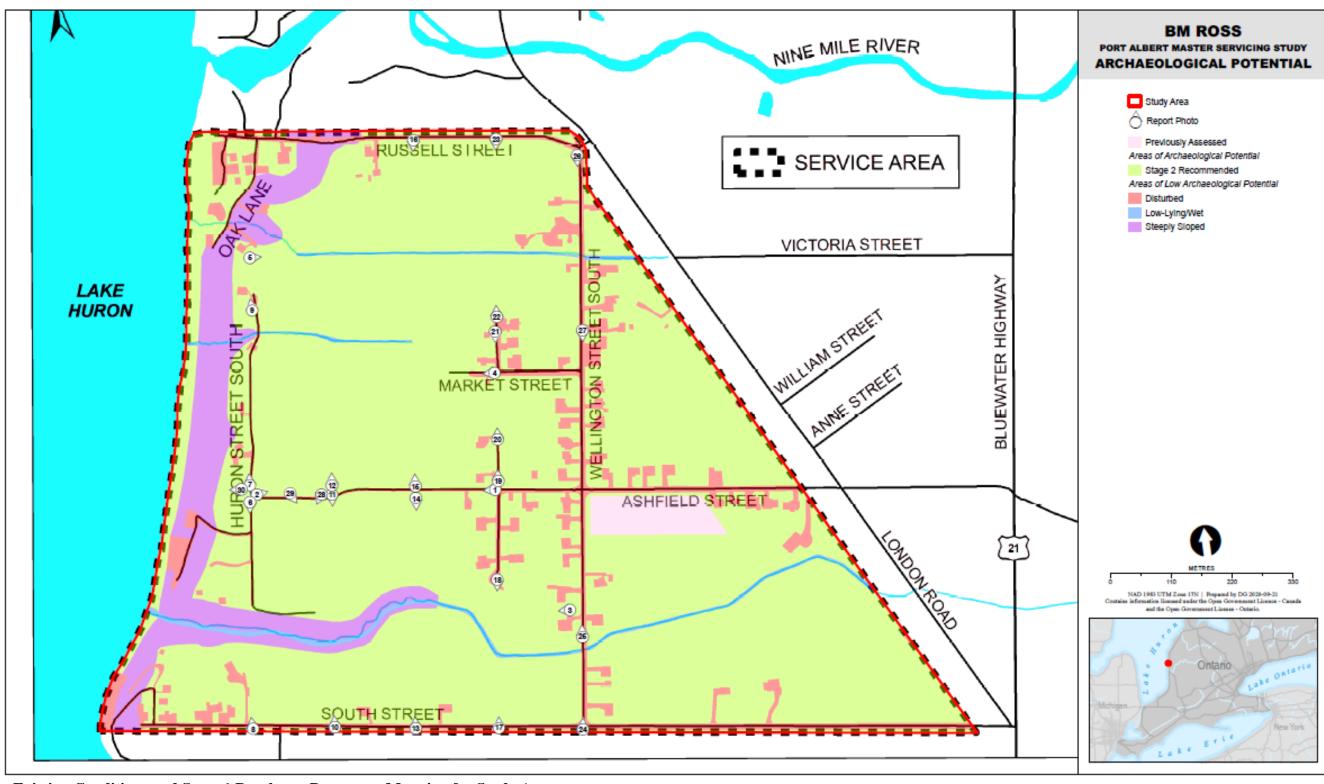
Map 11: 1954 Aerial Photograph Showing the Location of the Study Area





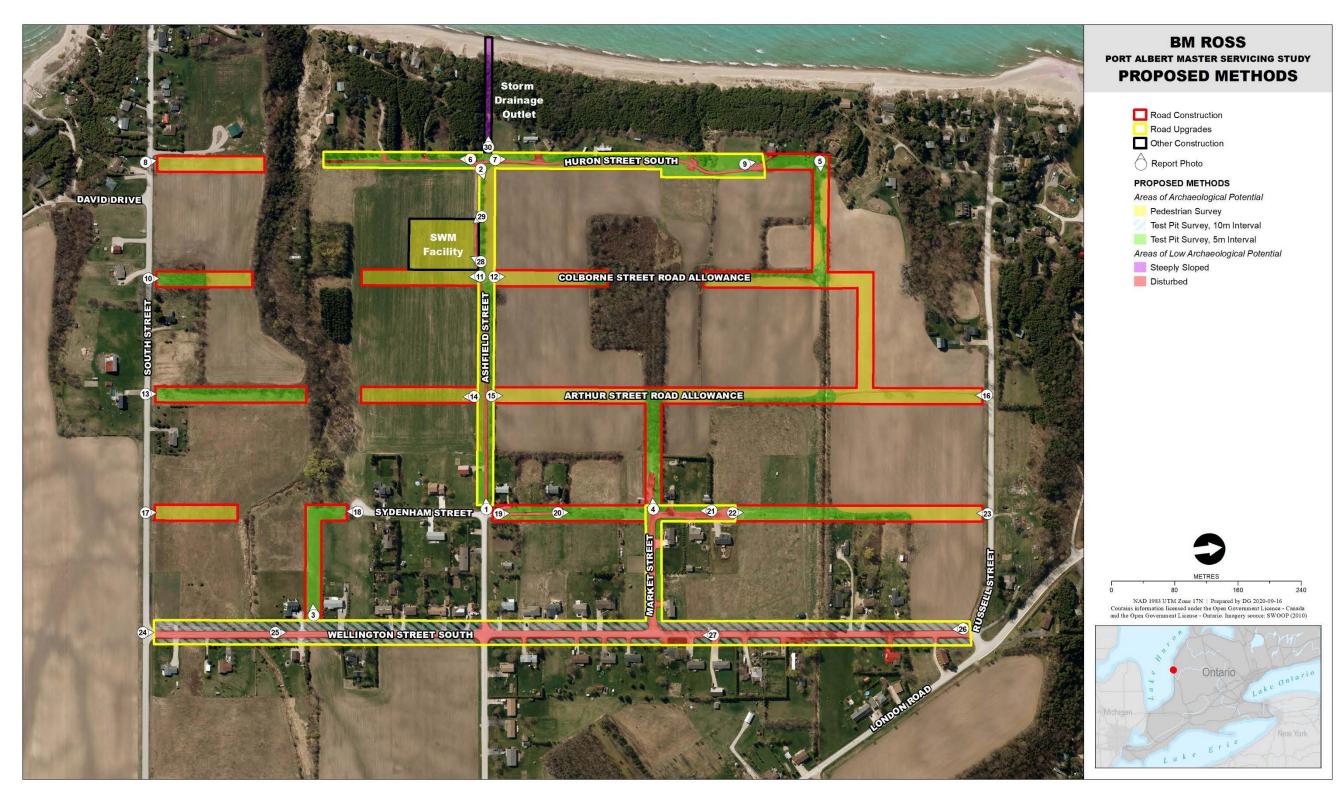
Map 12: Existing Conditions and Stage 1 Assessment Results for the Study Area





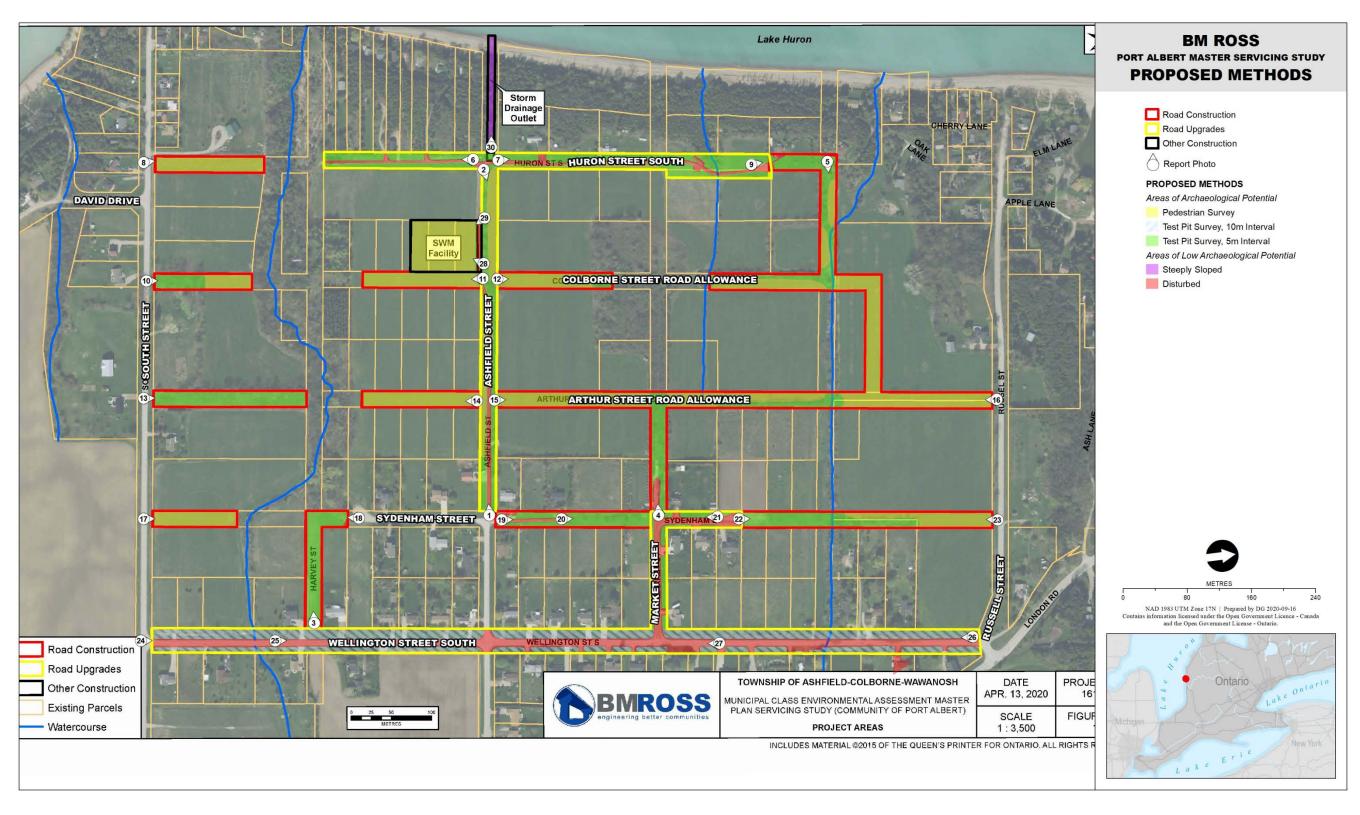
Map 13: Existing Conditions and Stage 1 Results on Proponent Mapping for Study Area





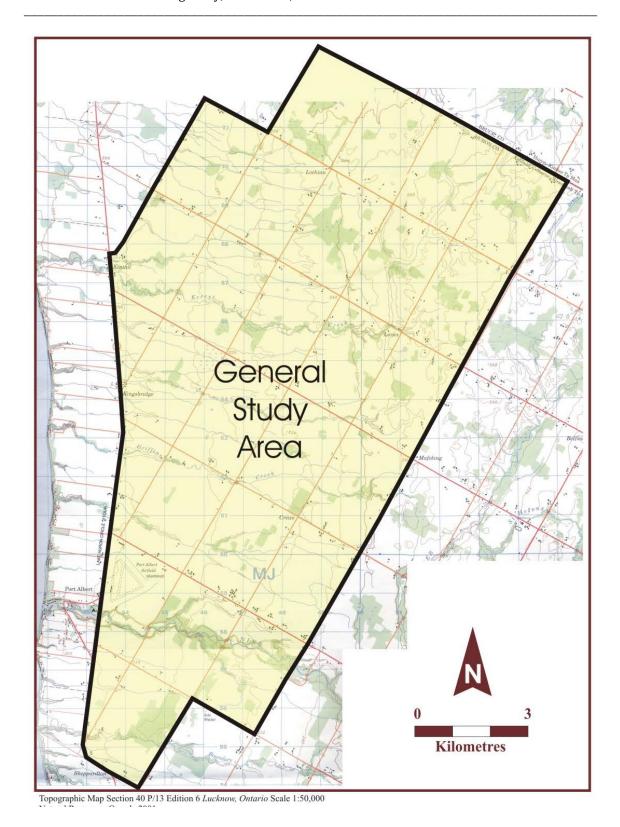
Map 14: Existing Conditions and Stage 1 Results for Specific Project Areas





Map 15: Existing Conditions and Stage 1 Results for Specific Project Areas on Proponent Map





Map 16: Map of Previous Stage 1 Assessment for Kingsbridge Wind Farm Phase II



3 **(2) Ploughed Agricultural Field** 1 **Retains Archaeological Potential** Retained Portion Severed Portion Report Photo STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT METHODS Areas of Archaeological Potential NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N | Prepared by DG 2019-10-18 Contains information licensed under the Open Government Licence - Canada and the Open Government License - Ontario. Imagery source: SWOOP (2010) Ploughed Agricultural Field (Pedestrian Survey, 5m Interval)

Map 17: Results of Previous Assessment of 86 Wellington Street, Port Albert, ON

