

**Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment  
of the proposed McBain Subdivision  
County Road 12  
Part of Lot 13, Concession 10  
Geographic Township of Finch,  
Village of Crysler  
Township of North Stormont,  
United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry  
Original Report**

**Approval  
Authority:** United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry

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**Licence No:** P246  
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**PIF#** P246-0626-2022  
**Date** 18-January-2023



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## Executive Summary

In April of 2022 Abacus Archaeological Services was retained to undertake a Stage 1 archaeological assessment of the proposed McBain Subdivision, situated on County Road 12, Part of Lot 13 of Concession 10 of the Geographic Township of Finch, now within the Village of Crysler, Township of North Stormont, and United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry (Map 3). The approximately 39 ha property is situated on the east frontage of SDG County Road 12 and is located north of the Nation River. The owner of the property is proposing to develop the land with a residential subdivision (Map 4). An archaeological assessment was a condition of municipal applications for Subdivision.

Three registered archaeological sites are found within 1 kilometre of the subject property. Primary development of the subject property began in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Historical research has shown that the area was historically owned by the family of Colonel John Crysler UEL (1768-1852), from whom the village took its name. Crysler farmed the subject property lands in addition to his public service in the Militia and in the Upper Canadian Legislative Assembly from 1808 to 1824. The Crysler family and later the Armstrong family farmed the land during the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and into the 20<sup>th</sup> century. At present the property is undeveloped and has been in use as agricultural lands.

Based upon the established potential for archaeological resources within the subject property Stage 2 testing was performed on November 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022 under Project Information Form number P246-0626-2022. No features or material of archaeological significance was recovered during the Stage 2 excavation.

Based upon these results the licensee makes the following recommendations with regard to the study area (Map 11).

- The subject property tested during Stage 2 excavation has been assessed and found to contain no significant archaeological resources. No further work is required within the study area.

## Table of Contents

Project Personnel .....	iii
1.0 Project Context.....	1
1.1 Development Context: .....	1
1.2 Historical Context: .....	2
1.3 Property and Structural History: .....	3
1.4 Archaeology of the Region: .....	5
2.0 Project Context: Archaeological Context .....	9
2.2 Physiography of the Study Area: .....	10
2.3 Archaeological Potential of the Study Area: .....	11
3.0 Field Methods .....	12
4.0 Record of Finds.....	13
4.1 Inventory of Documentary Record Generated in the Field.....	14
5.0 Analysis and Conclusions .....	15
6.0 Recommendations.....	15
7.0 Advice on Compliance with Legislation.....	16
8.0 Bibliography and Sources .....	17
Images .....	20
Maps.....	23

### Images

Image 1. A view of the ploughed field area during Stage 2 assessment.....	20
Image 2. A view of the ploughed field area during Stage 2 assessment.....	20
Image 3. A view of the ploughed field area during Stage 2 assessment.....	21
Image 4. A view of the ploughed field area during Stage 2 assessment.....	21
Image 5. A view of the ploughed field area during Stage 2 assessment.....	22
Image 6. A view of the ploughed field area during Stage 2 assessment.....	22

## Maps

Map 1. The subject property location on 1:250 000 NTS plan .....	23
Map 2. The subject property location on 1:50 000 NTS plan.....	24
Map 3. The subject property location on 1:10 000 Ontario Base Map.....	25
Map 4. A plan of the subject property with proposed development overlay .....	26
Map 5. A section from an 1862 map of Stormont County.....	27
Map 6. A section from an 1878 map of Finch Township. ....	28
Map 7. A section from the 1908 National Topographic Series maps. ....	29
Map 8. An aerial view of the subject property in 1954 .....	30
Map 9. An aerial view of the subject property in 2019. ....	31
Map 10. A section of the soil survey plan of Glengarry County. ....	32
Map 11. A plan of the Stage 2 archaeological assessment. ....	33

## Project Personnel

Project Manager/Licence Holder	Michael Berry, PhD Licence No. P246
Field Director	Michael Berry
Historical Research/Report Writing	Michael Berry
Field Crew	Noah Dupere John Errington Douglas Kirk

## **1.0 Project Context**

### **1.1 Development Context:**

In April of 2022 Abacus Archaeological Services was retained to undertake a Stage 1 archaeological assessment of the proposed McBain Subdivision, situated on County Road 12, Part of Lot 13 of Concession 10 of the Geographic Township of Finch, now within the Village of Crysler, Township of North Stormont, and United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry (Map 3). The approximately 39 ha property is situated on the east frontage of SDG County Road 12 and is located north of the Nation River. The owner of the property is proposing to develop the land with a residential subdivision (Map 4). An archaeological assessment was a condition of municipal applications for Subdivision. The legislation triggering the assessment is the Planning Act. The United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry is the approval authority for this application.

Based upon the established potential for archaeological resources within the subject property Stage 2 testing was performed on November 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022 under Project Information Form number P246-0626-2022. All activities carried out during the Stage 2 assessment were completed in accordance with the terms of the *Ontario Heritage Act* and the Ministry of Tourism and Culture's (now Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries) 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*.

This report was written and assembled by Michael Berry, PhD of Abacus Archaeological Services. Background research utilized Land Registry Records, local histories and relevant maps. Permission to access the subject property and to carry out the assessment was granted by the property owner. All images and documents generated during this project will be archived by the licensee until such time that a suitable repository is established.

## 1.2 Historical Context:

Eastern Ontario was subject to European exploration as early as 1610-1611, firstly by Étienne Brûlé followed by Nicholas de Vignau. While searching for the Northwest Passage in 1613 Samuel de Champlain was the first European to document his explorations of eastern Ontario as he explored the Ottawa Valley as far north as Morrison and Allumette Islands (Trigger, 1987). French explorers found the area occupied by various bands of Anishinaabe peoples speaking different dialects of the Algonquin language. During the c. 1640s ongoing conflicts between the Mohawk, Algonquin and Huron peoples, and the French refusal to lend military support, eventually led to the dispersal of the Algonquin and Huron by the Five Nations Iroquois of New York State. Following the dispersal of the Ontario Iroquois and the Ottawa Valley Algonquin, the Five Nations or Haudenosounee (Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga, and Seneca) came to occupy areas near the mouths of the major rivers flowing into the north shore of Lake Ontario.

The increased use of the lands north of Lake Ontario led to a meeting between Anishinaabe and Haudenosounee nations at Montréal in 1701. The One Dish One Spoon Treaty was agreed upon by these nations establishing a shared resource area spanning from the current province of Ontario between the Great Lakes and extending east along the north shore of the St. Lawrence River up to the border with the current province of Quebec.

Systematic Euro-Canadian settlement of the townships within Ontario started during the late 1700's following the end of the American Revolutionary War. The need for land on which to settle refugees of the conflict led the British government into negotiations with their military allies, the Mississauga. It was wrongly assumed that the Mississauga were the only Native peoples inhabiting eastern Ontario. In 1783 Captain William Redford Crawford negotiated on behalf of the British government. Crawford was given the position due to the established trust he had developed with the Mississauga chiefs living in the Bay of Quinte region. The 'Crawford Purchase' of 1783 granted title to most of eastern Ontario, including what would become the counties of Stormont, Dundas, Glengarry, Prescott, Russell, Leeds, Grenville and Prince Edward, as well as the front townships of Frontenac, Lennox, Addington and Hastings Counties and areas as far inland as what is now the City of Ottawa (Lockwood, 1996).

Stormont County was established in 1792 with the proclamation of Lord Dorchester. The early development of the County was driven by veterans of Loyalist regiments, primarily Highland units of Scottish settlers, but also included German, English, Irish and Lowland Scots. Russell County separated from the original limits of Stormont County in 1800. What became known as the Eastern District incorporated Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Townships. The United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry was formally established in 1849 from the Eastern District. Finch Township was so named for the Finch Family who settled around what would become the Village of Finch. The family was related by marriage to the Viscount of Stormont. Finch Township was originally part of the Royal Township of Osnabruck but was separated in 1798.

### **1.3 Property and Structural History:**

#### *Lot 13, Concession 10 Geographic Township of Finch*

The subject property is located within the northern portions of Lot 13 in Concession 10 of the Geographic Township of Finch (Map 3). Upon survey the Lot was naturally divided into northern and southern parts, divided by the South Nation River which crosses the land; during the 19<sup>th</sup> century the South Nation River was occasionally referred to as the “Petite Nation River”. Lot 13 of the Tenth Concession was granted by the Crown to John Empey on March 28, 1807 (OLR) (Map 5). The parcel, described as the northern half, consisted of 200 acres and included portions of Lot 13 of the 11<sup>th</sup> Concession to the north. The 11<sup>th</sup> Concession of Finch Township consisted of a thin triangular strip of land which bordered what was then Cambridge Township, later Russell Township, to the north. In October of that year John Empey sold the northern 200 acre parcel to John Crysler.

Colonel John Crysler was born in Schoharie County, New York on July 24, 1770. His father, Philip Crysler, supported the Crown during the Revolutionary War and both John and his brother Hieronymus served as drummers with their fathers unit, the Butler’s Rangers (Findagrave.com, 2023). Following the war John Crysler settled in Williamsburgh Township where he received Crown patents for land due to his service. John Crysler would become a successful businessman, opening a general store, grist and lumber mills and investing heavily in acquiring land in Upper Canada. John Crysler served his community as an elected member of the Legislative Assembly and was a Justice of the Peace. At the outbreak of the War of 1812 he was called back into service with the Canadian Militia. The “Battle of Chrysler’s Farm” was fought on land he owned near modern day Morrisburg on November 11, 1813. The decisive defeat of the invading American forces at that battle ended the American St. Lawrence Campaign, designed to capture Montreal and lands along the St. Lawrence River, and hastened the American defeat in the war.

On October 1, 1834 John Crysler divided and sold the northern 100 acres of the Lot 13 lands to his fourth eldest son Charles Blaker Crysler (OLR). Charles Blaker Crysler retained this parcel until October 22, 1861 when he sold the land to his older brother, James Henry Crysler. The same northern 100 acre parcel was sold by James Henry Crysler to his older brother, John Pliny Crysler on March 24, 1863 (OLR).

Just south of the subject property lands was once the church and rectory of St. John’s Anglican Church. An associated cemetery was in use as early as 1817. Col. John Crysler was buried there following his death on January 18, 1852 at the age of 81. Anglican Diocese records indicate the land for a church was obtained from a Mr. John Martin however this name does not appear in Land Registry Abstracts (Archeion, 2023). St. John’s, Crysler was built out of stone in 1864 and consecrated in 1867. A parsonage was built of wood to the north of the church structure by 1883.

In 1884 the original church was reported to be in poor condition and was demolished in 1886 to be replaced by a large brick church structure. The new St. John's, Crysler church was consecrated in 1898 and continued in use until 1993 when it was closed. The interior furnishings were sold and the building was demolished and razed. A brick monument has been placed at the original site which features the church bell that once sat atop the structure.

The remainder of the Lot 13 lands were retained by the Crysler family throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century. During the latter part of the century the land was sold by John Pliny Crysler to his son John Ralph Wesley Crysler; the name John R.W. Crysler or simply "R. Crysler" appear in period land registry records and mapping (Map 6). On March 7, 1902 John R.W. Crysler sold all lands he owned located north of the South Nation River, 150 acres in total, to Robert Armstrong (OLR). John R.W. Crysler died in Finch Township in 1906.

Robert Armstrong retained the Lot 13 farmlands until 1917 when he sold them to his son William Armstrong (OLR). It appears the Armstrong family retained much of Lot 13 during the remainder of the 20<sup>th</sup> century during which time the land was actively farmed (Map 8). The subject property remains undeveloped farmlands most recently used for corn and soy bean crops (Map 9).



## 1.4 Archaeology of the Region:

Southern Ontario has been occupied by human populations since the retreat of the Laurentide glacier approximately 13,000 years before present (BP) (Ferris, 2013). The earliest human occupation of southern Ontario began with the arrival of small groups of hunter-gatherers referred to by archaeologists as Paleo-Indians (Ellis and Deller, 1990: 39). The Paleo-Indian Period in Eastern Ontario (here defined as the Trent Valley and eastwards) begins during the Belleville phase of Lake Iroquois (12,000 BP) when the land between the ice covered Algonquin Highlands and Lake Iroquois was exposed as far east as the Champlain Sea (Muller and Prest, 1985). Later as the land rebounded from the weight of the glacier the shallows of Lake Iroquois became a fertile plain. Small bands of hunters likely moved into the area after a steppe environment had been established and they could hunt caribou and megafauna such as mastodons. As the climate moderated to the general conditions of the recent Holocene a boreal lifeway became established. This lifeway can be superficially described as alternating between spring/summer amalgamation of the regional people around locations for harvesting spawning fish; the fall/winter dispersal of the population into small family units, to winter in large hunting territories where moose hunting was important (Wright, 1972).

Paleo-Indian sites are rare but not unknown in Eastern Ontario and are usually the random find of a spear point typical of the Late-Paleo Period. The rarity of Paleo-Indian sites is in part due to physiographic changes upon the landscape. Between approximately 10,000-5,500 BP, the Great Lakes basins experienced low-water levels, and many sites which would have been located on those former shorelines are now submerged. However, late Paleo-Indian non-fluted lanceolate points have been found in the Thousand Islands and along the Cataraqui River.

The Archaic Period begins around 7000 BP in Eastern Ontario and is marked by the extinction of the megafauna and the switch to a way of life focused on fishing and the harvesting of wild foods such as hickory nuts. The earliest evidence of heavy wood working tools appears in this period, which is interpreted as an indication of greater investment of labour in felling trees for fuel, to build shelter, and watercraft production. These activities suggest prolonged seasonal residency at occupation sites. With greater ties to direct land areas and socially prescribed territories we see the earliest evidence for cemeteries and indications of increased social organization (approximately 4,500-3,000 BP), and an investment of labour into social infrastructure, and the establishment of socially prescribed territories (Ellis et al., 1990).

For the most part the Archaic way of life appears similar to the historic way of life of the Cree and Ojibwa of northern Ontario. In the spring, family groups coalesce into large encampments around rapids and waterfalls in order to catch spawning fish. In the late fall, family groups disperse across the landscape to individual hunting territories where they trap and hunt locally. The bulk of the goods made by natives were of biodegradable materials so the majority of the artifacts found on Archaic sites are of stone, though in good soil conditions bone tools and refuse bone can survive. On occasion tools or fragments of copper are also found. Copper appears on sites east of the Rouge River

about 5000 BP, particularly along the Trent and Ottawa River systems. Maize was first introduced into southern Ontario during this period, though at that time it would have only supplemented people's diet and would not have been the primary energy source. Archaic sites have been identified in the Rideau Lakes area (Watson, 1981) and at Jessups Falls (Daechsel, 1980). Late Archaic components consisting of Narrow Point traditions have been recorded on Wolfe Island including the Armstrong site on Button Bay. Evidence of Archaic occupations within the Upper St. Lawrence Valley includes the Gordon Island (Wright, 2004: 357).

The beginning of the Woodland period is marked by the appearance of pottery on First Nation's sites. The Early Woodland people of Ontario were the first to use pottery in this province. In many other respects, people of the Early Woodland Period continued to live in much the same way as their predecessors of the Late Archaic. In Eastern Ontario this occurs around 3000 BP a time when the Meadowood Culture of Western New York State begins to occupy the province.

Shortly after 2300 BP the Middle Woodland Period begins with a steady increase in the population of Ontario. Long distance trade is evident from the appearance of exotic materials such as marine shell, mica and copper. Evidence from archaeological sites indicates that by the Middle Woodland Period the people of Ontario began to identify with specific regions of the province. For the first time this allows archaeologists to distinguish regional cultural traditions - sets of characteristics which are unique to a part of the province. Archaeologists have named these cultural traditions Laurel (northern Ontario), Point Peninsula (eastern and south-central Ontario), Saugeen (southwestern Ontario) and Couture (extreme southwestern Ontario).

The range of sites and archaeological evidence collected thus far have provided a picture of the seasonal patterns of activity that Middle Woodland people used to exploit the wide variety of resources in their territories. The spring, summer and fall saw macrobands, larger groups of people congregating at lakeshore sites to fish, collect shellfish and hunt in the surrounding forests. The approaching close of the summer season resulted in an emphasis on collection and storage of hunted resources, due to the need to store up large quantities of food for the winter. By late fall and early winter, the community would split into microbands, small family hunting groups, each relocating to a smaller 'family' hunting area inland where they would stay until the process repeated and larger macrobands rejoined in the spring.

By the Late Woodland Period, c. 800 AD, a definitively Iroquoian people were occupying the north shore of Lake Ontario. The period is most clearly distinguished by the changes in pottery construction and decoration. By the beginning of the Late Woodland (ie. by A.D. 900) period the coil method with various stamped decorations (dentate, rocker, pseudo scallop shell) was abandoned in favour of the paddle and anvil method, with vessels decorated with 'cord-wrapped stick' decoration. Intensive horticulture is practiced in this period as maize provided a large food reserve. Beans, squash and sunflowers were also grown. Villages of longhouses with many hundreds of people begin to be seen particularly in Prince Edward County and on the sandy ridges

along the north shore of Lake Ontario. The area appears to have been largely abandoned around 1550 AD likely due to conflict between the Iroquois of New York State and the Huron Confederacy.

In the wider Kingston region most archaeological sites are known from the north shore of Lake Ontario and the islands to the south, the mouth of the Cataraqui River, the Napanee River and Wilton Creek environs and the shore of the St. Lawrence east of Kingston along with the Thousand Islands. Many of the registered sites in this region around Kingston and up the Cataraqui/Rideau Waterway were first documented by avocational archaeologist Guy Blomely and subsequently registered by Hugh Daechsel (Daechsel, 1988, 1989).

It would appear that the majority of the sites in the area are located south of the Frontenac Axis. The Frontenac Axis is a continuation of the exposed granites of the Canadian Shield that runs southeast crossing the St. Lawrence River and thus forming the Thousand Islands before it enters Up State New York and rises as the Adirondack Mountains. Sites on the Frontenac Axis are generally restricted to the shores of the many lakes in this area and at portage points along the connecting rivers. This pattern may be due to a lack of archaeological survey work over most of the Frontenac Axis but given the terrain a settlement pattern focused on the waterways is not surprising.

<b>Period</b>	<b>Group</b>	<b>Time Range</b>	<b>Comment</b>
<b>Paleo-Indian</b>			
	Fluted Point Hi-Lo	11000 - 10400 BP 10400 - 9500 BP	big game hunters small nomadic groups
<b>Archaic</b>			
<b>Early</b>	Side Notched Corner Notched Bifurcate Base	10000 - 9700 BP 9700 - 8900 BP 8900 - 8000 BP	nomadic hunters and gatherers
<b>Middle</b>	Early Middle Archaic Laurentian	8000 - 5500 BP 5500 - 4000 BP	transition to territorial settlements
<b>Late</b>	Narrow Point Broad Point Small Point Glacial Kame	4500 - 3000 BP 4000 - 3500 BP 3500 - 3000 BP ca. 3000 BP	polished - ground stone tools, river - lakeshore orientation burial ceremonialism
<b>Woodland</b>			
<b>Early</b>	Meadowood Middlesex	2900 - 2400 BP 2400 - 2000 BP	introduction of pottery elaborate burials
<b>Middle</b>	Point Peninsula Sandbanks - Princess Point	2300 - 1300 BP 1500 - 1200 BP	long distance trade, burial mounds agriculture begins
<b>Late</b>	Pickering Middleport Huron - St. Lawrence Iroquois	1100 - 700 BP 670 - 600 BP 600 - 350 BP	transition to defended villages, horticulture large village sites tribal organization, warfare abandonment
<b>Historic</b>			
<b>Early</b>	Mississauga	300 - Present	southward migration
<b>Late</b>	Euro-Canadian	225 - Present	European Settlement

**Table 1. A generalized table of the region's archaeological timeline. Based on material assembled by N. Adams.**

## **2.0 Project Context: Archaeological Context**

No archaeological excavations have been undertaken directly within the study area. No additional archaeological assessments are known to have been performed within 50 m of the subject property. Consultation with the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries Archaeological Sites Database shows that three registered sites are located within 1 km of the study area, which lies within the Borden Block BhFt <sup>1</sup>.

The BhFt-8 site was investigated in 2017 as part of a large wind farm project. The site was located in nearby Lot 10 of Concession 9, Finch Township in an area south of the County Road 13. A scatter of 39 Post-Contact finds was recovered within an area of approximately 37 m by 13 m. The finds dated to the period c. 1850-1950 and was determined to hold further cultural heritage value or interest.

The Bennoit site (BhFs-4) was found in 1990 near a small creek located northeast of the subject property. This Euro-Canadian site consisted of finds of ceramic tableware, clay pipes, buttons and glass and was classified as a dump, potentially a squatter's site.

The Crysler 1 site (BhFs-3) was identified in 1988 and consisted of chert fragments and fire-cracked rock. No diagnostic artifacts were recovered in association with the site. The site was found approximately 600 m east of the subject property in an area upon the north shore of the South Nation River. The finds likely represent a campsite or other temporary occupation however dating the finds was not possible.

<b>Borden Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Time-Period</b>	<b>Cultural Affinity</b>	<b>Site Type</b>
BhFt-8		Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Scatter
BhFs-4	Bennoit	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Dump
BhFs-3	Crysler 1	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Campsite

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<sup>1</sup> Information courtesy of the Sites Registry, Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries.

## 2.2 Physiography of the Study Area:

The subject study property lies within the Winchester Clay Plains physiographic region of Ontario (Chapman and Putnam, 1984:348). The region features a low relief, lying primarily within the drainage basin of the South Nation River which drops in elevation very slowly from an area around South Mountain to the Village of Crysler. Vegetation in the region is described as primarily swamp-forest with red maple, elm, and ash. The grey clay soils of the area are generally poorly drained however with proper ditching and drainage control the lands form one of the most outstanding agricultural districts in the province. The general area lies within the Upper St. Lawrence sub-region of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Forest Region. Examples of trees that exist in this region include sugar maple, beech, basswood, white and red ash, yellow birch, red maple, and red, white and bur oaks. Eastern hemlock, eastern white pine, and balsam fir are also found in the sub-region (Rowe, 1977:93).

The subject property contains bands of Grenville loam (Gl), North Gower clay loam (NGcl), and Carp clay loam (Ccl) (Map 10). The Grenville loam (Gl) soils series is primarily found to overly areas of Black River limestone bedrock and commonly features undulating to rolling topography. The soils are known to be rocky, with many inclusions of limestone fragments. Most of the Grenville loam (Gl) soils in Stormont County are used for agriculture such as corn, alfalfa, clover and small grains, in addition to dairying.

The North Gower clay loam (NGcl) soils are very similar to the Carp series but are more poorly drained than the Carp soils. Large areas of the North Gower clay loam (NGcl) soils are found along the bank areas of the South Nation River within Finch Township. The North Gower clay loam (NGcl) soils are generally free of stones and naturally home to elm, ash and soft maples. The agricultural use of the North Gower clay loam (NGcl) soils is primarily for pasture, where not improved, and for grains and corn where ditches and drain are utilized. The Carp clay loam (Ccl) soils are found closest to the course of the South Nation River. The topography of these soils can be undulating or rolling, due to the erosion of the watercourse. The Carp clay loam (Ccl) soils are well suited to cereal grains and corn production.

The subject property is situated near the shore of the South Nation River waterway. Natural drainage for the entire area is provided by the South Nation River and its many tributaries. The study area was found to be relatively flat in topography with a subtle downward slope towards the South Nation River waterway.

### **2.3 Archaeological Potential of the Study Area:**

The subject property has high archaeological potential according to the 2011 MHSTCI Standards and Guidelines (2011). The archaeological potential of the study area is dictated by the proximity to significant historical features and previous occupation of the subject property and the immediate area.

Historical research has shown that the area was historically owned by the family of Colonel John Crysler UEL (1768-1852), from whom the village took its name. Crysler farmed the subject property lands in addition to his public service in the Militia and in the Upper Canadian Legislative Assembly from 1808 to 1824. The Crysler family and later the Armstrong family farmed the land during the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and into the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Three registered archaeological sites are found within 1 kilometre of the subject property. A primary water source is located within 300 m of the subject property, as are features of historical significance in the form of the former St. John's Anglican Church, parsonage and cemetery.

In accordance with Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries Standards and Guidelines a Stage 2 archaeological assessment was recommended and subsequently performed within the subject property. The results of this testing will follow.

#### **Stage 1 Recommendation**

- A Stage 2 assessment should be performed within the subject property. Due to the agricultural setting of the property this assessment should take the form of a pedestrian survey on a five metre interval where possible and via test pit assessment on a five metre interval in areas not feasible to ploughing.

### 3.0 Field Methods

Based upon the potential for archaeological resources within the subject property a Stage 2 study was performed on November 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022 under Project Information Form number P246-0626-2022 by the licensee and a team of experienced archaeological field technicians. Field conditions were photo documented.

The study area consisted of active agricultural fields and a small wooded portion along the northern extents of the subject property (Map 11). The ploughed fields were assessed through pedestrian survey on high potential five metres transects following a period of several rain falls. During the pedestrian survey where archaeological resources were identified, transects were to decrease to a 1 metre interval within an area of a 20 metre radius around the find spots until the limits of any locus were defined. In the event of finds those locations were to be flagged and geo-located using a Garmin model GPS map76 handheld GPS unit. The unploughed portions were subjected to a test pit survey on a five metre interval. The test pits were 30cm square and dug by hand at least 5cm into subsoil or to bedrock. The pits were examined for evidence of fill, stratigraphy and cultural features. All soils from the test pits were screened through ¼" (6mm) mesh and the test pits were backfilled. In the event of positive test pits those locations were to be flagged and geo-located using a Garmin model GPS map76 handheld GPS unit. Test pits were excavated up to within 1 m of built structures.

The property was surveyed during weather and lighting conditions which permitted good visibility of land features and were conducive to the identification and recovery of archaeological resources. Field conditions were photo documented. The area assessed by pedestrian and test pit survey represents 100% of the total subject property.

Permission to enter the property and remove artifacts was received from the landowner prior to commencement of the project. The licensee will retain all field notes and photographs taken during the project, until such time that a suitable repository is established for their curation. A total of 1 field notebook page was used during the assessment. The field notes and photographs will be retained by the licensee. The record is considered stable and the long-term curation plan is that the data be stored within the licensee's archive.



#### **4.0 Record of Finds**

The study area consisted of the existing large agricultural field and a small woodlot area (Image 1-6). The property has been in active farming use from the 19<sup>th</sup> century into the present period. The agricultural lands were ploughed by the property owner and following several periods of rain was subjected to pedestrian survey on 5 metre transects. More than 80% of the ploughed ground surface was visible during testing.

The stratigraphic profile within the pedestrian survey was consistently identified as a single layer of medium compaction silty clay plough soil. The ploughsoil consisted of a layer of mid grayish brown silty clay (20% silt, 80% clay). No significant cultural material was observed during the pedestrian survey testing. The small woodlot located along the northern extents of the property was found to contain primarily rock between the older grown trees. The area featured very little topsoil which consisted of dense clayey soils.

No pre-20<sup>th</sup> century cultural material was observed during testing. The Stage 2 field survey resulted in the identification of no archaeological resources, features or finds of archaeological significance (Map 11).

#### 4.1 Inventory of Documentary Record Generated in the Field

##### *Photographs*

<b>Photo #</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Direction</b>	<b>Date</b>
2460626D01	View of ploughed lands during pedestrian survey	N	28-Nov-22
2460626D02	View of ploughed lands during pedestrian survey	N	28-Nov-22
2460626D03	View of ploughed lands during pedestrian survey	E	28-Nov-22
2460626D04	View of ploughed lands during pedestrian survey	W	28-Nov-22
2460626D05	View of ploughed lands during pedestrian survey	N	28-Nov-22
2460626D06	View of ploughed lands during pedestrian survey	N	28-Nov-22
2460626D07	View of ploughed lands during pedestrian survey	N	28-Nov-22
2460626D08	View of ploughed lands during pedestrian survey	S	28-Nov-22
2460626D09	View of ploughed lands during pedestrian survey	S	28-Nov-22
2460626D10	View of ploughed lands during pedestrian survey	W	29-Nov-22
2460626D11	View of ploughed lands during pedestrian survey	W	29-Nov-22
2460626D12	View of ploughed lands during pedestrian survey	W	29-Nov-22
2460626D13	View of ploughed lands during pedestrian survey	S	29-Nov-22
2460626D14	View of ploughed lands during pedestrian survey	S	29-Nov-22
2460626D15	View of ploughed lands during pedestrian survey	S	29-Nov-22
2460626D16	View of ploughed lands during pedestrian survey	N	29-Nov-22
2460626D17	View of ploughed lands during pedestrian survey	N	29-Nov-22
2460626D18	View of ploughed lands during pedestrian survey	N	29-Nov-22
2460626D19	View of ploughed lands during pedestrian survey	N	29-Nov-22
2460626D20	View of wooded northern area	W	30-Nov-22
2460626D21	View of wooded northern area	N	30-Nov-22

##### *Field Notes*

<b>Catalogue #</b>	<b>Format</b>
P246-0626-N-1	Field Notebook page

## **5.0 Analysis and Conclusions**

In April of 2022 Abacus Archaeological Services was retained to undertake a Stage 1 archaeological assessment of the proposed McBain Subdivision, situated on County Road 12, Part of Lot 13 of Concession 10 of the Geographic Township of Finch, now within the Village of Crysler, Township of North Stormont, and United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry (Map 3). The approximately 39 ha property is situated on the east frontage of SDG County Road 12 and is located north of the Nation River. The owner of the property is proposing to develop the land with a residential subdivision (Map 4). An archaeological assessment was a condition of municipal applications for Subdivision.

Three registered archaeological sites are found within 1 kilometre of the subject property. Primary development of the subject property began in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Historical research has shown that the area was historically owned by the family of Colonel John Crysler UEL (1768-1852), from whom the village took its name. Crysler farmed the subject property lands in addition to his public service in the Militia and in the Upper Canadian Legislative Assembly from 1808 to 1824. The Crysler family and later the Armstrong family farmed the land during the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and into the 20<sup>th</sup> century. At present the property is undeveloped and has been in use as agricultural lands.

Based upon the established potential for archaeological resources within the subject property Stage 2 testing was performed on November 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022 under Project Information Form number P246-0626-2022. No features or material of archaeological significance was recovered during the Stage 2 excavation.

## **6.0 Recommendations**

Based upon these results the licensee makes the following recommendations with regard to the study area (Map 11).

- The subject property tested during Stage 2 excavation has been assessed and found to contain no significant archaeological resources. No further work is required within the study area.

## 7.0 Advice on Compliance with Legislation

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

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

## **8.0 Bibliography and Sources**

### **Image and Topographic Map References**

1:250, 000 Topographical Map - NTS 31/G 1975

1:25, 000 Topographical Map - NTS 31/G1e 1975

1:10, 000 Ontario Base Map – OBM # 1018 5350 49950

Ontario Provincial Air Photograph Series 1954 (452.751). University of Toronto.

1 inch to 1 mile National Topographical Series Map – Sheet No. 13, 31G03, 1908.

### **Archival Map References**

1862 Map of the Counties of Stormont, Dundas, Glengarry, Prescott and Russell, Canada West, From Actual Surveys under the direction of H. F. Walling. Published by D.P. Putnam, Prescott, C.W. Norman B. Leventhal Map Center Collection.

1878 Charlottenburgh Township inset plan. Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, Ontario. H. Belden and Co. 1878. Toronto. Queen's University Library Map Collection.

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- WRIGHT, J. V. 2004. The Gordon Island North Site and Cultural Settlement Distributions along the Upper St. Lawrence River Valley. In: WRIGHT, J. V. & PILON, J. (eds.) *Passion for the Past: Papers in Honour of James F. Pendergast*. Gatineau: Canadian Museum of Civilization.

## Images



**Image 1. A view of the ploughed field area during Stage 2 assessment.**



**Image 2. A view of the ploughed field area during Stage 2 assessment.**





**Image 3. A view of the ploughed field area during Stage 2 assessment.**



**Image 4. A view of the ploughed field area during Stage 2 assessment.**

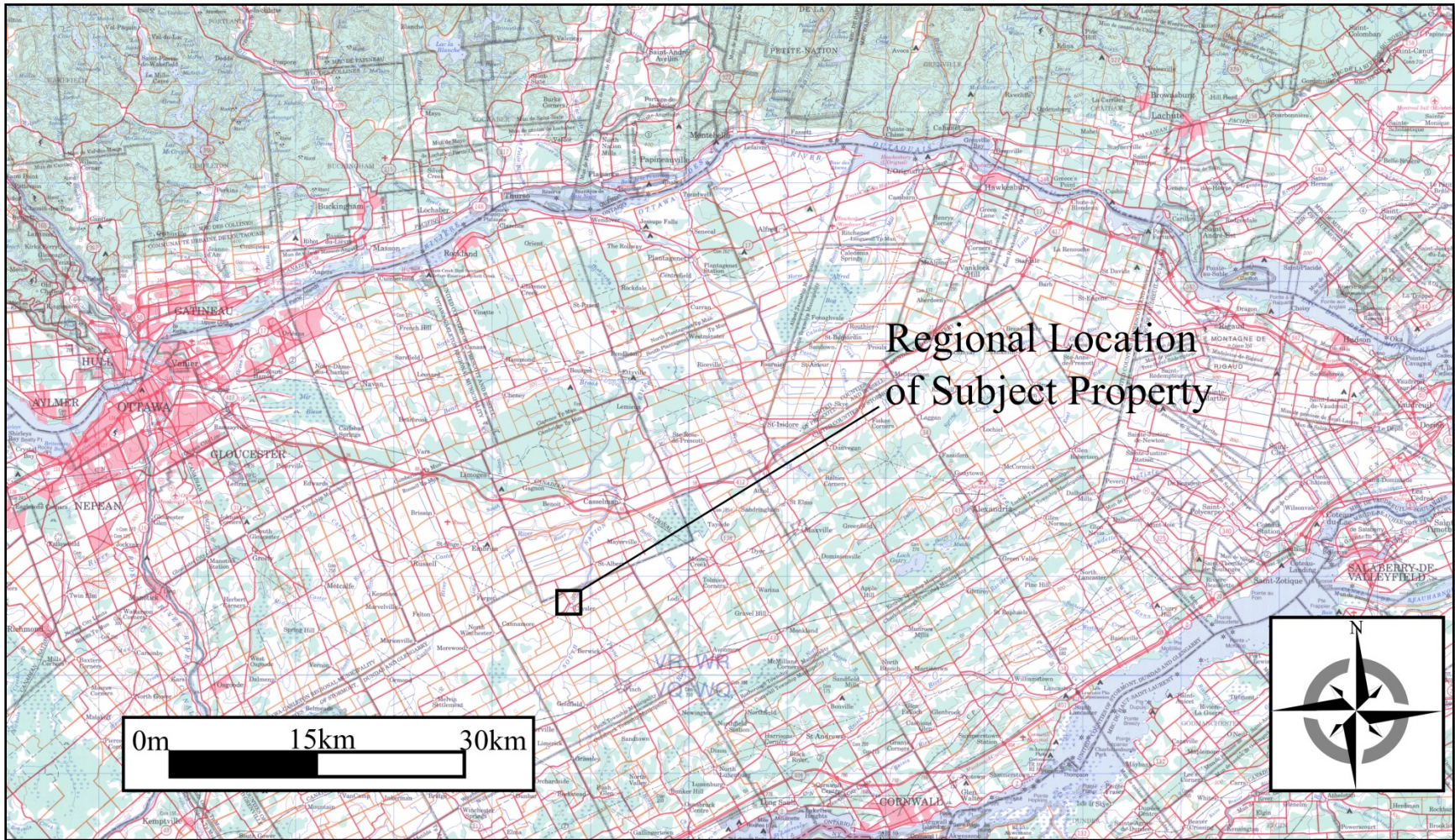


**Image 5. A view of the ploughed field area during Stage 2 assessment.**

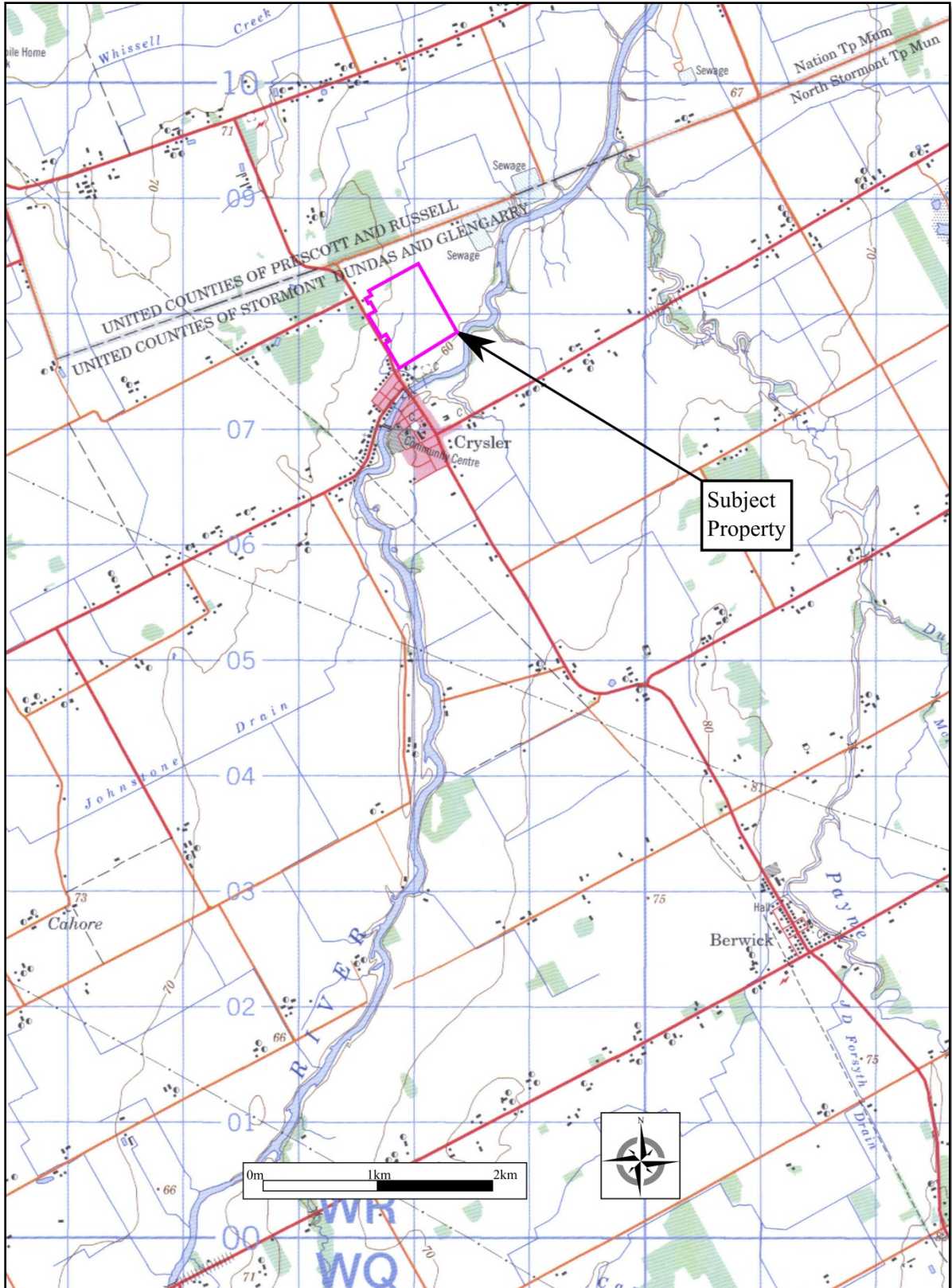


**Image 6. A view of the ploughed field area during Stage 2 assessment.**

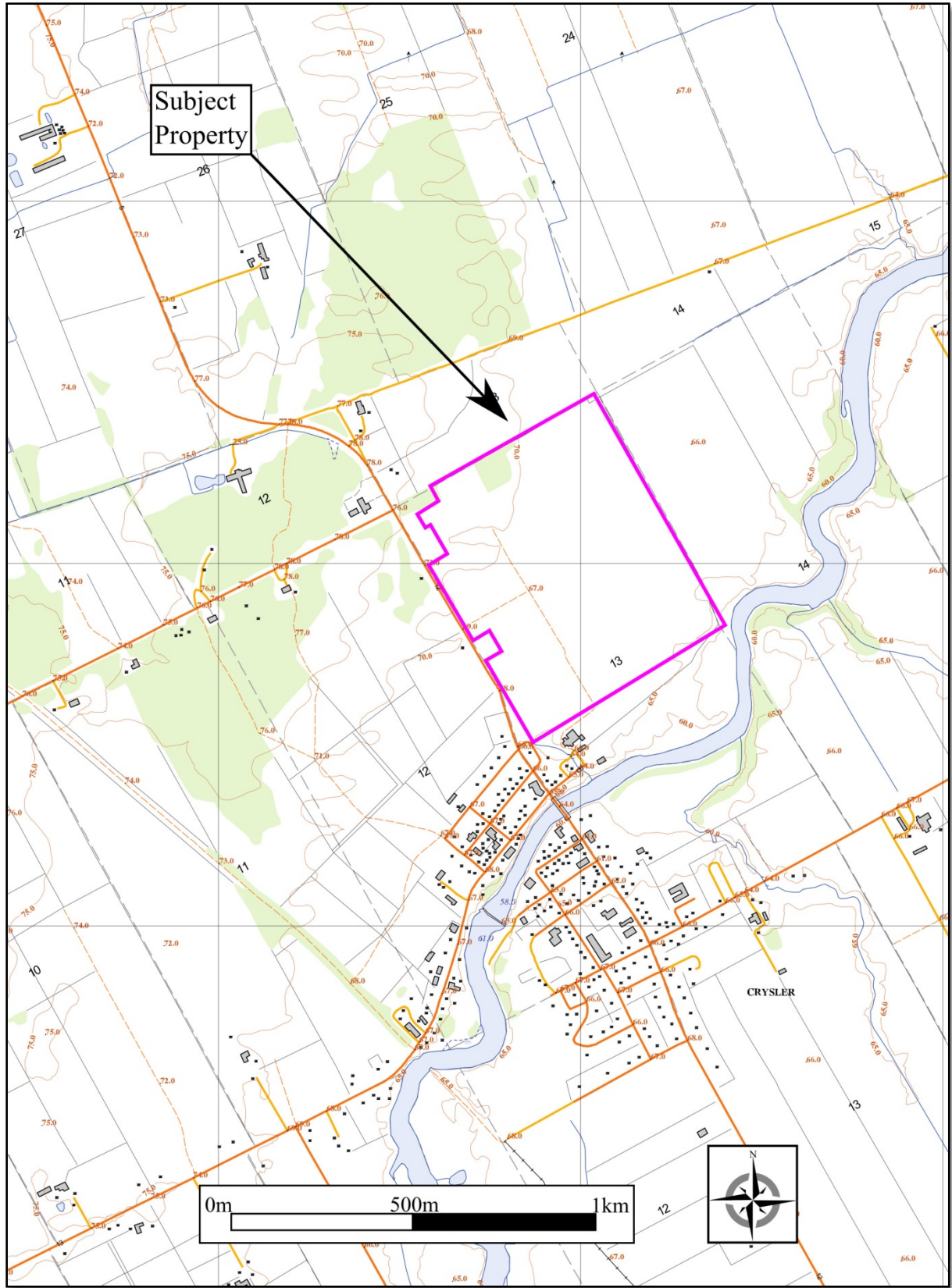
## Maps



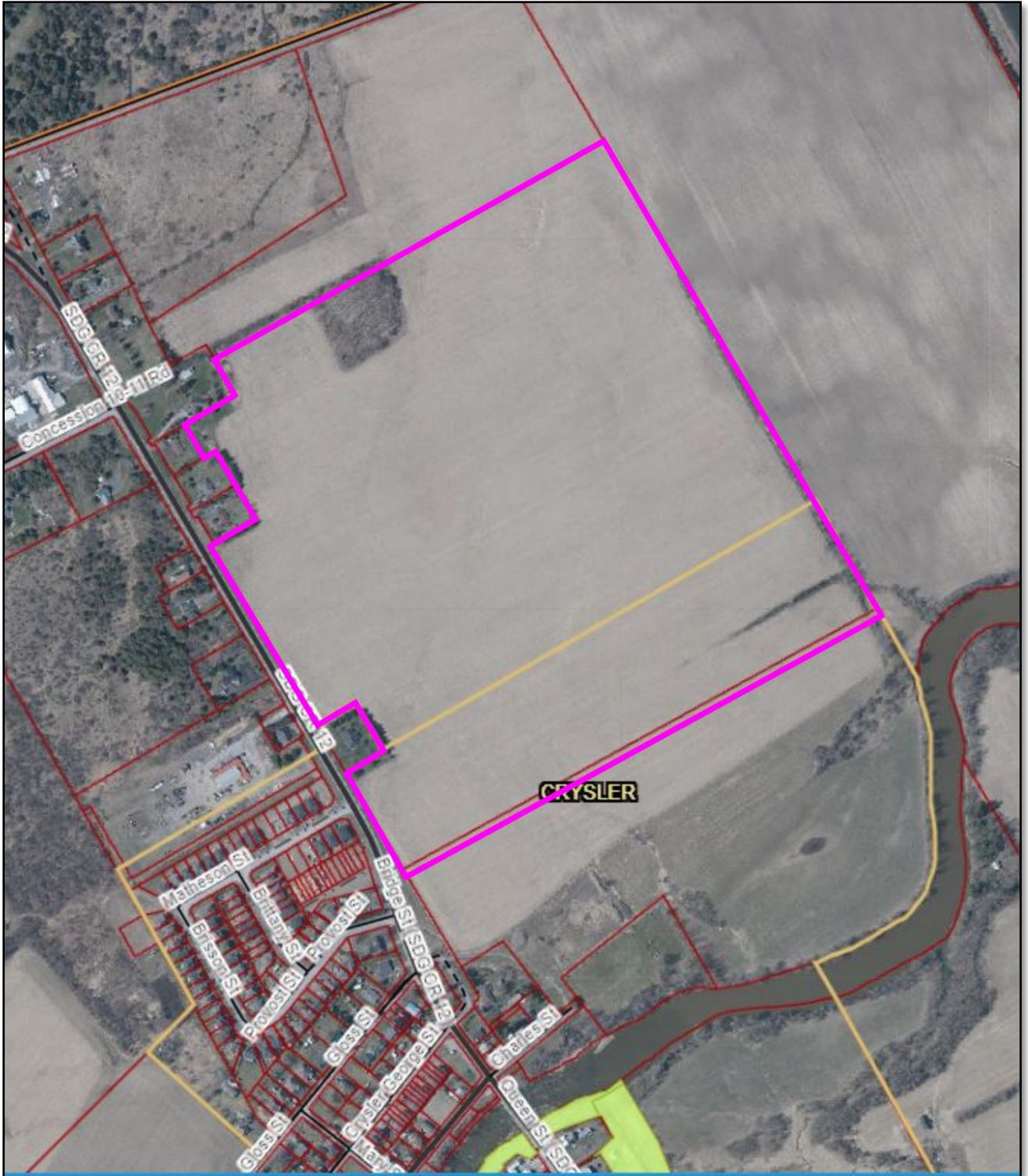
Map 1. The subject property location on 1:250 000 NTS plan (31 G).



Map 2. The subject property location on 1:50 000 NTS plan (31G3).



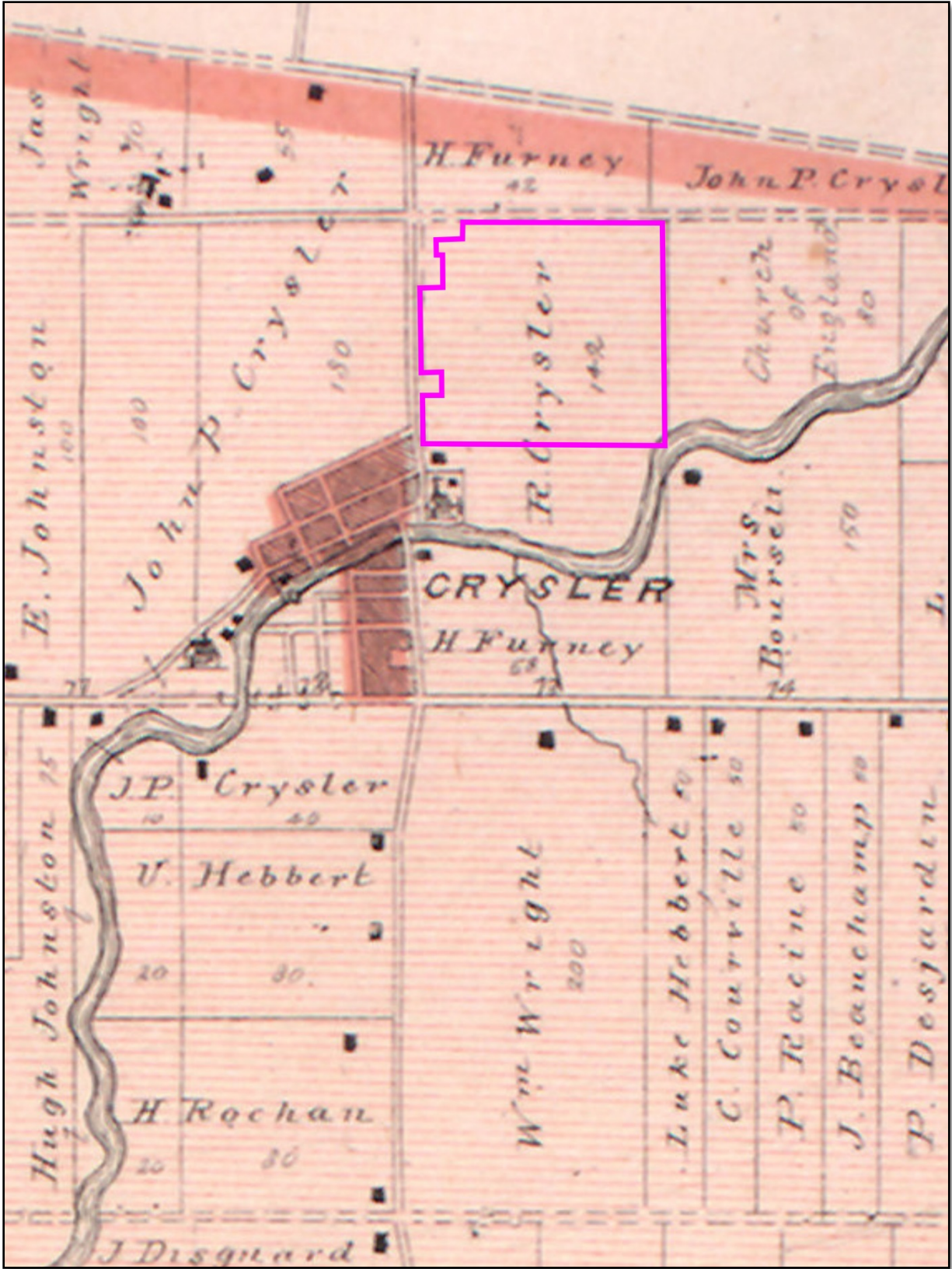
**Map 3. The subject property location on 1:10 000 Ontario Base Map (OBM #1018 4850 50050).**



Map 4. A plan of the subject property with proposed development overlay (base plan SDG GIS).

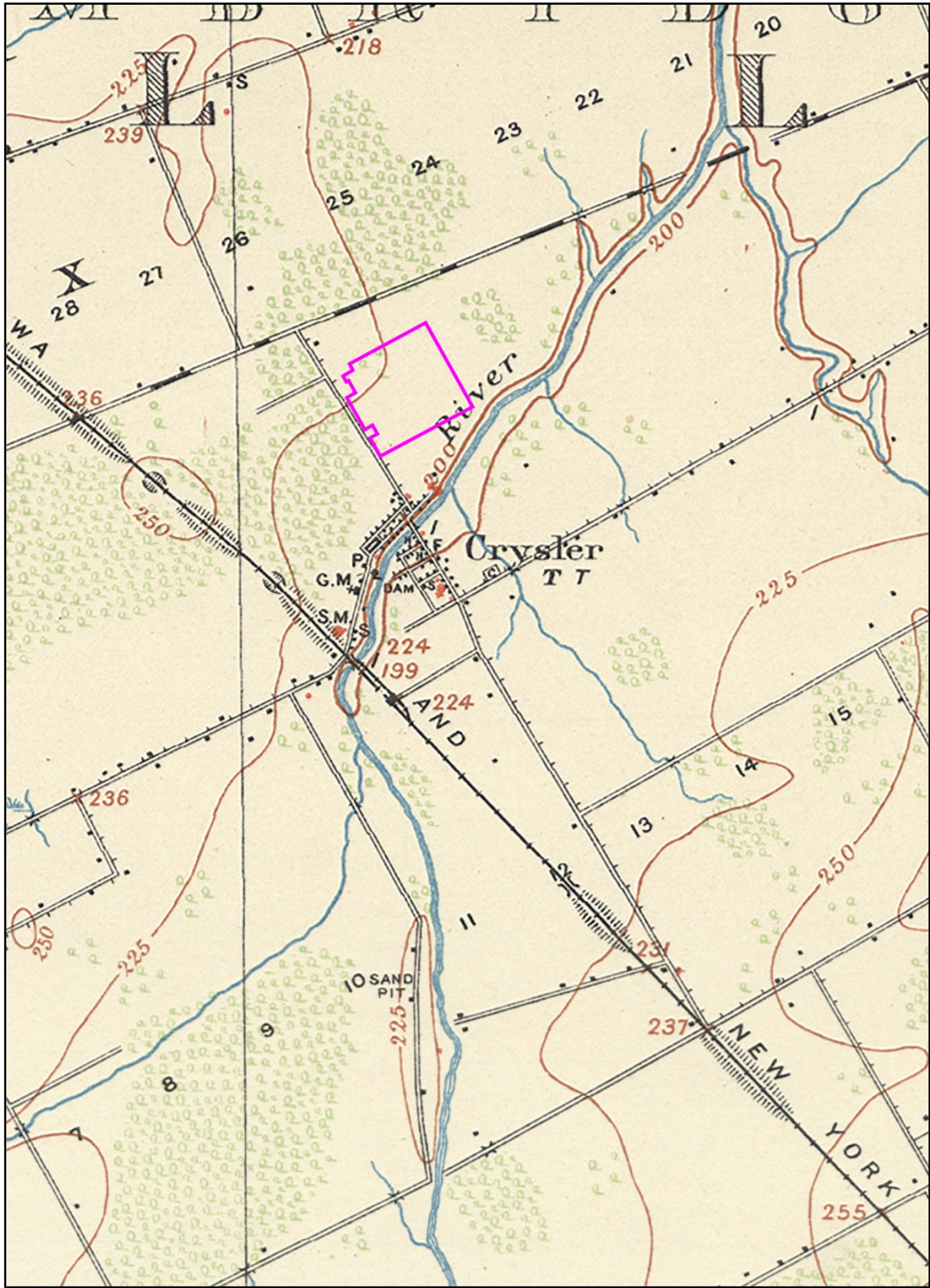


Map 5. A section from an 1862 map of Stormont County.

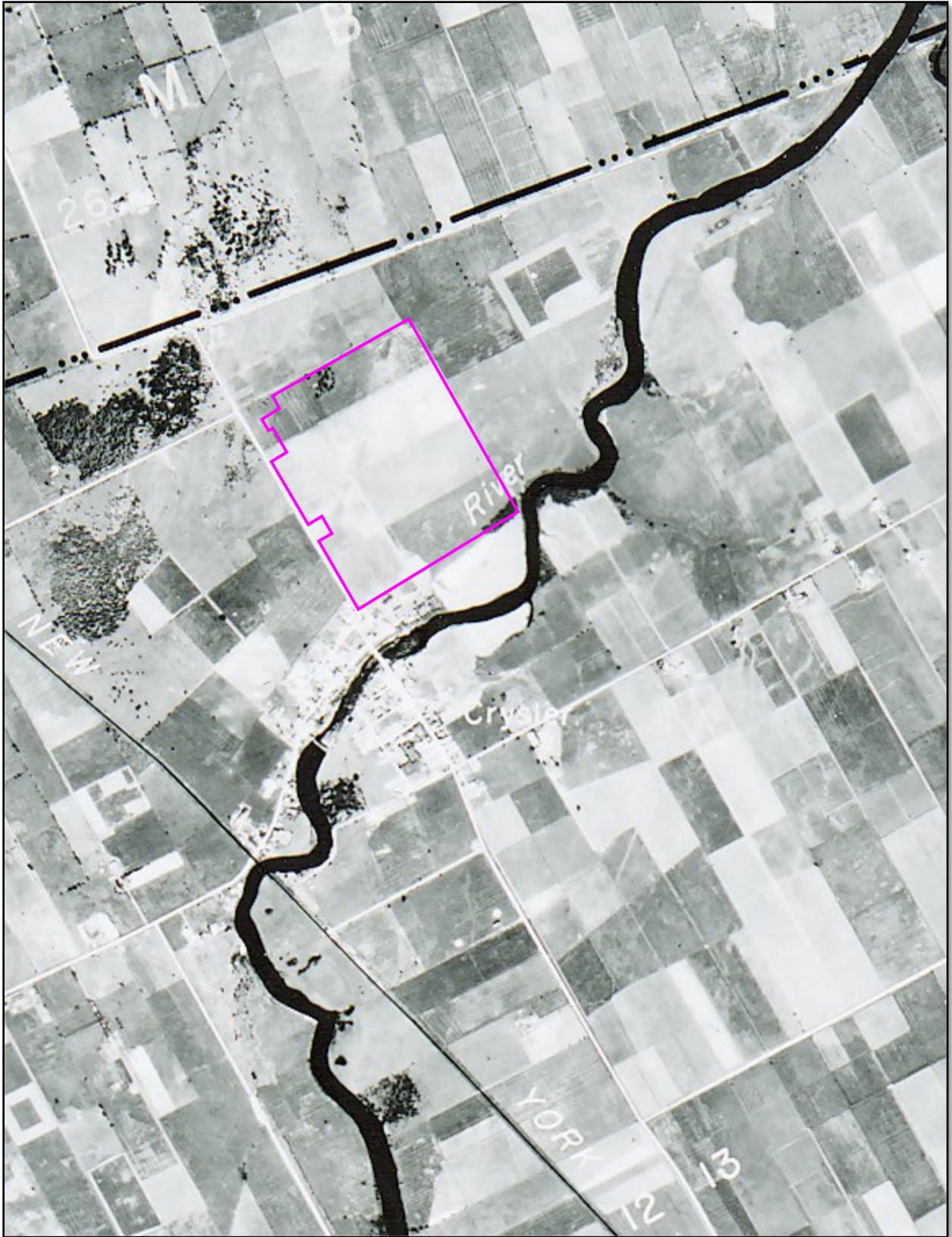


Map 6. A section from an 1878 map of Finch Township.

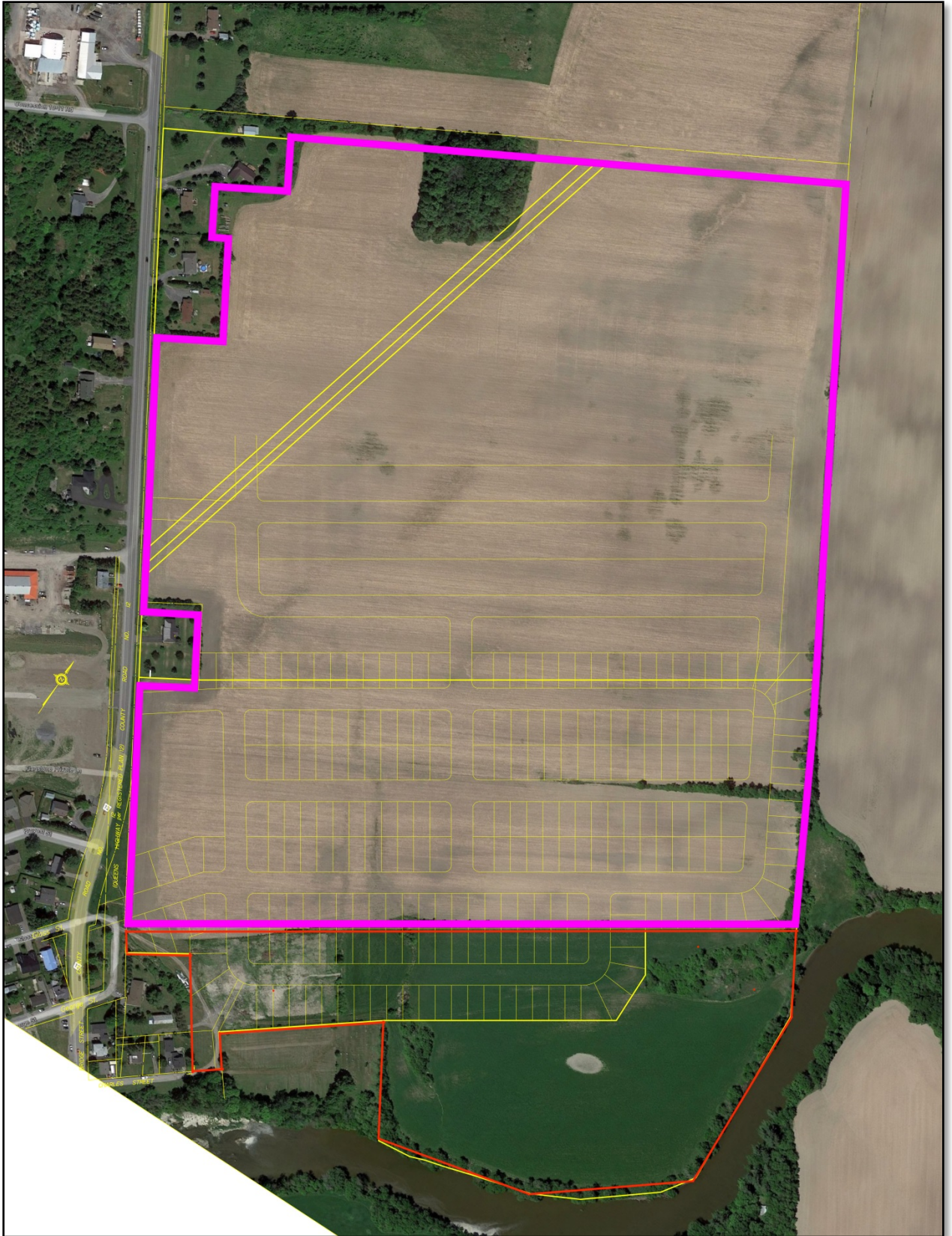




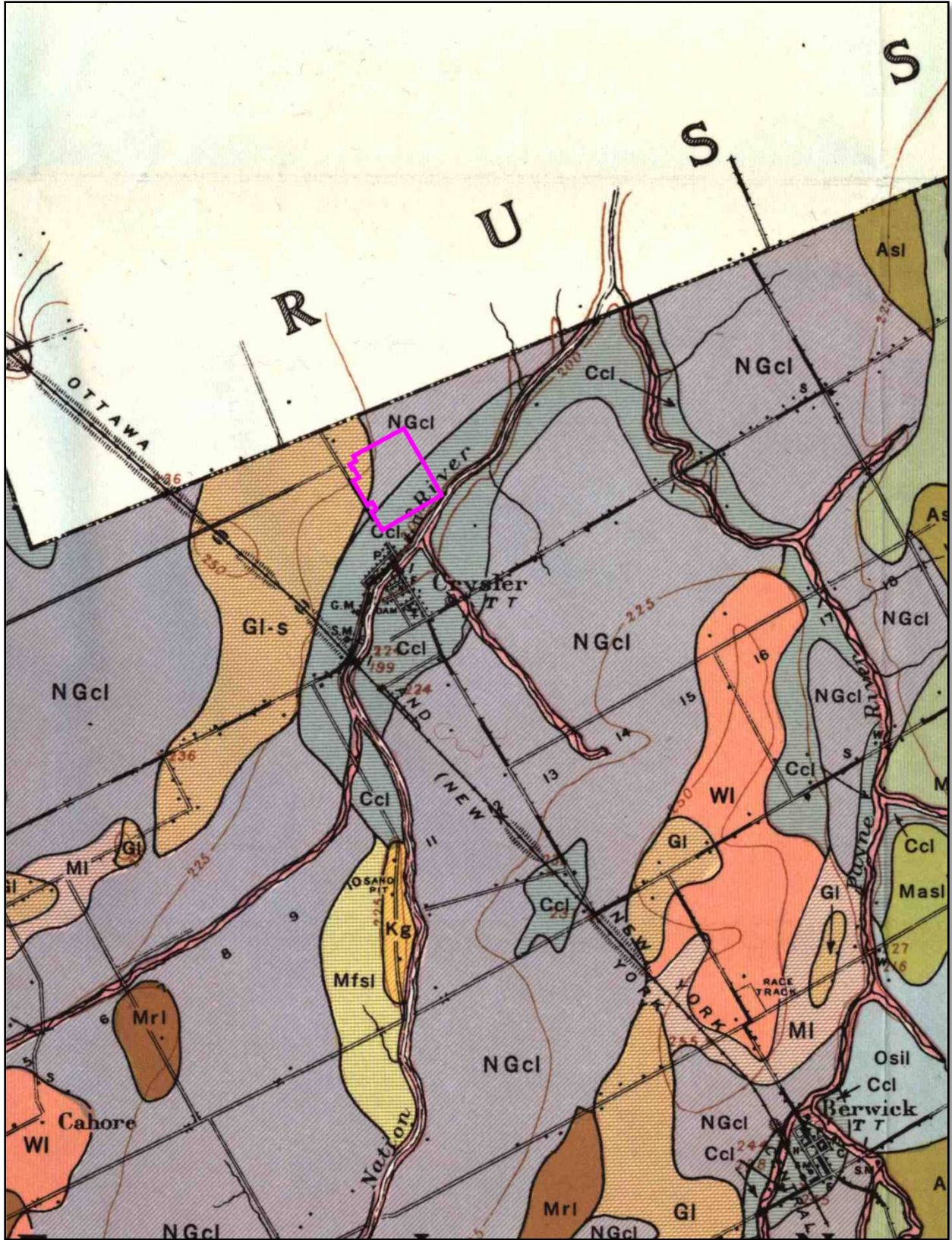
Map 7. A section from the 1908 National Topographic Series maps (NTS 31G03).



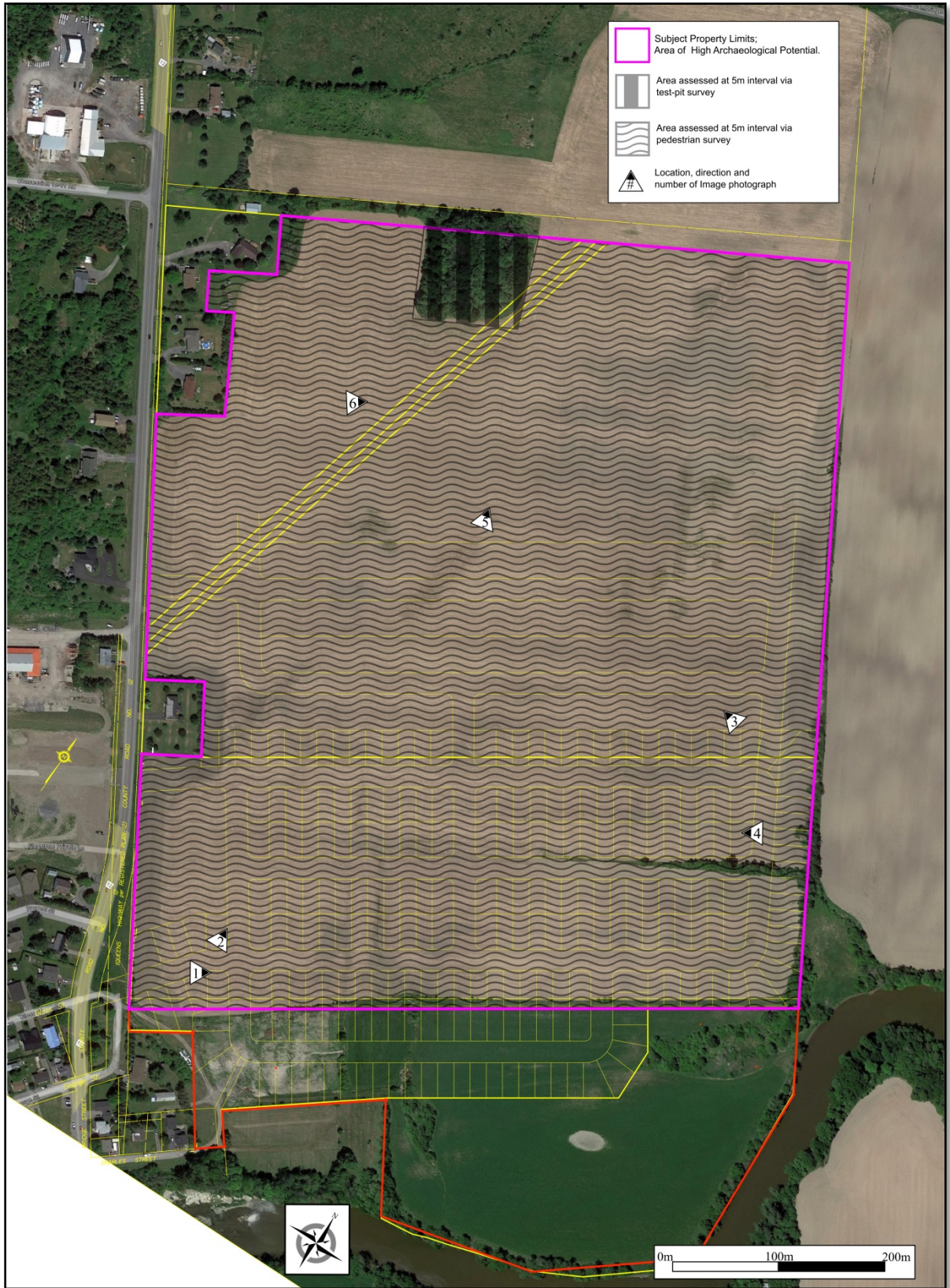
Map 8. An aerial view of the subject property in 1954 (University of Toronto).



Map 9. An aerial view of the subject property in 2019 (Google Earth).



Map 10. A section of the soil survey plan of Glengarry County.



Map 11. A plan of the Stage 2 archaeological assessment.