



**Documentation and
Commemoration Report—2509
Cedar Creek Road, Township of
North Dumfries**

Final Report

February 2024

Prepared for:
Cedar Creek Road Holdings Inc.

Prepared by:
Stantec Consulting Ltd.
400-1305 Riverbend Road
London, Ontario N6K 0J5

Project Number:
161414160

Limitations and Sign-off

The conclusions in the Report titled Documentation and Commemoration Report--2509 Cedar Creek Road, Township of North Dumfries are Stantec's professional opinion, as of the time of the Report, and concerning the scope described in the Report. The opinions in the document are based on conditions and information existing at the time the scope of work was conducted and do not take into account any subsequent changes. The Report relates solely to the specific project for which Stantec was retained and the stated purpose for which the Report was prepared. The Report is not to be used or relied on for any variation or extension of the project, or for any other project or purpose, and any unauthorized use or reliance is at the recipient's own risk.

Stantec has assumed all information received from Cedar Creek Road Holdings Inc. (the "Client") and third parties in the preparation of the Report to be correct. While Stantec has exercised a customary level of judgment or due diligence in the use of such information, Stantec assumes no responsibility for the consequences of any error or omission contained therein.

This Report is intended solely for use by the Client in accordance with Stantec's contract with the Client. While the Report may be provided to applicable authorities having jurisdiction and others for whom the Client is responsible, Stantec does not warrant the services to any third party. The report may not be relied upon by any other party without the express written consent of Stantec, which may be withheld at Stantec's discretion.

Prepared by _____
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Cultural Heritage Specialist

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Lashia Jones, MA, CAHP
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Reviewed by _____
(signature)

Meaghan Rivard, MA, CAHP
Senior Heritage Consultant, Associate



Executive Summary

Cedar Creek Road Holdings Inc. (the client) retained Stantec Consulting Ltd. (Stantec) to prepare a *Documentation and Commemoration Report* for 2509 Cedar Creek Road, Township of North Dumfries. The property at 2509 Cedar Creek Road is a listed resource on the township's municipal heritage register. The residence on the property was removed in 2023. The Township of North Dumfries has required that the residence formerly located on the property be documented and commemorated. The purpose of this report is to fulfill this requirement.

It is understood that the residence and all associated materials have been removed from the site. In addition, it is understood that the client is proposing to subdivide the property into seven industrial lots and a stormwater management block. This report acknowledges that due to the removal of the residence and the proposed industrial land use for the site, physical commemoration on site with interpretive materials or other commemorative elements may not be readily accessible to the public.

Historical research determined the property was first settled by John Kerr. He purchased the north half of Lot 29, Concession 10 from William Dickson Junior in 1856. However, he may have settled on the lot as early as 1831. The former residence at 2509 Cedar Creek Road was likely built between the 1840s and 1850s. The residence was an Ontario vernacular structure which incorporated Georgian and Neoclassical design influences. Members of the Kerr family remained on the property until 1889.

An appropriate commemoration strategy for 2509 Cedar Creek Road is to deposit copies of this report to create a record of the property prior to its alteration. This will create a public record of 2509 Cedar Creek Road that will be accessible to the public and future researchers. It is recommended that this report and accompanying flash drive be deposited at the following locations:

Region of Waterloo Archives
150 Frederick Street
Kitchener, Ontario N2G 4J3

Township of North Dumfries Heritage
Advisory Committee
2958 Greenfield Road
Ayr, Ontario N0B 1E0

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



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Appendix A Photography Log



Documentation and Commemoration Report—2509 Cedar Creek Road, Township of North Dumfries

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Project Personnel

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Quality Reviewer:	Lashia Jones, MA, CAHP
Independent Reviewer:	Meaghan Rivard, MA, CAHP



Documentation and Commemoration Report—2509 Cedar Creek Road, Township of North Dumfries

1 Introduction

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1 Introduction

Cedar Creek Road Holdings Inc. (the client) retained Stantec Consulting Ltd. (Stantec) to prepare a *Documentation and Commemoration Report* for 2509 Cedar Creek Road, Township of North Dumfries (Figure 1 and Figure 2). The property at 2509 Cedar Creek Road is a listed resource on the township's municipal heritage register. The residence on the property was removed in 2023. The Township of North Dumfries has required that the residence formerly located on the property be documented and commemorated. The purpose of this report is to fulfill this requirement.

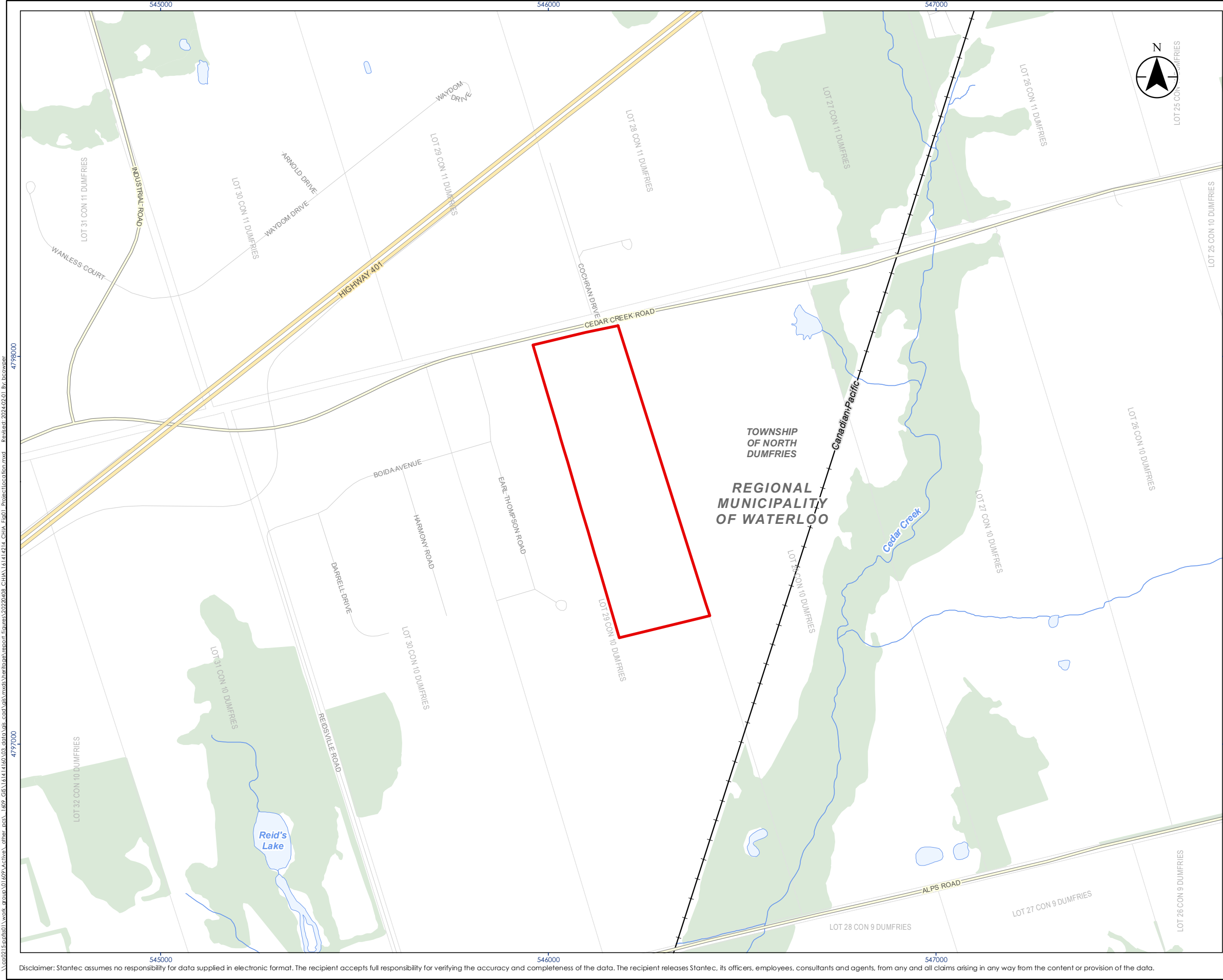
At present, there are no regulatory frameworks in Ontario that guide the preparation of documentation or commemoration reports. As best practice, this report adheres generally to the National Park Service's (NPS) *Historic American Buildings Survey* (HABS) photography guidelines (NPS 2015). As such, the documentation component of the report contains:

- A general description of the history of the site and its development
- Representative photographs of the property with a photographic key plan
- A flash drive of high resolution photography and corresponding photograph log (see Appendix A)

It is understood that the residence and all associated materials have been removed from the site. In addition, it is understood that the client is proposing to subdivide the property into seven industrial lots and a stormwater management block. The background research and documentation provided in this report are intended to acknowledge the history of the property through the creation of a public record prior to its alteration. This report also includes a discussion of available commemorative options given the private nature of the property.

A site visit of the property was undertaken prior to the removal of the residence on April 14, 2022, by Frank Smith, Cultural Heritage Specialist with Stantec. The weather conditions were overcast and cool. The site visit consisted of a pedestrian survey of the property. Interior access was granted to the first and second storey of the residence. Photographs were taken on Nikon D5300 at a resolution of 300 dots per inch and 6000 by 4000 pixels.

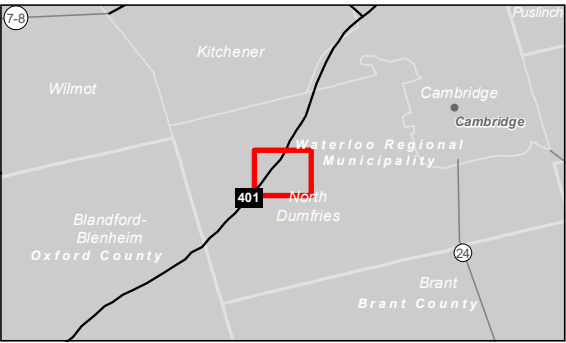




- Legend
- Study Area
 - Railway
 - Watercourse (Permanent)
 - Waterbody
 - Wooded Area
 - Lot
 - Municipal Boundary, Upper
 - Municipal Boundary, Lower



- Notes
- Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N
 - Base features produced under license with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry © Queen's Printer for Ontario, 2019.



Project Location
Township of
North Dumfries,

161414214 REV4
Prepared by BCC on 2024-02-01

Client/Project
CEDAR CREEK ROAD HOLDINGS INC.
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CEDAR CREEK ROAD, NORTH DUMFRIES, ONTARIO

Figure No.

1

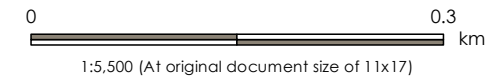
Title

Project Location

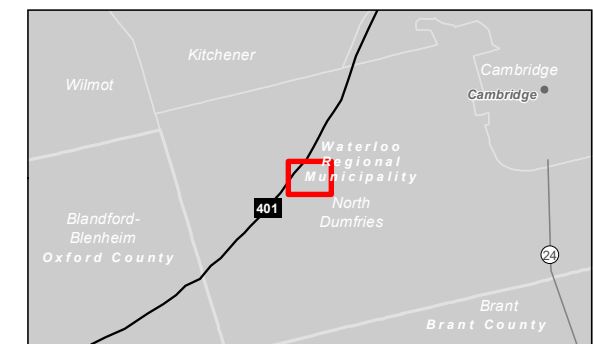


Legend

- Study Area
- Railway
- Watercourse (Permanent)
- Waterbody



- Notes**
1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N
 2. Base features produced under license with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry © Queen's Printer for Ontario, 2022.
 3. Orthoimagery © First Base Solutions, 2022, imagery date 2020.



Project Location
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161414214 REV4
Prepared by BCC on 2024-02-01

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CEDAR CREEK ROAD HOLDINGS INC.
DOCUMENTATION AND COMMEMORATION REPORT—2509
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Figure No.

2

Title

Study Area

2 Background Research

2.1 Introduction

The Study Area is located at 2509 Cedar Creek Road, approximately 150 metres east of the intersection of Cedar Creek Road and Earl Thompson Road. The property contains the municipal PIN 038510062. Historically, the property is located on part of Lot 29, Concession 10 in the former Township of North Dumfries. The following sections outline the historical development of the Study Area.

2.2 Physiography

The Study Area is situated in the Waterloo Hills physiographic region of southern Ontario. This region encompasses about 775 square kilometres of land and is mostly located in the Region of Waterloo and partly in the County of Perth. The elevation of the region varies from about 1,000 to 1,400 feet above sea level. The surface of this region consists of sandy hills. In general, the soils of the township are well drained although kettle lakes and areas of swamp are also present. Agriculture remains important in this region and corn production and livestock raising are the dominant agricultural activities (Chapman and Putnam 1984: 136-137). The Study Area is located within the watershed of the Grand River, a Canadian Heritage River. The river has many tributaries, including the Conestogo River, Nith River, Speed River, and the Eramosa River (Finkelstein 2016).

2.3 Township of North Dumfries

2.3.1 Survey and Settlement

The Township of North Dumfries is located on the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee, Anishinaabe, and Neutral Indigenous peoples (Township of North Dumfries 2017a). The Grand River Valley first attracted the attention of British colonial officials at the close of the American Revolution. During the war, many Indigenous peoples, including the Haudenosaunee, were drawn into the conflict (Filice 2016).

In 1783, the *Treaty of Paris* ended the war and recognized the independence of the United States. As a result, much of the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee was now part of New York State. Members of the Haudenosaunee who remained loyal to Great Britain under the leadership of Joseph Brant (Thayendanegea) petitioned the Governor of Canada, Frederick Haldimand, for a land grant in Upper Canada (Filice 2016). In May 1784, the Mississaugas of the Credit ceded 3,000,000 acres of land to the British Crown in anticipation of granting land to the Haudenosaunee (Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation 2022). Joseph Brant selected the Grand River Valley as the



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location for a land grant and in October 1784 the Haudenosaunee received a tract of land six miles (10 kilometres) deep on each side of the Grand River (Filice 2016). The Study Area is located within lands which comprised the Haldimand Tract.

Brant believed that the Haudenosaunee would be free to lease and sell land within the Haldimand Tract at their discretion. However, British colonial officials believed that land within the Haldimand Tract could only be leased or transferred to the Crown. In 1796, the Haudenosaunee began to sell land within the Haldimand Tract to settlers despite objections from the Crown. The controversy was finally resolved when it was agreed that the Haudenosaunee could sell and lease land as long as it was offered to the Crown first (Filice 2016).

In 1798, Brant ceded 94,305 acres to Philip Stedman of the Niagara District for the sum of £8,841. This land was known as Block Number One and is now part of the Township of North Dumfries and the Township of South Dumfries (Parsell 1881: 8; Filice 2016). Stedman purchased the land in speculation and made no attempts to settle his holdings. In addition, the widespread availability of free land grants in Upper Canada deterred settlers from purchasing property. In 1816, the land was sold to William Dickson of Niagara-on-the-Lake for £24,000 (Taylor 1970: 23). William Dickson, originally from Dumfries, Scotland, immigrated to Canada in 1792. Dickson became a lawyer and wealthy merchant in Niagara-on-the-Lake. In honour of his homeland in Scotland, he named his tract of land Dumfries and envisioned populating the land with Scottish settlers. Dickson employed Absalom Shade, a Pennsylvania-German, to manage the colonization project (Taylor 1970: 24). Dickson and Shade toured Dumfries in 1816 and found numerous sites suited for settlement and the construction of mills (Taylor 1970: 26).

In 1817, Dickson contracted Deputy Provincial Surveyor Adrian Marlett to survey Dumfries (Taylor 1970: 27; Association of Ontario Land Surveyors 1997). Marlett surveyed the tract using the Single Front Survey System (Plate 1). This survey system was implemented in Upper Canada between 1783 and 1818 and commonly contained deep and narrow lots (Weaver 1968: 14). The Township of Dumfries was surveyed into 12 concessions. Concessions 1 to 11 contain 37 lots and Concession 12 contains 46 lots. During the survey, Marlett identified several squatters residing in Dumfries Township. In 1817, the first legal settlers arrived, and 38 families settled in the township (Parsell 1881: 8).



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Plate 1: Single-Front System (Dean 1969)

2.3.2 19th Century Development

Settlement in Dumfries Township began in earnest in 1819 when Dickson contracted John Telfer to travel to Scotland and advertise available lands in Dumfries. Telfer was successful in his endeavor and as a result the township was populated largely by settlers from Scotland (Parsell 1881: 8). The first set of township officials were chosen in 1819 at the first municipal meeting of Dumfries Township (Moyer 1971: 129).

In 1826, Upper Canada abolished the practice of free land grants, accelerating development of Dumfries¹ (Craig 1963: 138-139). Because settlers would now have to pay for Crown land in distant frontier townships, Dickson's land in a more settled part of Upper Canada became especially appealing. During the 1820s, Dickson maintained frequent contact with his friends in Scotland encouraging immigration and Shade focused on facilitating the construction of roads, mills, and schools in Dumfries Township (Craig 1963: 142).

By the 1830s, significant progress had been made in settling the township and the population was recorded as 4,177 (Waterloo Region Museum No Date [n.d.]). While most settlers remained from Scotland the township also attracted settlers from New York State. William Dickson would closely monitor the development of Dumfries for the rest of his life. On his 70th birthday, he expressed how he selected settlers for Dumfries: "I did not make the enquiry so much for money as I did to ascertain if the party was honest, industrious, and laborious" (Taylor 1970: 39). Dickson passed away in 1846

¹ This practice did not apply to Dumfries Township as it was privately owned and not Crown land



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(Parsell 1881: 8). *Smith's Canadian Gazetteer* of 1846 noted that nearly every lot in the township had been settled and recorded 49,238 acres of land under cultivation. The township contained seven grist mills, 16 sawmills, and was noted to contain hilly terrain and rocky soil (Smith 1846: 48).

In 1852, Waterloo County and Brant County were created out of parts of the former Gore District and Wellington District. As part of this process, Dumfries Township was split into North Dumfries Township and South Dumfries Township. North Dumfries became part of Waterloo County and South Dumfries became part of Brant County (Moyer 1971: 130). The Study Area is located in North Dumfries Township.

In 1854, the Great Western Railway was completed through North Dumfries Township. The completion of the railway and the improvement of road conditions resulted in North Dumfries becoming an especially important agricultural centre in Waterloo County and wheat was initially the main crop grown (Hayes 1997: 40; Taylor 1970: 114). The population of North Dumfries Township was recorded as 4,161 in 1861 (Census of Canada 1861). After 1861, the population entered into a period of decline for the remainder of the 19th century. Between 1871 and 1891 the population of North Dumfries Township decreased from 3,951 to 2,516 (Dominion Bureau of Statistics 1953).

The contraction of population in the township was part of a broader trend of urbanization in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The emergence of industrialization and urbanization increased the number of wage workers required in cities and towns. At the same time, improvements in farm equipment and the mechanization of farming meant that less labour was required on a farm (Sampson 2012). This encouraged out-migration from rural areas to the burgeoning cities of Ontario (Drummond 1987: 30). While the population decreased in North Dumfries Township, the amount of improved land in the township increased from 33,119 acres in 1871 to 34,639 acres in 1881 (Census of Canada 1871 and Census of Canada 1881). The Census of 1881 recorded 28,767 acres of land under crops, 5,027 acres of pasture, and 845 acres of orchards. Wheat remained an important crop, accounting for 7,245 acres of land (Census of Canada 1881).

The increasing urbanization of Ontario during the end of the 19th century is reflected in North Dumfries Township by the community of Galt. By the end of the 19th century Galt had developed into a significant manufacturing centre, with mills and factories powered by the Grand River (Francis 2009). Between 1871 and 1891 the population of Galt increased from 3,827 to 7,535 (Dominion Bureau of Statistics 1953). Another significant community in North Dumfries Township was Ayr, which contained a foundry and various mills (Waterloo Region Museum 2021).



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2.3.3 20th Century Development

Between 1901 and 1911 the population of North Dumfries Township further declined from 2,164 to 2,095 (Dominion Bureau of Statistics 1953). The Census of 1911 recorded a total of 35,002 acres of improved land within the township. Crops grown in the township included wheat, barley, oat, rye, corn, buckwheat, hay, potatoes, and turnips (Census of Canada 1911). In 1915, Galt was incorporated as a City but had already declined in importance in Waterloo County relative to Kitchener (Francis 2009).

After 1921, the population of North Dumfries Township began to grow once again. Between 1921 and 1941 the population increased from 2,146 to 2,996. During that same period the population of Galt increased from 13,216 to 15,346 and the population of Ayr decreased from 777 to 761 (Dominion Bureau of Statistics 1953). The Census of 1931 shows that agriculture continued to be the dominant economic activity within the township. A total of 31,413 acres of land was considered improved and included 22,460 acres under crops, 6,364 acres of pasture, and 1,817 fallow acres (Census of Canada 1931).

Like much of North America, the Township of North Dumfries experienced rapid population growth after the Second World War and the population of the township was recorded as 4,178 in 1951 (Dominion Bureau of Statistics 1953). The construction of Highway 401 through Waterloo County in 1960 and the increasing suburban sprawl in Waterloo, Kitchener, and Galt drove efforts to develop a coordinated system of planning for Waterloo County. A Regional Government for the county was proposed as a way to consolidate services, save taxpayers money, and promote government efficiency (Hayes 1997: 207-208).

However, the Township of North Dumfries remained largely agricultural. Rural township residents feared a Regional Government would be dominated by urban interests (Hayes 1997: 207-208). The Reeve of North Dumfries, Floyd Becker, stated “I don’t think there is anybody that can look after the rural people like the rural people” (Hayes 1997: 209). Despite these concerns, a two-tiered plan for a new Region of Waterloo was unveiled in 1971. The bill received assent from the Legislature in June 1972 and the Township of North Dumfries joined the newly created Region of Waterloo on January 1, 1973 (Hayes 1997: 215-216). The population of North Dumfries Township was recorded as 4,967 in 1981 (Statistics Canada 1982).

The Township of North Dumfries continues to contain a large agricultural sector into the present-day and much of the township remains rural. The Township benefits from its location along the railway line, the Highway 401 corridor, and proximity to Kitchener and Cambridge. As a result, North Dumfries also contains modern residential subdivisions and industrial areas and has continued to grow in population during the late 20th and early 21st centuries (Township of North Dumfries 2017b). The population of North Dumfries Township was recorded as 10,215 in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2021).



2.4 Property History

Lot 29, Concession 10 of the Township of North Dumfries was divided into two 100 acre lots. In 1855 the south half was sold via bargain and sale by William Dickson Junior to John Johnston. The north half, containing the Study Area, was sold via bargain and sale by William Dickson Junior to John Kerr in 1856 (ONLand 2022). However, it is possible that John Kerr settled on the north half of Lot 29, Concession 10 prior to receiving formal title as John Kerr arrived in Upper Canada in 1831 along with several families who settled in Dumfries (Young 1880: 60). Dickson was also known to allow his settlers to open an account to pay for their land by installments of money or agricultural product (Reville 1920: 268). The earliest census to list John Kerr in Dumfries is the Census of 1851. He was listed as a 57-year-old farmer born in Scotland. He lived with his wife Elisabeth, age 57; Thomas, age 23; Margaret, age 20; Jesse, age 25; and John, age 4. The family also included William Kerr, a 31-year-old shoemaker who lived in Waterloo (Library and Archives Canada 1851). The Census of 1861 lists John Kerr as a 65-year-old farmer. He lived with Jessie Kerr, age 38; John Kerr, age 12; Thomas Kerr, age 33; and Margaret Kerr, age 28. Margaret was listed as the wife of Thomas Kerr and Elisabeth Kerr had died in 1859 (Library and Archives Canada 1861 and Waterloo Region Generations 2023).

The Census of 1861 noted that the Kerr family lived in a one storey stone house (Library and Archives Canada 1861). While the residence on the property was a one and one half storey structure it does not appear the census enumerator marked half storeys and the front façade appears to be one storey. Therefore, this description likely matches the former residence at 2509 Cedar Creek Road. Therefore, the residence at 2509 Cedar Creek Road was possibly built between 1831 and 1861. However, a construction date of the residence sometime in the 1840s and 1850s is most likely. Most settlers to Upper Canada originally resided in log houses and built a more substantial dwelling once they were established on a lot. In addition, Kerr did not take formal ownership of the lot until 1856 and likely would have waited to invest in building a more substantial dwelling until his title to the property was secured.

Historical mapping from 1861 lists Thomas Kerr as the occupant of the north half of Lot 29, Concession 10 (Figure 3). John Kerr died in 1874 and is buried at Cedar Creek Cemetery in North Dumfries Township (Region of Waterloo Generations 2022). Based on land registry records the property was inherited by Thomas Kerr (ONLand 2022). The Census of 1881 lists Thomas Kerr as a 50-year-old farmer who was born in Scotland. He lived with his wife Margaret, age 38; servant Jessie Henderson, age 20; and farm laborer Peter Don, age 19 (Census of Canada 1881). In 1889, Thomas Kerr sold the entire 100 acres of the north half of Lot 29 to James McDonald (ONLand 2022).

The Census of 1891 listed James McDonald as a 41-year-old farmer born in Ontario. He lived with his wife Elizabeth, age 41; Alice, age 9; George, age 6; and Myrtle, age 1 (Library and Archives Canada 1891). Based on land registry records James McDonald



Documentation and Commemoration Report—2509 Cedar Creek Road, Township of North Dumfries

2 Background Research

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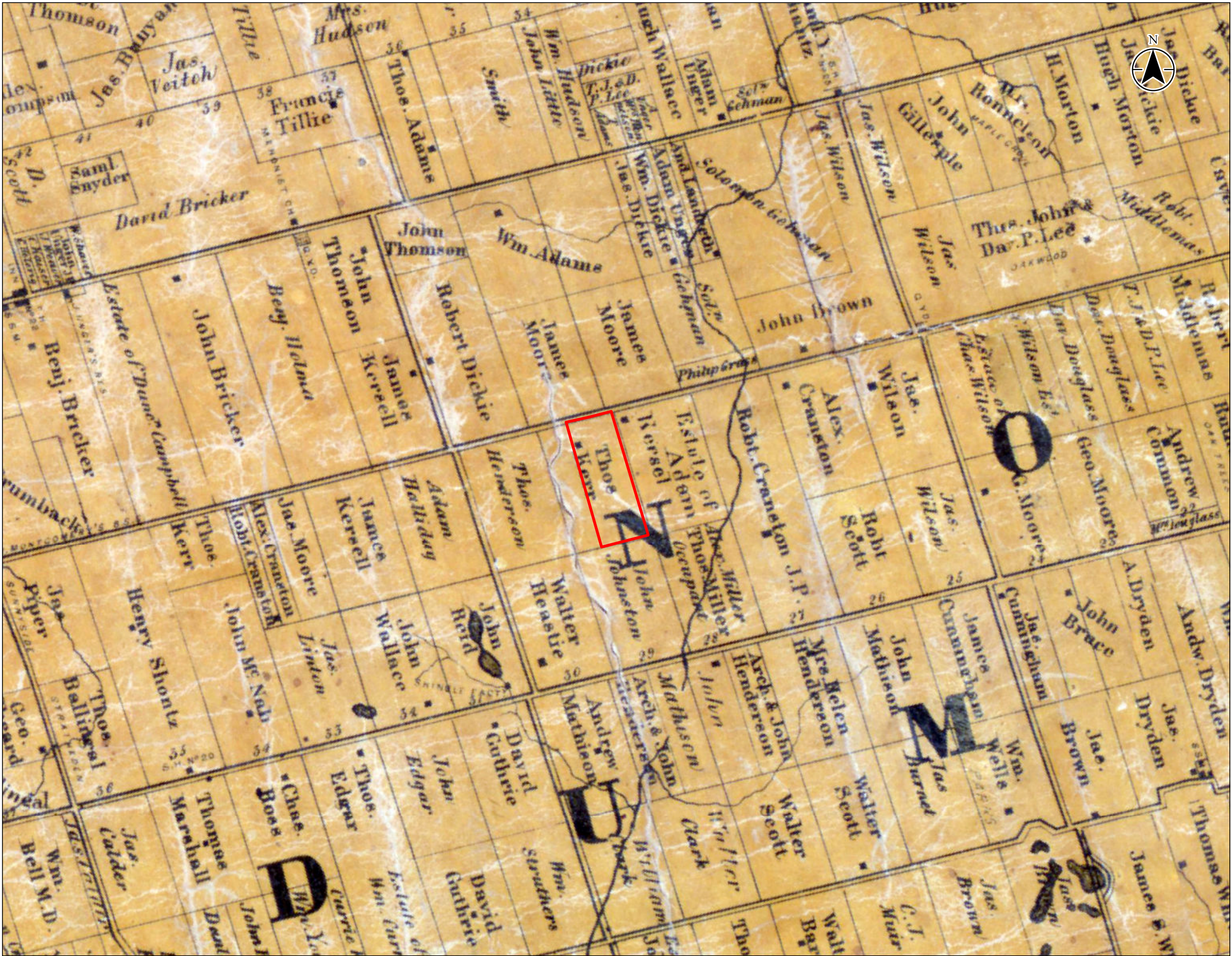
died in about 1915. Topographic mapping from 1916 depicts a stone or brick structure at the approximate location of the former residence at 2509 Cedar Creek Road and shows that the surrounding area was predominantly rural (Figure 4). Elizabeth McDonald continued to live on the property until 1925 when it was sold to Charles Bogg. Topographic mapping from 1936 continues depicts a structure at the approximate location of the former residence at 2509 Cedar Creek and a rural landscape (Figure 5). Bogg owned the entire north half of the lot until 1945 when it was sold to the Veterans Land Act (ONLand 2022).

The *Veterans Land Act* was passed during the Second World War to settle veterans on farms. These farms would serve to supplement the income of veterans (Harris and Shulist 2001). In 1962, the Veterans Land Act granted the north half of the lot to Andrew Thompson (ONLand 2022). Topographic mapping from 1975 shows a residence and two outbuildings present on the property and shows that the entirety of Lot 29, Concession 10 remained rural (Figure 6). This outbuilding corresponds to the location of the barn ruins on the property and was likely built in the mid to late 19th century. Industrial development to the west of the Study Area began after 1986 when Plan 67R-2572 was registered and the estate of Andrew Thompson sold the property to Boida Holdings, Inc. (ONLand 2022). According to the occupant of 2509 Cedar Creek Road at the time of the site visit, the barn on the property was demolished in 2001. The residence was demolished in 2023.

2.4.1 Summary of Key Findings

- The Study Area is located on the north half of Lot 29, Concession 10 in the Township of North Dumfries.
- The Study Area was sold by William Dickson Junior to John Kerr in 1856. However, it is possible Kerr settled on the lot as early as 1831.
- The residence at 2509 Cedar Creek Road was likely built in the 1840s or 1850s, although it may have been built as early as 1831.
- In 1889, Thomas Kerr, the son of John Kerr, sold the north half of Lot 29, Concession 10, including the Study Area, to James McDonald.
- In 1925, James's wife Elizabeth sold the property to Charles Bogg.
- In 1945, Bogg sold the property to the *Veterans Land Act*, a government program which assisted the settlement of veterans.

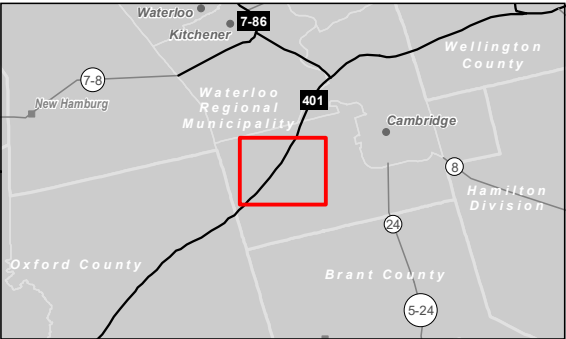




Legend
Study Area

NOT TO SCALE

Notes
1. Source:Tremaine, George R. 1861. Tremaine's Map of the County of Waterloo, Canada West. Toronto: George R. & G.M. Tremaine.



Project Location 161414214 REVA
Township of North Dumfries, Prepared by BCC on 2024-02-01

Client/Project
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CEDAR CREEK ROAD, NORTH DUMFRIES, ONTARIO

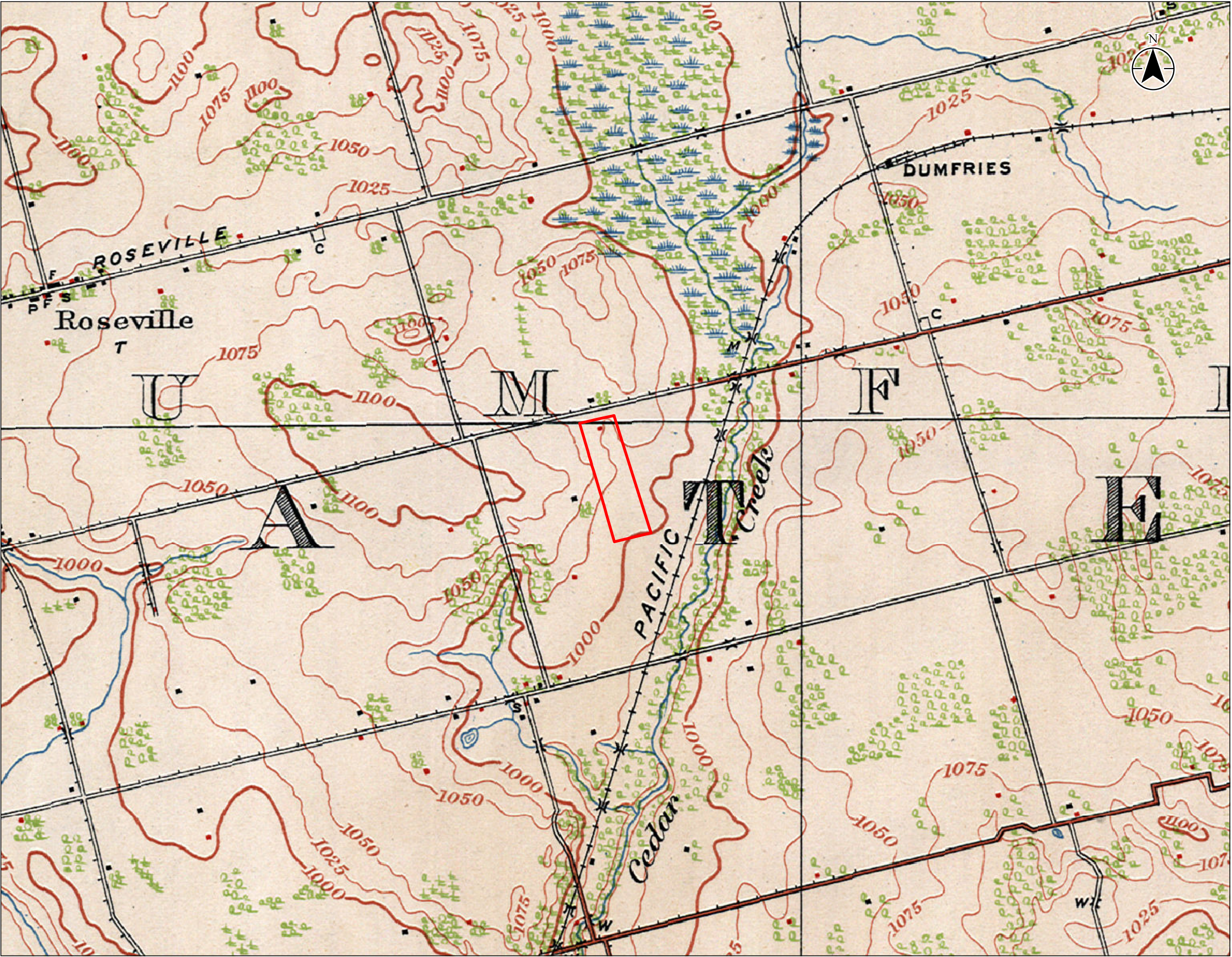
Figure No.

3

Title

Historical Mapping, 1861

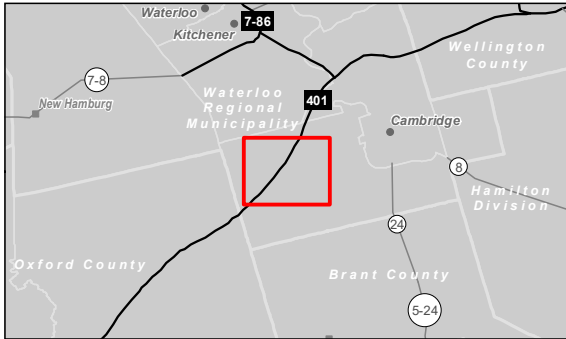
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Legend
 Study Area

NOT TO SCALE

Notes
1. Source: Department of Militia and Defence, 1916. Topographic Map, Ontario, Galt Sheet



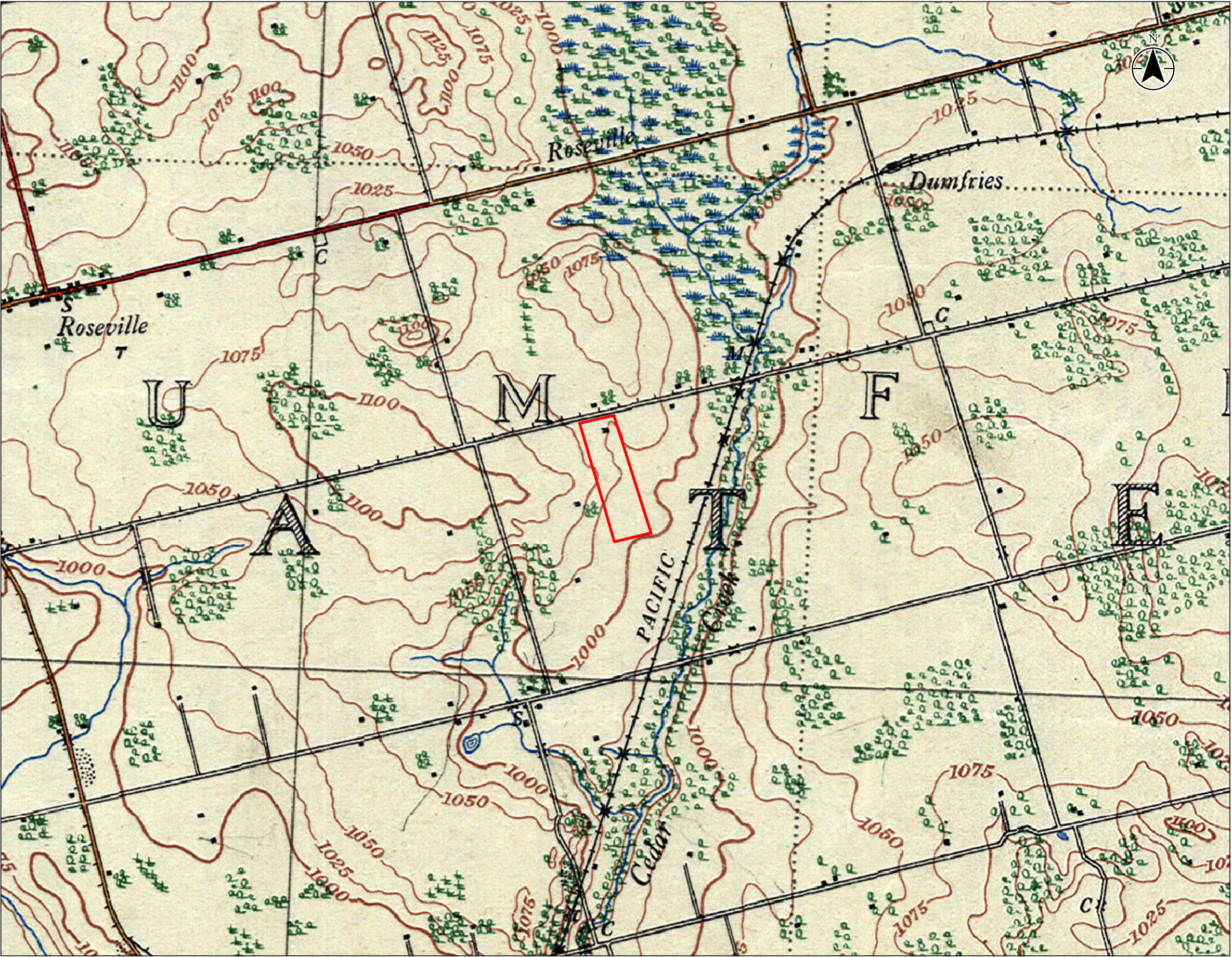
Project Location
Township of
North Dumfries,
161414214 REVA
Prepared by BCC on 2024-02-01


Client/Project
CEDAR CREEK ROAD HOLDINGS INC.
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CEDAR CREEK ROAD, NORTH DUMFRIES, ONTARIO

Figure No.
4

Title
Topographic Mapping, 1916

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Stantec

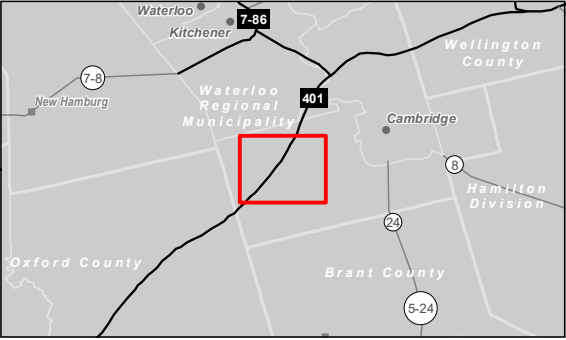
Legend

Study Area

NOT TO SCALE

Notes

1. Source: Department of National Defence. 1936. Galt, Ontario.



Project Location

Township of
North Dumfries,

161414214 REVA

Prepared by BCC on 2024-02-01

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DOCUMENTATION AND COMMEMORATION REPORT—2509
CEDAR CREEK ROAD, NORTH DUMFRIES, ONTARIO

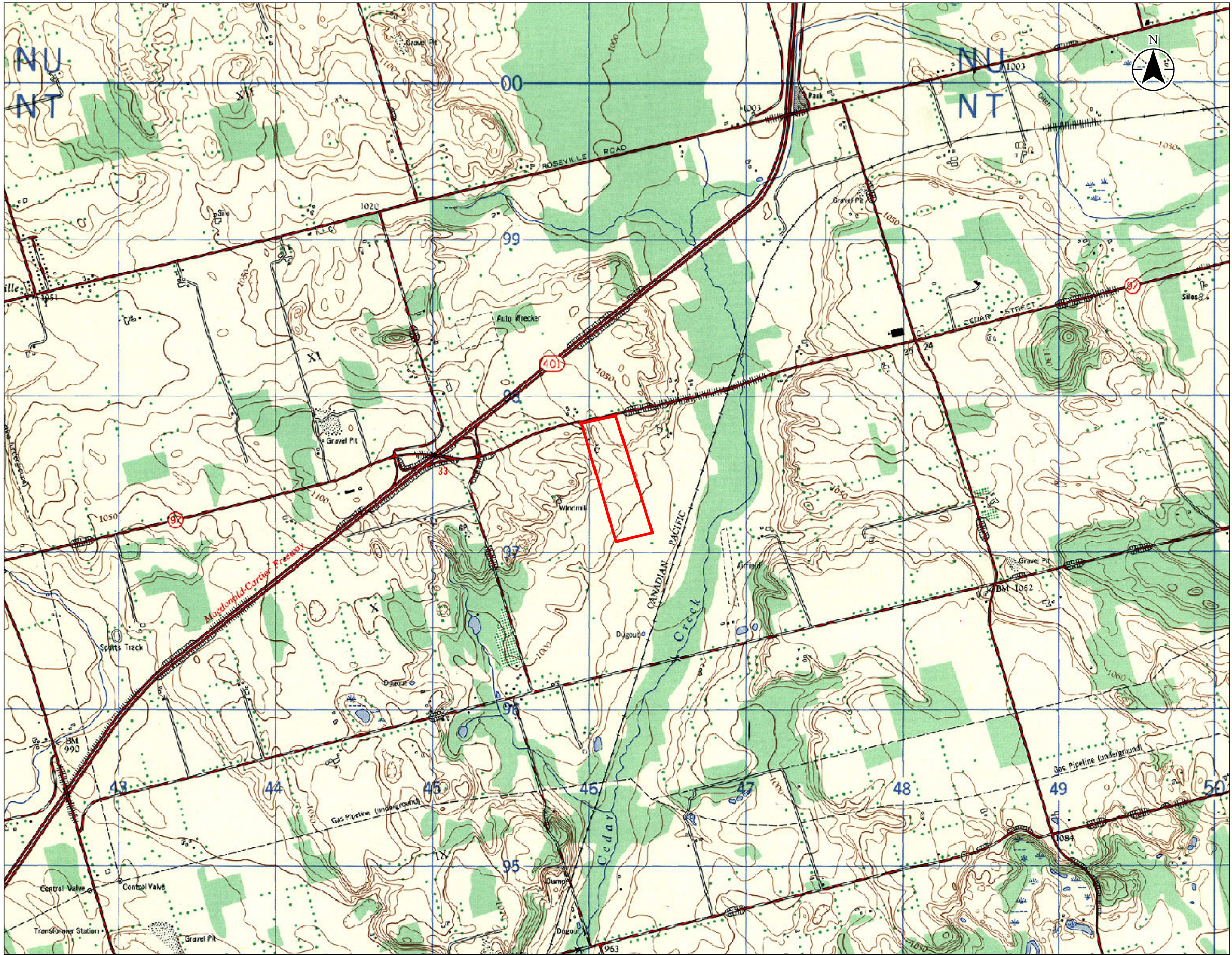
Figure No.

5

Title

Topographic Mapping, 1936

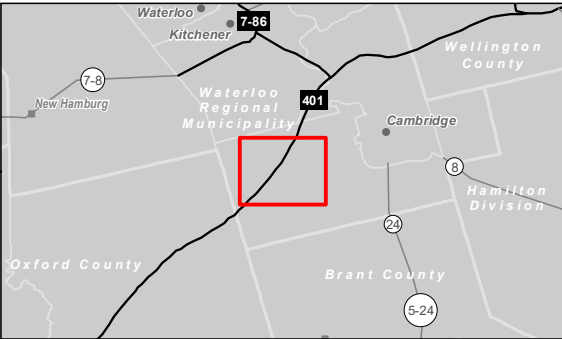
\\ca0215-p01001\work_group\01609 Active\other\oc\1609_GS\161414214\03_data\gls_cad\gls.mxd\topographic\report_figures\20240208_CH161414214_CH161414214_CH161414214.mxd - Revised: 2024-02-01 By: bccwgent



Legend
 Study Area

NOT TO SCALE

Notes
1. Source: Department of Energy, Mines and Resources. 1975. Ayr, Ontario, Ottawa: Map Distribution Office.



Project Location
Township of
North Dumfries, 161414214 REVA
Prepared by BCC on 2024-02-01

Client/Project
CEDAR CREEK ROAD HOLDINGS INC.
DOCUMENTATION AND COMMEMORATION REPORT—2509
CEDAR CREEK ROAD, NORTH DUMFRIES, ONTARIO

Figure No.
6
Title
Topographic Mapping, 1975

3 Documentation

3.1 Introduction

As outlined in Section 1, a site visit was undertaken on April 14, 2022, by Frank Smith, Cultural Heritage Specialist with Stantec. The weather conditions were overcast and cool. The site visit consisted of a pedestrian survey of the property. Interior access was granted to the first and second storey of the residence. Photographs were taken on a Nikon D5300 at a resolution of 300 dots per inch and 6000 by 4000 pixels. At the time of the site visit, the property consisted of a residence, outbuilding, ruins, and agricultural fields. As of December 2023, only the ruins and agricultural fields remain.

3.2 Landscape Setting

The Study Area is located on the south side of Cedar Creek Road (Regional Road 97), approximately 148 metres east of the intersection of Earl Thompson Road and Cedar Creek Road. Cedar Creek Road is a two-lane roadway paved with asphalt. The roadway contains dedicated turning lanes, asphalt shoulders, and sections of guiderails. Both sides of the roadway near the Study Area contain drainage ditches. A line of timber utility poles runs along the south side of the roadway. The roadway contains municipal streetlighting at intersections and does not contain sidewalks or curbs.

The character of the area is commercial, industrial, and agricultural. Land west of the Study Area is predominantly commercial and industrial while land to the east is predominantly agricultural (Plate 2 and Plate 3). This part of Cedar Creek Road is frequently used by tractor trailers and commercial vehicles. Many of the commercial properties to the north of the Study Area support trucking operations (Plate 4).

The property at 2509 Cedar Creek Road is accessed by an asphalt driveway connected to Cedar Creek Road. The terrain east of the driveway slopes down towards the adjacent agricultural field and is lined with a lawn and deciduous vegetation in various stages of ecological succession (Plate 5). To the west of the driveway is a woodlot with heavy underbrush and a mix of deciduous trees, Scotch pine, and eastern white pine (Plate 6). After approximately 55 metres south of Cedar Creek Road, the driveway forks east and west (Plate 7). The west driveway slopes upward towards the former location of the residence and is bordered on the west by a stone retaining wall (Plate 8). The east driveway heads towards the former outbuilding and existing ruins. Just south of the outbuilding the two driveways merge and end at a lawn (Plate 9).

The area around the two driveways and residence are landscaped with a lawn and deciduous trees (Plate 10). The backyard near the residence is screened from the industrial properties on Earl Thompson Road by mature cedar trees (Plate 11). The west border of the property contains remnants of a post and wire fence and possible



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stone wall (Plate 12). A significant portion of the property consists of an agricultural field with rolling topography. This agricultural field is located south and east of the residence, outbuilding, and ruins (Plate 13).



Plate 2: Looking west on Cedar Creek Road



Plate 3: Looking east on Cedar Creek Road



Plate 4: Commercial properties north of the Study Area



Plate 5: Looking south down driveway



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Plate 6: Woodlot, looking west



Plate 7: Driveway fork, looking south



**Plate 8: Stone retaining wall, looking
south**



**Plate 9: Driveway merge, looking
south**



**Plate 10: Looking north at lawn and
ornamental trees**



Plate 11: Looking north at cedar hedge



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Plate 12: Looking southwest at fence and possible wall ruins



Plate 13: Looking east at agricultural field

3.3 Residence

3.3.1 Exterior

The residence at 2509 Cedar Creek Road was a one- and one-half storey structure with a medium-pitched side gable roof with bookend brick chimneys. At the time of the site visit, the roof cladding was obscured by a tarp. The residence consisted of a principal section and smaller south section. The exterior and foundation of the residence was field stone (Plate 14).

The front (east) façade was symmetrical in composition (Plate 15). The field stone exterior of the front façade used mortar and parging to create a decorative pattern in the stonework. This resulted in the front façade containing an appearance which resembled a rusticated or ashlar stone exterior. However, many of these stones appeared have been parged over to give a squared appearance (Plate 16).

The main entrance to the residence was classically inspired and contained a portico with six wood columns, a wood pediment, and a modern concrete stoop. The entrance door was modern and contained a frontispiece with two wood columns, two three pane wood sash window sidelights, and a four pane wood sash transom (Plate 17). The entrance was flanked by two 6/6 wood sash windows with stone lintels and stone sills (Plate 18). The front façade also contained two basement windows, one of which was obscured by boarding. The visible basement window was a five pane wood sash window with stone lintel (Plate 19) The east façade of the one storey section contained a partial width porch and 6/6 wood sash window with stone lintel and stone sill. To the north of the window, was an entrance with both a wood door and wood screen door (Plate 20).



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The north façade continued the mortar and parging decorative stonework of the front façade at the northeast corner of the first storey. The entire second storey and part of the first storey of the north façade contained rubble style masonry (Plate 21). Part of the original exterior of the first storey was missing and had been replaced by a poured concrete wall (Plate 22). The second storey contained a glass and wood door that may have led to a former balcony. The doorway contained a stone lintel. West of the doorway was a 6/6 wood sash window with stone lintel (Plate 23). The first storey contained a wood and glass entrance door and screen door which exited to a concrete patio (Plate 24).

The west façade had rubble style stone masonry and contained three 6/6 wood sash windows with stone lintel and stone sills (Plate 25). The west façade also contained three basement window openings with stone lintels. One basement window opening had been blocked with concrete, one basement window opening had been boarded, and the other contained a five pane wood sash window. The one storey section of the west façade contained two window openings with stone lintels. The northern most window had been filled with stone and the southern window had been boarded (Plate 26).

The south façade mostly contained a rubble style masonry exterior. However, the southeast corner had a small section of decorative patterned stonework near the partial width porch on the one storey section of the east façade. The second storey contained two 6/6 wood sash windows with stone lintels and stone sills (Plate 27). The south façade of the one storey section had been converted into a garage and contained part of a boarded window opening with a stone lintel (Plate 28).



Plate 14: General view of the former residence, looking southwest



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Plate 15: Front façade, looking west



**Plate 16: Stone exterior of front
façade, looking west**



**Plate 17: Classically inspired portico
and frontispiece, looking
west**



Plate 18: Window details, looking west

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Plate 19: Basement window, looking west



Plate 20: East façade of one storey section, looking west



Plate 21: North façade stone and concrete, looking south



Plate 22: Concrete replacement wall, looking south



Plate 23: Second storey window and door, looking south



Plate 24: Door exiting to patio, looking south



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Plate 25: West façade, looking east



Plate 26: West façade, one storey section looking east



Plate 27: South façade, looking north



Plate 28: Garage conversion, looking north

3.3.2 Interior

The first storey of the residence contained a centre hall plan. A wood staircase with wood banister, posts, and newel post was located on the north side of the main hallway. The hallway had laminate flooring and wood floor trim, window trim, and door trim (Plate 29). The hallway led west to a bathroom, north to the kitchen, and south to a living room and den. The kitchen contained modern cabinetry and flooring (Plate 30). The living room contained wide plank wood flooring which had been painted (Plate 31). The living room and den also contained wood floor trim, wood window trim, and door trim (Plate 32).

The second storey contained four bedrooms connected by a hallway which led to two closets (Plate 33 and Plate 34). The bedrooms and hallway contained hardwood floors, wood floor trim, window trim, and door trim (Plate 35 and Plate 36).



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**Plate 29: Centre hall, showing
staircase looking west**



Plate 30: Kitchen, looking north

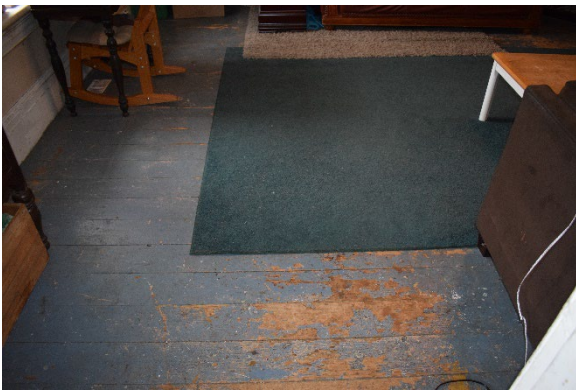


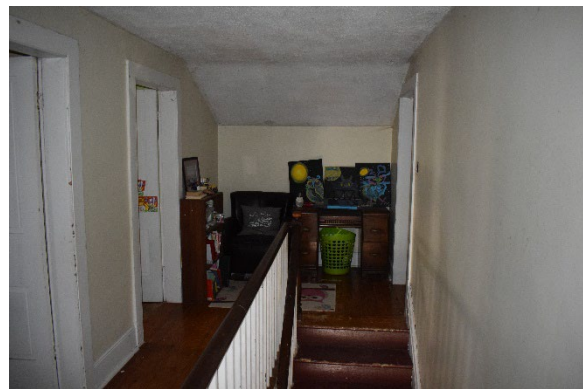
Plate 31: Wood flooring, looking south



**Plate 32: Living room, looking west
towards den**



**Plate 33: Looking east in second floor
hallway**



**Plate 34: Looking west in second floor
hallway**



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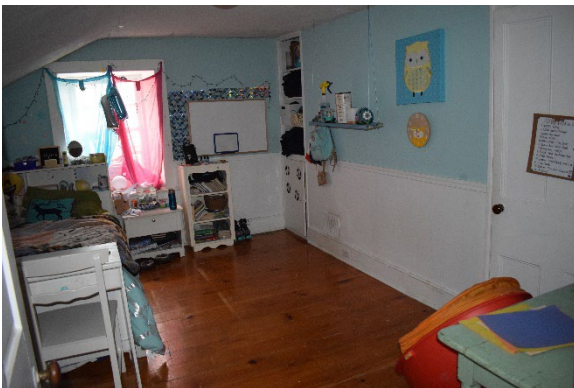


Plate 35: Representative bedroom photo, looking south



Plate 36: Representative bedroom photo, looking north

3.4 Outbuilding and Ruins

The property contained a rectangular shaped outbuilding located about 47 metres southeast of the residence. The outbuilding was a front facing gable roof structure with a medium-pitched roof clad in metal. The outbuilding was clad in modern siding and contained a sliding barn door on the north façade (Plate 37). The outbuilding contained a stone foundation, although some sections of the foundation were replaced with concrete (Plate 38).

The ruins of a barn, outbuilding, and silo were located on the property to the south of the former residence and remain *in situ* at the time of writing. The outbuilding ruins consisted of sections of stone wall forming a square. The footprint of this ruin was significantly smaller than a typical barn (Plate 39). The barn ruins were located west of the outbuilding ruins and consisted of the stone and concrete foundation of a barn and sections of concrete floor. According to the occupant of 2509 Cedar Creek Road at the time of the site visit, the barn was partially demolished in 2001 (Plate 40 and Plate 41). The east side of the barn ruins contain concrete debris which are part of the ruins of a concrete silo (Plate 42).



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**Plate 37: Front (north) façade of
outbuilding, looking south**



**Plate 38: Foundation sections, looking
west**



**Plate 39: Outbuilding ruins, looking
east**



Plate 40: Barn ruins, looking north



**Plate 41: Barn ruins, looking
southwest**



Plate 42: Silo ruins, looking southwest



4 Architectural Style

The former residence at 2509 Cedar Creek Road was a field stone structure built between about 1840 and 1861. The residence was an Ontario vernacular structure which incorporated Georgian and Neoclassical design influences. The Georgian style was popular in Ontario between 1784-1860. Georgian design elements of the residence included the square plan, side gable roof, and symmetrical front façade (Blumenson 1990: 5-6).

The Neoclassical design style was popular in Ontario between 1800-1860. The Neoclassical design element of the residence was the classically inspired portico. In Upper Canada during the mid-19th century, Ontario vernacular structures often paired the symmetry and balance of the Georgian style with a Neoclassical embellishment such as a porch or portico (Blumenson 1990: 13-14).

The vernacular design is expressed through the field stone construction of the residence, a readily available local building material in the Township of North Dumfries. The arrangement of field stones and use of parging and mortar gave the residence a patterned, more uniform, and ashlar stone-like appearance. The alternation between small and large fieldstones displayed skill in arrangement and execution. This type of masonry work was likely labour intensive and required a greater than normal effort compared to typical field stone construction. After the 1860s, Georgian and Neoclassical residences fell out of favour as the Italianate and Gothic Revival styles became more popular.

5 Commemoration Discussion

5.1 Introduction

In general, commemoration options commonly explored when a heritage resource is removed include salvage, on-site commemoration, and documentation. Salvage involves the select salvage of materials from a heritage resource before its removal and finding new uses for them albeit in a different context. On-site commemoration typically includes the erection of a plaque, memorial, or signage that interprets the significance of a heritage resources. Often, on-site commemoration includes the incorporation of select salvaged materials. Documentation commonly includes compiling a general description of the site and its history into a report that can be used by future researchers and the public. The relevance of these options for 2509 Cedar Creek Road is explored below.

5.2 Salvage

In the case of 2509 Cedar Creek Road, the potential heritage value of the property was related to the residence and its inclusion on the township's heritage register. As of December 2023, all materials related to the residence are no longer present on the property. Therefore, there is no material from the house to salvage.

This report acknowledges that the ruins presently remain on the property. These ruins include stone foundations that likely share an origin similar to the stone exterior of the residence. Despite the similarities between these materials, the potential heritage value of the property was related to the residence not the ruins. If salvage of the stone ruins was to occur *in lieu* of salvage of the residence it would be necessary to interpret this salvaged material in a way that makes it clear the stones are not from the former residence. A change of land use for the property is proposed that results in the subdivision of the property into seven industrial lots and a stormwater management block. Therefore, it is unlikely this location would be conducive to the display of salvaged materials and the interpretation required to convey the significance of the stones and their relation to the former residence.

5.3 On-Site Commemoration

As discussed in Section 5.2, on-site commemoration is not a preferred option due to the proposed change of land use. An industrial subdivision is unlikely to have the public foot traffic preferred for on-site commemoration. This type of commemoration is more appropriate for parks, residential developments, and commercial spaces with frequent pedestrian traffic and available public space.



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5 Commemoration Discussion

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5.4 Documentation

Documentation provides a public record of a property prior to the alteration or removal of a heritage resource. This documentation is deposited with appropriate historical institutions, archives, and museums to provide a record of a heritage resource available to the public and future researchers. Based on discussion in Section 5.2 and 5.3, documentation is an appropriate commemorative strategy for the former residence at 2509 Cedar Creek Road.



6 Recommendations

An appropriate commemoration strategy for 2509 Cedar Creek Road is to deposit copies of this report to create a record of the property prior to its alteration. This will create a public record of 2509 Cedar Creek Road that will be accessible to the public and future researchers. It is recommended that this report and accompanying flash drive be deposited at the following locations:

Region of Waterloo Archives
150 Frederick Street
Kitchener, Ontario N2G 4J3

Township of North Dumfries Heritage Advisory Committee
2958 Greenfield Road
Ayr, Ontario N0B 1E0



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Appendix A Photography Log

Date of Photography: April 14, 2022

Type of Camera: Nikon D5300

Total Size of Photos: 378 megabytes

Photo Folder	Photo Number	Description	Direction
A	1	Centre hall and staircase to upper storey	West (W)
A	2	Kitchen	North (N)
A	3	Representative window sash details	East (E)
A	4	Secondary entrance located in kitchen	N
A	5	Living room, located south of centre hall	South (S)
A	6	Sidelights and transom from interior	E
A	7	Hardwood flooring in living room	S
A	8	Living room, looking towards den	W
A	9	Bathroom	N
A	10	Staircase banister, railing, and newel post	N
A	11	Second floor westerly north bedroom	S
A	12	Second floor hallway	E
A	13	Second floor westerly south bedroom	S
A	14	Second floor master bedroom	S
A	15	Second floor easterly north bedroom	N
A	16	Second floor hallway	W
A	17	Staircase banister, railing, and newel post	S
B	1	Cedar Creek Road viewed from property's driveway	W
B	2	Cedar Creek Road viewed from property's driveway	E
B	3	Travel plaza located east of Study Area	N
B	4	Asphalt driveway leading to residence and outbuildings	S



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Appendix A Photography Log

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Photo Folder	Photo Number	Description	Direction
B	5	Woodlot on property just south of Cedar Creek Road	W
B	6	General view of residence	SW
B	7	Front façade of principal section of residence	W
B	8	Front façade of south section of residence	W
B	9	Staircase and retaining wall	W
B	10	Partial-width porch with pediment and wood porch supports	W
B	11	Main entrance with classically inspired frontispiece, sidelights, and transom	W
B	12	Representative photo of 6/6 wood sash window on front façade	W
B	13	Representative photo of wood sash basement window on front façade	W
B	14	Stone exterior details on front façade	W
B	15	North façade of residence	S
B	16	Upper storey of north façade of residence	S
B	17	First storey of north façade of residence, showing replacement exterior materials	S
B	18	West façade of principal section of residence	E
B	19	Representative photo of 6/6 wood sash window on west façade	E
B	20	Boarded basement window opening on west façade	E
B	21	Infilled basement window opening on west façade	E
B	22	Wood sash basement window on west façade	E
B	23	West façade of south section of residence	e
B	24	Agricultural fields adjacent to residence	E
B	25	South façade of south section of residence	N
B	26	South façade of principal section of residence	N
B	27	Outbuilding, west façade	E
B	28	Outbuilding, south façade	N



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Appendix A Photography Log

February 2024

Photo Folder	Photo Number	Description	Direction
B	29	Outbuilding, east façade	W
B	30	Outbuilding, stone foundation section	W
B	31	Outbuilding, north façade	S
B	32	Outbuilding ruins	E
B	33	Silo ruins	S
B	34	Barn ruins, concrete block section	S
B	35	Barn ruins, stone and concrete block sections	S
B	36	Barn ruins, former entrance	N
B	37	Stone wall or rubble pile near west property boundary	W
B	38	Lawn between ruins and residence	N
B	39	Barn ruins, viewed from interior	NW
B	40	Barn ruins, viewed from interior	N

