

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

FROM: Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: August 20, 2024

SUBJECT: CA140: Beechville and area Community Boundary Project Supplementary Report

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

ORIGIN

July 16, 2019, Halifax Regional Council motion (Item No.15.7.2):
MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Cleary
THAT Halifax Regional Council request a staff report to consider modifications to the community boundaries of Beechville.
MOTION PUT AND PASSED

And subsequently:

On September 29, 2020, Regional Council passed the following motion (Item 11. 1. 6.):
MOVED by Councillor Zurawski, seconded by Councillor Blackburn
THAT Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to continue with the Beechville Planning Strategy Review and undertake a Beechville Community Benefit Action Plan, that includes at a minimum, the following actions:

- 1. Ensure the matters identified by the Beechville Community Development Association, as outlined in Attachment F of the September 8, 2020, staff report, are investigated, and resolved wherever possible, through the Beechville Planning Strategy Review or through a Beechville Community Benefit Action Plan;*
- 2. As part of the Beechville Planning Strategy Review, ensure the actions outlined in Attachment I of the September 8, 2020, are undertaken;*
- 3. As part of a Beechville Community Benefit Action Plan, ensure the actions outlined in Attachment J of the September 8, 2020, are undertaken;*
- 4. Implement a revised public participation program for the Beechville Planning Strategy Review, as outlined in Attachment H; and*
- 5. Take no further action in relation to Armco's request for site-specific Municipal Planning Strategy amendments.*

Within this motion, action item 3 refers to the Beechville Community Benefit Action Plan, whereby one of the primary action items, in consistency with direction from the July 16, 2019, motion is to complete the Beechville Community boundary review process.

And subsequently:

June 20, 2023, Halifax Regional Council motion (Item No. 10.1):

MOVED by Councillor Stoddard, seconded by Councillor Morse

THAT Halifax Regional Council amend the community boundaries of:

1. *Beechville, as per Map 1 of the staff report dated May 3, 2023, and authorize staff to install and relocate community signs as identified on Map 2 of the staff report dated May 3, 2023;*
2. *Lakeside, as per Map 1 of the staff report dated May 3, 2023, and authorize staff to install and relocate community signs as identified on Map 2 of the staff report dated May 3, 2023;*
3. *Halifax, as per Map 1 of the staff report dated May 3, 2023, and authorize staff to relocate the community signs as identified on Map 2 of the staff report dated May 3, 2023; and*
4. *Goodwood, as per Map 1 of the staff report dated May 3, 2023, and authorize staff to relocate the community sign as identified on Map 2 of the staff report dated May 3, 2023.*
5. *That Halifax Regional Council defer the installation of signage for the southern border of the Beechville Community pending receipt of a supplemental staff report that considers modifications to the Beechville/Goodwood boundary at Prospect Road including additional community consultation with Beechville and Goodwood.*

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The objective of this report is to present supplemental information to Regional Council relating to the southern Beechville boundary at Prospect Road. This follows the June 20, 2023, approval of a boundary modification for the community of Beechville, and the deferral of signage installations at the community's southern boundary pending additional community consultation with Beechville and Goodwood.

Staff are recommending that the Beechville community boundary remain in the location approved by Regional Council on June 20, 2023, and that Regional Council direct staff to complete the deferred community signage installations at the Beechville/Goodwood community boundary.

This recommendation is informed by Regional Council's endorsement of the African Nova Scotian Road to Economic Prosperity Action Plan (REPP) and the Beechville Community Benefit Action Plan. Action 16 of the REPP calls for the Municipality to "Review the naming, boundaries, and zoning of historic ANS communities, and zoning affecting ANS communities" with an outcome of "Recognition and reestablishment of historic ANS community boundaries and increase in land base/mass for ANS communities".

Consultation with the Goodwood community has been completed, providing an alternate perspective on the boundary location. A summary of this consultation can be found in Attachment 4. A historic review of the geographic area surrounding the boundary location has also been completed, which clarifies the historical settlement patterns of the communities of Goodwood and Beechville within the vicinity of the study area for this project.

There are risk considerations with the primary recommendation as well as with each alternative boundary; outlined in detail on page 7 of this report.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council authorize staff to install and relocate community signs at the Beechville/Goodwood boundary location approved on June 20, 2023, as identified in Map 1 of this report.

BACKGROUND

Initial Beechville Community Boundary Review Process

On November 28, 2017, Regional Council initiated a Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) amendment process to engage with the community of Beechville on a variety of planning issues. During the preliminary consultation with a Community Liaison Group (CLG), feedback was received from the community that the 2007 ratified boundaries did not accurately reflect the community of Beechville.

On July 16, 2019, Regional Council requested that staff prepare a report to consider modifications to the community boundary of Beechville. On September 29, 2020, Regional Council endorsed the Beechville Planning Strategy Review and Community Benefit Action Plan. This plan included direction to work with the Beechville Community Development Association (BCDA) on each of the actions noted within the plan including the Beechville community boundary review process.

Due to the history of expropriation, unclear land titles, and anti-black racism, Beechville identified revising community boundaries as a priority to better reflect their historical, cultural, and lived experience within the region.

Between 2020 and 2022, staff worked on community engagement and background research related to the boundary for the community of Beechville. Multiple consultation sessions were held with the BCDA.

Staff followed the standard community boundary verification consultation process which involved:

- Researching community boundaries;
- Consulting with interested groups and the local Councillors; and
- Consultation with property owners and residents

Pursuant to Section 13 of AO 29 *Respecting HRM Civic Addressing Policies*, communities affected by a major change in community boundaries shall be informed and consulted before, during and after the process. The consultation process focuses on obtaining feedback from those residents in the immediate area of the boundary who could be affected by a change to their community's boundary or could potentially experience a change of civic address.

Accordingly, the residents and property owners within the proposed Beechville community boundary as well as properties within an additional 50m buffer were consulted. In addition to obtaining feedback from residents in the immediate area of impact, staff provided an opportunity to engage on the boundary project to several community interest groups. These included Prospect Road Organization for a Better Environment (PROBE), Long Lake Provincial Park Association (LLPPA), Halifax Mainland Historical Society and the Western Common HRM Advisory Committee. Feedback from the LLPPA resulted in a modification to the boundary which was presented to Regional Council on June 20, 2023.

This approach follows a similar process which has been used for modifications to community boundaries in the past. Consistent with the civic addressing policy on redelineation, the modifications to the Goodwood portion of the boundary did not impact (no change to civic addressing) residents, with the exception of businesses located on Evergreen Place, which had been using the community's name of Goodwood as part of their civic address and mailing address, as described in detail on page 4 of this report. The larger

community was not engaged at that time. There were no major changes to the boundary of Goodwood, which had been established in the 2007 review, the major change being that the community of Goodwood no longer abuts Halifax but now abuts Beechville at the existing boundary line. The 2023 direction by Regional Council directed staff to expand the consultation methodology beyond the usual practice outlined in the AO 29 Respecting HRM Civic Addressing Policies.

Initial Southern Boundary Recommendation

The initial boundary review was a result of the consultation completed with the Beechville Community Development Association and the greater community of Beechville. This consultation occurred from 2018-2023, with Regional Council approving a motion for staff to review the Beechville community boundaries in 2019. The BCDA also formally identified reviewing their community boundaries as an action item in the Beechville Community Benefit Action Plan in 2020. A detailed overview of the consultation timeline is included within the [initial report](#). Community engagement informed the decision to include a portion of Prospect Road within the community boundary of Beechville.

As the Halifax community extended south along Prospect Road to meet the Goodwood community, based on community boundary standards staff recommended that any portion of Halifax should not be left isolated and inaccessible from the rest of Halifax. Isolating a part of Halifax between Beechville and Goodwood would not align with community boundary standards and could cause confusion for emergency responders. Since the Goodwood boundary was ratified in 2007 and revising it was beyond the scope of the Beechville boundary review, staff did not consider recommending an extension of Goodwood's boundary northward to incorporate the unconnected portion of Halifax. Instead, the proposed boundary for Beechville was adjusted southward to include the unconnected portion of Halifax and connect it to Goodwood.

The expansion of the Beechville community boundary included minor modifications to the community boundary of Lakeside. The majority of the expansion of the Beechville community boundary occurred within the community of Halifax. The modified portion of Halifax included a portion of Bayer's Lake Business Park, the St Margarets Bay Road, and a portion of Prospect Road. Map 6 illustrates the boundary locations at the time the initial Beechville and area Community Boundary Project report was presented to Regional Council.

As part of the community boundary modifications, the community boundary of Goodwood was expanded slightly north to include Evergreen Place, to align with Canada Post as being within the community of Goodwood. This was a minor adjustment to the boundary of Goodwood to align with the community's name being used by the property owners on Evergreen Place.

No other modifications to the community of Goodwood were recommended or implemented.

5,000 Acres Reference

Within the initial community boundary report and within a July 2022 letter distributed to residents as part of the initial public consultation, a reference was made to the granting of 5,000 acres of land near the North West Arm to Beech Hill refugees who had escaped slavery during the war of 1812. Concerns were brought forward by members of the public following the presentation of the initial boundary report dated June 20, 2023, questioning the accuracy of this claim.

Staff have undertaken additional research regarding this claim. Research to-date has concluded that that this reference to the land grant is incorrect. Although the 5000-acre grant claim was referenced in the letter and the report, staff have indicated that this reference did not inform the size of the initially proposed boundary:

- Prior to the community boundary update, Beechville was approximately 500 acres.
- The boundary approved by Regional Council in June 2023 is approximately 3500 acres.

Boundary Update Implementation

Regional Council approved the new community boundary of Beechville on June 20, 2023. The new community boundary was implemented on February 5, 2024. Civic addresses within the new boundary were updated accordingly within the new Beechville community boundary. Signage was installed or relocated in accordance with the new community boundary locations, with the exception of the southern Beechville community signage bordering the community of Goodwood.

In collaboration with Canada Post, mailing addresses were updated with the new Beechville community name for all properties impacted by the boundary update, with the exception of those for the businesses within Ragged Lake Industrial Park and those along Prospect Road. These mailing address updates were deferred pending review of the supplemental staff report. This action prevented the possibility of a significant mail inconvenience to businesses on these streets, in the event that the southern Beechville community boundary was to be modified following the outcome of this supplemental report.

DISCUSSION

The June 20, 2023, motion of Regional Council directed staff to investigate modification to the Beechville/Goodwood Boundary line on Prospect Road, including consultation with both communities. To achieve Council's request, staff engaged both Beechville and Goodwood communities, including local interest groups as well as conducting a historical archival review on the current Beechville southern boundary. Section "Community Engagement" of this report outlines the actions taken by staff and the results of the engagement process. This report will now present the existing and the proposed new boundary lines from the perspective of each community and from a solely historical perspective.

Beechville Community Engagement

Consistent with the Beechville Community Benefit Action Plan, which directs staff to work specifically with the Beechville Community Development Association on the community boundary review process, staff have honored the stance of the BCDA as expressed in a letter submitted to Regional Council dated December 12, 2023 (Attachment 1). The BCDA's position was that they did not wish to be re-consulted on the Beechville community boundary. The BCDA expressed that, by their view, sufficient engagement was completed prior to the presentation of the June 20, 2023, report, whereby the approved boundaries were a result of the community's input and consideration. Accordingly, the BCDA and greater community of Beechville were not re-consulted by mail and did not elect to participate in the Shape Your City survey (outlined below).

Staff met with the BCDA for one in-person meeting to discuss progress on the boundary project. At this meeting, the BCDA reiterated its stance on the community boundary process and outcome and expressed the significance of this boundary to the community of Beechville. The BCDA has also expressed that HRM caused harm to the Beechville community during this boundary hearing process.

In summary, the Beechville community has seen their community boundaries shrink due to unclear land titles, the annexation of the former Halifax County by the City of Halifax in 1969, and the construction of Highway 103. The provincial government and City of Halifax focused on large areas of Beechville for industrial development in the 1970s and 80s, which further decreased the size of the community. This history, along with extensive private development (Beechville Estates and Lovett Lake Estates) that further encroached on the historical African Nova Scotian community, made revisions to the Beechville community boundary a priority for the community.

When a motion was put forward to defer the installation of signage at the southern Beechville boundary pending supplemental staff report on June 20, 2023, representation was made that Beechville residents supported deferring the signage until engagement with Goodwood was completed. BCDA, in their written

correspondence to HRM, advised that they did not support deferring the signage until engagement was complete; the Association views the June 20 meeting as having abandoned the level of community engagement considered standard for community boundary reviews. Consequently, results of the motions have led to a strain in the working relationship between HRM and the community of Beechville. Additional context relating to the BCDA's position is located within Attachment 2.

Goodwood Community Engagement

In January 2024, a Shape Your City survey was launched to solicit feedback on the southern Beechville boundary from the community of Goodwood.

The majority of respondents were not in favor of the southern Beechville boundary at Prospect Road. When asked to describe an alternate boundary for staff's consideration, the majority opinion of respondents was that the Goodwood community boundary should be extended to the entrance to Prospect Road, at the intersection of St Margarets Bay Road.

In addition to receiving feedback from residents of Goodwood, HRM staff consulted with Prospect Road Organization for a Better Environment (PROBE) regarding this project. Staff corresponded with PROBE via email and held one in-person feedback session. PROBE's stance on the community boundary location aligned with the Shape Your City feedback, in that their stance is that the Goodwood boundary should extend to the entrance to Prospect Road, intersecting St Margarets Bay Road. A letter highlighting PROBE's position on this matter is included as Attachment 3.

The feedback from the community of Goodwood, as outlined in detail in Attachment 4, indicates strong support that the Goodwood community boundary should extend to the intersection of Prospect Road and St Margarets Bay Road. This change would involve the expansion of the Goodwood boundary northward. This option is presented as Alternative 1 and is depicted in Map 2.

Historical Review

A thorough review of the history of the lands in and around the southern Beechville/northern Goodwood boundary was conducted by HRM's Heritage Planning Researcher (see Attachments 5.1 and 5.2). The study area for this review was limited to the Beechville/Goodwood boundary at Prospect Road, extending approximately to St Margarets Bay Road.

The materials which were consulted in staff's research regarding the boundary included:

- Deeds and expropriation plans associated with properties in both Beechville and Goodwood
- Aerial surveys of the head of Prospect Road
- Biographical (birth, death, marriage) records for the historic families of Beechville and Goodwood
- Land grant records for lands in Beechville and Goodwood
- Various historic maps and plans of the study area
- Census records for the study area
- Various early administrative records associated with the Refugee Hill (Beech Hill) and North West Arm settlement
- Western Common Wilderness Common Master Plan
- Books and theses on local and general African Nova Scotian history
- Materials provided by a community interest group (PROBE)

As an outcome of this review, the staff report provides an alternative boundary for Council's consideration. This option is presented as Alternative 2 and is depicted in Map 4. This boundary intends to reflect historical settlement patterns of both communities in the vicinity of the study area insofar as they can be determined through careful review of archival records. The risks associated with the recommendation and alternatives are outlined in the Risk Consideration section of this staff report and staff do not recommend this alternative for the following reasons.

While it is possible to investigate and delineate historical settlement patterns for the communities of Beechville and Goodwood using archival records, this approach comes with limitations. These records can often represent limited or biased perspectives of the persons who have authored them. Also, when marginalized groups are documented in colonial records, it is rarely from their own perspectives, thus leaving out valuable context which can be obtained through community engagement and oral histories.

Furthermore, committing rigidly to the use of historical record to inform the delineation of community boundaries, particularly in the context of African Nova Scotian communities, risks perpetuating the structural anti-Black racism inherent in the property law and colonial land grant systems which influenced the location, arrangement, and extent of these communities. As the Historical Review (Attachment 5.1) notes, the land grant process which formed the initial community of Refugee Hill (later Beechville) afforded the Black Refugees vastly smaller land grants than settlers of European descent, often on poorer quality lands, and of an inferior tenure (licenses of occupation rather than fee-simple grant). The continued growth of the community, whether through later land grants or occupation of ungranted lands, would have necessarily been constrained by wherever ungranted lands were still available under a system which greatly privileged settlers of European descent. Thus, to reaffirm historical boundaries as the standard in delineating communities perpetuates the iniquities of the colonial systems that shaped them.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The relocation of the Goodwood and (previously) Halifax signposts on Prospect Road, as well as the reinstallation of a Goodwood community sign and an installation of a new Beechville community sign on said posts, would cost approximately \$6,200 (\$3000 per each installation and \$200 per new sign). The total estimated cost for this can be accommodated within the approved 2024 operating budget for Planning and Development (C340).

RISK CONSIDERATION

Risks of Modifying Community Boundary

Beechville, including the Community Boundary Review process as a formal action planning item, is considered the template for African Nova Scotian (ANS) Action Planning for other ANS communities including Lucasville, Upper Hammonds Plains, East Preston, North Preston, Cherry Brook/Lake Loon, and others as the work expands. This work is considered part of the foundation for Regional Council's endorsement of, and commitment to, the outcomes of the African Nova Scotian Road to Economic Prosperity Plan. That commitment depends on trust and municipal action.

The Council-endorsed Community Benefit Action Plan for Beechville included (1) a Boundary Review as an identified opportunity and (2) the completion of the ongoing boundary review as a formal action item (See Attachments E and J of the [Staff Report](#)). As part of the Boundary review process, the community was consulted and provided support for the boundary currently in place. Regional Council also unanimously endorsed the Road to Economic Prosperity Action Plan in 2020, which included Action 16: *Review the naming, boundaries, and zoning of historic ANS communities, and zoning affecting ANS communities*. There is a strong risk that not retaining the Beechville Community Boundary could erode trust and relationships built with both Beechville and other ANS communities.

Risks of Proceeding with Signage Installation at Approved Boundary

Residents of Goodwood and the greater Prospect Road communities have dedicated significant time to engaging on this project and if the community's feedback and history is not acknowledged in the boundary decision, there is a risk of erosion of trust in staff and process. In order to mitigate this risk, the community could explore opportunities to acknowledge the history of the area through established HRM civic programs such as Neighbourhood Placemaking, or other initiatives.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Shape Your City Survey

In accordance with Civic Addressing policies, communities affected by major changes in community boundaries shall be informed and consulted before, during and after the process. Adjacent communities have not historically been consulted for community boundary reviews if there is no anticipated modification to their boundary within the scope of the project.

As Regional Council directed considerations to modifications to the Beechville/Goodwood boundary at Prospect Road, both the communities of Beechville and Goodwood were considered at risk of being affected by a change in their community boundary for this project.

As outlined in the background section of this report, in consistency with the Beechville Community Benefit Action Plan, which directs staff to work specifically with the Beechville Community Development Association on the community boundary review process, staff have honored the stance of the BCDA as expressed in a letter submitted to Regional Council on January 19, 2024 (Attachment 1). The BCDA's position was that they did not wish to be re-consulted on the Beechville community boundary. The BCDA expressed that, by their view, sufficient engagement was completed prior to the presentation of the June 20, 2023, report, whereby the approved boundaries were a result of the community's input and consideration.

In consideration of this position by the BCDA, the mailout notification informing residents of the Shape Your City page was not distributed to the greater community of Beechville. The mailout notifying residents of the Shape Your City survey was distributed to:

- Residents of Goodwood
- All properties along Prospect Road between the Goodwood Boundary and St Margarets Bay Road, as these properties could experience a change of civic address if the boundary were to be modified.

An option for residents to provide feedback via mail or telephone call was provided, intended for residents with accessibility concerns or lack of access to a computer to complete the online survey.

Although the targeted community for feedback was Goodwood, the Shape Your City survey was shared widely amongst other residents interested in this community boundary project.

Feedback was collected from:

- 112 Shape Your City surveys submitted
- 4 mail-in survey responses

The feedback was provided by:

- 45 self-identified residents of Goodwood
- 71 respondents who identified their primary residence as being within another community

Additional Consultation

Staff targeted consultation with additional groups as requested by the local Councilors: Prospect Road Organization for a Better Environment (PROBE), and Long Lake Provincial Park Association.

PROBE provided written feedback, as well as in-person feedback.

BCDA provided written feedback, as well as in-person feedback.

Long Lake Provincial Park Association did not provide additional feedback on the boundary for this supplemental report but did provide feedback which was included in the initial boundary report dated June 20, 2023.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

No environmental implications have been identified.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Regional Council may choose to amend the community boundaries of Beechville and Goodwood and authorize staff to install and relocate community signs as identified on Map 3. This alternative is an expansion of the Goodwood boundary to include Prospect Road, from the existing Goodwood boundary to the head of Prospect Road near the intersection of St. Margrets Bay Road This boundary is preferred by the majority of Goodwood residents who provided feedback on this project.
2. Regional Council may choose to amend the community boundaries of Beechville and Goodwood and authorize staff to install and relocate community signs as identified on Map 5. This alternative is an expansion of the existing Goodwood boundary which reflects the known historical settlements of Beechville and Goodwood families in the vicinity of Prospect Road.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Halifax Regional Municipality Charter (HRM Charter), Part XII, Street and Highways, S.323.

By-law C-300, the *Civic Addressing By-Law*

Administrative Order 29, *Respecting HRM Civic Addressing Policies*

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: BCDA Letter to Regional Council, December 12, 2023

Attachment 2: Background on BCDA's Stance on Boundary, as provided by African Nova Scotian Community Action Program

Attachment 3: PROBE letter

Attachment 4: Goodwood Community Feedback

Attachment 5.1: Beechville Research Summary

Attachment 5.2: Beechville Research Summary Maps and Appendices

Map 1: Proposed Sign Installation Points

Map 2: Alternative #1: Expansion of Goodwood Boundary

Map 3: Alternative #1 Signage Installation Points

Map 4: Alternative #2: Modification of Boundaries Based on Historical Review

Map 5: Alternative #2 Signage Installation Points

Map 6: Previous Community Boundaries

Report Prepared by: Marie Aikenhead Bennett, Civic Addressing Coordinator 902.943.3219

Attachment 1

December 12, 2023

Halifax Regional Municipality Council
Halifax City Hall

HALIFAX REGIONAL
MUNICIPALITY

JAN-18-2024

MUNICIPAL CLERK

LN LL



RE: Beechville Community Boundaries – Goodwood Supplemental Report

Dear HRM Council Members:

On behalf of the Beechville Community Development Association (BCDA) would like to express the community’s voice once again around the Beechville boundaries and now the Goodwood supplemental report.

On June 13, 2023, the BCDA submitted a letter (below) to HRM Council outlining our frustration and distain first for the deferral by Councilor Cuttle around Councils vote for the boundaries and then on June 20, 2023, the disrespect shown to the community by not acknowledging the letter they submitted and also having our Councilor put her opinion forward in support of Goodwood and state that it was the community’s position when the community had already submitted their position in a letter.

We appreciate that the supplemental report didn’t prolong or affect the vote for the Beechville boundaries because the community has waited long enough. The community also doesn’t see the need to be consulted for the supplemental report as we have worked closely with the HRM Planning and Development department throughout the boundary process and the proposed boundaries are a result of the community’s input and consultation.

We hope that this letter from the BCDA on behalf of the Beechville community will be acknowledged and added to the supplemental report as the community’s position.

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

Iona Duncan-States, BCDA Co-chair

[Redacted signature]

Patsy Crawford, BCDA Co-chair

Municipal Clerks Office
Date Distributed: Jan-19-24
Mayor, Councillors, CAO, Solicitor,
Communications, Public Affairs, Gov. Relations

Other: Gayle MacLean, Erin MacIntyre,
Jacqueline Hamilton, Kurt Pyle, Devon Parris,
Marie Aikenhead

Note: This correspondence was circulated previously on June 20, 2023. It has been recirculated for information purposes.

Re: Item No. 10.1

Neate, Leslie

From: Beechville Community <beechvillecda@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2023 4:08 PM
To: Office, Clerks
Subject: [External Email] CA0138 - Beechville Community Letter to HRM Council
Attachments: CA0138 - BCDA Letter to HRM Council June 2023.pdf

[This email has been received from an external person or system]

Good evening,

Please find the attached letter from the community of Beechville for tomorrow's proceedings.

--
Jenée Jarvis
Communication Lead
Beechville Community Development Association

"The Legacy of a Community, Lies in the Hearts of its People."

HALIFAX REGIONAL
MUNICIPALITY

JUN-19-2023

MUNICIPAL CLERK

LN LL

Municipal Clerks Office

Date Distributed: JUN-20-23
Mayor, Councillors, CAO, Solicitor,
Communications, Public Affairs, Gov. Relations

Other: Gayle MacLean, Erin MacIntyre, Kelly
Denty

Meeting: REGIONAL COUNCIL

Meeting Date: JUN-20-23

Item Number: 10.1

June 13, 2023

Halifax Regional Municipality Council
Halifax City Hall

RE: Beechville Community Boundaries – CA0138

Dear HRM Council Members:

On behalf of the Beechville Community development Association (BCDA) we wanted to share our thoughts and feelings around the proposed Beechville boundaries. Case 20226: Beechville Planning Strategy Review and Community Benefit Action Plan. On July 16, 2019, HRM Regional Council approved a process to consider modifications to the community boundaries of Beechville based on the recommendations from the community of Beechville.

History

Beechville was established in 1812 – 1814 by the freedom fighters (black refugees) from the aftermath of the war of 1812.

From the beginning the freedom fighters have faced discrimination and this was evident through the lands being granted which were small plots with minimal value to the government. The freedom fighters were also given tickets of location instead of deeds so that they never really owned the land and were unable to use the land for sustainability or community economic development.

The historic community of Beechville has been working with the HRM Planning Department since July 2019 after Regional Council's approval of the process to consider modifications to the current community boundaries. The new proposed boundaries do not affect the Prospect Road usage as raised by the community of Greenwood.

This has become much bigger than roads and access. This impacts the celebrations of a community that has worked tirelessly to plan.

The impact of the motion by Councilor Cutell, to defer the boundaries shows us that colonial practices are still in effect. A politician can use their influence to kill a community's dreams and work overnight, after years of trust and communication has been built. We hope approval the boundaries are approved.

This is truly a soul tax moment; we feel the absolute weight of this as a community.

The trust built between the community and HRM planners is in jeopardy because of eleventh hour poli-tricks from a neighboring community.

Council has the opportunity to stand behind the process they approved to help the community of Beechville improve itself based on the staff report that clearly identifies the historical discrimination that our community has faced.

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

Iona Duncan-States, BCDA Co-chair

[Redacted signature]

Patsy Crawford, BCDA Co-chair

Attachment 2: Background on BCDA's Stance on Boundary

Prepared by: African Nova Scotian Community Action Program, Planning and Development

The BCDA's position on these matters requires some context.

From 2017-2022, HRM planners worked with the ANS community of Beechville to review their community boundaries and align them to the community's lived and documented history. Beechville, like many ANS communities, has seen their historic community boundaries erode over time. Unclear land titles from initial settlements in what is now Beechville, the annexation of the former Halifax County by the City of Halifax in 1969, and the construction of Highway 103 all resulted in lands being expropriated or seized from Beechville residents. The provincial government and City of Halifax targeted large areas of Beechville for industrial development in the 1970s and 80s, which further decreased the size of the community.

In addition to these government processes reducing the traditional extent of Beechville, a 420-unit subdivision (Beechville Estates) was developed in the historic Beechville community. Following this, a 306-unit subdivision was approved in 2014 (Lovett Lake Estates). While the Lovett Lake development was achieved through a development agreement, which includes a public consultation component, Beechville residents do not feel they were adequately engaged or had meaningful say in either of the resulting developments.

The extensive private residential and industrial development and the history of expropriation mobilized Beechville community members to engage planning staff and initiate the community boundary review. As an early action in Beechville's Community Action Plan, the boundary review is one of the highest community priorities in Beechville. Due to the above history, staff relied on oral histories from community members to supplement historical research through municipal and provincial records to determine the Beechville boundaries.

Community boundary reviews have also been identified as a key action to counteract the erasure of African Nova Scotian communities. The African Nova Scotian Road to Economic Prosperity Action Plan, which was unanimously endorsed by Regional Council in 2020, included community boundaries as an original action item.

Action 16. Review the naming, boundaries, and zoning of historic ANS communities, and zoning affecting ANS communities

An initial council date to discuss staff's recommendations to expand Beechville's boundaries was set for May 9th, 2023. A significant number of residents from Beechville came to council that day to show support for staff's recommendation. However, the item containing the staff report on the Beechville boundaries was deferred to June 6th (later June 20th), much to the community's disappointment.

The council hearing was rescheduled for June 20th, 2023. Prior to the meeting, the BCDA submitted a letter reaffirming that they wanted the recommendations of the staff report to be accepted by council, as follows:

"We hope the boundaries are approved. This is truly a soul tax moment; we feel the absolute weight of this as a community... Council has the opportunity to stand behind the process they approved to help the community of Beechville improve itself based on the staff report that clearly identifies the historical discrimination that our community has faced."

During the hearing, Regional Council made mention of correspondence from the Goodwood community but never mentioned or acknowledged the above correspondence and letter from the BCDA. In response, the BCDA has advised that they are offended by council's disregard for their position. When a motion was put forward to defer the installation of signage at the southern Beechville boundary pending supplemental staff report, Regional Council falsely stated that Beechville residents supported deferring the signage until

engagement with Goodwood was completed - a statement that contradicts the BCDA's written position in their correspondence.

In summary, the BCDA is gravely offended by how the boundary process has unfolded, including the deferral of the initial May 9th, 2023 hearing and the misrepresentation of their position in Regional Council on June 20th, 2023. The BCDA view the June 20th hearing as having abandoned the level of community engagement considered standard for community boundary reviews. These events have eroded trust and threaten the existing relationship between Beechville and HRM staff. All of this reinforces the need to maintain the current extent of the council-adopted Beechville boundary.

Attachment 3

June 10, 2024

Marie Aikenhead Bennett
Civic Addressing Coordinator
Halifax Regional Municipality
P.O. Box 1749
Halifax, N.S. B3J 3A5

Dear Marie, Thank you for the opportunity to meet and discuss Goodwood's position on the proposed Beechville Community Boundary on May 27, 2024. We appreciate the opportunity to provide additional information that will inform the report to Council tentatively scheduled for submission in July 2024.

We write today for two purposes. First, to respond to the 1817 escheat document that Carter Beaupre-McPhee provided to us on June 3, 2024. The second purpose is, as follow-up to our meeting on May 27, 2024, to provide additional information on why our historical Goodwood boundary is so important to the Prospect Communities (beyond the issues described in our surveys and first supplemental submission) and reiterate our position on ongoing work to define and restore the historic Beechville Community Boundary.

The proposed historic Beechville boundary (approved by council in June 2023) was predicated, in part, on HRMs mistaken belief that the historic Beechville community constituted an area of 5000 acres. This misunderstanding has since been acknowledged by HRM and HRM Researcher, Carter Beaupre-McPhee, with his recent identification of the 1817 escheat (1817 Court of Escheat Record (NS Archives MG15 Vol9 No13) which makes clear the Government of Nova Scotia's intention to reserve 1000 acres of land specifically for the benefit of the Refugees of the War of 1812. The identification of this escheat, along with other historic records (thesis, narratives and government documents), makes it possible to more accurately define the location of that acreage and, subsequently, the delineation of the true historic Beechville community boundary.

We have further questions pertaining to the Court of Escheat Records which we have outlined in **Attachment A**. We look forward to receiving a detailed response.

Our concern with the original staff report was the inclusion of unsubstantiated, arbitrary boundary lines for the historic Beechville community (e.g., lines that encompassed the historic community of Goodwood and ran along Dunbrack Street). Specific to our concern, we believe that the inclusion of lands which constitute historic Goodwood, as part of historic Beechville, reflects a misinterpretation of total land area, maps and, dates used by HRM during its original process. As we have presented and reviewed with staff at HRM, in addition to a number of mistaken beliefs related to total land area, there are many inaccuracies on our Province's historic maps. We remain hopeful that staff will be transparent with Council and our Prospect communities when moving forward with amendments to the historic Beechville boundary.

In addition to clarifying the mapping and land titles referenced in the original report, we are optimistic that, in the time since, Council has come to understand that there was zero consultation conducted with the Goodwood community in the creation of the original report and recommendations.

We are hopeful that Council will reject the original motion and opt to extend the community boundary of Goodwood to its rightful, historical place: the intersection of Prospect Road and St. Margaret's Bay Road. We look forward to supporting the community of Beechville and strengthening our connection as neighbours, both through our rich history and opportunities, moving into a future of growth and prosperity within our communities.

Dating back more than 200 years, the community of Goodwood was home to approximately fifty residential properties that were served by a Church, a Post Office, a school, a general store, local businesses, family farms and recreational areas. A livery service, a shoemaker, and farmland occupied the area from St. Margarets Bay Road to Evergreen Place. There are family graveyards, single headstones and abandoned foundations that still exist throughout this area. Since expropriation, many of the community landmarks are gone but the historical significance to the descendants and the community remains.

Community elders have assisted us in painting a picture of the original community of Goodwood which has been recorded with care. Since these discussions began, a Facebook Page devoted to the history of Goodwood has been published by local residents and has a steadily increasing following that has captured the attention of descendants of those first families across Canada and the United States.

The residents of Goodwood and neighbouring Prospect communities have maintained a stewardship of these lands through participation in HRM planning and consultation initiatives, including the development of the Municipal Planning Strategy for District 4 (which includes the Prospect communities and the entrance to the Prospect Rd. at St. Margaret's Bay Rd.); long-time membership on the Western Common Wilderness Advisory Committee and active participation on the Community Liaison Committee of the Composting facility for HRM and the development of the Otter Lake facility. We have also raised funds for use in beautification projects in Goodwood that were planned and implemented by volunteers from across these Prospect Communities.

The community of Goodwood is thriving. We are as equally connected to the area as our ancestors were and look forward to continuing the legacy of stewardship of the lands in our area. As staff have recognized, having community signage creates a sense of connection, historic pride and preservation of our past.

Residents of the Prospect communities, and particularly the residents of Goodwood, have long waited to see residential development on the lands of historic Goodwood. Development that would benefit all of these communities. These lands reside within our long-held historical community boundary and our electoral district and we look forward

to continuing as active participants in the planning process to create a larger, vibrant, truly connected community.

In closing, we would like to reiterate our request that the proposed Goodwood Community Boundary be modified to extend to the beginning of Prospect Road at St. Margarets Bay Road. Restoration of our boundary to St Margaret's Bay Road acknowledges our historic ties to this land and our continuing stewardship of this land.

Respectfully submitted,

Rob Gilbert
PROBE Member

Victoria Horne
PROBE Member

Frank Johnston
Goodwood Resident and PROBE Member

Donna Pettipas
Goodwood Resident and PROBE Member

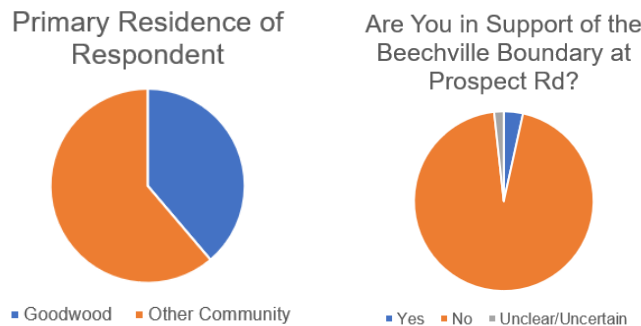
Maureen Yeadon
PROBE Member

Attachment 4: Goodwood Community Feedback

Prepared By: Planning Information Services, Strategic Projects, Planning and Development

Shape Your City Survey

116 responses were received from the Shape Your City survey. Of those responses, 45 residents self-reported their primary residence as being located within the community of Goodwood. When asked if they were in support of the southern Beechville boundary at Prospect Road, 110 respondents replied “no”.



When asked to describe an alternate boundary for staff to consider, most respondents indicated that they feel that the Goodwood community boundary should begin at the entrance to the Prospect Road, intersecting Saint Margaret’s Bay Road.

Numerous survey submissions included mention of “leaving the Goodwood boundary alone”, which may suggest that the survey respondent believes the Goodwood boundary to extend further north than it has since it was ratified in 2007, based on a local or historical understanding of where the community begins which does not align with the officialized boundary.

Themes of Feedback

Respondents indicated that the entirety of the Prospect Road is significant to their history and present-day use. Common themes of feedback included:

- History of Goodwood families who resided along this segment of Prospect Road, including those whose lands were expropriated for the Halifax watershed.
- Present-day stewardship of the land, and a strong interest in engaging in future planning matters impacting the lands.
- Mentions of daily use, and how this portion of road is a significant route in and out of all Prospect Road communities.

One respondent noted: *“The people that lived on the lands of the historical Goodwood left a legacy of stewardship and a deep connection to those lands that strongly resonates with their descendants and is an entrenched value shared by the larger Prospect Rd. communities”*. This sentiment was shared by many other survey respondents, who commented on the history and deep meaning of these lands to the community of Goodwood as well as to the greater Prospect communities.

Within the Shape Your City feedback, as well as from the in-person meeting with PROBE, stories were shared by residents which highlight the rich history of Goodwood dating back over 200 years. Residents shared stories of how the expropriation of lands in this area impacted the development of the community, and how this shared history, combined with present-day interests in the lands, unites residents today.

Additionally, substantial feedback was received relating to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (UARB) hearing dated December 21, 2023, wherein the findings of the UARB concluded that the entirety of the

Prospect Road will be contained within the same electoral district (13), based on community of interest considerations. Survey respondents indicated that this decision supports the community's request to have the community of Goodwood extend to the head of the Prospect Road.

The residents of Goodwood indicated that they felt excluded from the consultation process for the initial community boundary report and felt that the initial boundary recommendation presented to Regional Council on June 23, 2023, did not take into account the history of the Goodwood community along this segment of the Prospect Road. Many residents reported feeling that a piece of history, and a community's perspective, was missed by staff due to the process for community boundary reviews, which is that "communities affected by a major change in community boundaries shall be consulted".

Attachment 5.1

Research Brief

Beechville Community Boundary Project

Prepared by:

HRM Planning & Development
Carter Beaupre-McPhee, Planner III - Heritage

July 26, 2024

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Limitations

There are crucial limitations inherent to the nature of this research report and its given scope. The principal sources of public knowledge referenced within this report consist of records from the Nova Scotia Archives and other archival sources. These colonial archives, while a valuable source of historical information, have nevertheless been curated and shaped by inherently biased individuals and institutions. As a result, these records often represent the limited perspectives of the persons who have authored these records and the archivists who have organized and interpreted them over time. In many cases, marginalized groups are minimally documented in colonial records, and when these groups are documented, it is rarely from their own perspectives, but rather from the perspectives of administrators, politicians, and others in prominent positions within colonial power structures.

This report, due to its scope and process limitations, cannot incorporate valuable additional context provided by oral histories, which can both elucidate gaps in the colonial record and provide context and community perspectives for better interpretation of these colonial records. While staff intend to provide as complete a review of archival sources as possible, considering these limitations, this report should be viewed as a starting point for further research and contextualization.

History of the Early Settlement of Beechville (Beech Hill / Refugee Hill)

The frequent use of varied terms for Beechville and its location such as “at the North West Arm”, “near the North West Arm”, “Beech Hill”, and “Refugee Hill” have been a cause of confusion for historians and researchers. The following section was informed by primary sources, such as settlement census returns, early maps, etc., to provide an accurate portrayal of Beechville’s early history.

The Arrival of the American Black Refugees

On March 25, 1815, Vice Admiral Sir Alexander Cochrane sent correspondence to Lieutenant Governor Sir John Coape Sherbrooke informing him that he should expect 1500-2000 Black Refugees from the United States, previously employed in Bermuda, to arrive in Halifax, Nova Scotia.¹ Legal scholar Melissa Marsman notes this cohort as the “late-arrival Black Refugees” to differentiate these Black Refugees who arrived after the conclusion of the War of 1812 from prior groups of arrivals.¹

Sherbrooke was responsible for leading the efforts to settle these refugees in the Halifax/Dartmouth area, noting that he had diverted some of the initial refugees to New Brunswick.² He assigned the Halifax Collector of Customs, Thomas N. Jeffery, to receive, protect, and provide for the refugees. Jeffery established the depot at Melville Island, a former military prison, to receive, feed, and clothe them, and to attend to their medical needs.²

Sometime before September 1815, Sherbrooke directed the Surveyor General, Charles Morris, to look out for and reserve lands currently unappropriated for the purpose of the Black Refugees.² Per historian John Grant, “smaller communities were established on lands at the North West Arm, on the Cobequid Road, at Dartmouth, the Shubenacadie Road, and around the major settlements of Preston and Hammonds Plains”.² Grant writes that “by 2 October, 1815, several agents were appointed to issue rations to the Black refugee settlers [...including among others...] Henry H. Cogswell for those at the North West Arm”.²

Establishment of Henry H. Cogswell’s 1815 North West Arm Settlement

The earliest record of settlement of Black Refugees anywhere near Beechville dates from November 2, 1815, in which a settlement census return shows Henry H. Cogswell had settled a group of four families, headed respectively by Stephen Coney, Anthony Williams, Lewis Munro, and Jack Leale, on his own lands at the head of the North West Arm.³ This first group of settlers appear on a series of census returns from November 1815 to October of 1816 [see Appendix II] and these four families were, at least initially, counted separately from later Black Refugees who settled in Refugee Hill proper in 1816 [contrast Appendix II with Appendices III & IV].

A review of the Nova Scotia Land Registry shows Cogswell had acquired two hundred acres of land at the Head of the North West Arm on October 20th, 1815, shortly before the first settlement census return on November 2nd.^{3,4} Cogswell had previously acquired a mortgage for these same lands in 1813 and when the mortgager, Major Alexander Ligertwood, passed away, a dispute over the lands was settled in the Nova Scotia Court of Chancery. Cogswell purchased the lands at public auction and was conveyed all right and title in 1815.^{4,5} The lands, located “at the Head of the North West Arm” [see Map I] are described as follows:

[...] Beginning at the upper bound of a tract of land formerly granted Aaron Cleveland thence along the northern line of said land three hundred and fifty rods or until it comes to

*the end thereof; thence north thirty five degrees west ninety five rods of until it comes to the north western angle of land formerly to Best and Burbidge; thence along the line of said land south seventy two degrees east one hundred and fifty two rods or until it comes to the stream or rivulet which empties itself into the head of the North West Arm; thence by the several courses thereof down stream until it meets the place of beginning. Containing in the whole two hundred acres of land [...]*⁵

The 1815 settlement at the Head of the North West Arm appears to amalgamate with the Refugee Hill [Beech Hill] settlement in later records [see Appendix IX].⁶ It's also worth noting how Cogswell's 1815 settlement is described as being "at the Head of the North West Arm" rather than "near the North West Arm" as Refugee Hill is sometimes described [contrast Appendix II and Appendix IV].^{3,7}

The Shiers Grant Lands and a Note on Escheatment

The Surveyor General, Charles Morris, had been instructed to look out for and reserve unappropriated lands for the purpose of the Black Refugees.² By January 1816, Morris had identified some lands "near the North West Arm" which had previously been granted and could be escheated to the Crown and reused for the purpose of settling the late-arrival Black Refugees.⁸ These lands identified were the 3000 acres of land granted to Henry Shiers and others in 1785, colloquially known as the Shiers Grant.⁹ There are two maps available showing the Shiers Grant Lands as surveyed in 1785 [see Appendix I]. The Shiers Grant Lands have also been mapped on satellite imagery [Map I] to provide a better idea of their extent, as the survey maps [see Appendix I] omit several bodies of water.

The escheatment process is a legal process through which lands which have been previously granted by the Crown to a grantee or grantees can be forfeited back to the Crown for failure to fulfill the terms of the grant.¹⁰ The 1807 Land Administration Laws sought, among other objectives, to empower the colonial government to resolve the significant issue of granted lands being abandoned or otherwise held by grantees who have failed to meet the conditions of their respective grants (i.e., make improvements to the lands and/or pay the quit rents).¹

Establishment of the 1816 Refugee Hill Settlement

An order for rations dated May 16, 1816, notes that Benjamin Roberts had "lately received an order from the Surveyor General of Lands to be located on land adjoining to a tract occupied by the Settlers under a grant made to the late Mathew Loundes near the North West Arm" [see Appendix III]. There are two things to note in this phrasing. Firstly, the reference of "near the North West Arm" rather than "at the North West Arm" denotes a settlement distinct from the 1815 Cogswell settlement. Secondly, the tract occupied by the settlers is described as being located on a grant made to the late Mathew Lounds. When reviewing the survey plans for the Shiers Grant Lands [see Appendix I], it is evident that the 360 acres which were resurveyed for the heirs of Matthew Lounds as three L-shaped parcels [compare Appendix I and Map I] roughly coincides with the location of the 1816 plan of Refugee Hill [see Appendix V].

The June 3, 1816, settlement census return [see Appendix IV] further solidifies this account, referring to the settlement as "near the North West Arm" and explicitly calling it Refugee Hill. It also describes the settlement lands as "which lands have formerly been granted and are to be escheated". This is in reference to the settlement of Refugee Hill being laid out on lands formerly granted in 1785 to Henry Shier and others, whose lands were anticipated to be 'escheated' to the Crown. The first five families to settle in Refugee Hill were headed by Robert Hamilton, Henrick Hamilton, Joseph Bull [Butler], William Roberts, & Aaron Wheeler [see Appendix IV], soon joined

by other families headed by Benjamin Roberts, Pompey Cooper, Edward Allen, Charles Lovett Sr., and Charles Lovett Jr [see Appendices V & VII].

A series of census returns, and other historical records, provide insight on the population and intended layout of the Refugee Hill settlement [see Appendices IV through IX]. Most notably the 1816 Plan of Refugee Hill [see Appendix V], which would later be modified to better reflect actual settlement in the 1818 License of Occupation [see Appendix XII]. The July 13, 1816, settlement census return suggests that the early settlers of Refugee Hill had taken up occupation of the lands on June 2, 1816, and notes how they had built dwellings and made improvements to the land [see Appendix VII]; however, the phrasing of the Order for Rations to Benjamin Roberts [see Appendix III] does suggest that Refugee Hill had already been settled by May 16, 1816. It is uncertain which of these two accounts is the most accurate.

There is also an undated settlement census return [see Attachment IX] which staff estimate to date from the end of 1816, which shows a combined 80 settlers between both the settlement of Refugee Hill and the [1815 Cogswell] North West Arm settlement.

Formalizing the Refugee Hill Settlement

Records show that on January 17th, 1817, Henry H. Cogswell expensed two thousand pounds to cover the cost of escheating a tract of land for the use of the Black Refugees [see Appendix X], said land being the 3000-acre Shiers Grant. On April 14, 1817, the inquest was completed and 2550 acres of the 3000-acre Shiers Grant lands were returned to the Crown for failure of the grantees to settle or improve the lands per the conditions of their grant. 450 acres of land were excepted from this escheat, which the Court of Escheats found to have been settled and improved by William Umlah. Based on the survey plans for the Shiers Grant [see Appendix I], William Umlah's lands were located toward the southwest corner or 'dog leg' of the Shiers Grant, around the shores of Big Indian Lake. Today, these 450 acres appear to fall mostly within the boundary of Goodwood, with some portions falling within the neighbouring communities of Hatchet Lake and Otter Lake [see Map I].

The Refugee Hill settlement was laid out within the bounds of the escheated 2550 acres of the Shiers Grant lands. This settlement was formalized on March 27th, 1818, when the government issued a License of Occupation to the settlers of Refugee Hill [see Appendix XII]. The license was in-effect formal permission to occupy the lands which many of the Black Refugees had already occupied since at least June of 1816. However, it also came with a promise that if the Black Refugees settled and improved the land within five years, they would be issued confirmatory grants for the lands licensed to them. In other words, they would be granted fee-simple title to their lands.¹

Structural Racism in the System of Settlement of Black Refugees

There were several injustices inherent in this system of settlement. Firstly, though the Black Refugees had travelled to Nova Scotia induced by the promise of the 1814 Cochrane Proclamation, to become free settlers to the British colonies, and to be provided due encouragement, they quickly discovered that this encouragement was not equitably distributed.¹ While it was typical practice for white settlers to receive grants of a minimum 100 acres, plus additional land for any dependents, Surveyor General Charles Morris had instituted a different practice for the Black Refugees, beginning in 1815 with the community of Preston and carried forward to other Black Refugee settlements.¹ Morris's recommendations were to "propose that compact Lots be laid out so as to form a village – each Lot to contain about ten acres – [...] and that no Land be confirmed to them by Grant – until they are actually settled and satisfactory proof afforded to [His] Excellency of their fixed determination to make a permanent Settlement".¹ Thus,

the practice was set in motion of settling the Black Refugees on small 10-acre lots, often on poor, rocky lands, and segregated on the outskirts of white communities.¹

Secondly, though the Shiers Grant lands were successfully escheated on March 27th, 1817, and the colonial government had the power under the law to issue new grants in fee-simple [i.e., true ownership under colonial terms], it nevertheless chose to issue a License of Occupation instead.^{11,12} This license was a vastly inferior tenure which tied the recipients to their lands without the ability to sell or relocate until confirmatory title could be provided at the end of the stipulated five years.¹

Finally, for those Black Refugee settlers who endured the hardship of working these small lots industriously and peaceably for the duration of the License of Occupation, they found no reward for their efforts, as the promise of confirmatory grants in the License of Occupation went unfulfilled.¹ Of the families who carried on living in Refugee Hill, some did manage, through perseverance and determination, to petition for and receive land grants in Beechville and areas which fall to the west of the present Beechville community boundary. Others continued to reside on their lands in Beechville for generations in spite of unclear title.

A Review of Historical Road Networks

This brief review of the history of roads servicing the communities of Beechville and Goodwood aims to contextualize early settlements and how they interfaced with the rest of Halifax.

The Evolution of Roads to and Through Beechville [Beech Hill / Refugee Hill]

The earliest road into Beechville is the single road shown on both the 1816 and 1818 plans of Refugee Hill [see Appendix V and Appendix XII].^{12,13} In 1827, residents of Beech Hill [formerly Refugee Hill] were requesting improvements to this road [see Appendix XIV], which led from the settlement to the head of the North West Arm.¹⁴ Notably, this petition includes Edward Allen and Stephen Coursey [Couney] from the 1815 settlement at the North West Arm.¹⁴

An 1832 map by Titus Smith [see Appendix XVI] helps illustrate the early evolution of roads to and later through this settlement. The 1832 map labels the road into the settlement as Beech Hill Road, as at that time the road terminated at the settlement and its primary purpose would have been travel between the Beech Hill settlement and Halifax.¹⁵ The road had, by this time, split into two paths, one terminating at Lovett Lake and the other running along the northern shore of Ragged Lake [which was occasionally called Beech Hill Lake in historical maps, see Appendices XX & XXII].¹⁵

Smith's 1832 map had intended to propose a new road to St Margarets Bay, to replace the road which travelled directly west from Dutch Village running north of Governor's Lake.¹⁵ It instead proposed repurposing the Beech Hill Road and continuing the road along the south shore of Governor's Lake before rejoining the existing road to St Margarets Bay.¹⁵ This modification was completed and served as one of two primary connections to St Margarets Bay from Halifax.¹⁶ The other connection, sometimes referred to as the "Old Post Road" to St Margaret's Bay, ran from Spryfield westward, south of Long Lake [or Beaver Lake as it was then known], through Goodwood, running along the southern shore of Little Indian Lake and carrying on westward.¹⁷

The Evolution of Prospect Road

The first road from Halifax to Prospect was cut circa 1812 by French prisoners staying at Melville Island Prison.¹⁸ The original route of this early Prospect Road is recorded in an 1828 map by John

Chamberlain [see Appendix XV]. The route roughly followed the current route from Prospect to present-day Goodwood.¹⁷ Formerly located in the community of Goodwood, the original Prospect Road joined a portion of the Old Road to St Margaret's Bay [the "Old Post Road", which crossed east-west through what is now Long Lake Provincial Park [this route remains a hiking trail] and into Spryfield, where the original Prospect road then ran north to the head of the Northwest Arm and into Dutch Village.¹⁷ Smith's 1832 Plan of a Proposed New Road to St Margaret's Bay [see Appendix XVI] also shows that a road had not yet been cut south through the gap between Ragged and Long Lakes towards the original Prospect Road (the aforementioned east-west route).¹⁵

The earliest record found of a road running north from Goodwood, between the Ragged and Long Lakes is an 1844 Plan of MacGraw's Land on the St Margaret's Bay Road ["Old Post Road"], referring to the east-west portion of the original Prospect Road [see Appendix XVIII].¹⁹ This plan depicts lands formerly known as the John Gosbee Grant, and shows that a few houses had been built and roads cut, including what appears to be a road heading north through the gap between Ragged and Long Lakes.¹⁹ A.F. Church's 1864 Map of Halifax County [see Appendix XIX] shows how this northerly road has evolved into what is now viewed as "old head of Prospect Road", with its distinctive kink near the head of Long Lake and its intersection with the new St Margaret's Bay Road at the southern tip of the Second Chain Lake.¹⁶ This is also shown on the 1886 War Department Map of Halifax County [see Appendix XX].²⁰

The Three Long Lots of Dutch Village

This section reviews one of the most useful historical maps for contextualizing the study area and how it had evolved by the late 1800s, that being the Map of Lots 10, 11, and 12 of Dutch Village [see Appendix XXI]. This 1894 map depicts the three southernmost lots of Dutch Village, those being lot numbers 10, 11, and 12. These are known as the "long lots" as they stretched far further west than the other nine lots of Dutch Village. The Three Long Lots spanned from Dutch Village Road to Ragged Lake. This map depicts several dwellings and property boundaries of historical interest, including several properties and settlements associated with the community of Beech Hill (now Beechville). It also depicts the old head of Prospect Road with the characteristic kink at Long Lake. An annotated version of this map is also provided in Appendix XXI, and each annotation is explained below. While this map is dated 1894, it does appear to be referenced by a deed between the Muir family of the City of Halifax dated 1890, suggesting it may depict a slightly earlier time period than the recorded date.²¹

The Hamilton Family (of Beechville)

The Hamilton Family was one of the founding families of Black Refugees who settled Beech Hill / Refugee Hill. This map does not specify which members of the Hamilton family settled the lands depicted, but given the lands' position relative to Ragged Lake, it does appear to correspond with the R. Hamilton property shown on the Crown Lands Index, suggesting these lands were the residence of Robert Hamilton.²²

The Munro Family (of Beechville)

Richard Munro was a Black Refugee born around 1795 and settled at Beech Hill / Refugee Hill after the War of 1812.²³ The 1871 Census notes him (71) as married to Ann Munro (61) (not to be confused with the wife of Lewis Munro, also named Ann), with a son named Richard (22).²⁴ He resided in Beechville and worked as a labourer, having passed away in 1894 at the age of 99.²³ As a Roman Catholic, he was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery.²³ In the 1881 Census, Richard Munro and his wife Ann are listed as residing with the younger Ann Munro.²⁵

Lewis Munro was born in Beechville around 1831, and it's possible he was the junior to Lewis Munro, an American Black Refugee who settled at Cogswell's North West Arm settlement in 1815.^{3,26} He worked as a farmer and mason and resided in Beechville, and in 1871 he was residing with Catharine Munro (45) and Alice (7).^{26,27} The 1891 census notes his wife as Ann Munro (66), who passed in 1892.^{28,29} Lewis Munro himself passed in 1907 at 76 years old.²⁶ Lewis and Ann were both African-Roman-Catholic, and were buried at Mount Olivet Cemetery and Holy Cross Cemetery, respectively.^{26,29}

The Grosse Family (of Beechville)

The Grosse family are not featured on the 1871 Census of Beechville, but as shown on this map, we see Charles Grosse (also: Gross, Grouse, Groves) occupied a lot in Beechville by 1894.³⁰ Charles Grosse was born in Musquodoboit and married Charlotte Stuart of Beechville in 1868.³¹⁻³³ Grosse was African-Baptist and worked as a labourer.³⁴ The 1891 Census lists Charles "Groce" as 40 years of age (born around 1851), it also lists their household consisting of his wife "Sharlot" (38), Samuel (18), Georgena (14), Alice (12), Ida (10), Blanch (4), Sarah (4mo), and Eliza (20).³⁵ The African Baptist Church in Beechville (Beech Hill), established by Rev. Richard Preston, counted Charles Gross and Charlotte Grosse among its 12 congregants in 1894 and 1901, and by 1904, Charles is listed as one of the church's Deacons.³⁶ Charlotte Grosse was a community leader and heavily involved in the church. She served in prominent roles such as President and life-member of the Beechville Ladies Auxiliary, representative of Beechville at Halifax's first Convention of Colored Women, and superintendent of the Beechville Sunday School.³⁶ Charlotte passed in March of 1938 at the age of 95.³⁶ Power of Attorney documents from 1917 note that the late Charles Grosse's estate in Beechville was expropriated by the City of Halifax.³⁶⁻³⁸ Their son, Pvt. James Grosse, served in the First World War in the 2nd Construction Battalion, the largest Black unit in Canadian History, and returned safely with the other Beechville soldiers, including Pvt. William Grosse, a relative.^{36,37}

The Stuart Family (of Beechville)

The map depicts an approximated boundary settled by the Stewart family. This is likely a misspelling or alternate spelling of the Stuart family, who are recorded in the 1871 Census of Beechville and described therein as Helen Stuart (46), widowed, African-Baptist, and her son John (14).³⁰ The 1891 Census records an "Ellen" Stuart (75) residing in this area, widowed, and living with her son Thomas (30), a labourer.³⁹ Limited information has been found on the Stuarts of Beechville.

The Miller Family (of Beechville)

The map also depicts an approximated boundary settled by the Miller family, adjacent to the Stuarts. The 1871 Census of Beechville contains record of one James Miller, described therein as an African-Roman-Catholic Labourer.³⁰ He's recorded together with his wife, Mary Ann (33), and two children, Elizabeth (8) and James (6).³⁰ The 1891 Census records that James E. Miller and Mary A. Miller had three daughters and two sons, Elizabeth J (27, chairwoman), James N. (26, labourer), Bridget (8), Agnes (7) and Alfred (1).⁴⁰ James Miller resided in Beechville until his passing in 1904 of pneumonia at the age of 72.⁴¹ Record of his death lists him as a butcher, born in Hants County and buried in Mt. Olivet Cemetery.⁴¹ Mary Ann Miller passed in 1894 at the age of 58 from heart failure.⁴² Record of her death notes her as originating from Preston and residing in Beechville, listing her (or her husband's) occupation as a farmer and indicating she was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery.⁴²

The Umlah House and Barn (of the Dutch Village Lots)

The Umlah family arrived in the area of Goodwood in the 1860s, some having been issued grants around Peter's Lake.^{22,43} On this map we find one branch of the Umlah family located at the head of the Old Prospect Road, where it diverges from St Margaret's Bay Road. In 1884, John W. Umlah had purchased this 30 acre lot from the widow of John P. Muir.⁴⁴ Notably, the parcel description from this deed describes the Umlah lot as being "in rear of the Dutch Village" rather than "in Goodwood", suggesting that the Three Long Lots of Dutch Village were distinct from the community of Goodwood to the south.⁴⁴ This holds true for the 100 acres from which this lot was subdivided, conveyed by deed to John P. Muir by the William B. and Letitia Fairbanks in 1871.⁴⁵ This position at the head of the Old Prospect Road aligns with a historical account by Marjorie Tremain describing the journey from Halifax to Prospect Bay:

You came up the Bay Road to the house of Joseph McCleave and this was the first house on the Arm Hill. Then you turned into the Prospect Road where there was a house owned by an Umlah who operated a small farm with a few chickens. A slight incline known as Shoemaker's Hill was named for a shoemaker by the name of Herbert Welsman. You travelled along after on a fairly level stretch on which there was a cabin occupied by a Toher. Where the watershed property is now situated, were two houses owned by Dave and Archie Drysdale. Several miles further along was Charlotte Drysdale's (nee Walsh from Prospect). At Charlotte's everyone took care of their horses, got a hot toddy and a meal, and a pair of wool socks if needed. Next came the home of Joshua Umlah who travelled with the mail from Halifax. A level stretch known as the Long Bog came next before a house was passed at Hatchet Lake owned by William Umlah. You passed Hatchet Lake then down Christian's Hill into White's Lake where the only house at that time was owned by Pat Kerwick. Then along the way came houses owned by Charles Christian and his brother William. The Prospect Bay turnoff is next and you proceed straight ahead to Cahill's Hill and on the left was the home of Michael Burke. A little along the right was the home of Dr. Tyler who married Lillie Redmond and this section was always known as Tyler's Patch.⁴³

The Black Estate (Hosterman)

The Black Estate, clarified in parentheses with the name Hosterman [orig. Ostermann], appears to indicate the site of an estate owned by the Black family. Business partners Thomas Hosterman and William A. Black together erected a grist mill at Chocolate Lake, near the head of the Northwest Arm, in 1823.^{46,47} The estate was presumably owned by descendants of William A. Black. The Hosterman and Black mill would later be repurposed as a rolling mill and nail factory, and repurposed again as Brandon Henderson's paint works.⁴⁶

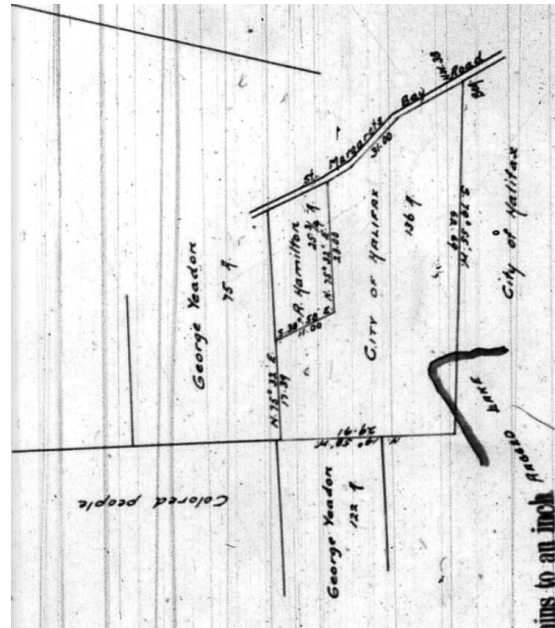
A Southern Boundary Proposal Based on Historical Research

Whereas the June 20th, 2023 motion of Council instructed staff to consider modifications to the Beechville/Goodwood boundary at Prospect Road, the objective of this section will be to propose a potential alternative boundary based on historical research. The scope of this revision is limited to the southern boundary of Beechville around Prospect Road. This analysis of will seek to determine a new boundary line delineating Beechville from any areas which are historically identified as Goodwood. Areas which cannot be explicitly identified in historical records as being part of Goodwood will be left unchanged from the boundary approved by Council on June 20th, 2023.

The City of Halifax Lands

This “L” shaped parcel of land containing 136 acres was granted to the City of Halifax on August 20, 1919 [see Map III and the survey plan at right].⁴⁸ This lot likely encompasses, among other lands, those lands formerly identified as Division A of the 1818 License of Occupation for Refugee Hill [see Appendix XII]. This conclusion is drawn from a substantial portion of this lot falling within the eastern bound of the Shiers Grant lands [see Map III], and this parcel being located to the east of the 1818 Refugee Hill Division B [shown in the bottom left corner of the plan at right], and northeast of the Hosterman Grant lands [see Map III].^{9,12,48} The 1818 License of Occupation [see Appendix XII] therefore appears to exhibit some scaling issues, showing the Divisions A and B as being further apart than they necessarily were.

These lands appear to have remained ungranted from the 1817 escheatment of the Shiers Grant lands to this 1919 grant to the City of Halifax; however, it is noteworthy that the September 29, 1916 grant to Richard Hamilton for the abutting 25¾ acre lot depicts at least part of this lot as being claimed by Joseph Hamilton.⁴⁹ This claim by Joseph Hamilton is also depicted in the earlier 1894 Map of the Long Lots of Dutch Village [see Appendix XXI], which shows the “Hamilton Property” as well as portions of the Lewis Munro[e], Richard Munro[e], and Charles Gross[e] properties falling within the bounds of these lands later granted to the City of Halifax in 1919.⁵⁰ Given the connection to these prominent historical Beechville families and likely connection to the original 1818 Division A of Refugee Hill, this property is recognized as a very important part of Beechville.



Above: Survey plan of the City of Halifax grant dated August 20th, 1919.

The Three Long Lots of Dutch Village (Lots 10, 11, & 12)

The Three Long Lots [Numbers 10, 11, & 12] of Dutch Village originate from a grant to George Frederick, George Kohl, and George Jost dated June 7, 1765.⁵¹ These lots [see Appendix XXI] ran from Dutch Village Road to Ragged Lake and encompassed the First and Second Chain Lakes.⁵⁰ These lots also encompassed the road which ran along these lakes’ southern shores, originally known as Beech Hill Road and originally serving as the only road connection to the Beech Hill / Refugee Hill settlement, before later being extended and repurposed as the new St Margarets Bay Road [see Appendices XVI & XXI].^{15,50} These Three Long Lots and the Beech Hill Road connected the Beech Hill / Refugee Hill settlement to the lands granted to Ligertwood and Others [see Map III]. The Ligertwood lands were acquired by Henry H. Cogswell in 1815 and were the same lands upon which he settled four Black Refugee families “at the Head of the North West Arm”.³⁻⁵ The 1894 Map of the Long Lots of Dutch Village also shows that several Beechville families, including the Hamilton, Munro[e], Gross[e], Stuart, and Miller families had established themselves abutting to and within the Three Long Lots.⁵⁰

The Umlah Property on this map is described in deeds as being “in rear of the Dutch Village” rather than “in Goodwood”, suggesting that the Three Long Lots of Dutch Village were recognized as distinct from the community of Goodwood to the south.⁴⁴ This also holds true for the 100 acres from which this lot was subdivided, conveyed by deed to John P. Muir by the William B. and Letitia

Fairbanks in 1871.⁴⁵ The lands denoted as City of Halifax and Halifax Water Company (HWC) with the Three Long Lots were partly obtained when the City purchased the private HWC in 1861 to operate the city's water supply as a public utility, while other City lands depicted were purchased from the Muir family in 1890.^{21,52,53} The Doull lands in the Three Long Lots were purchased by the City of Halifax in May of 1907 and like the Umlah property, they are described as being in the Dutch Village Lots.⁵⁴

Notably, this map shows Beechville families such as the Miller and Stuart families located approximately at the present-day head of Prospect Road [see Appendix XXI].⁵⁰ This area also appears to coincide roughly with the location of Mrs. Baxter [of Beechville] as shown on the 1864 Church's Map of Halifax County [see Appendix XIX].⁵⁵ A memory map of Beechville [est. 1920s, see Appendix XXIV] shows the Loppie family of Beechville located even further westward than the Millers, placing the Loppies near the old head of Prospect Road.⁵⁶

The Three Long Lots of Dutch Village, variously subdivided over time, appear to have been consistently recognized through history as "the Dutch Village Lots", an area distinct from Goodwood.^{44,54} Given this, and given their partial settlement by historical Beechville families and the early role these Dutch Village Lots played as the only connection between the Beech Hill / Refugee Hill settlement and both Halifax and Cogswell's 1815 Black Refugee settlement at the Head of the North West Arm, the Three Long Lots of Dutch Village are recognized as an important part of Beechville.

The Hosterman Grant Lands

This rectangular 100-acre lot of land was granted to John Hosterman on April 21, 1773.⁵⁷ This grant is also depicted in the 1818 License of Occupation for Refugee Hill [see Appendix XII] and the 1785 Shiers Grant [see Appendix I]. In the text of the 1773 Hosterman grant, the lands are identified as being "beyond the North West Arm".⁵⁷ For 185 years, the grant lands were retained, undivided and unsold by John Hosterman and his heirs, until August 20, 1958, when the lot was sold at tax sale and purchased by the Public Works Commission.⁵⁸ It was deeded over to the Public Works Commission on September 17, 1959 and in this deed the land is described to be "situate lying and being at Ragged Lake in the County of Halifax."⁵⁹ Given the lack of any mention of Goodwood and the very close proximity to Division A of the 1818 License of Occupation of Refugee Hill, staff feel it reasonable to include the Hosterman grant in the bounds of Historic Beechville.

The Gosbee Grant and the Division of Goodwood

A warrant to survey dated 1770 instructed the Chief Surveyor, Charles Morris, to lay out 1500 acres of land (500 acres each) to be granted to John Gosbee, John Laurell, and George Laurell.⁶⁰ The rear of this warrant notes that the Laurells would not take their grants, and thus only 500 acres was granted to John Gosbee.⁶⁰ In the 1770 warrant to survey, these lands were described as being "in Dublin's Manor at the North West Arm".⁶⁰ By 1777, the full 500 acres of the Gosbee Grant had been sold by John Gosbee's widow, Elizabeth, at public auction to Jeremiah Marshman. In the associated deed, the lands are described as "Lott [sic] number one in the Division called Goodwood Division in the County of Halifax."⁶¹ From this we can conclude that the Gosbee Grant was one of the original grants establishing the Division of Goodwood.

The Gosbee Grant lands are also depicted in the 1844 Map of J. MacGraw's Land on the Old St Margarets Bay Road [see Appendix XVIII] showing some of their early development by the Drysdales and McGrath's, and showing the first road cut northward between the Ragged and Long Lakes [Prospect Road].¹⁹ An orange parcel on this 1844 map denoted as the William Leppert

lands roughly corresponds with the lands that later became the Welsman and Trueman properties.^{19,62,63}

There are three other 500-acre lots granted in the 1770s which, together with the Gosbee Grant, comprise the original division of Goodwood. These three lots to the southeast of the Gosbee Grant and west of Long Lake were granted to Thomas Wagner, John Bower, and Philip Tollmer (Toller), each receiving 300 acres in 1773 and an additional 200 acres in 1781.²² Collectively, these lands are known as the Wagner & Others Grants.⁴³

The Welsman Property

The Welsman Property has been identified in feedback from Prospect Regional Organization for a Better Environment (PROBE) as traditionally being considered the first property at the very beginning of the Community of Goodwood. The Welsman property was a ~80-acre lot, with barn, house, and shed [see Appendix XXV].⁶² The property was located along the southwest shore of the head of Long Lake [formerly Beaver Lake] and ran along a portion of the eastern boundary of the historical Prospect Road.⁶² The Welsman Property was expropriated in July of 1947 for the watershed, and in this expropriation, it is identified as “lying and being in Goodwood in the County of Halifax.”⁶² The Welsman property originates from an 1860 deed conveying the northeast portion of the John Gosbee Grant lands from William Johns to William Evans and George Walshman [Welsman], in which the lands are described as “situate, lying, and being in Goodwood in the County of Halifax.”⁶⁴ Prior to the creation of the Welsman property in 1860, the same lands were part of a larger 500-acre lot known as the John Gosbee Grant, which was Lot No. 1 in the Division of Goodwood.⁶⁰

The Trueman Property

The Trueman Property is a triangular ~10-acre property on the western side of Prospect Road which was originally part of the John Gosbee Grant and was subdivided and conveyed by William Johns and his wife Marie to John Trueman in 1857.⁶³ Trueman constructed a dwelling house which appears on A.F. Church’s 1865 Map of Halifax County [see Appendix XIX].¹⁶ The Trueman property is described as “lying and being at Goodwood” both in the deed where Trueman acquired the property in 1857 and the deed in which he sold it to Charles Drysdale in 1868.^{63,65} This parcel also falls within the original Gosbee Grant, also known as Lot No. 1 of Goodwood Division [compare Appendices XXIII & XXV].⁶⁰ As a result of its sale to Charles Drysdale, the Trueman property would later become part of what is known as the Joseph McCleave property [see Appendix XXIII], but given its explicit ties to historical Goodwood and its location within the Gosbee Grant, this portion of the McCleave property, formerly belonging to John Trueman is considered to be Goodwood.⁶⁶

The Peters Grant

The Joseph Peters Grant [see Map I] was a 500-acre tract of land granted to Joseph Peters on October 7, 1763.⁶⁷ It encompassed the majority of Ragged Lake, a rectangular swatch of land to the southwest of said lake, as well as a triangular portion of land formed by the intersection of the Gosbee Grant and Lot 12 of the Three Long Lots of Dutch Village.⁶⁷ These 500-acres were sold to Walter Robb, a Dartmouth grocer, in 1831 and then sold in 1845 by Robb and his wife to Charles Drysdale, a farmer in Harrietsfield.^{68,69} Upon Charles Drysdale’s death, the 500-acres of woodland were bequeathed to his son Charles Henry Drysdale.⁷⁰ In 1879, Charles Henry Drysdale sold a portion of the Peters Grant lands to George Yeadon.⁷⁰ This portion was then sold to John Muir in 1886 and Joseph McCleave in 1887, becoming what is known as the McCleave Property.^{71,72} IN all of these early conveyances, the lands are either described as “beyond the North West Arm” or “in the County of Halifax” with no mentions of Goodwood.⁶⁷⁻⁷² A review of deeds associated with the Drysdale family showed that the remaining majority of the Peters Grant

lands [those not sold to McCleave] were passed down in the Drysdale family.^{73,74}

The McCleave Property

The Joseph McCleave Property [see Map III] consists of the north easternmost portion of the original ~500-acre Joseph Peters Grant lands, a checkmark shaped property consisting of the northeastern half of Ragged Lake and the triangle of lands formed by the southern boundary of Lot 12 of the Three Long Lots and the northern boundary of the Gosbee Grant, plus a ~10-acre triangular parcel of land formerly known as the Trueman Property.⁷² Whereas the Trueman property is explicitly identified in historical record as being in Goodwood, the rest of the McCleave property warrants further investigation.⁶⁵ The bounds describing the McCleave property originate in 1887 when Barbara P. Muir, widow of John Muir [Foreman of Public Works], along with the other heirs of Muir, sold the property to Joseph McCleave [of the North West Arm, manufacturer].⁷² In this deed, the lands are described merely as being “in the County of Halifax”.⁷² This description holds true when McCleave sold the property in 1917 to Walter O’Hearn, a lawyer and the Registrar of Deeds for Halifax County.⁷⁵

McCleave himself had a residence on the south side of the St Margarets Bay Road near Chocolate Lake [see Appendix XX] and in deeds as well as his will he is identified as being “of St. Margarets Bay Road”.^{72,75,76} In 1922, when a portion of the McCleave lands [see Appendix XXIII] are sold by Walter O’Hearn to the City of Halifax, the lands are described as “on the western side of the Prospect Road in the County of Halifax”.⁶⁶ Goodwood is not mentioned in the associated deeds for the McCleave property and McCleave did not identify himself as being of Goodwood.^{66,75,76} Furthermore, historical mapping suggests that, excluding the Trueman property, these lands remained undeveloped, with no settlement shown in 1864 and 1886 maps [see Appendices XIX & XX].^{16,20} When Walter O’Hearn, who bought the McCleave property in 1917, sold most of the McCleave lands to the City of Halifax in 1922, he retained ownership of a parcel of land on the shore of Ragged Lake with an easement for a right-of-way from the Prospect Road to access the [see Appendix XX].⁶⁶ However this right-of-way does not appear on any earlier maps of the area [see Appendices XIX & XX].^{16,20} O’Hearn is also not identified as a historical member of Goodwood, as he and his family resided in the City of Halifax where he worked as the County Court Judge.⁷⁷ For these reasons, the portion of the McCleave property containing lands from the Joseph Peters Grant [i.e. the portion excluding the former Trueman property] is not considered a part of Goodwood.

The Peters Grant Lands Retained by the Drysdale Family

While the Joseph Peters Grant lands [see Map I] were originally identified in their grant as “Beyond the North West Arm”, with no mention of Goodwood, the majority of the Peters Grant lands were retained by the Drysdale family, and over time became associated with Goodwood. The dividing line between these lands retained by the Drysdale family and those which were sold in 1879 to George Yeadon [later becoming the McCleave property] is a 40-chain or 2648-foot line running down the middle of Ragged Lake and depicted on the 1984 plan of Expropriation for the Establishment of Ragged Lake Business Park.^{70,73} The lands retained by the Drysdales, encompassing lands from the southwestern half of Ragged Lake to Drysdale’s Bog were passed down in the family until the death of David Drysdale, when the lands were variously subdivided and sold by his heirs: Annie Langille, Mary Bowen, Claire Hutt, Ada Estelle Drysdale, David C. Drysdale, and Margaret A. Drysdale, all of Goodwood.^{74,78} These lands have therefore been associated with multiple generations of the Drysdale family of Goodwood; they have been improved by the addition of logging roads such as Lakewood Road, Backhill Road, and Brehm Road, all accessed from the Prospect Road in Goodwood; and deeds associated with their sale to the Public Works Commission explicitly acknowledge that for example, Lot #142, as depicted on the 1984 Expropriation Plan for the Establishment of Ragged Lake, is part of Goodwood.⁷³ In

consideration of these facts, this portion of the Peters Lands to the southwest of Ragged Lake are considered a part of Goodwood.

Areas Beyond the Scope of this Report Warranting Further Research

In the course of conducting this research, staff have identified some areas outside of the present boundary of Beechville [see Appendix XXVI] which are depicted in grants associated with historical Beechville residents, and which bear the names of several such residents. While these areas are beyond the scope of this research report, staff would nonetheless like to call attention to their existence and to the existence of the 1815 Henry H. Cogswell settlement lands at the head of the North West Arm to prompt further research and discussions between the Beechville community and the HRM African Nova Scotia Affairs Integration Office regarding the potential of any such sites for archaeological study and/or reparations efforts.

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https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~351990~90119171:Topographical-township-map-of-Halif?sort=Pub_List_No_InitialSort%2CPub_Date%2CPub_List_No%2CSeries_No&qvq=q:Topographical%20Township%20Map%20of%20Halifax%20County%2C%20Nova%20Scotia;sort:Pub_List_No_InitialSort%2CPub_Date%2CPub_List_No%2CSeries_No;lc:RUMSEY~8~1&mi=0&trs=1
56. Hamilton R. Memory Map of Beechville. Published online 1920s.
<https://archives.novascotia.ca/pdf/BeechvilleGazette/BeechvilleGazette-2.pdf>
57. Government of Nova Scotia. Grant to John Hosterman et al. Published online April 21, 1773.
58. NSPOL. Notice of Tax Sale: Heirs of Hosterman to Public Works Commission. Published online 1958.
59. NSPOL. Tax Deed: Heirs of Hosterman to Public Works Commission. Published online 1959.

60. Government of Nova Scotia. Grant to John Gosbee. Published online 1770. <https://archives.novascotia.ca/land-papers/archives/?ID=16&Doc=warrant&Page=201100050>
61. NSPOL. Deed: Gosbee to Marshman. Published online November 20, 1777.
62. H.R.C. Expropriation 758: Plan of Welsman Property. Published online 1947.
63. NSPOL. Deed: Johns to Trueman. Published online 1857.
64. NSPOL. Deed: Johns to Walshman. Published online 1860.
65. NSPOL. Deed: Trueman to Drysdale. Published online 1868.
66. NSPOL. Deed: O'Hearn to the City of Halifax. Published online May 1, 1922.
67. Government of Nova Scotia. Grant to Joseph Peters. Published online October 7, 1763.
68. NSPOL. Deed: Peters et al. to Robb. Published online 1831.
69. NSPOL. Deed: Robb to Drysdale. Published online 1845.
70. NSPOL. Deed: Drysdale to Yeadon. Published online 1879.
71. NSPOL. Deed: Yeadon to Muir. Published online 1886.
72. NSPOL. Deed: Muir to McCleave. Published online July 14, 1887.
73. City of Halifax. Expropriation Plan for the Establishment of Ragged lake Business Park. Published online 1984.
74. NSPOL. Deed: Heirs of Drysdale to Balcome. Published online July 27, 1939.
75. NSPOL. Deed: McCleave to O'Hearn. Published online April 7, 1917.
76. NSPOL. Will: Joseph McCleave. Published online August 8, 1918.
77. Government of Nova Scotia. Walter Joseph O'Hearn death at Halifax, Halifax County on May 3, 1936. Published online May 3, 1936. <https://archives.novascotia.ca/vital-statistics/death/?ID=249239>
78. Bigelow P. Land Acquisition Exchange - Drysdale Bog Lands. Published online May 31, 2016. <https://cdn.halifax.ca/sites/default/files/documents/city-hall/regional-council/160531rci08.pdf>

Research Brief

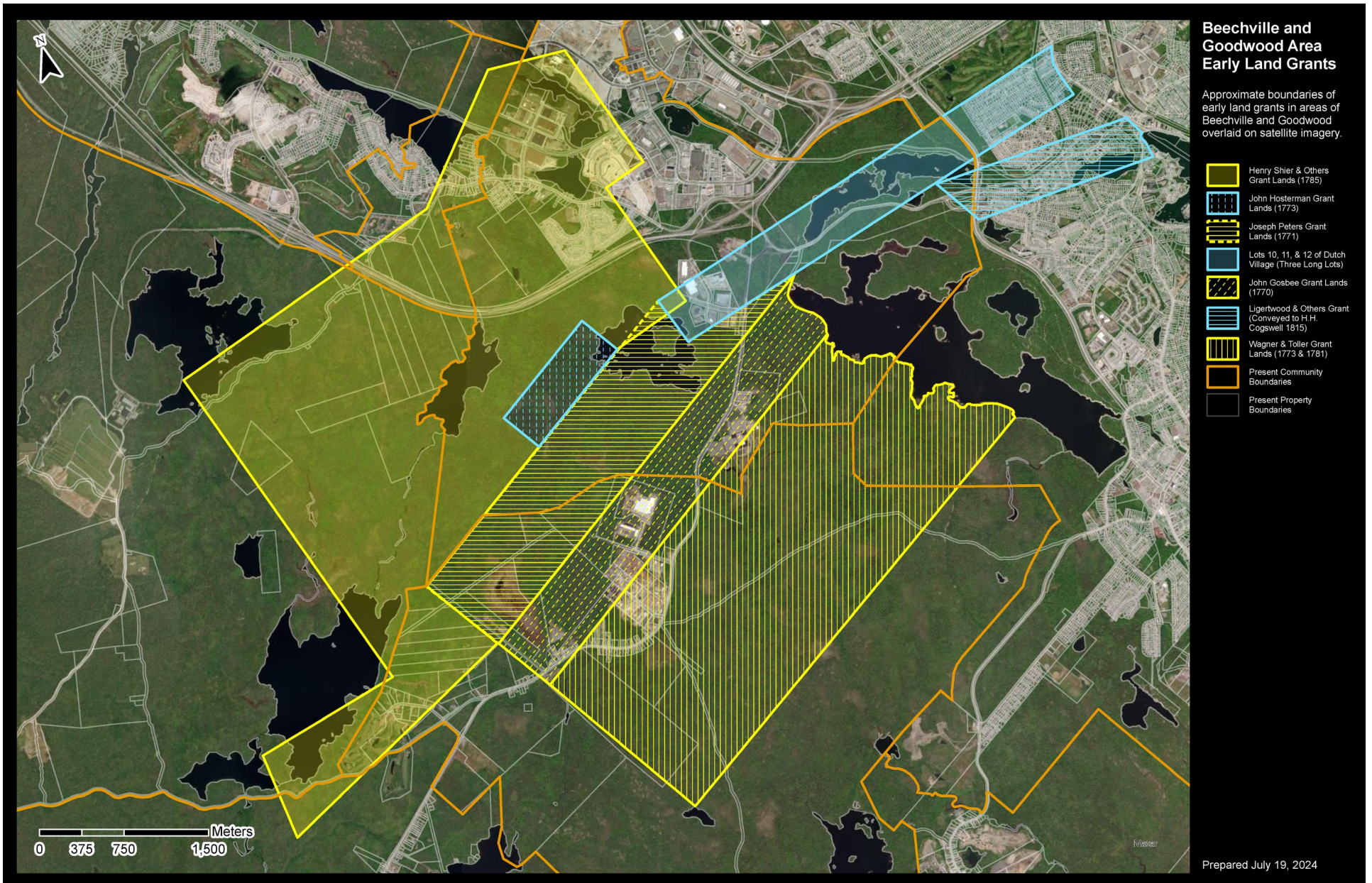
Beechville Community Boundary Project
[Maps and Appendices]

Prepared by:

HRM Planning & Development
Carter Beaupre-McPhee, Planner III - Heritage

July 26, 2024

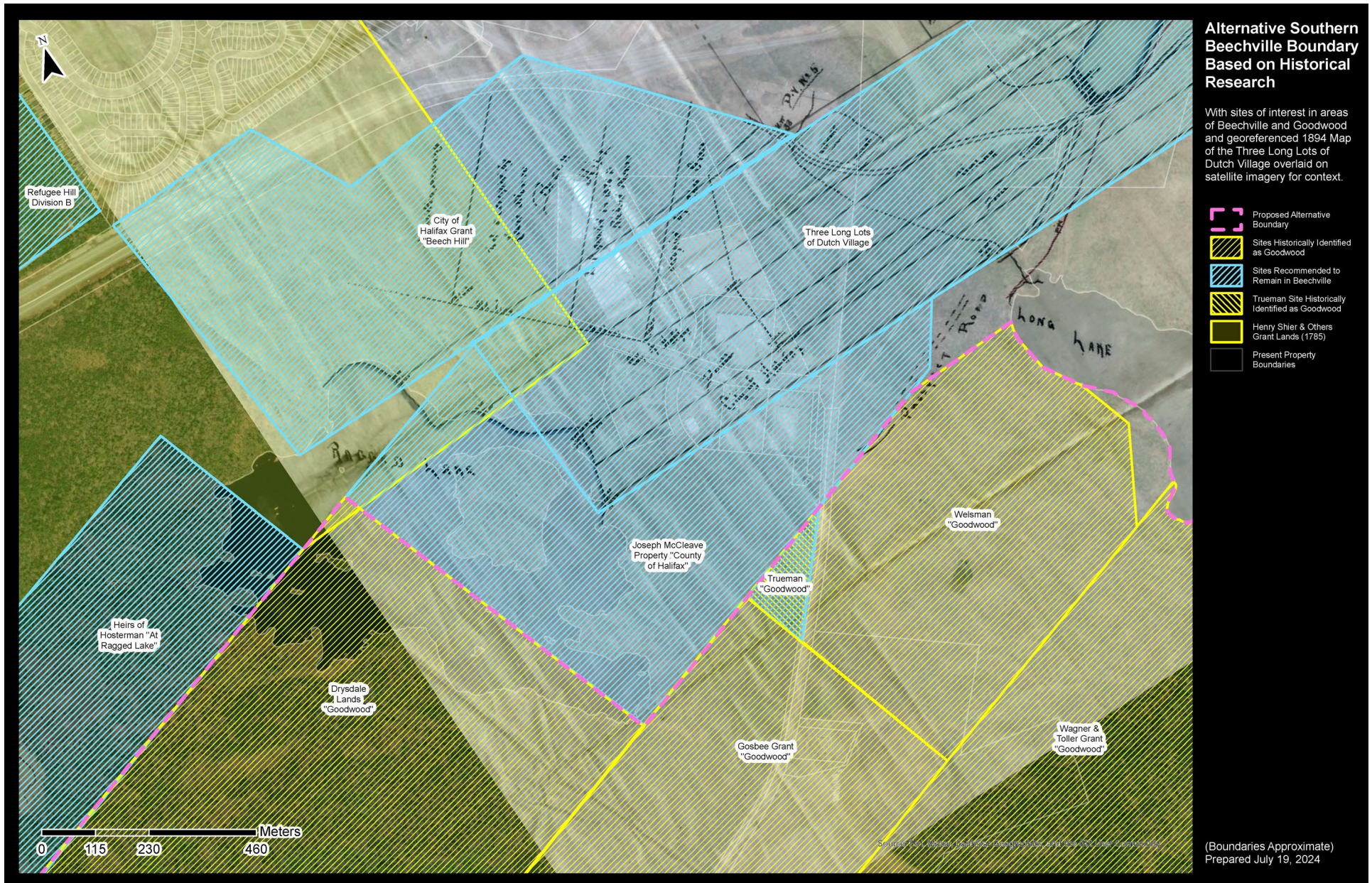
Map I: Beechville and Goodwood Area Early Land Grants



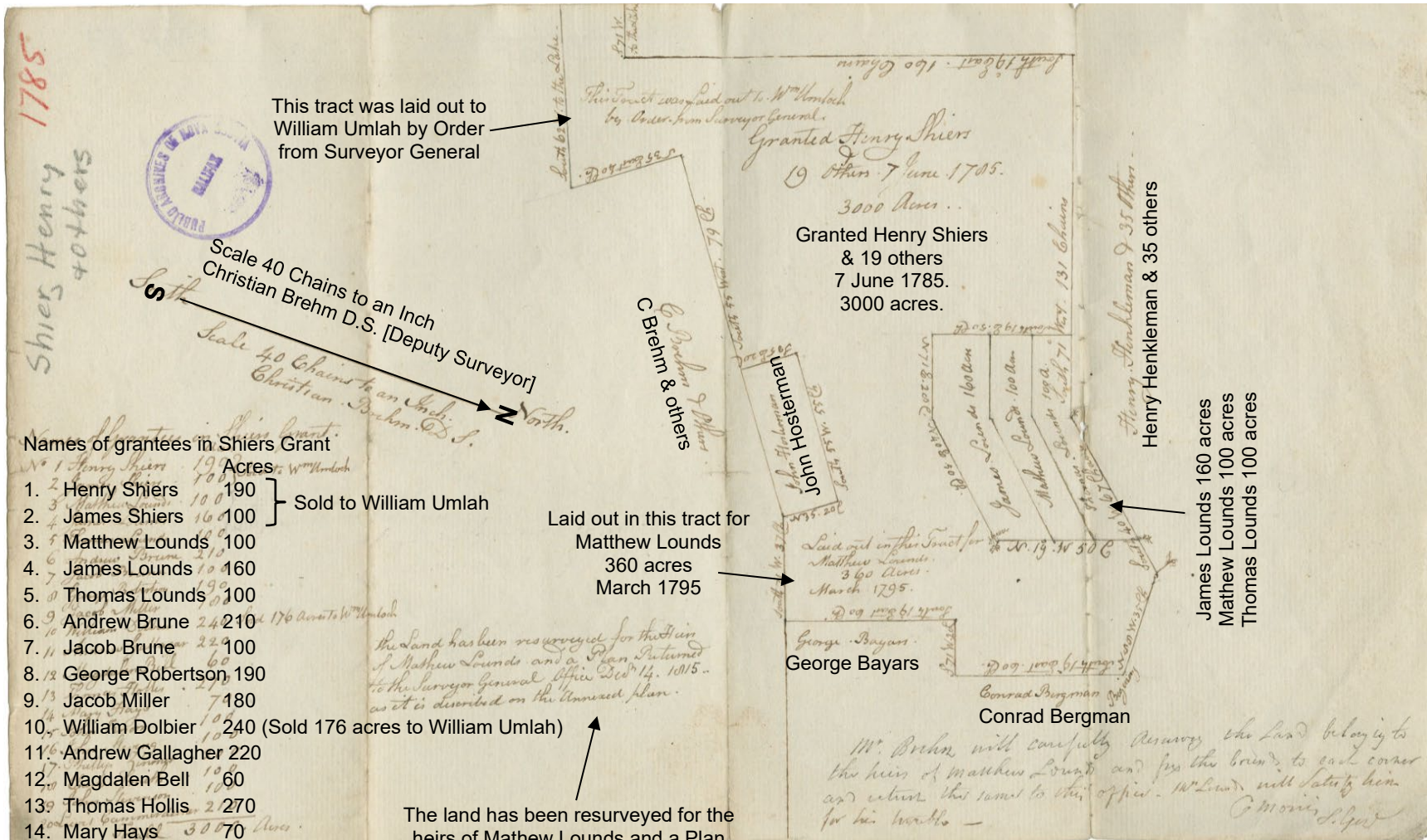
Map II: Region of Historic Goodwood Located Within Present Beechville Boundary



Map III: Alternative Southern Beechville Boundary Based on Historical Research



Appendix I: 1785 Henry Shier & Others Grant¹



Names of grantees in Shiers Grant

No.	Name	Acres
1.	Henry Shiers	190
2.	James Shiers	100
3.	Matthew Lounds	100
4.	James Lounds	100
5.	Thomas Lounds	100
6.	Andrew Brune	210
7.	Jacob Brune	100
8.	George Robertson	190
9.	Jacob Miller	180
10.	William Dolbier	240 (Sold 176 acres to William Umlah)
11.	Andrew Gallagher	220
12.	Magdalen Bell	60
13.	Thomas Hollis	2270
14.	Mary Hays	300
15.	John Knorr	100
16.	John Steving	100
17.	Philip Zimmer	200
18.	Charles Smith	100
19.	John Stevenson	100
20.	Lewis Cammerdiener	210

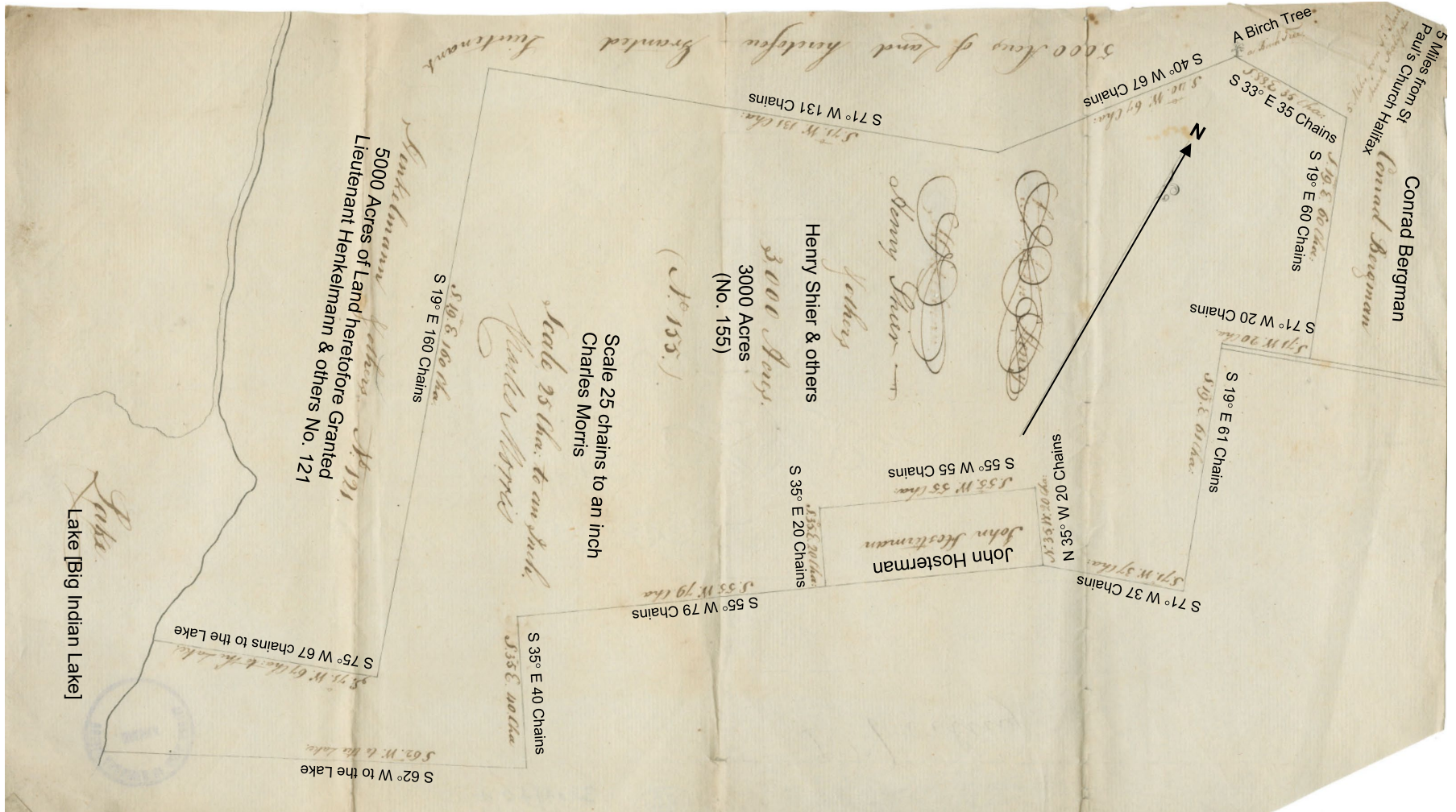
Sold to William Umlah

Laid out in this tract for Matthew Lounds 360 acres March 1795

The land has been resurveyed for the heirs of Mathew Lounds and a Plan Returned to the Surveyor General Office Dec 14, 1815 as it is described on the annexed plan.

Mr. Brehm will carefully resurvey the land belonging to the heirs of Matthew Lounds and by the [ill.] to each corner and return the same to this office. W^m Lounds will [ill.] him for his trouble.

[Nova Scotia Archives – Nova Scotia Land Papers – Shier, Henry and others – 1785 – Halifax County]



This pair of survey maps for a 1785 grant depict the 3000 acres granted to Henry Shier and others, bounded by lands of Conrad Bergman, Henry Hinkleman, and John Hosterman. Notably the John Hosterman grant, depicted bounding the Shier et al. grant, allows this 3000-acre grant to be situated in relation to the Nova Scotia Crown Lands Index Maps and the 1818 Refugee Hill License of Occupation Plan. Surveyor General, Charles Morris, was instructed to look out for and reserve unappropriated lands for the purpose of the Black refugees. According to the petition of Garrett Miller (see Appendix XVII), Morris had identified lands belonging to the Shier et al. land grant as being suitable for the use of the Black refugees and sought the escheatment (return) of these lands or a portion thereof to the crown. The Escheat record [see Appendix XI] indicates the portion of these lands which were successfully escheated contained 2550 acres, and so some portion of that 2550 acres was repurposed for the Black refugees, evidently containing at least the 324 acres to which Garrett Miller is referring to in his 1839 petition for compensation [see Appendix XVII] and the 360 acres granted to Mathew Lounds and resurveyed for his heirs, according to the 1816 Order for Rations to Benjamin Roberts [see Appendix III], and it may have contained other portions of lands once granted to recipients outlined in the Shier et al. grant.

[Nova Scotia Archives – Nova Scotia Land Papers – Shier, Henry and others – 1785 – Halifax County]

Appendix II: Several lists of the Black Loyalist refugees settled upon lands conveyed to them by Henry H. Cogswell at the Head of the North West Arm, appended to a request for supplies²

[Title:] Names of Men of Colour who are settled upon lands conveyed to them by Henry H. Cogswell which lands are situated at the Head of the North West Arm

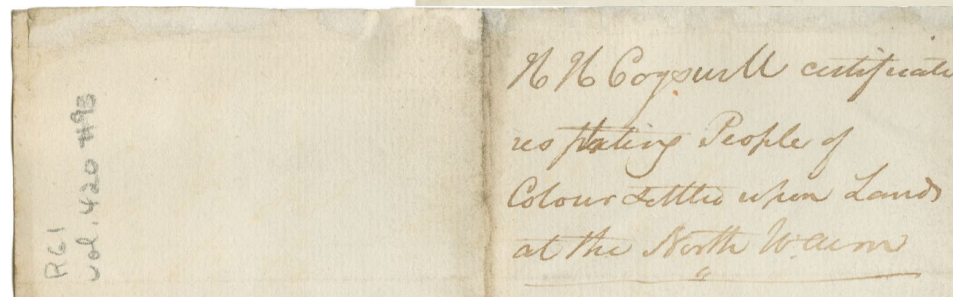
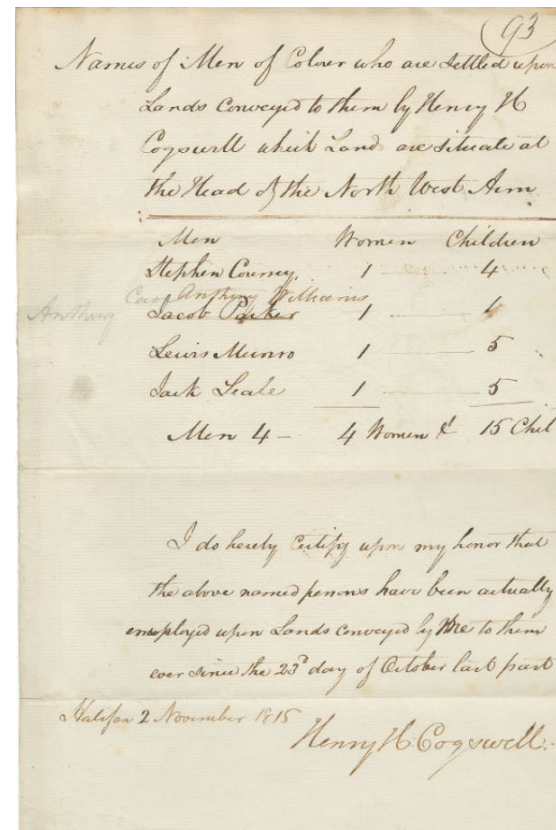
Men	Women	Children
Stephen Couney	1	4
Anthony Williams Jacob Parker [crossed out]	1	1
Lewis Munro	1	5
Jack Leale	1	
Men 4 –	4 Women &	15 Child

I do hereby certify upon my honor that the above-named persons have been actually employed upon lands conveyed by me to them ever since the 23rd day of October last part

Halifax 2 November 1815
Henry H. Cogswell

[Title on reverse of page:]

H H Cogswell certificate us [sic] placing People of Colour settled upon land at the North W Arm



[Nova Scotia Archives RG1 Vol420 No93]

[Title of next page:]

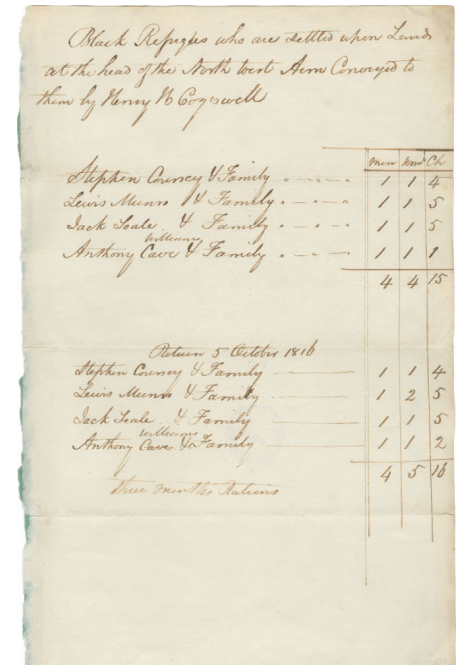
Black Refugees who are settled upon lands at the head of the North West Arm conveyed to them by Henry H. Cogswell

[Name]	Men	Women	Children
Stephen Couney & Family	1	1	4
Lewis Munro & Family	1	1	5
Jack Leale & Family	1	1	5
Williams	1	1	1
Anthony Cave & Family			
	4	4	15

Return 5 October 1816

[Name]	[Men]	[Women]	[Children]
Stephen Couney & Family	1	1	4
Lewis Munro & Family	1	2	5
Jack Leale & Family	1	1	5
Williams	1	1	2
Anthony Cave & Family			
	4	5	16

Three months' returns



[Nova Scotia Archives RG1 Vol420 No93]

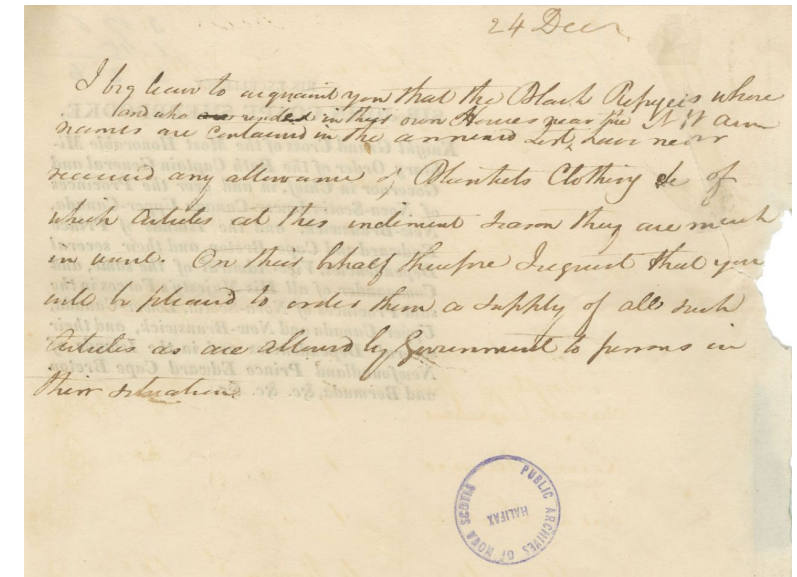
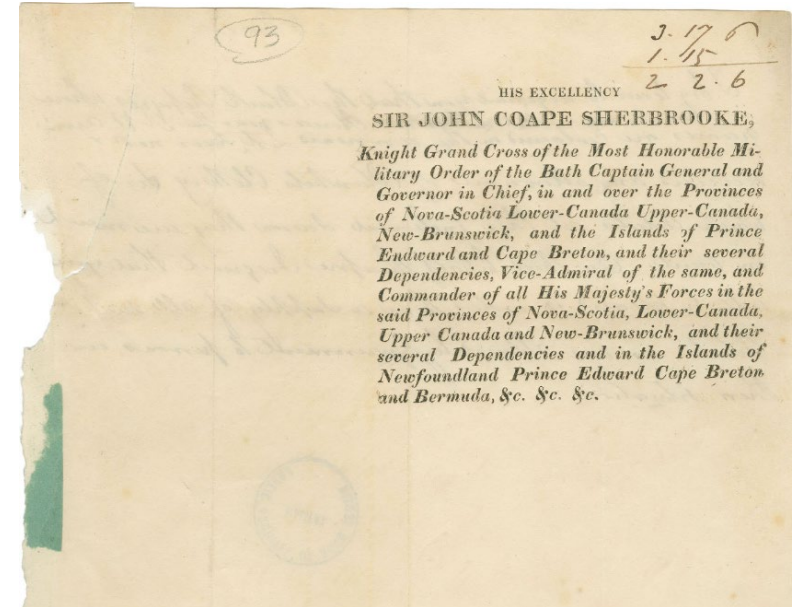
[Transcript of the following pages:]

His Excellency Sir John Coape Sherbrooke [...]

24 December [likely 1816]

I beg leave to acquaint you that the Black Refugees where and who reside in their own Houses near the NW Arm names are contained in the annexed list have never received any allowance of Blankets Clothing etc of which articles at this inclement season they are much in want. On their behalf therefore I request that you will be pleased to order them a supply of all such Articles as are allowed by Government to persons in their situation.

[The “annexed list” mentioned here is referring to the three settlement census returns shown above, which were appended to this letter.]



[Nova Scotia Archives RG1 Vol420 No93]

Appendix III: May 16, 1816 Order for Benjamin Roberts, 3 Months' Rations³

[Page 1:]

To Henry H. Cogswell Esquire Deputy Surveyor

The Bearer Benjamin Roberts one of the Negroes [sic] brought to Halifax from Saint Mary's [Trinidad] with a wife and five children, has been for a year past in the service of the Chief Justice, has lately received an order from the Surveyor General of Lands to be located on land adjoining to a tract occupied by the Settlers under a grant made to the late Mathew Loundes near the North West Arm to which location he is desirous of removing with his Wife and three children, but cannot do so, unless he can be allowed to receive the allowance of provisions from His Majesty's bounty. He therefore humbly prays that he may receive an order on the proper officer for the rations of provisions granted to other Black people in his situation And as in duty bound will ever pray.

Halifax May 15th, 1816 [illegible, possibly JW Morris]

[Page 2:]

	Man	W[oman]	C[hild]
Benjamin Roberts	1	1	2

[Page 3:]

16th May 1816

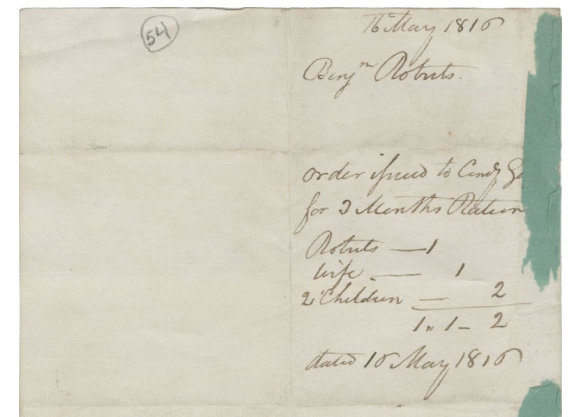
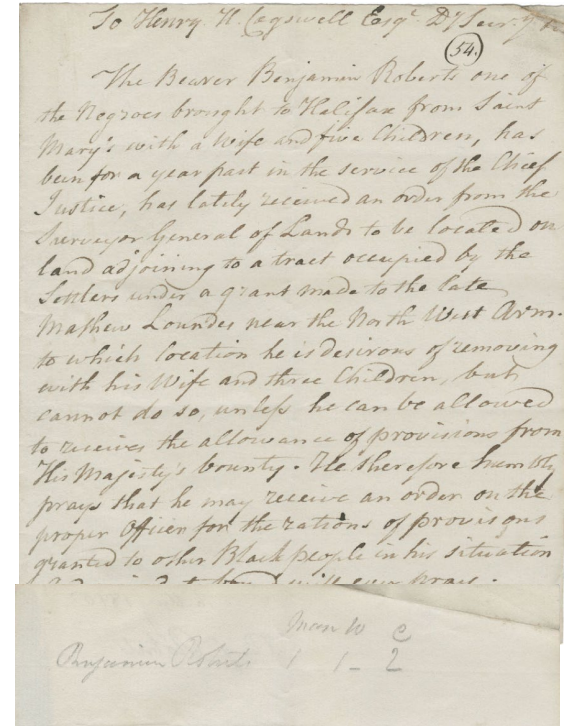
Benjamin Roberts

Order issued to [ill.] for 3 Months Rations

Roberts –	1
Wife –	1
<u>2 Children –</u>	<u>2</u>
1 " 1 –	2

dated 16 May 1816

[Nova Scotia Archives RG1 Vol419 No54]



Appendix IV: June 3, 1816 census of land near the North West Arm called Refugee Hill⁴

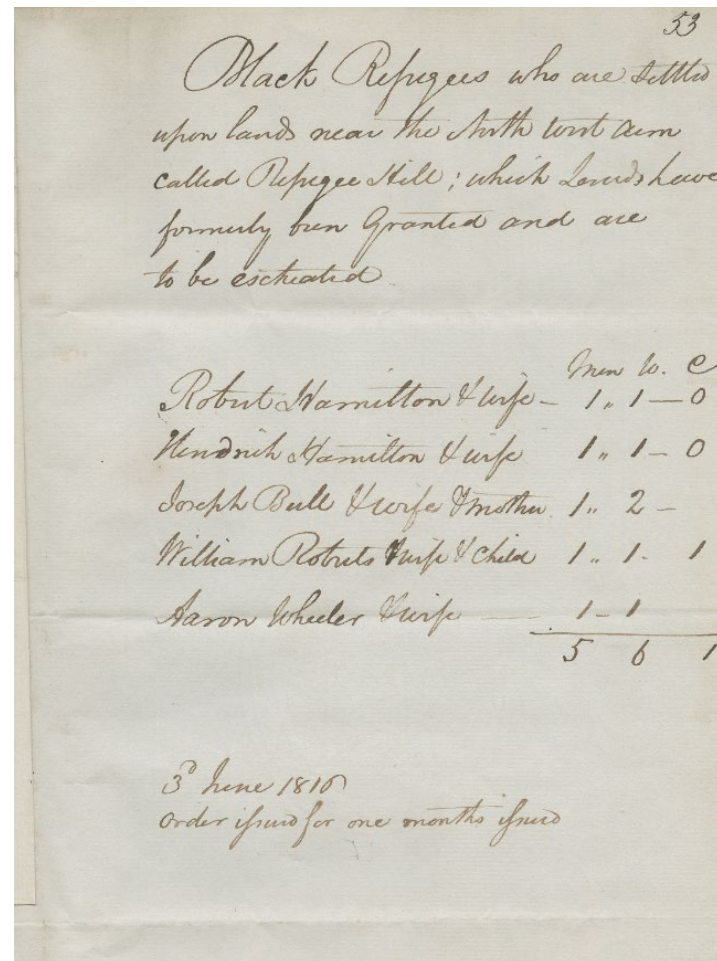
[Title:] Black Refugees who are settled upon lands near the North West Arm called Refugee Hill; which lands have formerly been granted and are to be escheated

	Men	Women	Children
Robert Hamilton & wife	1	1	0
Hendrick Hamilton & wife	1	1	0
Joseph Bull [Butler] & wife & mother	1	2	
William Roberts & wife & child	1	1	1
Aaron Wheeler & wife	1	1	
	5	6	1

3rd June 1816

Order issued for one months issued [likely referring to rations]

[The phrasing “which lands have formerly been granted and are to be escheated” refers to the settlement of Refugee Hill being laid out on lands formerly granted in 1785 to Henry Shier and others, whose lands were anticipated to be ‘escheated’ to the Crown.]

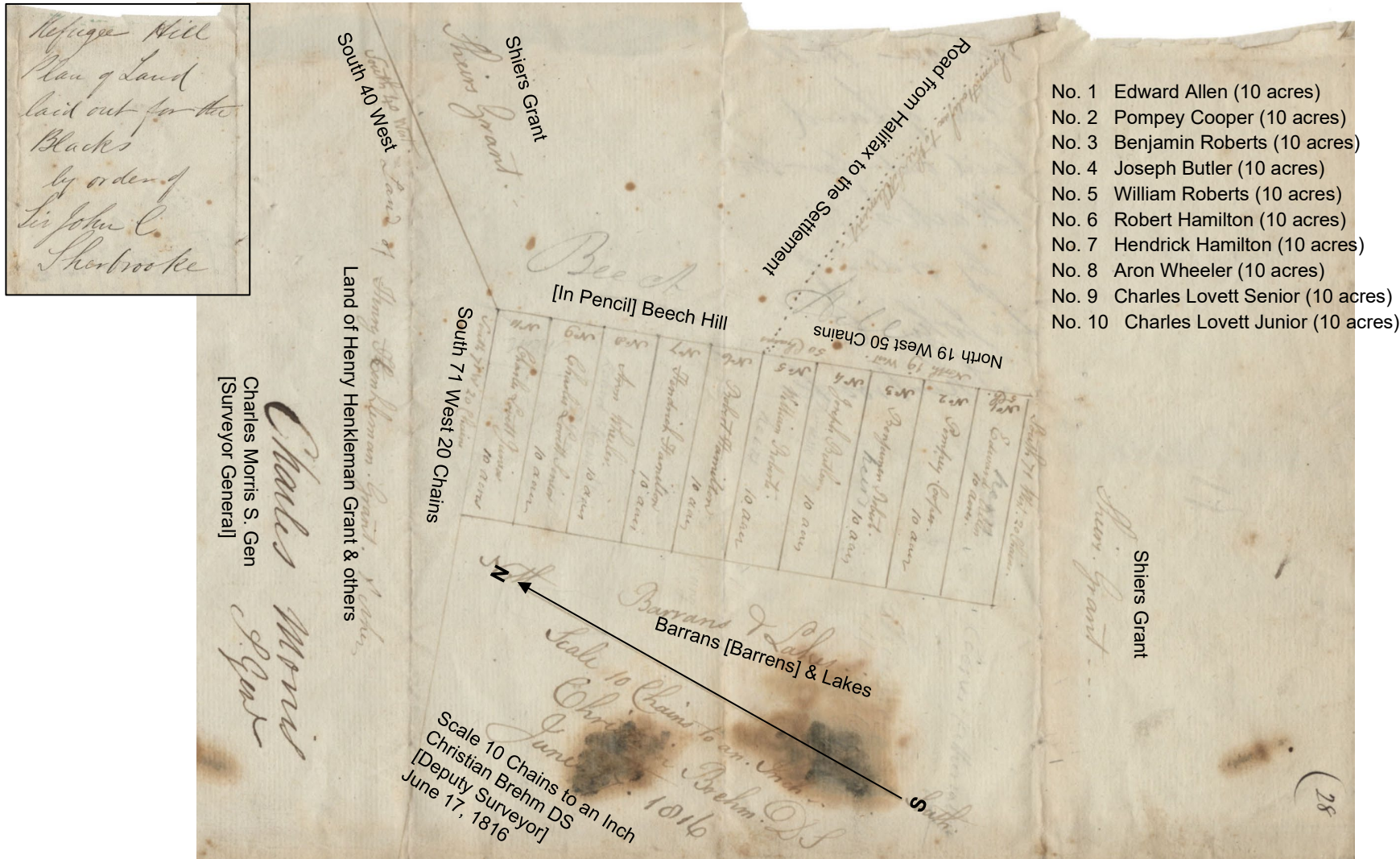


[Nova Scotia Archives RG1 Vol419 No53]

Appendix V: June 17, 1816 Refugee Hill Plan⁵

[Title on rear:] Refugee Hill Plan of Land Laid Out for the Blacks [sic] by Order of Sir John C. Sherbrooke

[When comparing this map to the 1818 License of Occupation for Refugee Hill, note the north arrows of both maps for correct orientation. Note also how this map corresponds closely to the names and layout of Division B of the 1818 License of Occupation for Refugee Hill.]



[Nova Scotia Archives RG1 Vol419 No28]

Appendix VI: July 1, 1816 List of Black Refugees Located on Lands on the Prospect Road⁶

[Title:] List of Refugee Negroes [sic] Located on Lands on the Prospect Road

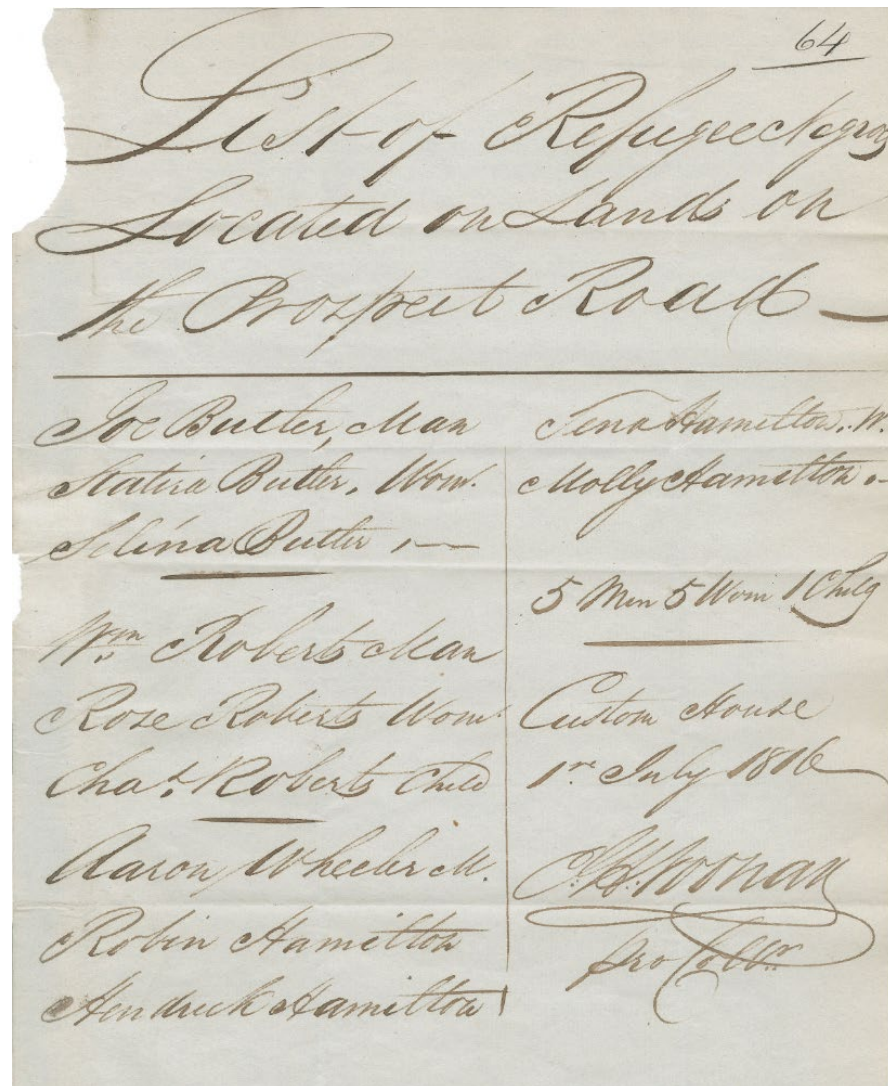
Joe Butler, man
 Natilee[?] Butler, wom[an]
 Selina Butler, --- [woman]

 William Roberts, man
 Rose Roberts, wom[an]
 Charles Roberts, child

 Aaron Wheeler, M[an]
 Robin [Robert] Hamilton [man]
 Hendrick Hamilton [man]
 Lena Hamilton, W[oman]
 Molly Hamilton [woman]

 5 men, 5 women, 1 child

 Custom House
 1st July 1816
 J.H. Noonan
 Dro[?] Collector



[Nova Scotia Archives RG1 Vol419 No64]

Appendix VII: July 13, 1816 List of Black Refugees located on Lands in the NW of Melville Island⁷

[Title:] List of Refugee Negroes [sic] located on Lands in the NW. of Melville Island

- + Joe Bull Butler, & wife & wife's mother
- + Aaron Wheeler & wife
- + William Roberts, wife & one child
- + Robin [Robert] Hamilton wife
- + Hendrick Hamilton & wife
- + Edward Allan, wife & three children
- + Pompey Cooper, & wife
- + Charles Lovett [Sr.] & wife
- + Charles Lovett 2/ [Jr.]
- + Benjamin Roberts, wife & 3 children

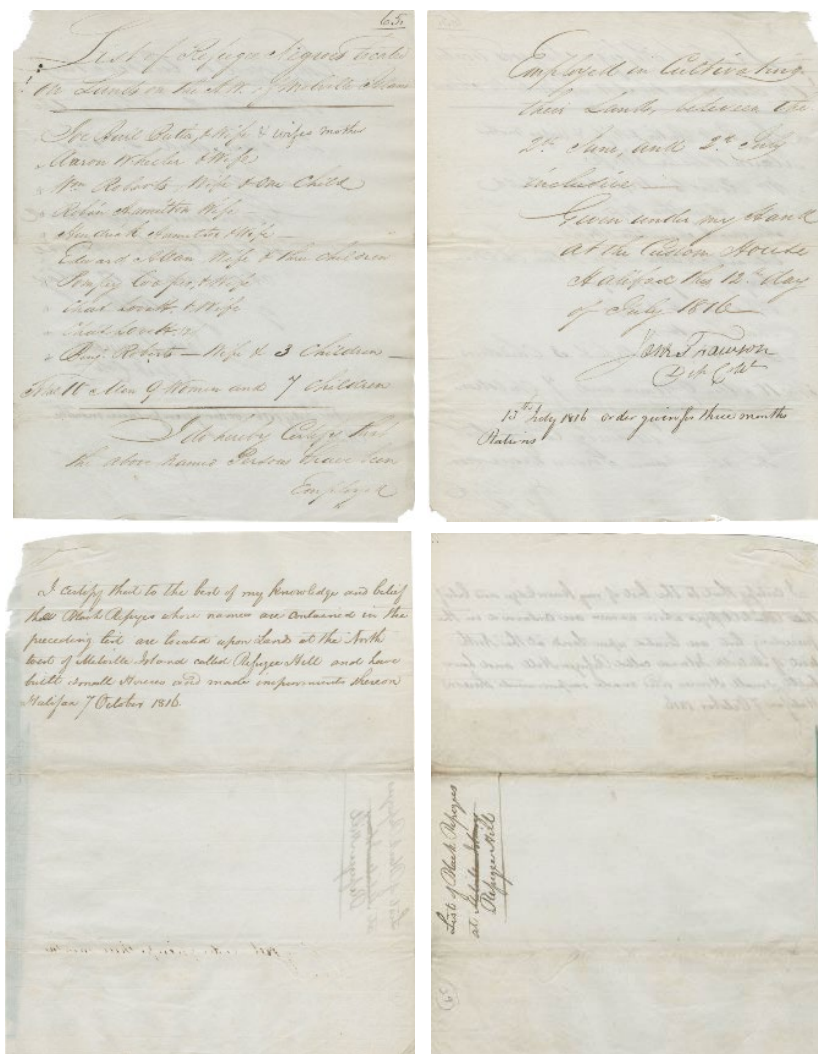
Total 10 Men, 9 Women, and 7 Children

I do certify that the above-named Persons have been employed in cultivating their lands, between the 2nd June, and 2nd July inclusive. Given under my hand at the Custom House Halifax this 12th day of July 1816 – John Trawson, Dep Coll [Deputy Collector]

13th July 1816 order given for three months rations.

[Title on back of second sheet:] List of Black Refugees at Melville Island Refugee Hill

I certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief these Black Refugees whose names are contained in the preceding list are located upon Lands at the North West of Melville Island called Refugee Hill and have built small houses and made improvements thereon. Halifax 7 October 1816



[Nova Scotia Archives RG1 Vol419 No65]

Appendix VIII: October 5th, 1816 Certificate in favour of Benjamin Roberts, a Black Refugee at Refugee Hill near Halifax⁸

I certify that Benjamin Roberts the Bearer hereof a Blackman [sic] is a decent industrious man, that he occupies a piece of land obtained from Government on Refugee Hill near Halifax upon which he has built a House and made some improvements and that he has a wife and three sons (the eldest about twelve years of age) whom he maintains.

Halifax 5th Oct. 1816

J.W. Nutting

68,
I Certify that Benjamin Roberts the
Bearer hereof a Blackman is a decent industrious
man that he occupies a piece of Land obtained from
Government on Refugee Hill near Halifax
upon which he has built a House, and made
some improvements and that he has a wife
and three sons (the eldest about twelve years of
age) whom he maintains
Halifax. 5th Oct. 1816. J.W. Nutting

[Nova Scotia Archives RG1 Vol419 No68]

Appendix IX: Undated List of Black Refugees settled at Refugee Hill & at the head of the North West Arm⁹

[Title:] List of Refugee Negroes [sic] settled at Refugee Hill & at the head of the N. West Arm the number of their houses & lots of land with their wives & children

No.	Names	No. of the house	No. of the lots of land	Wife	Children
1	Joe Blackwell	1		1	1
2	Abraham Brown	2		1	2
3	Pompe Cooper	3		1	-
4	Benjamin Roberts	4		1	3
5	Joseph Bull [Butler]	5		1	1
6	William Roberts	6		1	1
7	Robert Hamilton	7		1	-
8	Frederick Hamilton	8		1	1
9	Aron Wheeler	9		1	-
10	Charles Lovett Senior	10		1	-
11	Charles Lovett Junior	11		-	-
12	Edward Allan	-		1	3
13	Stephaney Coursey			1	4
14	Lewis Monroe			1	5
15	Anthony Williams			1	3
16	John Seales			1	3
17	George Hope			-	-
18	James Thompson			-	-
19	Abraham Green			1	3
20	Robert Playter			1	2
21	Abraham Barnes			1	2
22	Joe Chipchase			-	-
23	Em. ^e [Emmanuel?] Benham			-	-
24	John Barker			1	1
25	Sandy Nugent			1	-

[Total population of 80]

[Nova Scotia Archives RG1 Vol 422 No 112]

Appendix X: January 26, 1817 Expense record for the cost of escheating land for the use of the Black Refugees¹⁰

1817 26 January Halifax Nova Scotia
 Government by Arm of the Right Honorable the Earl of Dalhousie GB
 To the Court of Escheats and Forfeitures in Nova Scotia – Dr [Debit] –

Date		Currency
1817	To expense of escheating a tract of land near the North West Arm containing One Thousand Acres for the use of the American Refugee Negroes [sic]	2000
		<u>£2000</u>

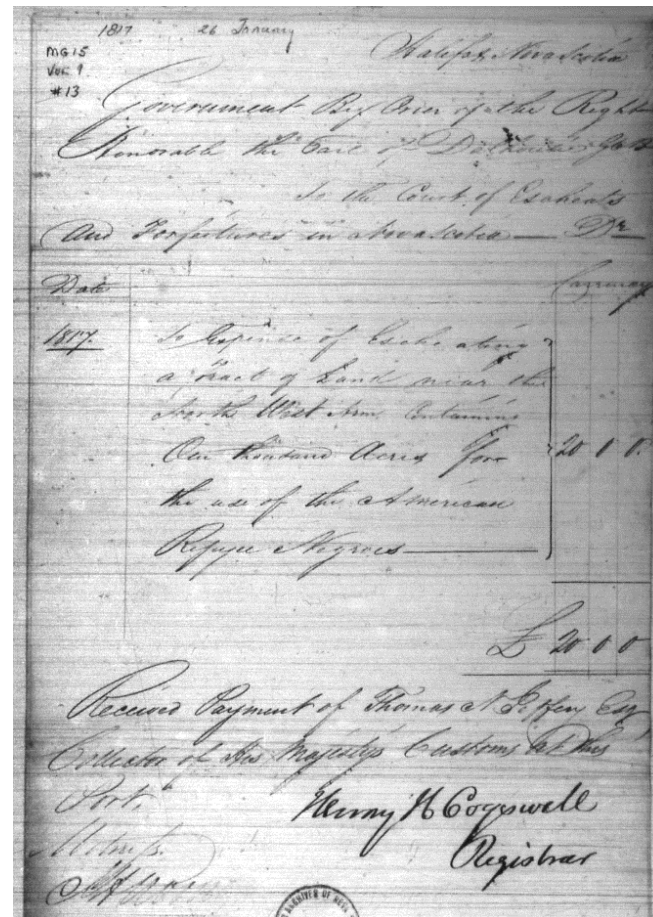
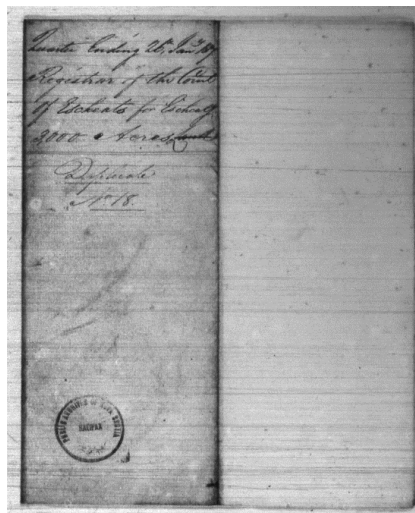
Received payment of Thomas N Jeffrey Esq collector of His Majesty's Customs at the Port

Henry H. Cogswell
 Registrar

[Title on Rear:]

Quarter ending 26th January 1817
 Registrar of the Court
 of Escheats for Escheat of
 3,000 Acres Land

Duplicate
N. 18



[Note the discrepancy in acreage between the body text of the document and the title on the rear.]

[Nova Scotia Archives MG15 Vol9 No13]

Appendix XI: April 14, 1817 Escheat - The King v Shier & Others¹¹

14 April, 1817
The King v Henry Shier & others } Inquest
Court of Escheats
3000 Acres Refugee Hill
No 22
Province of Nova Scotia, ss.}

An inquisition indented and taken at Halifax, in the Province aforesaid, this 14 day of April in the fifty seventh year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third, and in the year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventeen before the Hon Michael Wallace Commissioner of Escheats and Forfeitures within the said Province of Nova Scotia, touching and concerning the Performance or Non-performance of the Conditions in a certain Grant of Henry Shier, James Shier, James Lounds, Matthew Lounds, Andrew Brune, George Robson, Jacob Miller, William Dollbear [Dolbier], Andrew Gallagher, Magdalen Bell widow, Thomas Hollis, Mary Hayes, John Knorr, John Steving, Philip Zimmer, Charles Smith, John Stevenson, and Lewis Cammerdiener in severalty and unto their several and respective Heirs and Assigns a tract of land containing Three Thousand Acres situate lying and being within the County of Halifax in our Province of Nova Scotia abutted and bounded as follows, that is to say beginning at a birch tree marked & bearing north eighty eight degrees west distant thirty five [chains] from the north west angle of Conrad Bergman's farm lot being the first corner bound of Five Thousand Acres heretofore granted unto Henry Hinkleman and others, thence to run south forty degrees west sixty seven chains thence south seventy one degrees west one hundred and thirty one chains, thence south nineteen degrees east one hundred and sixty chains, thence south seventy one degrees west sixty seven chains or until it comes to the lake, thence to begin again at the first bound and to run south eighty eight degrees east thirty five chains, thence south nineteen degrees east sixty chains, thence south seventy one degrees west twenty chains, thence south nineteen degrees east sixty one chains, thence south seventy one degrees west thirty seven chains or until it comes to land granted to John Hosterman, thence north thirty five degrees west twenty chains, thence south fifty five degrees west seventy nine chains, thence south thirty five degrees east forty chains, thence south sixty five degrees west to the lake and to be bounded by the several courses of the lake until it meets the fourth course on the lake,

bearing Date the twenty first Day of April 1785

made by His Excellency John Parr Esq, Captain, General, & Governor in Chief by the Oaths of James Collupy, John Hay, Alexander McDougal, Alexander Philips, William Gallagher, Christian Brehm, Walter C. Wilkie, Paul Woodworth, John Jost, George Brehm, Michael Pendergast, & Thomas Fenerty –

Twelve honest and lawful Men, Freeholders of the Province aforesaid, for this Purpose impannelled [sic] and Summoned by the Sheriff, who being called, sworn and charged to enquire on the Part and Behalf of our Sovereign Lord the King, whether the said Henry Shier and the sixteen other grantees above named their heirs or assigns or any person or persons for them

have or have not from the Day of the Date of the said Grant unto the Day of the taking of this inquisition, fulfilled, kept, and performed the certain Conditions contained in the said Grant, do say that **the said grantees their heirs or assigns have not performed the terms & conditions contained in the said Grant, save and except as follows that is to say reserving from out of this inquest that part of said tract of land containing 450 Acres on which William Umlah is now settled & which part of land is comprehended and described in the deed of Henry Shier and William Dollbear [Dolbier] now on record to the said William Umlah having settled & improved the same** [emphasis added].

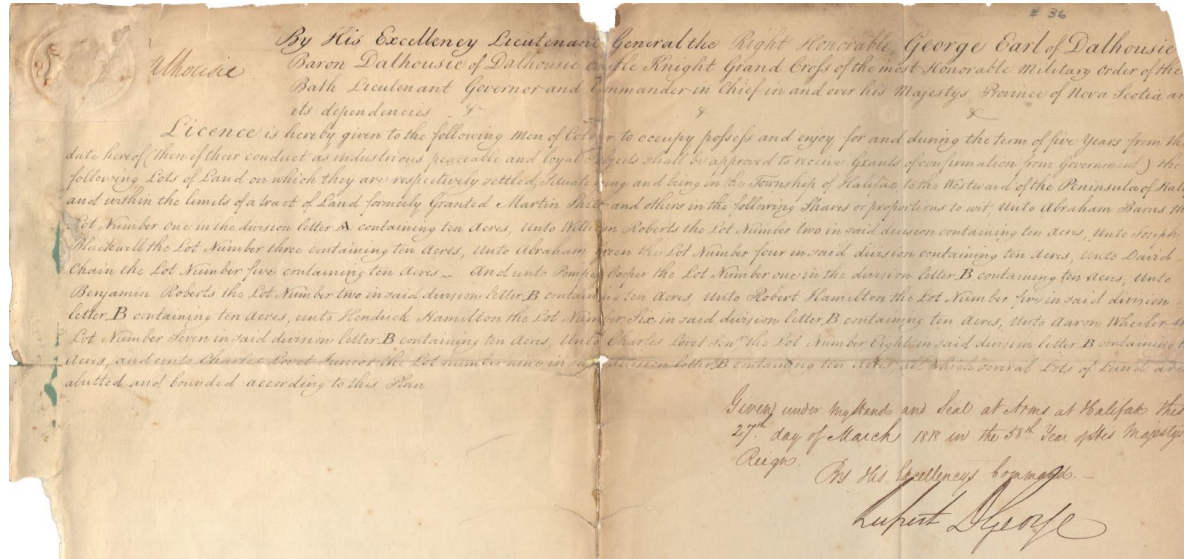
In Witness whereof as well I the said Michael Wallace as the Jurors aforesaid, have to this Inquisition let our Hands and Seal, the Day and Year first Written.

Michael Wallace	
James Collupy	Walter C. Wilkie
John Hay	Paul Woodworth
Alex McDougal	John Jost
Alex Philips	G. B. Brehm
William Gallagher	Michael x ^{his mark} Pendergast
Christian Brehm	Thomas Fenerty

[Nova Scotia Archives MFM12918 No. 220]

Appendix XII: March 27, 1818 Refugee Hill Land License Plan¹²

[Title on reverse of document:] Licence men of color Pompey Cooper & others Refugee Hill Township of Halifax



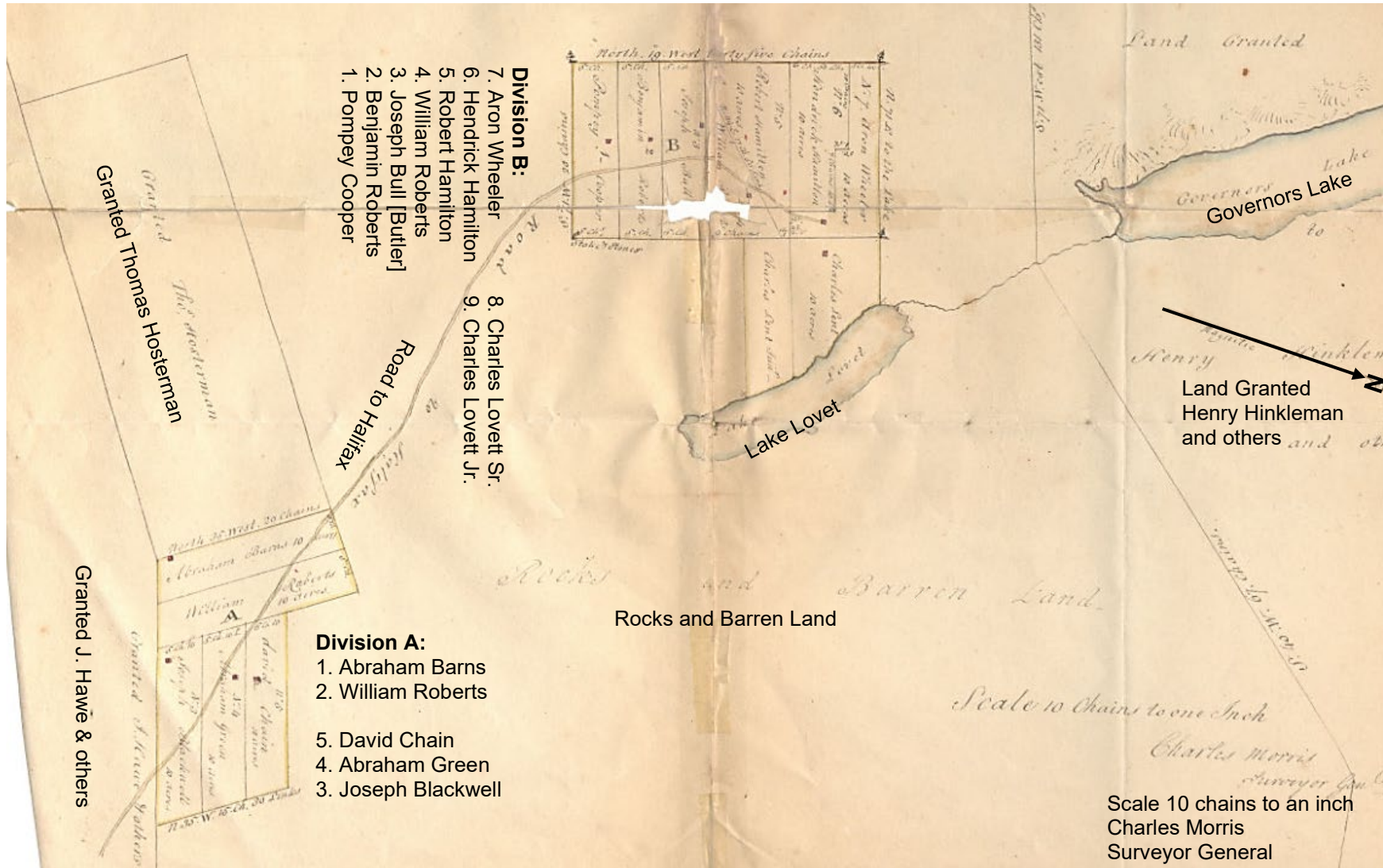
[Seal] Dalhousie

By His Excellency Lieutenant General the Right Honourable George Earl of Dalhousie
Baron Dalhousie of Dalhousie Castle Knight Grant Cross of the most Honourable Military Order of the Bath Lieutenant
Governor and Commander in Chief in and over His Majesty's Province of Nova Scotia and its dependencies & &

License is hereby given to the following men of colour to occupy possess and enjoy for and during the term of five years from the date hereof (then if their conduct as industrious peaceable and loyal subjects shall be approved to receive grants of confirmation from Government) the following lots of land on which they are respectively settled, situate lying and being in the Township of Halifax on the westward of the Peninsula of Halifax and within the limits of a tract of land formerly granted Martin Shier and others in the following shares or proportions to wit, unto Abraham Barnes the Lot Number one in the division letter A containing ten acres, unto William Roberts the Lot Number two in said division containing ten acres, unto Joseph Blackwell the Lot Number three containing ten acres, unto Abraham Green the Lot Number four in said division containing ten acres, unto David Chain the Lot Number five containing ten acres – And unto Pompey Cooper the Lot Number one in the division letter B containing ten acres, unto Benjamin Roberts the Lot Number two in said division letter B containing ten acres, unto Robert Hamilton the Lot Number five in said division letter B containing ten acres, unto Hendrick Hamilton the Lot Number six in said division letter B containing ten acres, unto Aaron Wheeler the Lot Number seven in said division letter B containing ten acres, unto Charles Lovet Senior, the Lot Number eight in said division letter B containing ten acres, and unto Charles Lovet Junior the Lot Number nine in said division letter B containing ten acres, all which several lots of land are abutted and bounded according to this plan.

Given under my hand and Seal at Arms at Halifax this
27th day of March 1818 in the 58th Year of His Majesty's Reign.
By His Excellency Command. –
Rupert S. George

[Note the position of the north arrow.]



[Nova Scotia Archives RG1 Vol419 No.36]

[In the Nova Scotia Archives digital collection “Looking Back Moving Forward” there is a copy of this 1818 License of Occupation with a third page which reads as follows:]

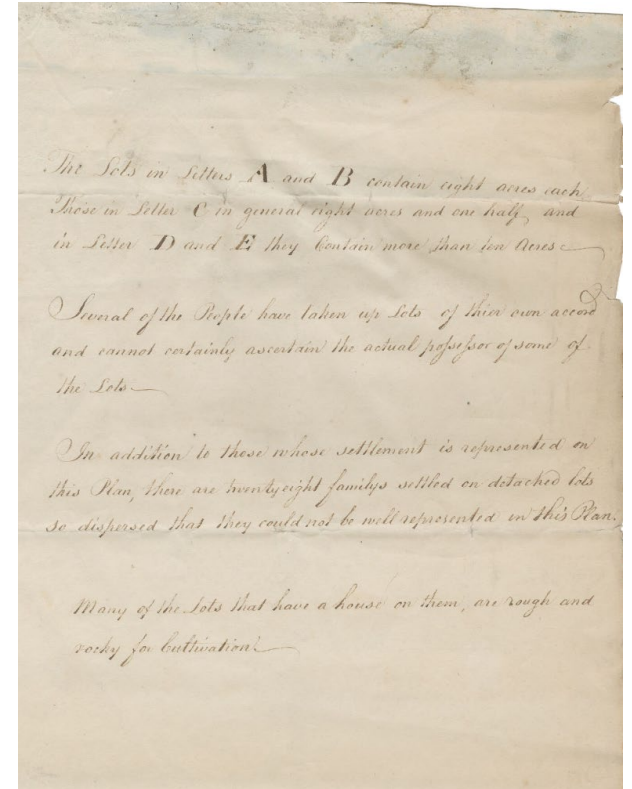
The Lots in Letters A and B contain eight acres each
Those in letter C in general eight acres and one half and in Letter D and E they contain more than 10 acres.

Several of the People have taken up lots of their own accord and cannot certainly ascertain the actual possessor of some of the lots.

In addition to those whose settlement is represented on this Plan, there are twenty eight families settled on detached lots so dispersed that they could not be well represented on this Plan.

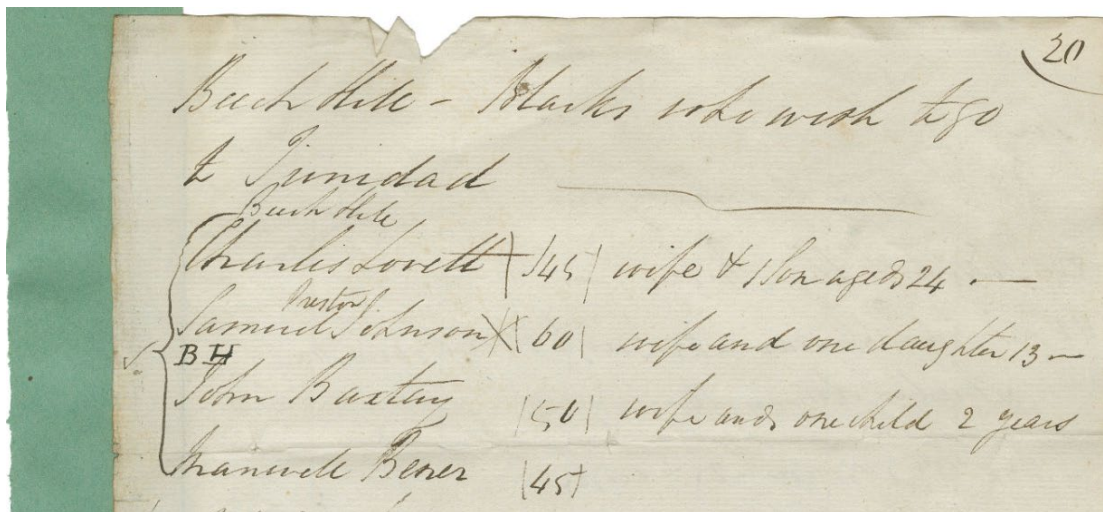
Many of the lots that have a house on them are rough and rocky for cultivation.

[In the course of research, staff have identified this page as being erroneously appended to the 1818 Refugee Hill License of Occupation. This appended page derives from a plan of lots in Preston, which contains five divisions lettered A through E, as compared to Refugee Hill’s two divisions lettered A and B.^{13,14} Staff have confirmed with Nova Scotia Archives staff that the display of this appended page with the 1818 Refugee Hill License of Occupation was the result of a database error.]



Appendix XIII: Circa 1819 list of Black Refugees at Beech Hill who wished to go to Trinidad¹⁵

[This document is undated, but the 96 Black refugees who did resettle in Trinidad departed on January 6, 1821 aboard the schooner “William”. This list is therefore believed to date from sometime between 1818 and 1820. This document lists some 36 heads of household, but despite the document’s title, all except three towards the top of this list are designated as from other settlements at Preston (P) or Hammonds Plains (HP).]



[Title:] Beech Hill – Blacks [sic] who wish to go to Trinidad

[Name]	[Age]	[Wife and Children]	[Community Designation]	[Checkmark]
Charles Lovett	45	Wife & son aged 24	Beech Hill	Yes
Samuel Johnson	60	Wife and one daughter 13	Preston	Yes
John Baxtay [Baxter]	50	Wife and one child 2 years	Beech Hill	Yes
Manwell Benes	45		[Presumed] Beech Hill	Yes
[List continues with residents designated as being from Hammonds Plains and Preston...]				

[Nova Scotia Archives RG1 Vol. 422 No. 20]

Appendix XIV: July 16, 1827 Petition of Settlers at Beech Hill Near Halifax¹⁶

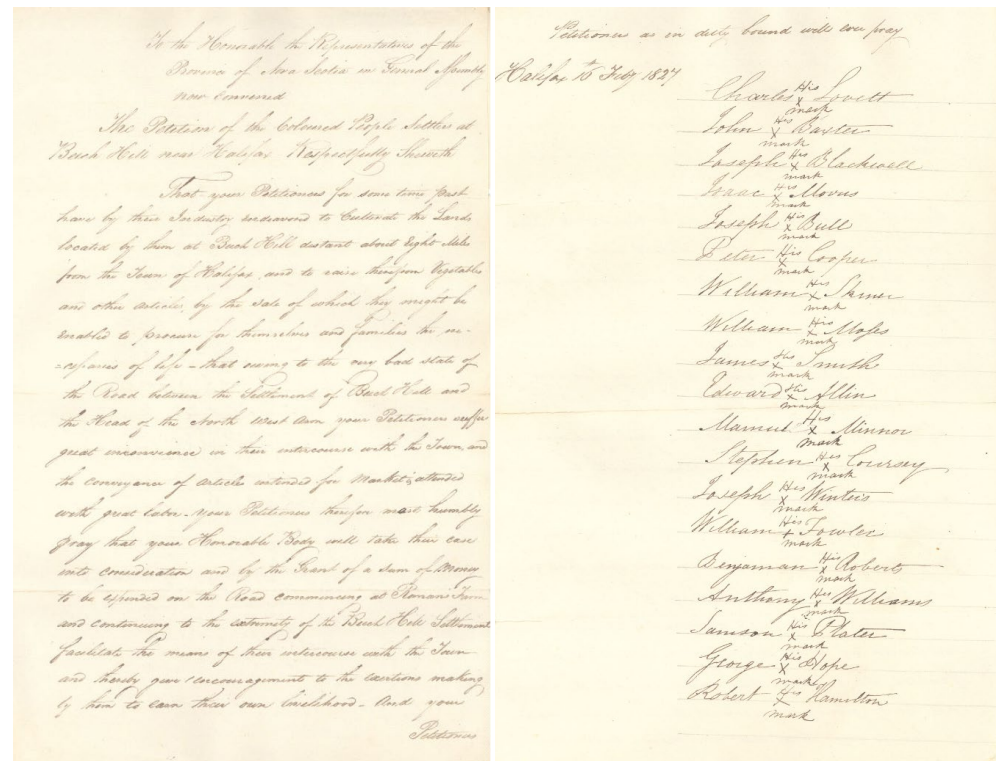
To the Honourable the Representative of the Province of Nova Scotia in General Assembly now convened
The Petition of the Coloured People [sic] Settlers at Beech Hill near Halifax Respectfully sheweth

The your Petitioners for some time past have by their industry endeavored to cultivate the lands located by them at Beech Hill distant about eight miles from the Town of Halifax, and to raise therefrom vegetables and other articles by the sale of which they might be enabled to procure for themselves and families the necessaries of life – that owing to the very bad state of the road between the settlement of Beech Hill and the Head of the North West Arm your petitioners suffer great inconvenience in their intercourse with the Town, and the conveyance of articles intended for market is attended with great labour, your Petitioners therefore most humbly pray that your Honourable Body will take their ease into consideration and by the grant of a sum of money to be expended on the road commencing at Roman's Farm and continuing to the extremity of the Beech Hill settlement facilitate the means of their intercourse with the Town and thereby give encouragement to the exertions making by them to earn their own livelihood, and your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

Halifax 16th July 1827

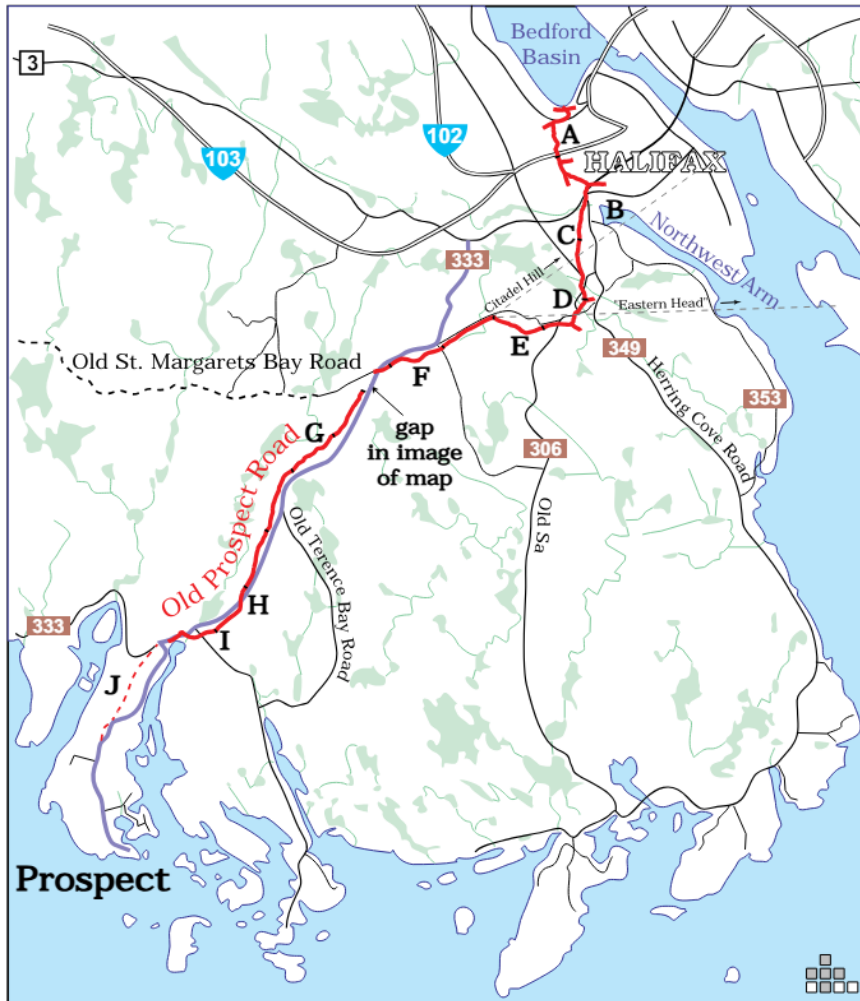
[Signed:]

Charles Lovett
John Baxter
Joseph Blackwell
Isaac Movers
Joseph Bull [Butler]
Peter Cooper
William Shiner
William Moses
James Smith
Edward Allin [Allen]
Manuel Minnor
Stephen Coursey [Couney]
Joseph Winters
William Fowler
Benjamin Roberts
Anthony Williams
Samson Plater
George Hope
Robert Hamilton

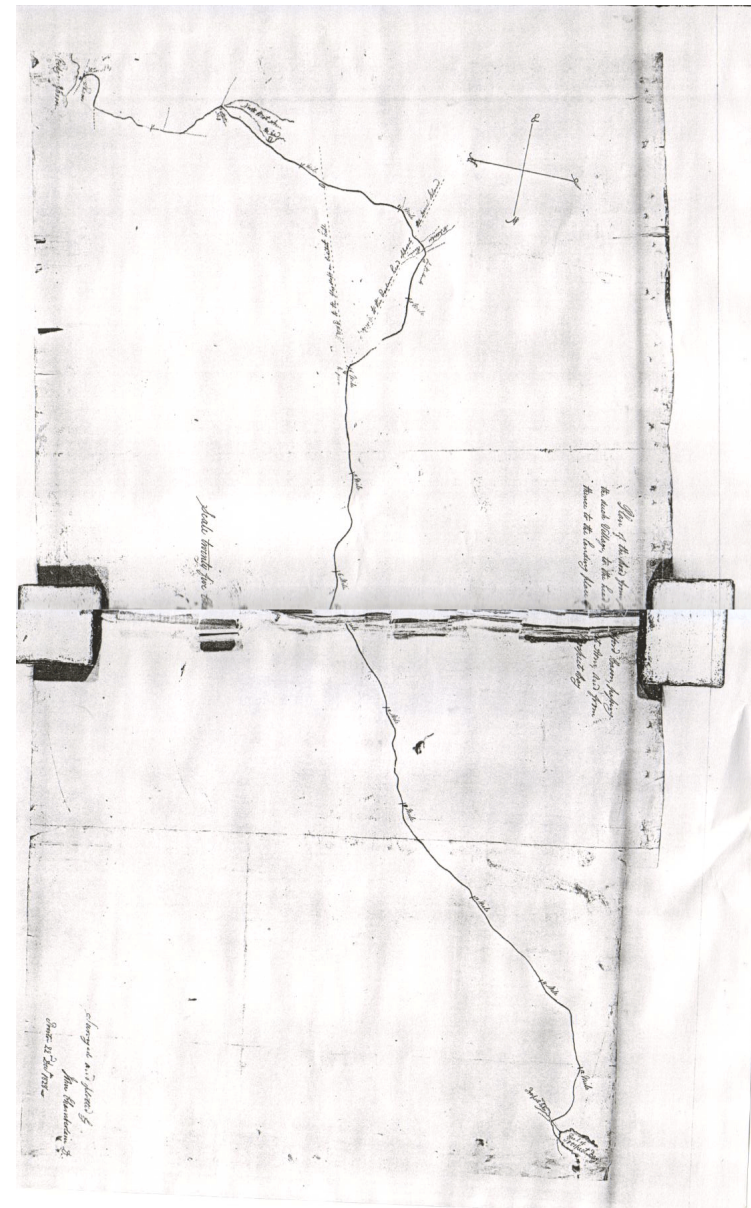


[Nova Scotia Archives RG5 Series P Vol. 92 No. 83]

Appendix XV: 1828 Old Prospect Road as Mapped by Chamberlain¹⁷

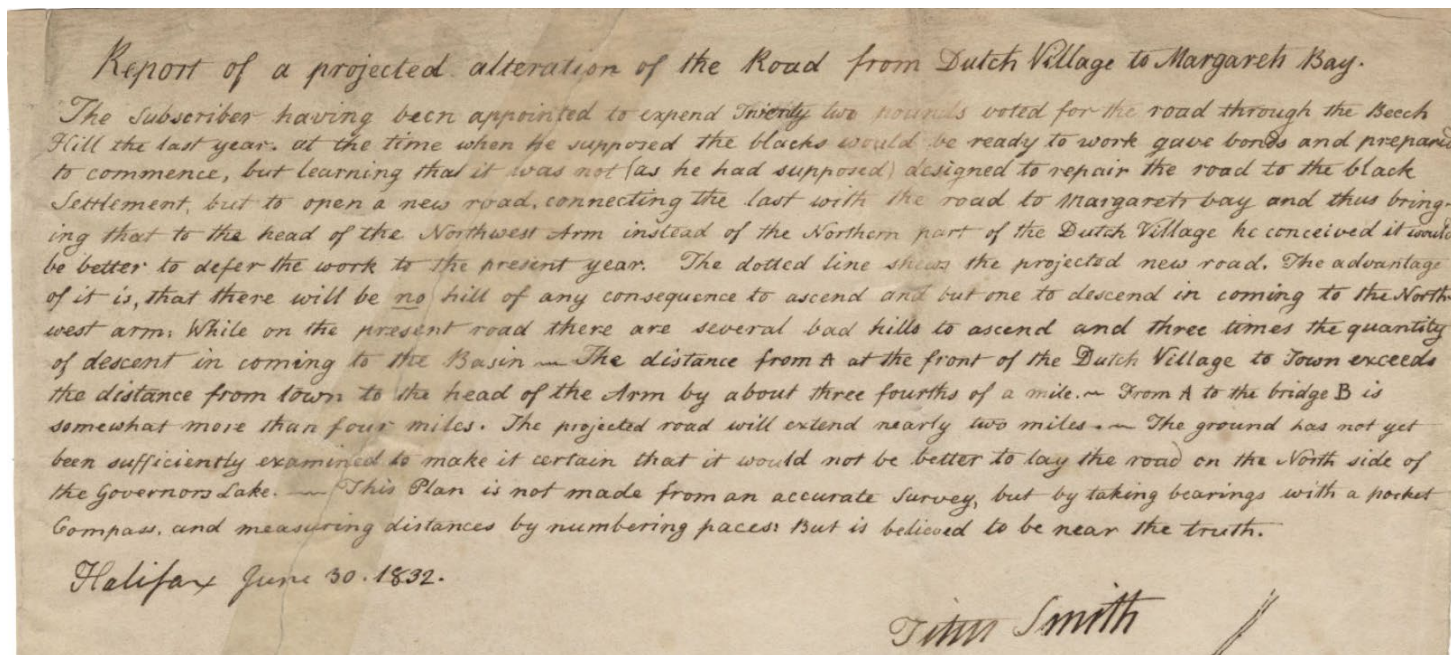


Old Prospect Road (red), as mapped by Chamberlain 1828, in relation to present Prospect Road (blue). Mile posts are marked in black. Letters refer to notes in the interpretive text. cartography by D. Grant, Terracon Geoscience Int'l, March 2001



[The Prospect Genealogical Website]

Appendix XVI: June 30, 1832 Report of a Proposed New Road from Dutch Village to St Margarets Bay¹⁸

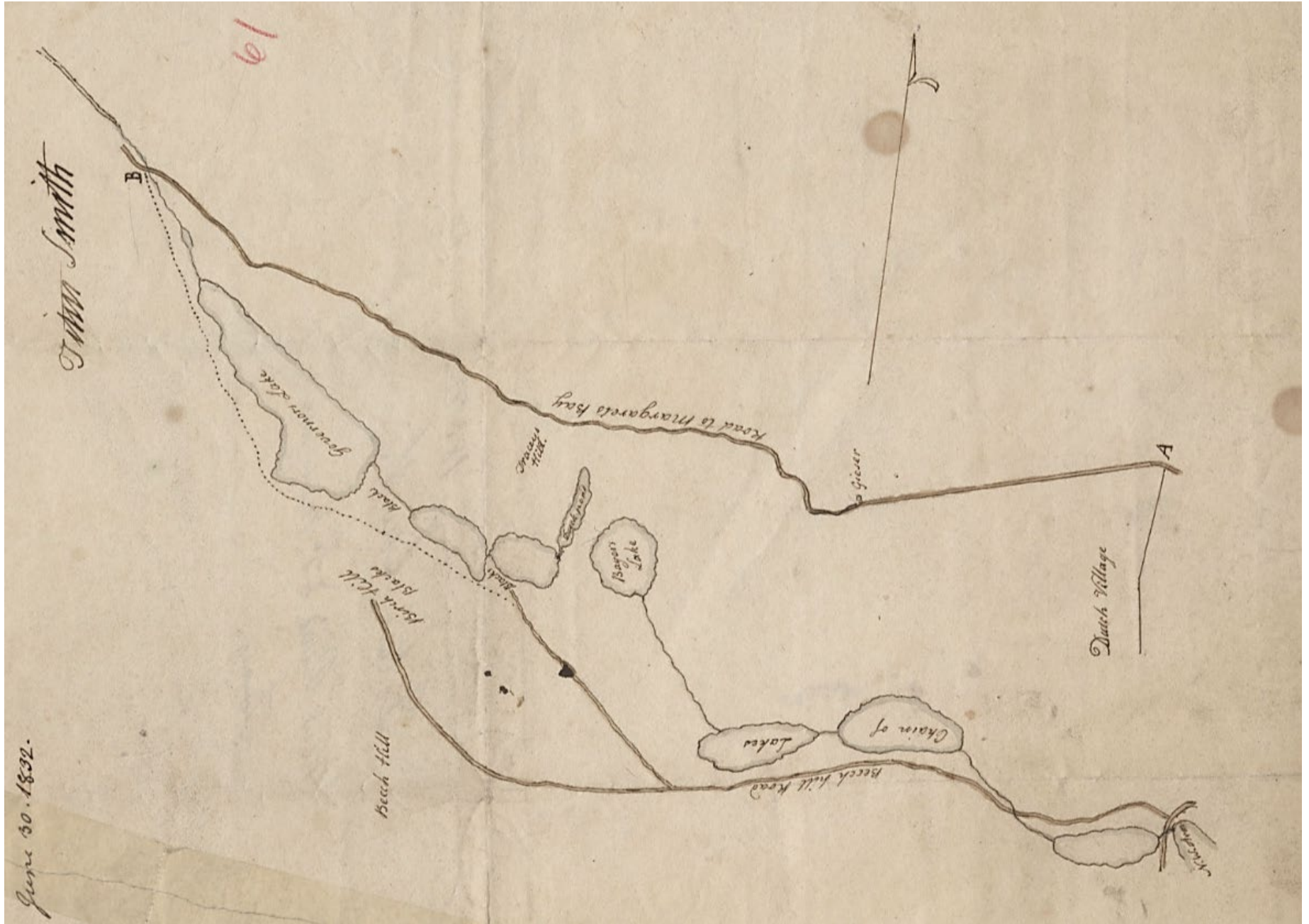


Report of a Projected Alteration of the Road from Dutch Village to Margarets Bay.

The subscriber having been appointed to expend twenty two pounds voted for the road through the Beech Hill the last year, at the time when he supposed the blacks [sic] would be ready to work gave bonds and prepared to commence, but learning that it was not (as he had supposed) designed to repair the road to the black settlement, but to open a new road, connecting the last with the road to Margarets Bay and thus bringing that to the head of the Northwest Arm instead of the northern part of the Dutch Village he conceived it would be better to defer the work to the present year. The dotted line shows the projected new road. The advantage of it is, that there will be no hill of any consequence to ascend and but one to descend in coming to the Northwest Arm; while on the present road there are several bad hills to ascend and three times the quantity of descent in coming to the Basin. The distance from A at the front of the Dutch Village to Town exceeds the distance from Town to the head of the Arm by about three fourths of a mile. From A to the bridge B is somewhat more than four miles. The projected road will extend nearly two miles. The ground has not yet been sufficiently examined to make it certain that it would not be better to lay the road on the North side of the Governors lake. This plan is not made from an accurate survey, but by taking bearings with a pocket compass, and measuring distances by numbering paces, but is believed to be near the truth.

Halifax June 30, 1832.

Titus Smith





[This map has been overlaid on satellite imagery, georeferenced to the tail of Governor's Lake and the head of the North West Arm. No other transformations have been applied to this map due the map's degree of inaccuracy, as noted by Titus Smith and as demonstrated by the positioning of Lovett Lake and the Black Duck Ponds. Nonetheless, this map provides a sense of the road network in the area of Beechville in 1832. It shows the predecessor to the current St. Margarets Bay Road, known as Beech Hill Road, which led from the head of the Northwest Arm along the southern shores of the Chain Lakes and terminated in two branches within the Beech Hill settlement. The more southerly branch of this road may correspond with the "Road to Halifax" depicted on the 1818 Plan of the License of Occupation for Refugee Hill (Appendix XII).]

Appendix XVII: 1839 Petition of Garret Miller for Compensation¹⁹

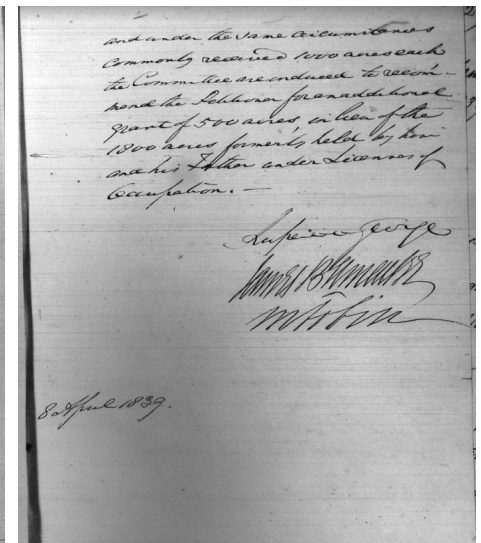
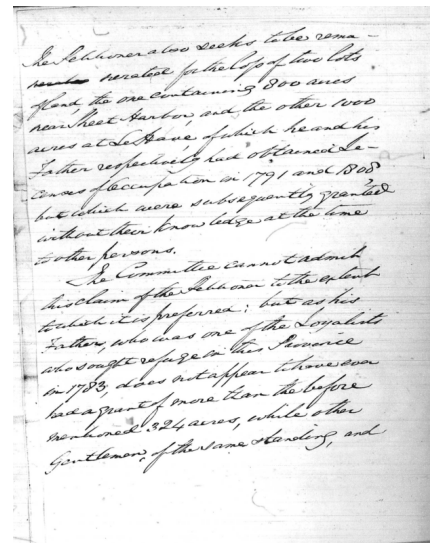
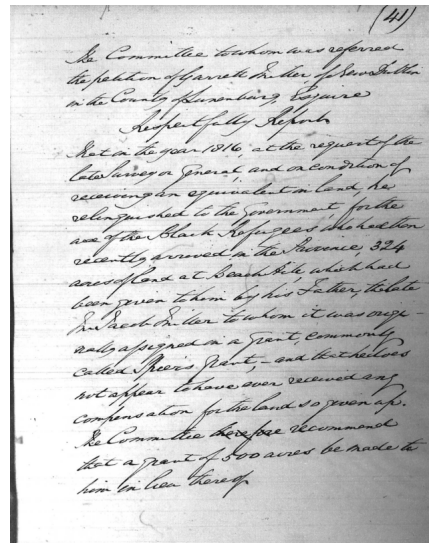
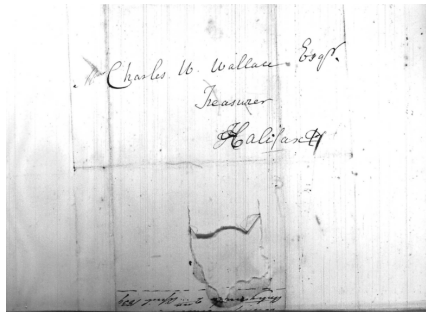
Charles U. Wallace Esqr., Treasurer, Halifax

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of Garrett Miller of New Dublin in the County of Lunenburg, esquire respectfully reports

That in the year 1816, at the request of the late Surveyor General and on condition of receiving an equivalent in land, he relinquished to the Government for the use of the Black Refugees who had then recently arrived in the Province, 324 acres of land at Beach [sic] Hill which had been given to them by his Father the late Mr Jacob Miller to whom it was originally assigned in a grant, commonly called Sheers' [sic] Grant – and that he does not appear to have ever received any compensation for the land so given up. The Committee ~~therefore~~ [crossed out] recommend that a grant of 500 acres be made to him in lieu thereof.

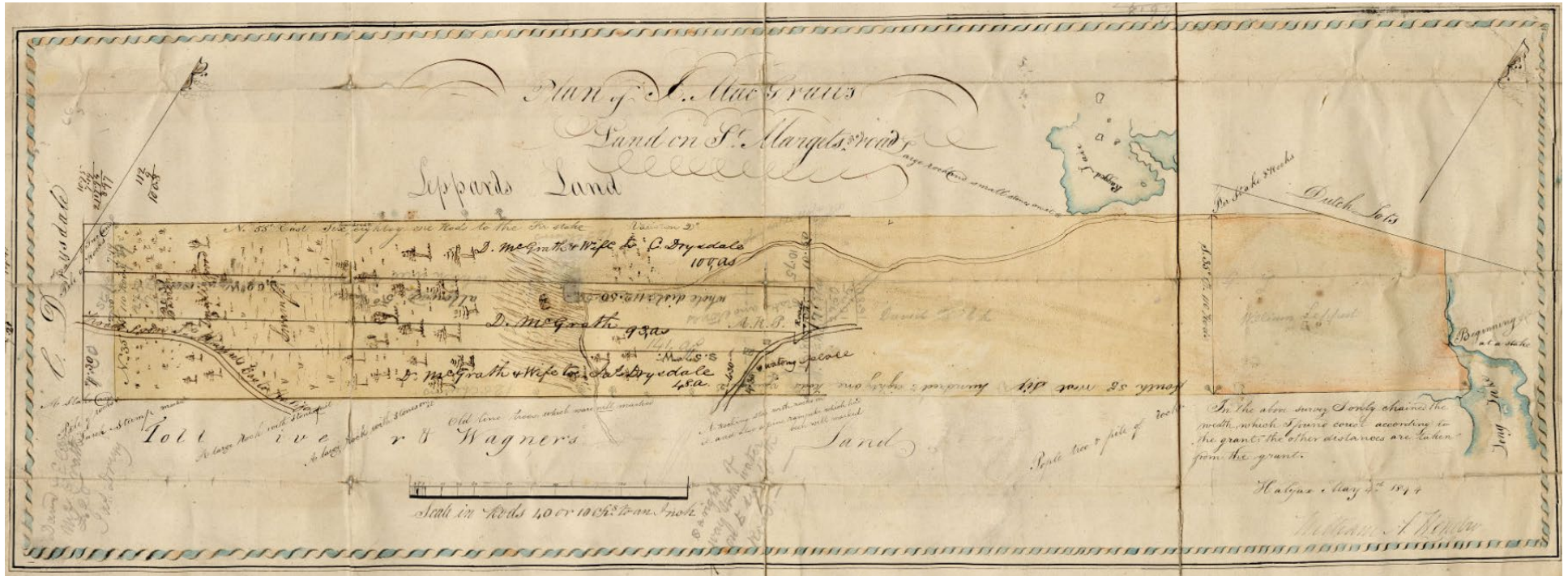
The petitioner also seeks to be remunerated for the loss of two lots of land, the one containing 800 acres near Sheet Harbour and the other 1000 acres at LeHave of which he and his Father respectively had obtained licenses of occupation in 1791 and 1808 but which were subsequently granted without their knowledge at the time to other persons. The committee cannot admit this claim of the Petitioner to the extent to which it is preferred; but as his Father who was one of the Loyalists also sought refuge in this Province in 1873 does not appear to have ever had a grant of more than the before mentioned 324 acres, while other Gentlemen of the same standing and under the same circumstances commonly received 1000 acres each the committee are induced to recommend the Petitioner for an additional grant of 500 acres in lieu of the 1800 acres formerly held by him and his father under licenses of occupation.

Rupert George
James B Clements
M. Tobin
8 April 1839



[Nova Scotia Archives, RG1 Vol. 245 No. 41]

Appendix XVIII: 1844 Plan of J MacGraw's Land on [Old] St. Margarets Bay Road²⁰



[Nova Scotia Archives Map Collection: F/240 – 1844]

Appendix XIX: 1864 A.F. Church's Map of Halifax County²¹

[Church's 1865 Map of Halifax County shows the dwellings several prominent historic Beechville residents along the St Margarets Bay Road, including the Monro[e], Wright, Blackwood, Edwards, Brown, Hamilton, and Baxter families. Mrs. Baxter being the easternmost Beechville Resident and located approximately at the present-day head of the Prospect Road, or approximately where the Stewart and Miller families are depicted in the Long Lots of Dutch Village Map.]

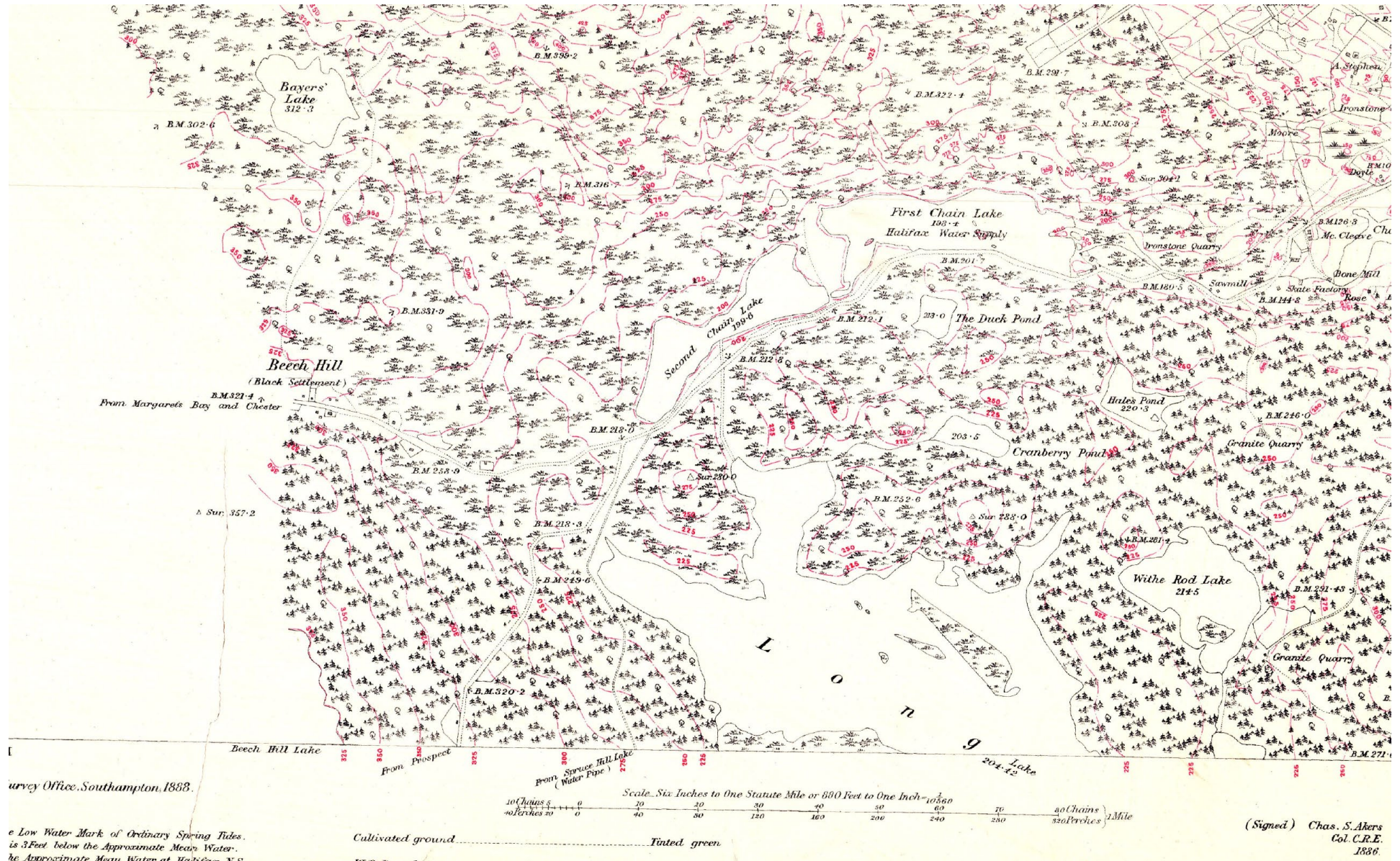


[David Rumsey Map Collection – A.F. Church Topographical township map of Halifax County, Nova Scotia, 1864]



Appendix XX: 1886 War Department Map of Halifax County – Sheet 3²²

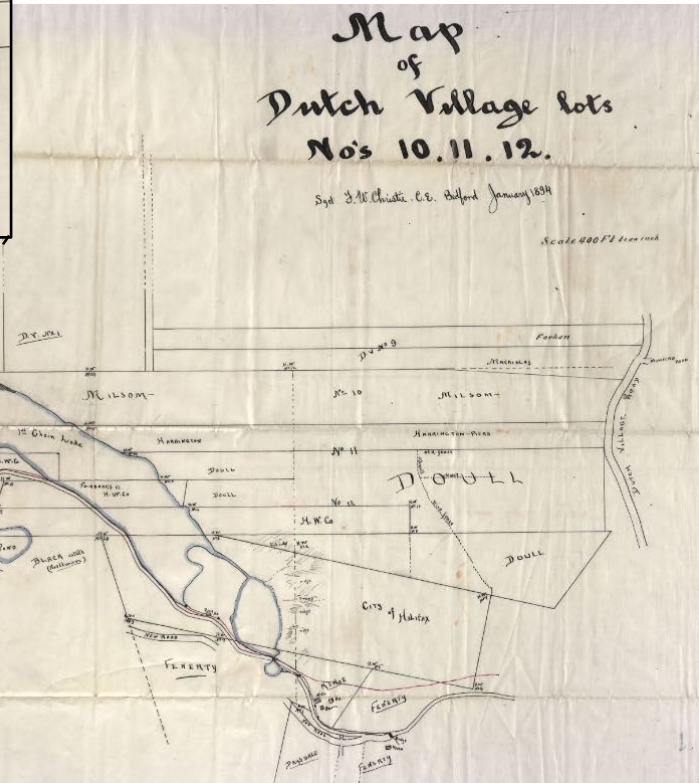
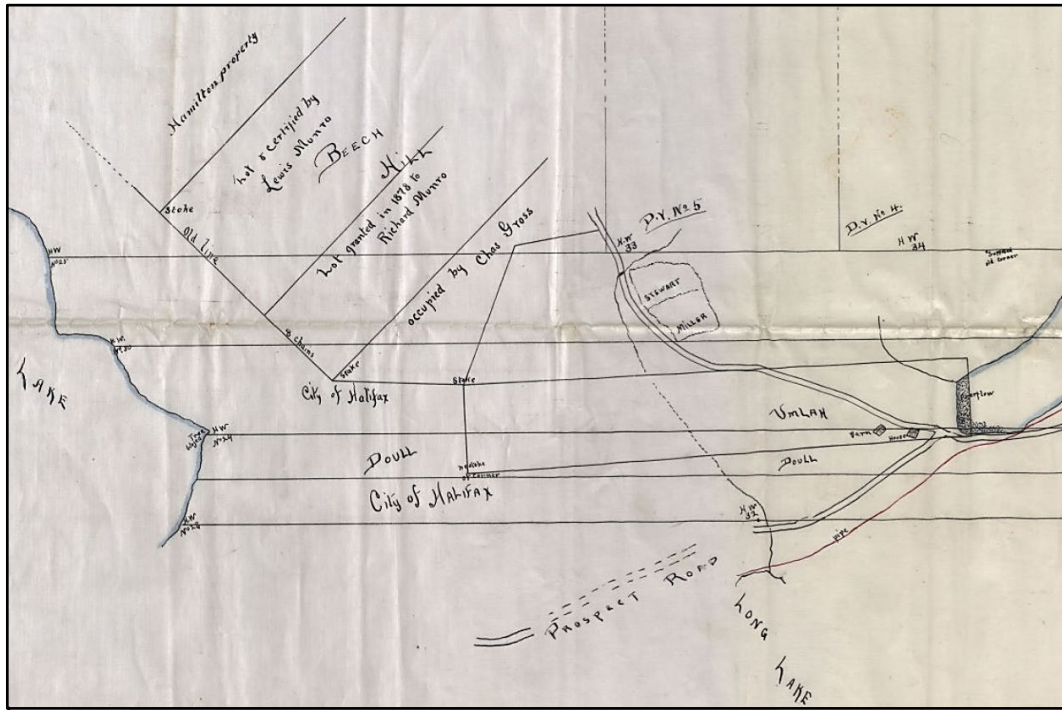
Note that this is the one of several historical maps to refer to Ragged Lake as “Beech Hill Lake”.



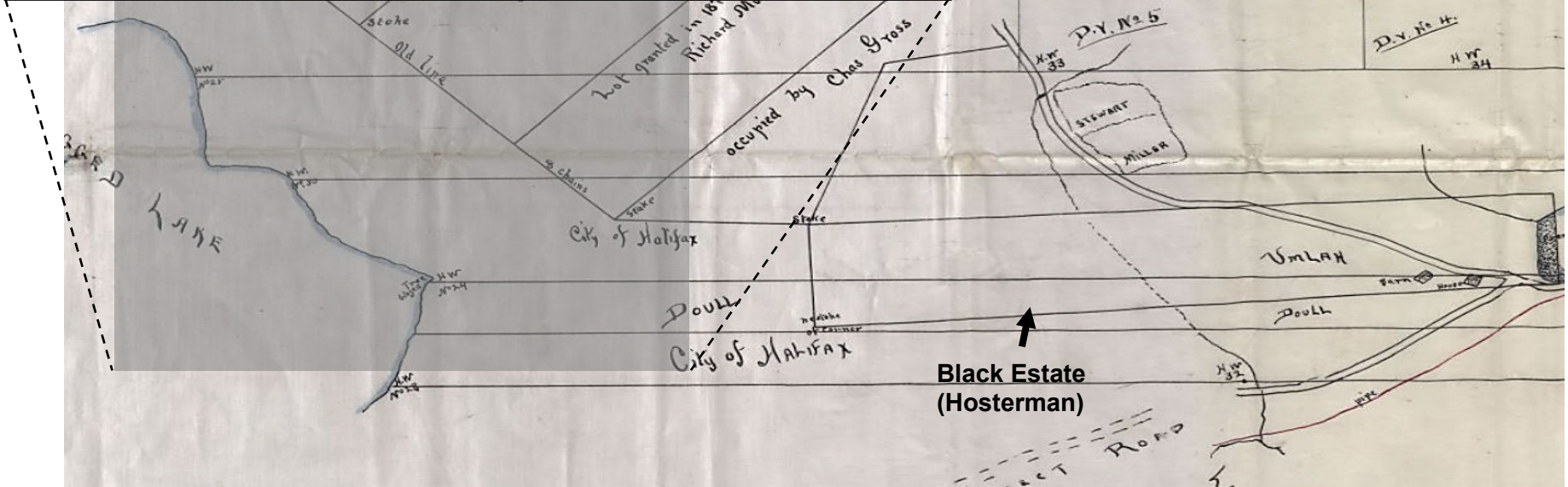
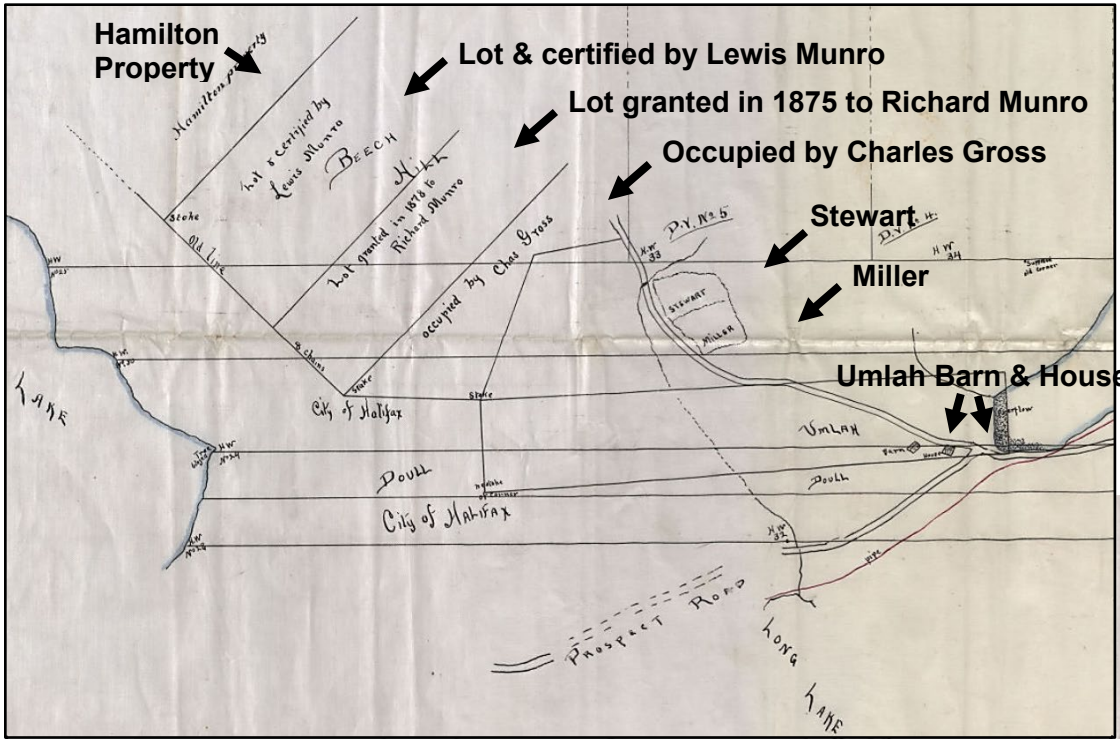
[Internet Archive: Charles Akers, Map of Halifax County for the War Department – Sheet 3]



Appendix XXI: 1894 Map of Dutch Village Lots 10, 11, & 12²³



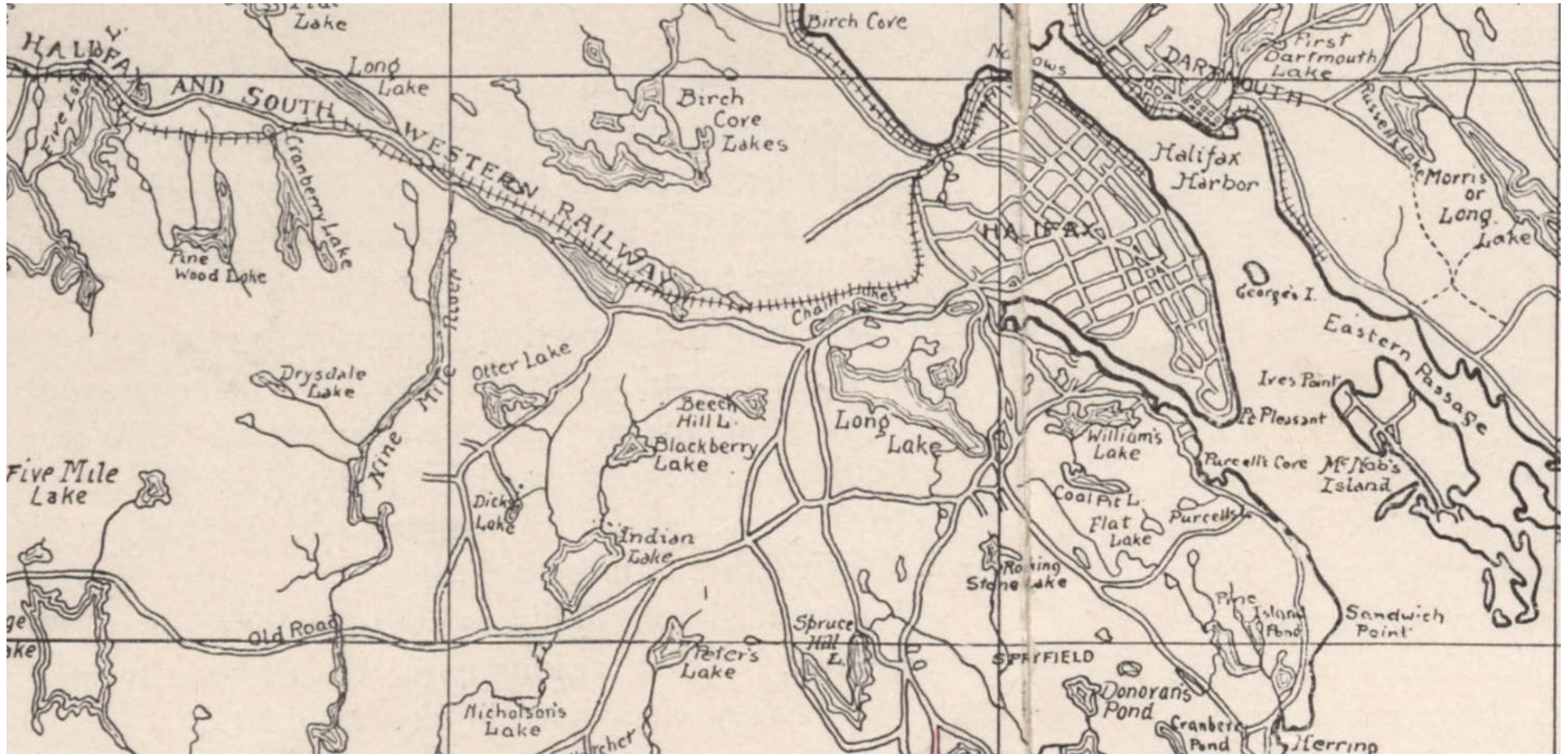
[Nova Scotia Archives Map Collection: V6 239 Halifax, Nova Scotia]





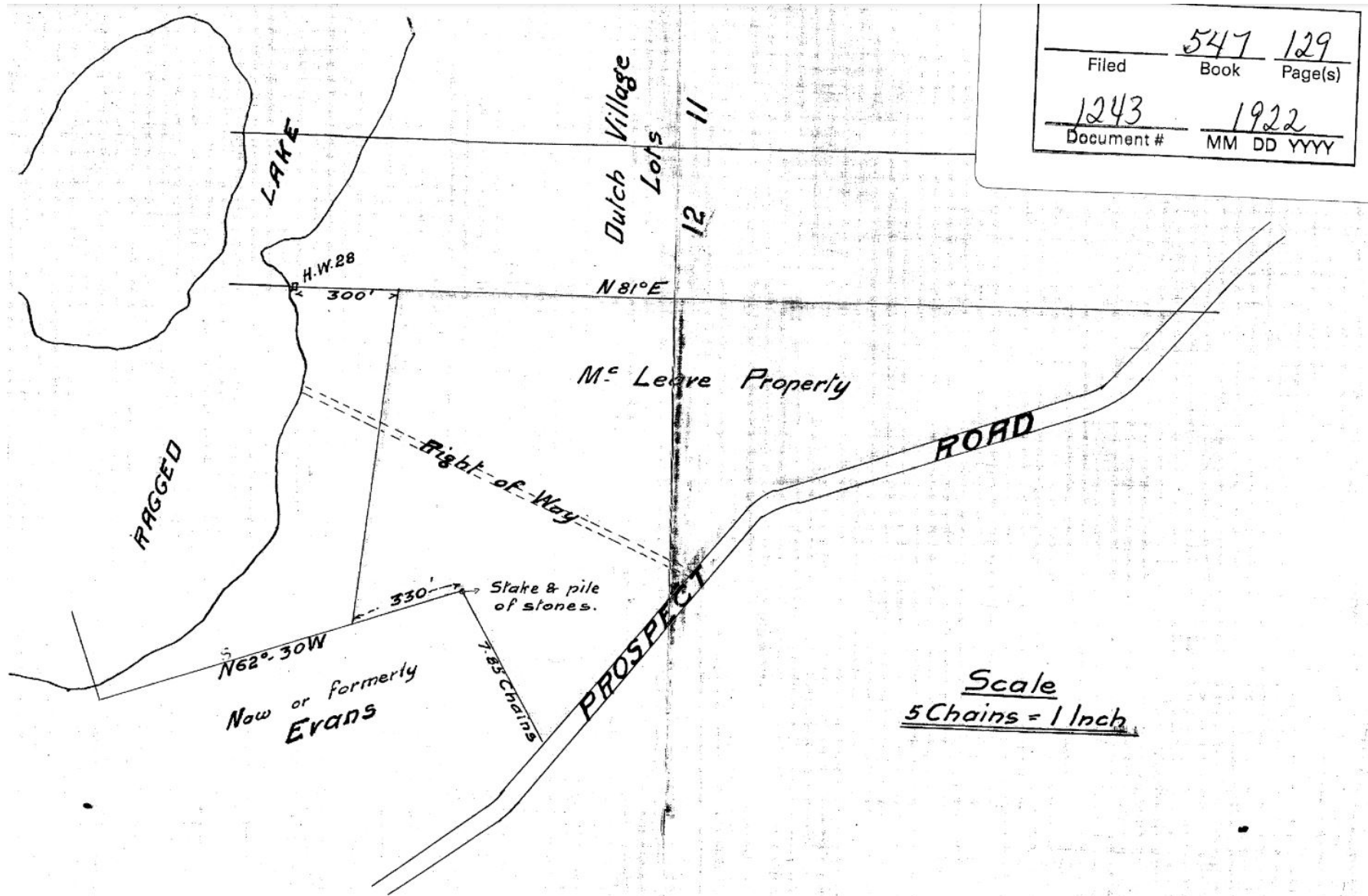
Appendix XXII: 1905 Map of Halifax County²⁴

Another map depicting Ragged Lake as Beech Hill Lake. Note the presence of what appears to be a second road running south between Long Lake and Beech Hill Lake to Spruce Lake. This may be a road following the path of the pipeline running between the Second Chain Lake and Spruce Hill Lake.



[Nova Scotia Archives Map Collection, F/220 – 1905]

Appendix XXIII: 1922 Survey Plan of a Portion of the McLeave [McCleave] Property²⁵

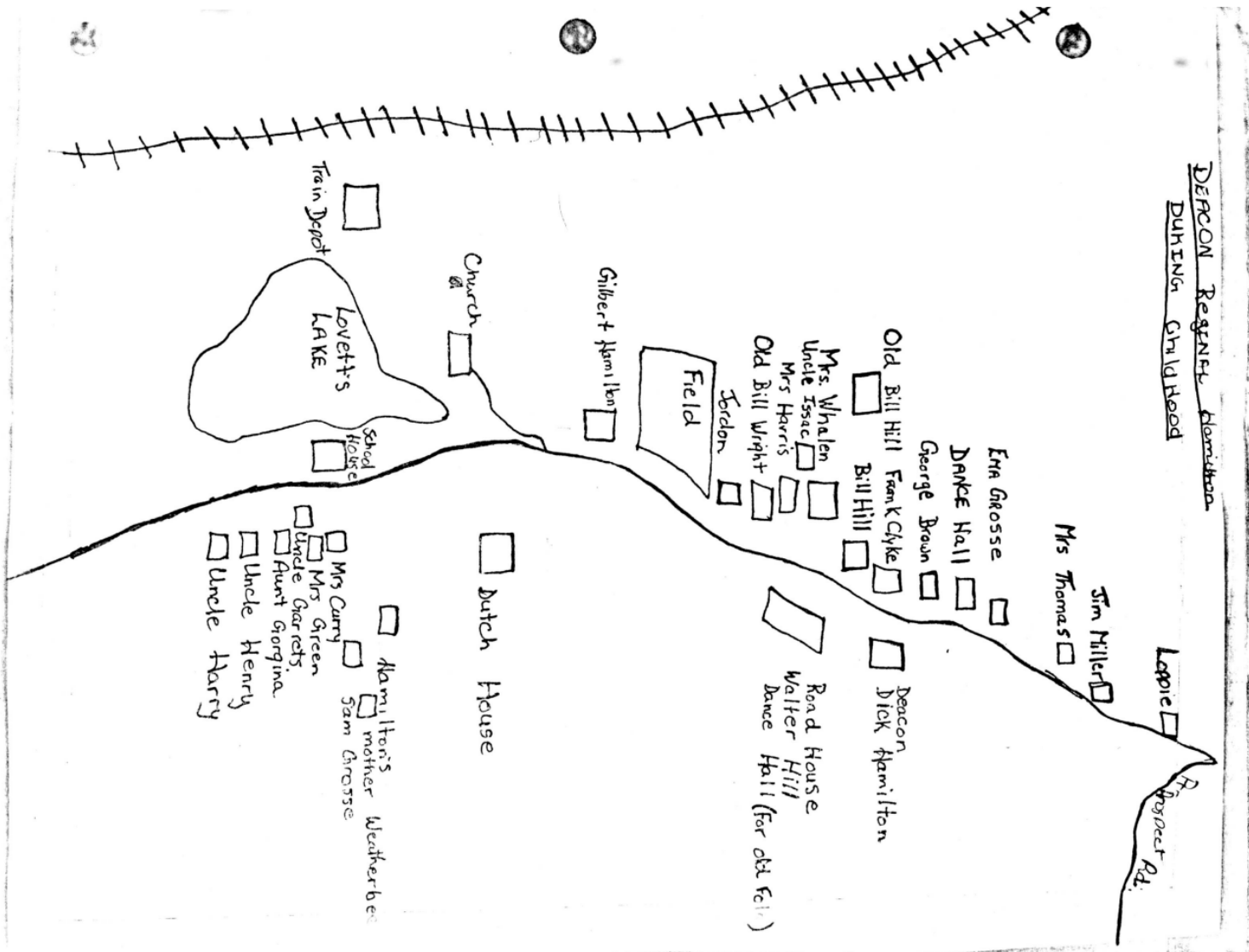


[Nova Scotia Property Online, Book 547 Page 129]



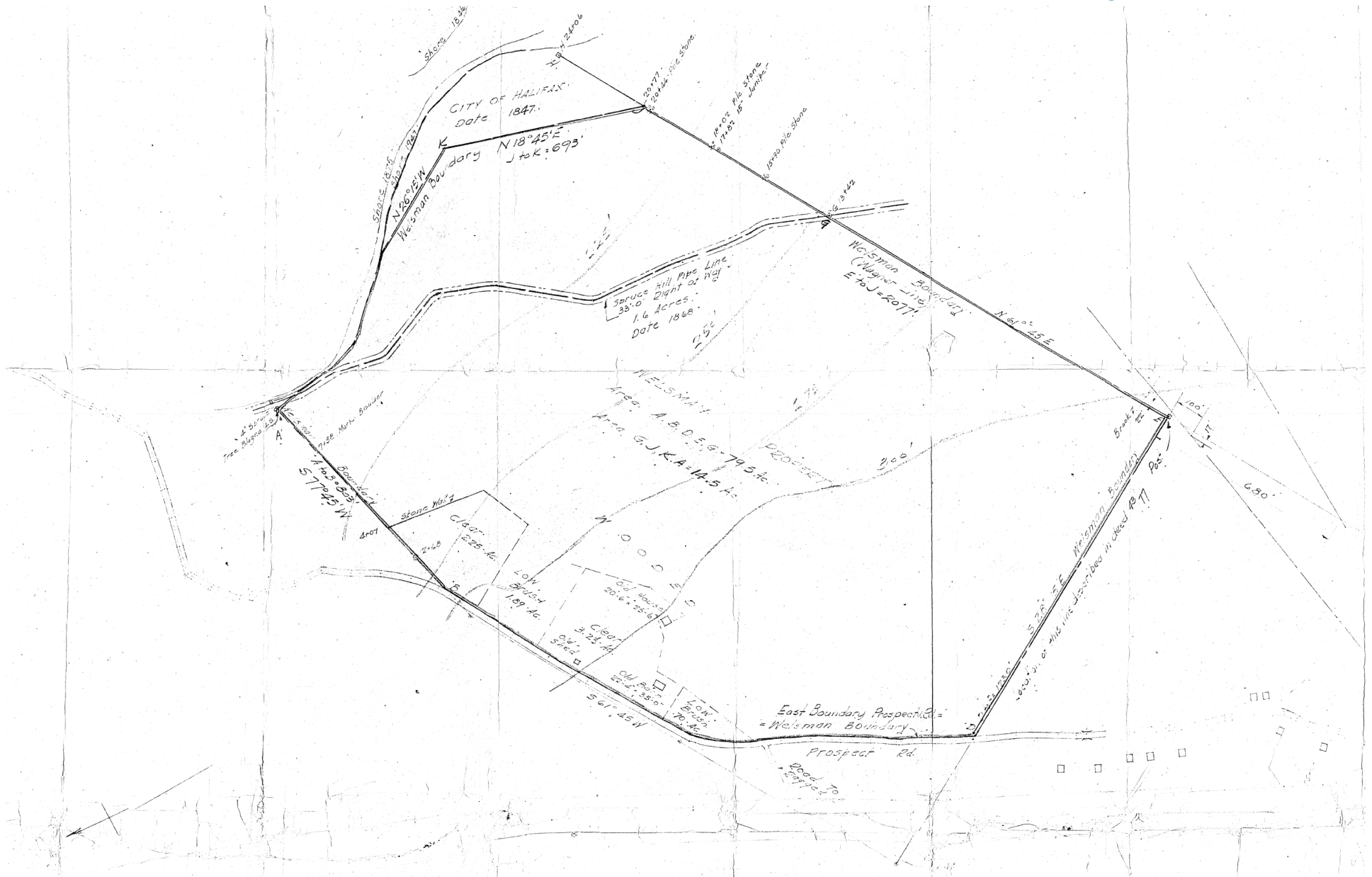
Appendix XXIV: Memory Map of Beechville (Est. 1920s) by Deacon Hamilton²⁶

This map was drawn by Deacon Reginal Hamilton from memory of his childhood. Deacon Hamilton passed away in the year 2000 at the age of 88, thus this map is estimated to depict Beechville from roughly the 1920s. Note the Loppie family of Beechville located west of the Millers, close to the old head of Prospect Road.



[Nova Scotia Archives Library F5221 B613 R216]

Appendix XXV: The 1947 Expropriation Plan of the Welsman Property²⁷



[Nova Scotia Property Online, EXP758]

Appendix XXVI: Nova Scotia Crown Lands Index Map²⁸

This map displays the boundaries, names, and references associated with land grants issued throughout Nova Scotia's history. This map is an index, it is not a snapshot of any one moment in time. Several relevant areas of interest are highlighted on the annotated version of this map (Figure 1B), with lettered arrows and boundaries explained below.

A – The Henry H. Cogswell Property at the head of the North West Arm, upon which were settled four Black Refugee families in 1815

B – 1818 Refugee Hill Land License Plan Division B

C – Head of the New Prospect Road

D – Head of the Old Prospect Road

E – John Gosbee Grant, Lot 1 in the Goodwood Division

F – Land granted to Thomas Wagner, John Bower, and Philip Tollmer (Toller) in the Goodwood Division

G – The Three Long Lots of Dutch Village (Lot Numbers 10, 11, & 12)

H – The J. Hosterman Grant, prominently featured on the 1818 Refugee Hill Land License Plan adjacent to Division A

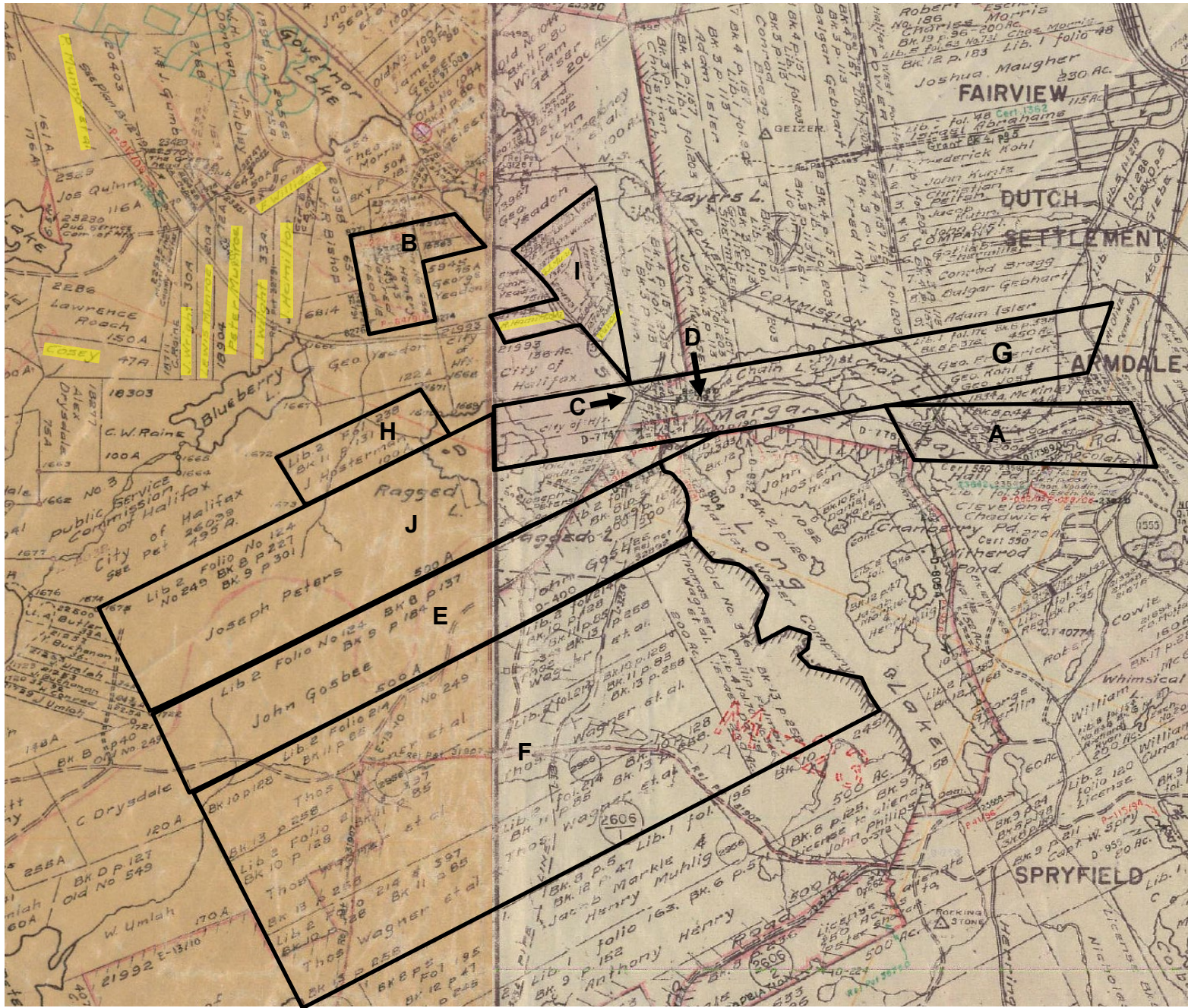
I – Lands granted and/or occupied by various Beechville residents

J – The Joseph Peters lot.

Highlighted Text – A series of parcels identified on the Crown Lands Index Map which appear to reference last names associated with historic Beechville residents, including the Munroe, Cosey, Wright, Hamilton, Williams, and Edwards families and which warrant further research.



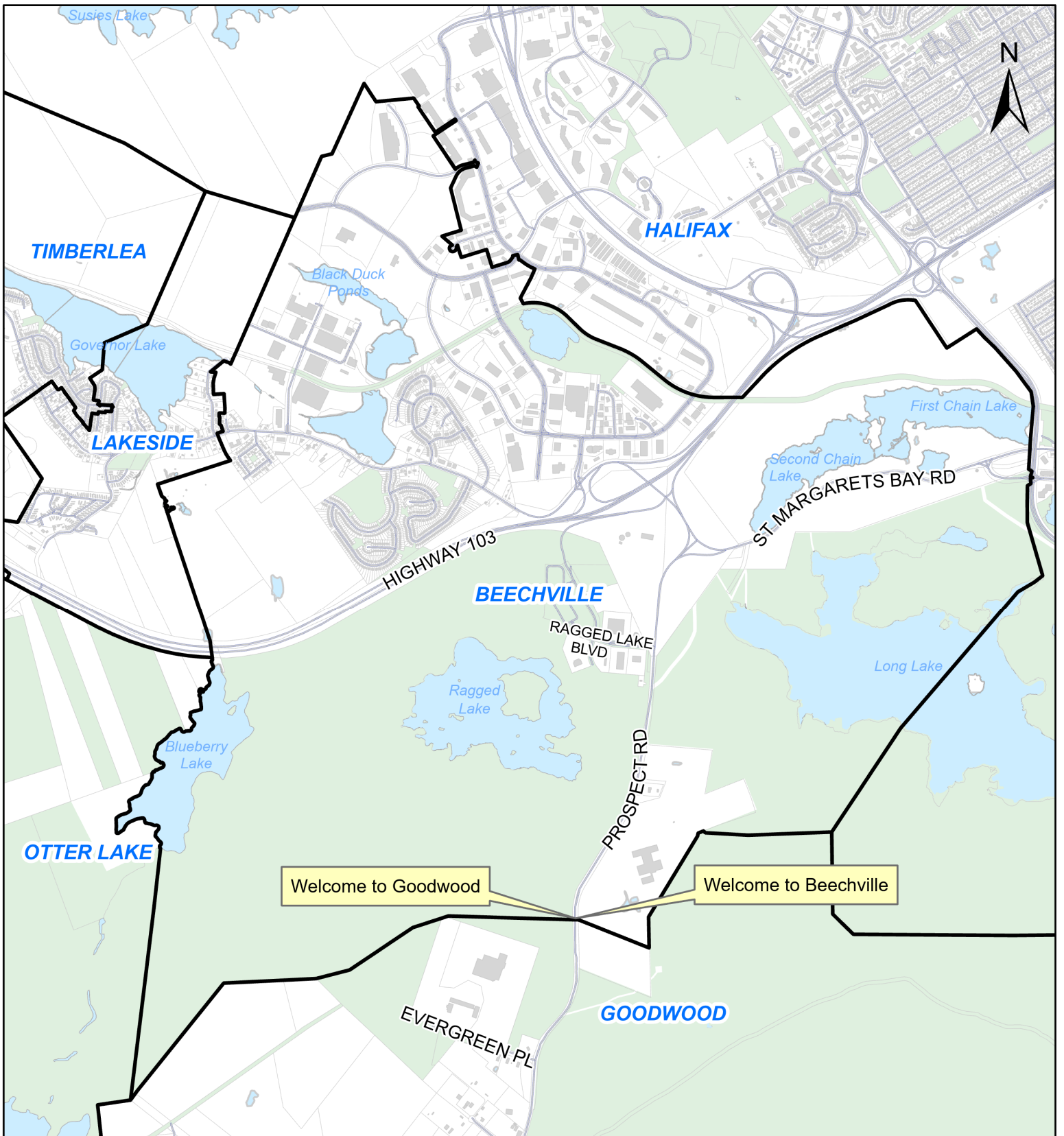
[Government of Nova Scotia, Crown Land Information Management Centre – Crown Land Index Maps 56 & 66]



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Map 1: Proposed Sign Installation Points

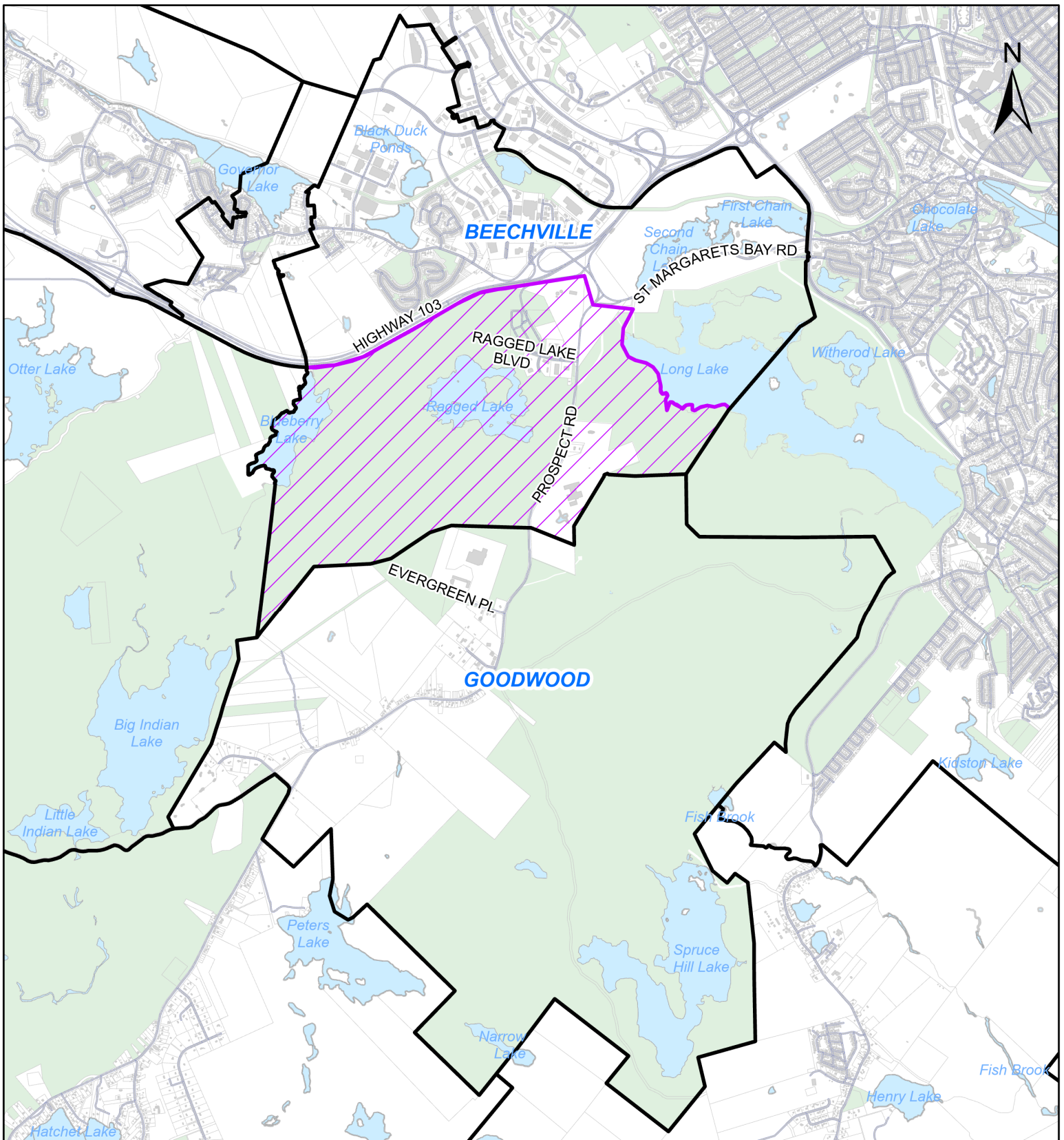
HALIFAX

 Current Community Boundaries

0 375 750 1,500 Meters






The accuracy of any representation on this plan is not guaranteed.



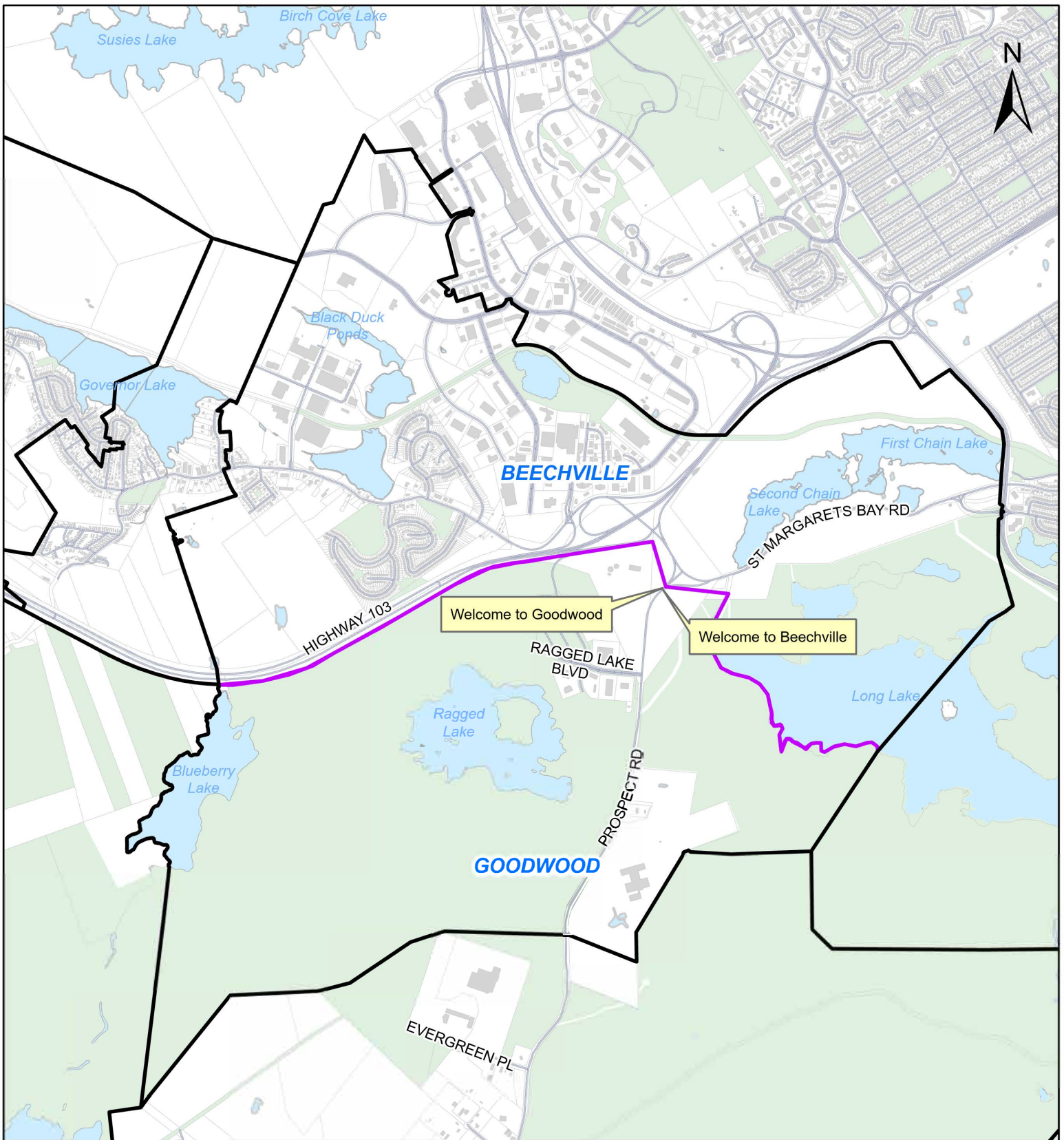
Map 2: Alternative 1 - Expansion of Goodwood Boundary

HALIFAX



-  Current Community Boundaries
-  Alternate Boundary 1
-  Area within Alternative 1 Goodwood expansion

0 500 1,000 2,000
 Meters

The accuracy of any representation on this plan is not guaranteed.



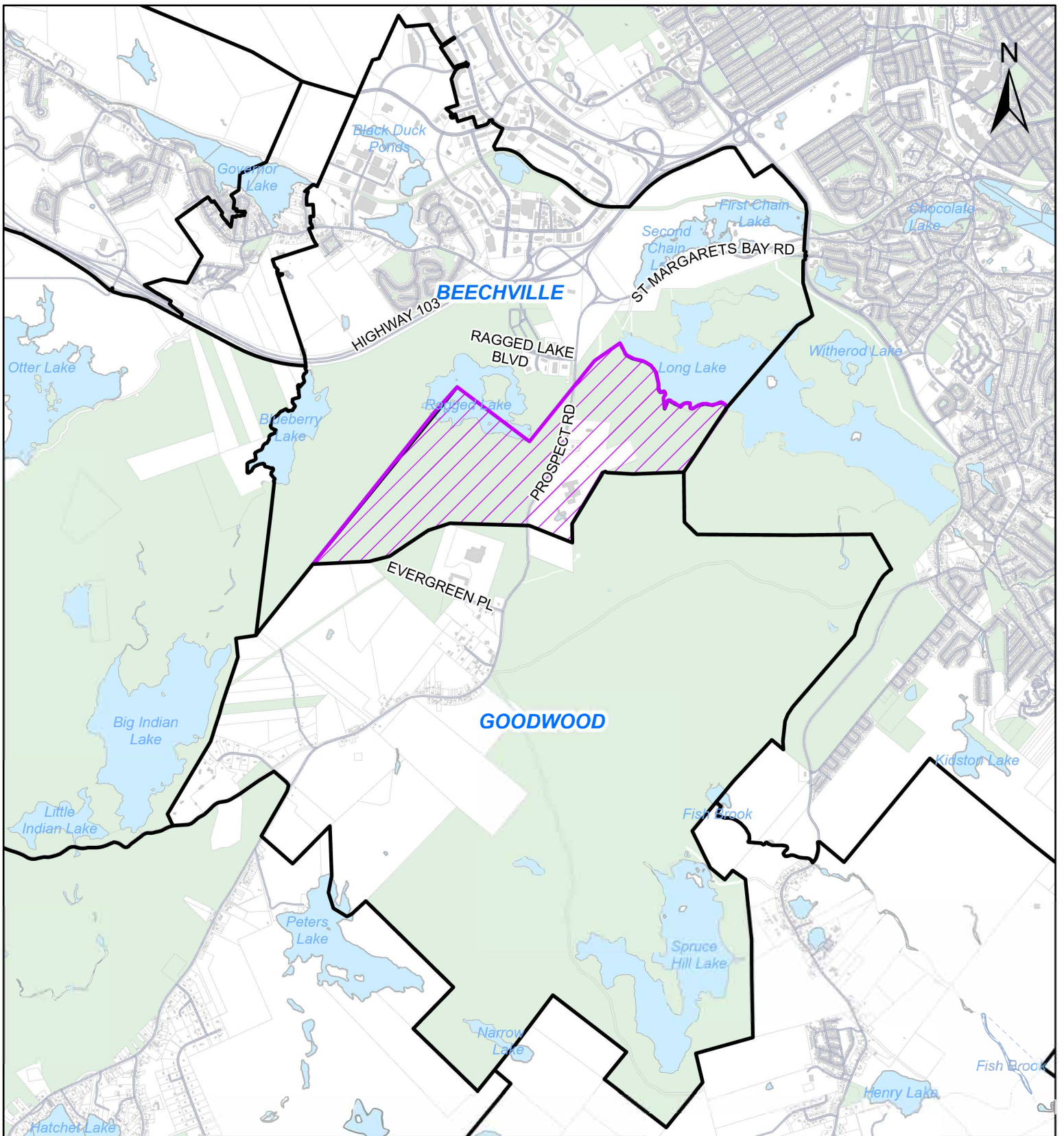
Map 3: Alternative 1 - Expansion of Goodwood Boundary Signage Installation Points

-  Current Community Boundaries
-  Alternative Boundary 2




HALIFAX



The accuracy of any representation on this plan is not guaranteed.



Map 4: Alternative 2 - Modification of Boundaries Based on Historical Review

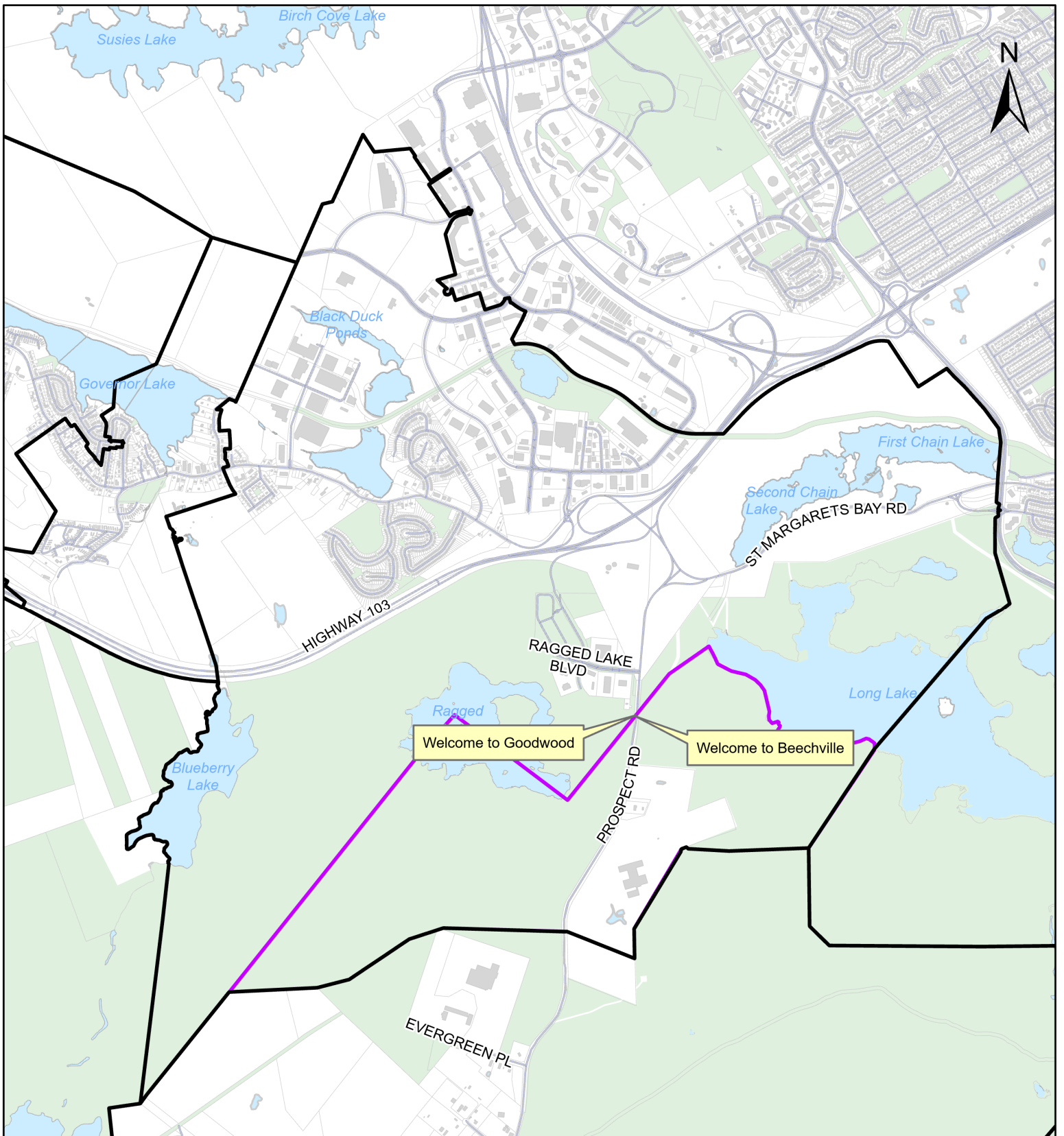
-  Current Community Boundaries
-  Alternative Boundary 2
-  Area within Alternative 2 Goodwood expansion

HALIFAX



0 500 1,000 2,000 Meters



The accuracy of any representation on this plan is not guaranteed.



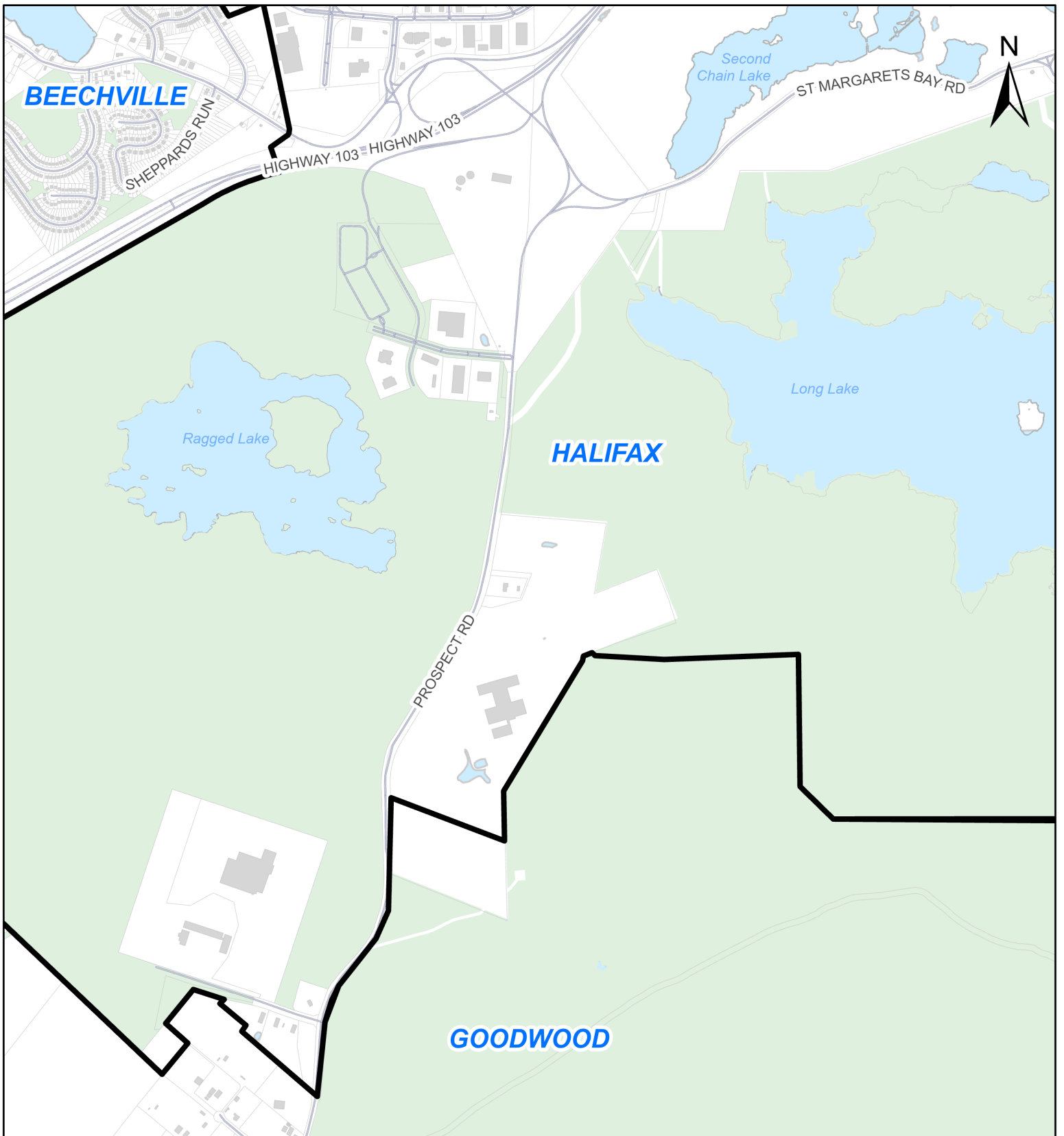
Map 5: Alternative 2 - Modification of Boundaries Based on Historical Review Signage Installation Points

-  Current Community Boundaries
-  Alternative Boundary 2

HALIFAX




The accuracy of any representation on this plan is not guaranteed.



Map 6: Previous Community Boundaries

HALIFAX

 Boundaries prior to amendments approved on June 20, 2023.

0 220 440 880
 Meters

The accuracy of any representation on this plan is not guaranteed.