

**GLOOSCAP LANDING DEVELOPMENT
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCREENING & RECONNAISSANCE
KINGS COUNTY, NOVA SCOTIA**

2015 FINAL REPORT



Submitted to: Nova Scotia Special Places Program &
Glooscap First Nation Economic Development Corporation

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Glooscap First Nation Economic Development Corporation (GFNEDC), on behalf of Glooscap First Nation, is proposing to undertake a commercial highway development, at Exit 8A (Ben Jackson Road) on Highway 101, known as Glooscap Landing. Community engagement sessions, with the Lockhartville African Nova Scotian community, revealed that historical records, and local oral tradition, indicate the nineteenth century Lower Horton Baptist Church and associated cemetery were located somewhere on the property. Previous archaeological work, conducted by Cultural Resource Management Group Limited (CRM Group) identified the potential remains of this church through a program of shovel testing in 2004. The church site area, including a buffer zone to take into account the potential cemetery, was registered as Lockhartville Baptist Church archaeological site BgDb-14. The highway development plans were subsequently altered and, as a result, no further research or fieldwork was undertaken. GFNEDC wants to ensure that current development plans avoid any disturbance to archaeological resources associated with the church and cemetery site. GFNEDC retained Kelman Heritage Consulting to conduct the archaeological investigation associated with the Glooscap Landing development project.

According to historic records, the Lower Horton Baptist Church was likely built around 1860 and had fallen out of use by the early 1880s. The church had a small congregation and only five burials were registered. Given the church's relatively short period of service and small membership numbers, it is likely that the associated cemetery would have been fairly small. Out of an abundance of caution, the boundaries of archaeological site BgDb-14, as registered in 2004, were set at 100 metres long by 100 metres wide, in order to ensure the protection of any buried remains. It is the opinion of Kelman Heritage archaeologists that a buffer zone of 30 metres, around the site of a rectangular depression believed to be the church site, would satisfactorily protect any buried archaeological resources associated with the Lower Horton Baptist Church and cemetery

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Glooscap First Nation Economic Development Corporation (GFNEDC), on behalf of Glooscap First Nation, is proposing to undertake a commercial highway development, at Exit 8A (Ben Jackson Road) on Highway 101, known as Glooscap Landing. Community engagement sessions, with the Lockhartville African Nova Scotian community, revealed that historical records, and local oral tradition, indicate the nineteenth century Lower Horton Baptist Church and associated cemetery were located somewhere on the property. Previous archaeological work, conducted by Cultural Resource Management Group Limited (CRM Group) in conjunction with the twinning of Highway 101 and the construction of an interchange in the area, identified the potential remains of this church through a program of shovel testing in 2004. The church site area, including a buffer zone to take into account the potential cemetery, was registered as Lockhartville Baptist Church archaeological site BgDb-14. The highway development plans were subsequently altered and, as a result, no further research or fieldwork was undertaken.

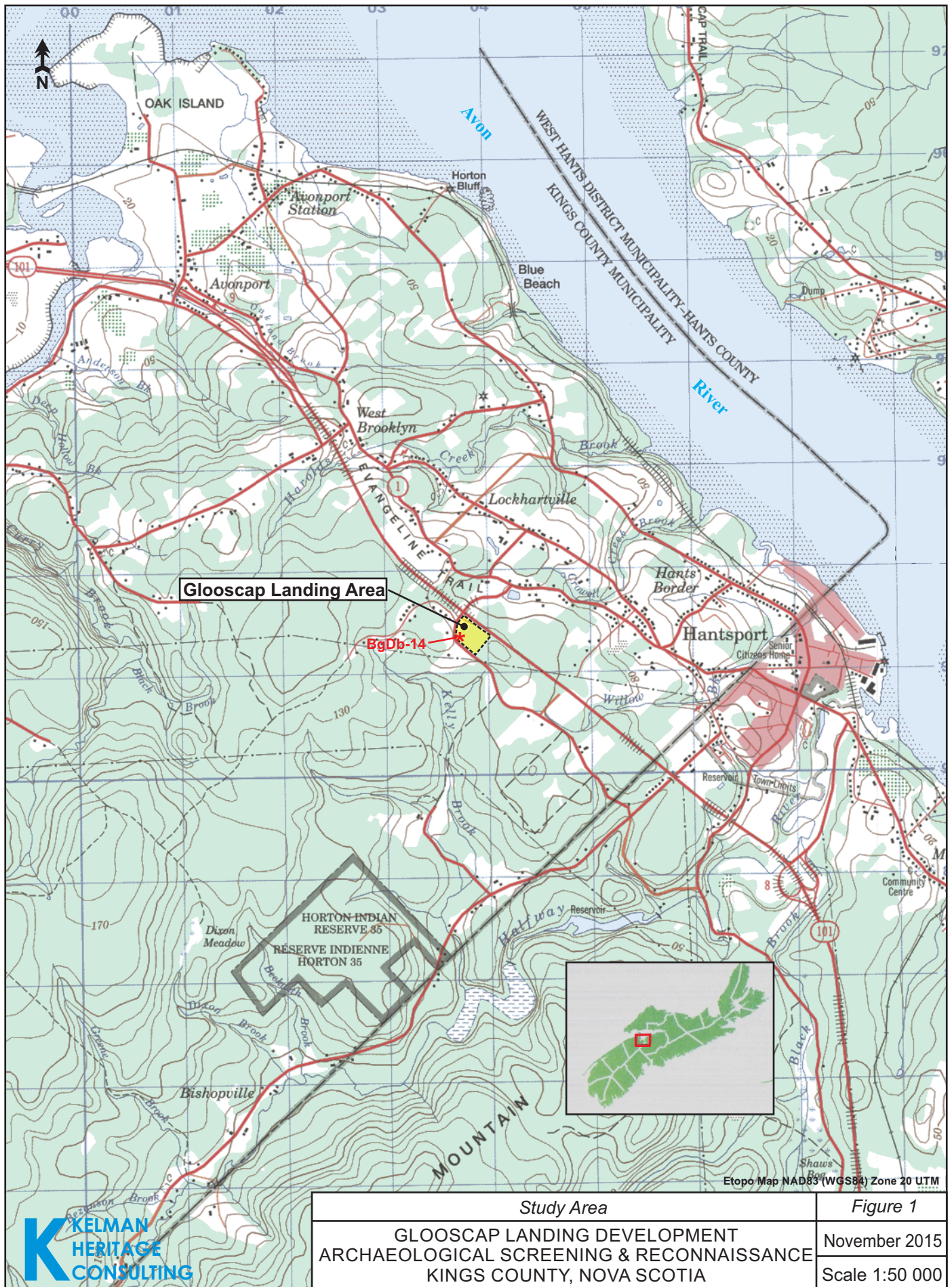
GFNEDC now intends to develop the area and wants to ensure that current development plans avoid any disturbance to archaeological resources associated with the church and cemetery site. GFNEDC retained Kelman Heritage Consulting to conduct the archaeological investigation associated with the Glooscap Landing development project. The scope of the archaeological program was to conduct detailed historical research, and additional field reconnaissance, in order to better identify the location of the nineteenth century church and cemetery. The investigation did not include any subsurface testing.

The archaeological program was directed by Darryl Kelman, Principal Archaeologist with Kelman Heritage Consulting. The archaeological screening and reconnaissance was conducted according to the terms of Heritage Research Permit A2015NS062 (Category 'C'), issued to Kelman by the Special Places Program. Historic Research and field assistance was provided by researcher/field technician Cynthia Simpson. This report describes the archaeological screening and reconnaissance, presents its results, and offers resource management recommendations.

2.0 STUDY AREA

The study area is located at Exit 8A, Highway 101 in Kings County, Nova Scotia (**Figure 1**). The overall Glooscap Landing development area extends approximately 25 acres and encompasses land under PID#55234439, formerly owned by Wallace Gregory Maguire, deeded to Glooscap First Nation Economic Development Corporation Limited in July 2014 (**Figure 2**). The extent of any development impacts, within this area, is not yet known and will depend on the final design of the Glooscap Landing development plan. It is the intention of GFNEDC to carry out the development of the area in such a way as to avoid impacting any archaeological resources on the property.

The current archaeological investigation is centred upon the area covered by the 100m x 100m Lockhartville Baptist Church site (BgDb-14), as registered in Maritime Archaeological Resource Inventory (MARI). The site was identified by CRM Group, in 2004, while conducting an archaeological assessment for the twinning of Highway 101 and construction of an associated interchange at Ben Jackson Road. A program of shovel testing, undertaken by CRM Group at that time, recovered artifacts dating to the mid-to-late nineteenth century (Stewart & Sanders 2005). The primary purpose of the current investigation is to further define the extent of the church and cemetery site.





Legend

- Glooscap Landing Potential Development Area
- Lockhartville Baptist Church Site (BgDb-14)

Highway 101

Ben Jackson Road

300m

GoogleEarth Base Image - Simple Cylindrical Projection WGS84
Archaeological Site Information from MARI Database
Compiled by D. Kelman

Detailed Study Area	Figure 2
GLOOSCAP LANDING DEVELOPMENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCREENING & RECONNAISSANCE KINGS COUNTY, NOVA SCOTIA	
	November 2015

3.0 METHODOLOGY

The goal of the archaeological screening and reconnaissance was to better define the limits of the nineteenth century Baptist church and associated cemetery. The archaeological investigation consisted of a program of background research and field reconnaissance.

Contact with Mi'kmaq

As per Heritage Research Permit (Category 'C') guidelines, contact was initiated with the Mi'kmaq regarding the proposed development project. Contact was made through the Archaeological Research Division of the Kwikw'kw Maw-klusuaqn Negotiation Office (KMKNO).

3.1 Background Research (Screening)

The background research included a review of relevant documentation available through Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management, the Nova Scotia Land Information Centre, and the Nova Scotia Museum. Research focussed on land grants, deeds, maps and air photos, as well as secondary sources. The Atlantic Baptist Archives, held at Acadia University, were also consulted. Finally, Kelman Heritage researchers made contact with the Lockhartville African Nova Scotia community in an effort to examine any family records, including photographs, that could help determine the precise location of the historic church and cemetery.

3.2 Field Reconnaissance

Following completion of the background research, Kelman Heritage archaeologists visited the study area to conduct a visual assessment. The goals of the field reconnaissance were to document any visible archaeological resources identified during the visual inspection; to identify and delineate specific areas of potential archaeological sensitivity; and to design and recommend a strategy for the protection and preservation of those resources.

Field reconnaissance focussed on areas of elevated potential, as identified through the background research, as well as the area assessed and tested, in 2004, by CRM Group. The pedestrian survey took place with representatives from both GFNEDC and the Lockhartville African Nova Scotia community present. It was hoped that this type of collaborative approach, among all stakeholders, would aid in the effort to determine the precise location and limits of the nineteenth century church and cemetery.

The field team took note of any topographic or vegetative anomalies that could indicate the presence of buried archaeological resources. Waypoints and track logs were recorded using a handheld Global Positioning System (GPS). All UTM coordinates were recording using a NAD83 datum. The process and results of the field reconnaissance were documented in field notes and photographs.

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Background Research (Screening)

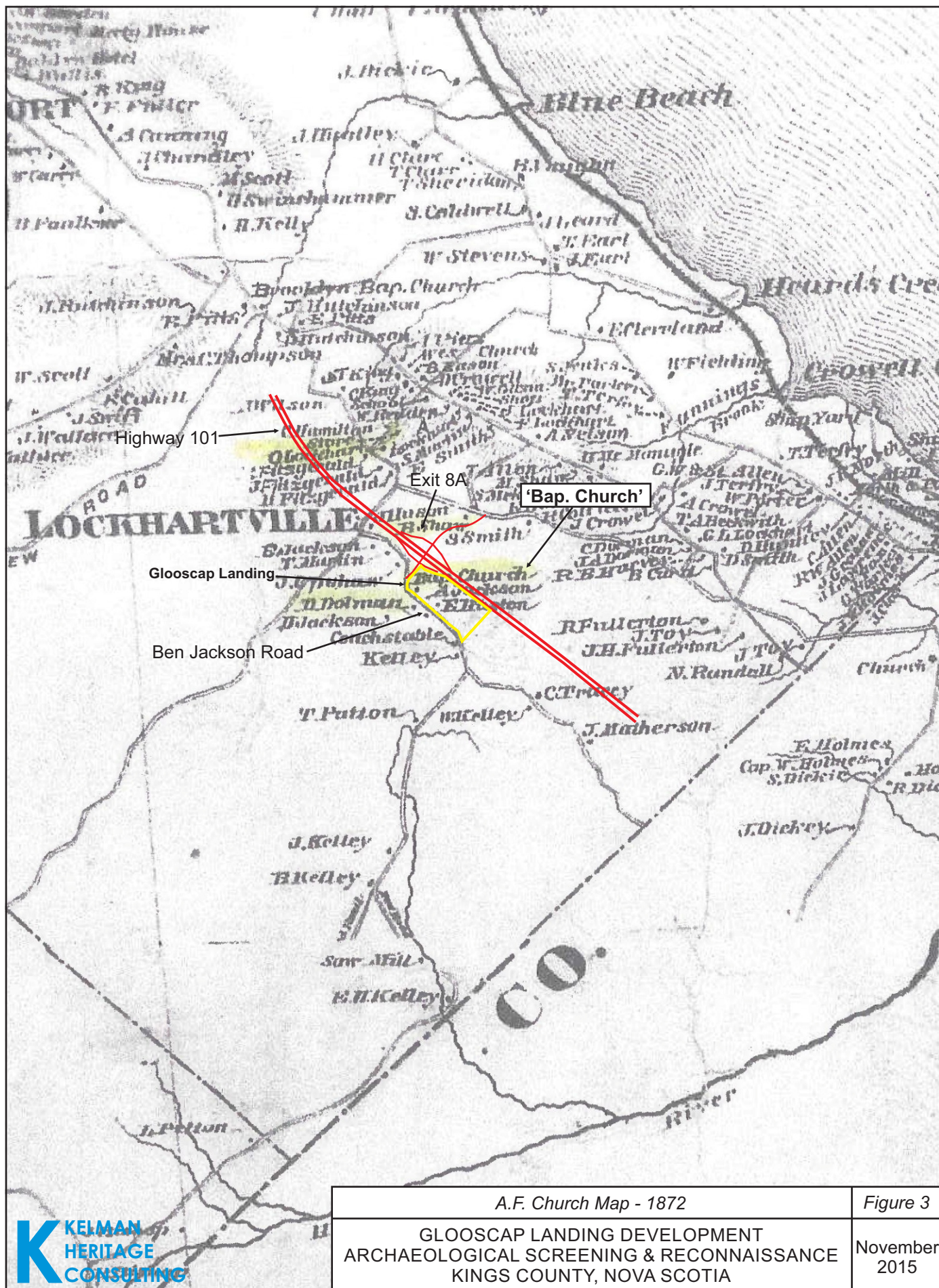
The following discussion outlines the historic setting of the study area, with specific focus on the previously-identified nineteenth century Baptist Church site. The background research provides context for the evaluation of archaeological potential within the study area and aids in the initial interpretation of any resources encountered during the field reconnaissance. It should be noted that the archaeological site was registered, in 2004, as the 'Lockhartville Baptist Church'. However, historical Baptist records identify the church as the 'Lower Horton Baptist Church'.

The study area is situated north of Ben Jackson Road, in Kings County (**Figure 2**). The currently-named Ben Jackson Road once formed a part of what is still known as the 'Old Post Road'. This portion of the road was renamed 'Ben Jackson' to commemorate a decorated American Civil War veteran who was born and lived in Lockhartville. The Old Post Road, established by the 1780s, connected Halifax to Annapolis Royal and followed the approximate alignment of an earlier Acadian drove road (Dawson 1988: 136, 139).

Historic property records reveal that, in 1860, a tract of land north of the Old Post Road was deeded to Reverend James Thomas and Deacons Dennis Doleman and Daniel Doleman, by Benjamin Shaw and John Porter, for the site of a new African Meeting House (NS Land Registry 1860; NS Registry of Deeds 1860). This Meeting House was most likely Lower Horton Baptist Church, which was first voted into the African Baptist Association (ABA) in 1859. At that time, the church was listed as having a congregation of fourteen members (ABA 1895).

The 1872 A.F. Church map of Kings County depicts a Baptist Church in the vicinity of study area at that time (**Figure 3**). Local resident Aileen Johnston remembers a large apple tree growing in a clearing opposite 459 Ben Jackson Road, during her childhood, and being told that a church and cemetery once stood there (Johnston 2015). By georeferencing the 1871 Church map, using the current Google Earth image for the area, Kelman Heritage researchers were able to confirm that the position of the Baptist Church on the nineteenth century map matches the locational information passed down via local oral history.

The church appears to have had a relatively short occupation period. The death of Reverend Thomas, in 1879, marked the last year in which the Lower Horton Baptist Church contributed vital statistics to the ABA. In 1885, the church was listed in the ABA's Session Minutes; however, there is no record of church members providing the ABA with congregational information at the time (ABA 1895). Furthermore, Aileen Johnston told researchers that, according to her grandmother, the church was no longer standing when her grandmother first came to the area in 1902 (Johnston 2015). The earliest air photo available for the study area dates from 1945 and shows the area where the church once stood as being slightly overgrown. The 1966 air photo, taken during construction of Highway 101, shows extensive disturbance associated with the highway construction. The area around the church, however, remained untouched and is depicted as being completely overgrown.



Local oral history, according to residents Aileen Johnston and Dorothy Brown, suggests there was a cemetery associated with the Lower Horton Baptist Church (Johnston and Brown 2015). This cemetery was likely fairly small. Membership remained low throughout the church's period of service, with a maximum congregation of only twenty-five followers recorded, in 1861, and a low of ten members, in 1867 (ABA 1895). In 1876, a female delegate represented the Horton church at the annual ABA session, where it was recorded that the congregation was composed principally of seafaring men, who were often absent; and church meetings were kept up through the assistance of the female members and nearby ministering Brethren (ABA 1876: 6). It has been suggested that given its small membership, combined with the fact that many seafaring members may have died while away from home, one would not expect a large burial ground (McKerrow 1975). In fact, only five deaths were recorded, in the ABA's records, among the congregation of the Lower Horton Baptist Church (ABA 1895).

Before the 20th century, when decorative markers became more popular, graves of African descendents were most often left "unmarked or indicated by handmade markers or stones" (King 2010). This description would appear to be in keeping with local oral tradition for the Lower Horton Baptist Church cemetery. Sisters Aileen Johnston and Dorothy Brown informed researchers that their grandmother had described a small graveyard of unmarked stones situated in close proximity to where the church once stood (Johnston and Brown 2015).

4.2 Field Reconnaissance

The archaeological field reconnaissance was conducted by Kelman Heritage archaeologists, on August 19, 2015, under mostly clear and warm conditions. The research team was joined by local residents, Aileen Johnston and Dorothy Brown, as well as staff from the GFNEDC (*Plate 1*). The pedestrian survey focused on the area determined, by background research, to be the most likely location of the Lower Horton Baptist Church and cemetery, as well as the areas tested by CRM Group and subsequently registered as archaeological site BgDb-14 ("Lockhartville Baptist Church") (*Figure 4*).

The visual reconnaissance identified a rectangular depression with some stone visible around the edges (*Plate 2*). This depression was situated adjacent to a large apple tree, corresponding to the locational information supplied by Aileen Johnston. The depression also falls within the area designated as archaeological site BgDb-14. Additional large apple trees were noted growing nearby. The depression is situated approximately 25 metres north of Ben Jackson Road. A levelled area, approximately 5 metres wide, leading to the depression from the road was also noted, perhaps indicating the presence of an old cartway or driveway that once provided access to the church.

Further reconnaissance, of the surrounding area, did not identify any other features that might relate to the nineteenth century church or cemetery. A large mound situated next to the levelled area appeared to be unrelated to the possible cartway, as the two features are separated by a couple of large, and presumably old, apple trees. Instead, the mound may be related to more recent road improvements undertaken along Ben Jackson Road. According to Aileen Johnston and Dorothy Brown, Ben Jackson Road was widened, and

deeper drainage ditches excavated, sometime in the last twenty years (Johnston and Brown 2015).



**PLATE 1: Researcher Cynthia Simpson & local resident Dorothy Brown on the site.
August 19, 2015.**



PLATE 2: Inside depression - note exposed stone. August 19, 2015.



Legend

- Lockhartville Baptist Church Site (BgDb-14)
-as Registered in 2005
- Lower Horton Baptist Church Site
-Recommended Site Limits based on Historic research
- * Depression

Ben Jackson Road

Highway 101

300m

GoogleEarth Base Image - Simple Cylindrical Projection WGS84
Archaeological Site Information from MARI Database
Compiled by D. Kelman

Results

Figure 4

GLOOSCAP LANDING DEVELOPMENT
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5.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The archaeological investigation to better delineate the extent of the nineteenth century Lower Horton Baptist Church, and associated cemetery, consisted of a program of historic research, interviews with local residents, and visual reconnaissance. Evidence gleaned from these sources supports the conclusion that the rectangular depression identified during the pedestrian survey, and described above, most likely marks the location of the Lower Horton Baptist Church and cemetery. While subsurface testing might provide further evidence, such action is outside the scope of the current study. Subsurface testing was conducted at the site by CRM Group, in 2004, however; and a small collection of mid-nineteenth century artifacts, including some architectural items, was recovered (Stewart & Sanders 2005). These findings would appear to support the conclusion that the Lower Horton Baptist Church once stood at this location.

According to historic records, the Lower Horton Baptist Church was likely built around 1860 and had fallen out of use by the early 1880s. While it is not known what happened to the structure itself, it would not have been uncommon for the building materials to have been harvested for use elsewhere. Given the church's relatively short period of service and small membership numbers, as discussed above, it is likely that the associated cemetery would have been fairly small. Out of an abundance of caution, the boundaries of archaeological site BgDb-14, as registered in 2004, were set at 100 metres long by 100 metres wide, in order to ensure the protection of any buried remains. It is the opinion of Kelman Heritage archaeologists that a buffer zone of 30 metres, around the site of the rectangular depression identified above, would satisfactorily protect any buried archaeological resources associated with the Lower Horton Baptist Church and cemetery (*Figure 4*).

Based on the results of the archaeological screening and reconnaissance, Kelman Heritage offers the following management recommendations:

1. It is recommended that the Maritime Archaeological Resource Inventory (MARI) be updated to reflect the more accurate 'Lower Horton Baptist Church' site name and to establish a 30m buffer zone around the church site.
2. It is recommended that no ground disturbance take place within the registered archaeological site boundaries. Should any such ground disturbance be planned, it is recommended that GFNEDC undertake prior consultations with both the Lockhartville African Nova Scotian community and a qualified professional archaeologist.
3. In the unlikely event that significant archaeological resources or human remains are encountered during any construction activities, all work in the associated area(s) should be halted and immediate contact made with the Coordinator of Special Places (Sean Weseloh McKeane: 902-424-6475).

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