

## 1.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

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Clinton Brown Company Architecture PC (CBCA) has completed an Intensive Level Historic Resources Survey of selective properties within the West Side of the Village of Brockport, Monroe County, NY, under contract to the Village and under the leadership of the Historic Preservation Board. This project was funded by a Certified Local Government (CLG) grant from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (SHPO).

The project manager was Jill Nowicki, CBCA Historic Preservation Specialist. The CBCA project team included Hannah Beckman, Clinton E. Brown, FAIA, and Alma O'Connell Brown. The CBCA project team members meet or exceed 36 CFR Part 61 "Professional Qualification Standards" of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards.

Historic buildings, landscapes, structures, and other features are distinct components of communities that highlight history on the local, regional, and national levels. A survey of the Village's historic resources is an important first step in recognizing the significance of these properties and keeping them a vital part of the community's built environment. Placing a resource in a larger context provides a sense of place. The information gained from documenting historic resources forms the foundation for integrating historic preservation into planning, community development, and economic revitalization efforts.

The Village of Brockport is a primarily residential village that is located within the Towns of Sweden and Clarkson, in Monroe County, New York (fig 1.1). Heil Brockway founded Brockport in 1823, on land that had been home to the Seneca Nation of the Iroquois Confederacy. The settlement attracted others, and Brockport was incorporated as a village in 1829. The village owes much of its early growth and prosperity to its location along the Erie Canal, which opened in Brockport in September, 1823, as the Western terminus of the canal until the canal was completed in Buffalo in October, 1825. This role gave Brockport its origin as a significant location for trade and commerce because of the booming trade along the canal route. Due to the prosperity brought to the Village by the Erie Canal, the nineteenth-century saw a significant growth in industry and business which spurred the architectural expansion and development of the area. Population reached its 19<sup>th</sup> century peak of more than 4,000 souls in 1880, a figure not exceeded until 1950. The population of Brockton was nearly 8,400 in 2010, largely due to the presence of The College at Brockport, State University of New York, the highly-ranked liberal arts college that began as the Brockport Collegiate Institute in 1841.

The Village of Brockport is centered at the intersection of Main Street/Route 19, which runs north-south, and the Erie Canal, which runs east-west, and is divided into four quadrants (fig 1.2). The survey area is the blocks within the southwest quadrant that are closest to the Canal.

From the Brockport Historic Preservation Board Website:

*In 1990 the Village of Brockport adopted a preservation ordinance, similar to those enacted in other municipalities across New York State. Its purpose is to protect from destruction or insensitive rehabilitation, buildings and neighborhoods in the Village which have special historic, architectural and cultural character. This ordinance created the Brockport Historic Preservation Board (BHPB) with responsibilities to identify the Village's significant historic and architectural resources, initiate the designation process of Village landmarks and historic districts and review applications for proposed exterior changes to buildings that are Village landmarks or in Village historic districts.<sup>1</sup>*

The objective of this survey for the Village of Brockport was to identify resources within the study area that are potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places in furtherance of the Village's goal *"to protect from destruction or insensitive rehabilitation, buildings and neighborhoods in the Village which have special historic, architectural and cultural character."*

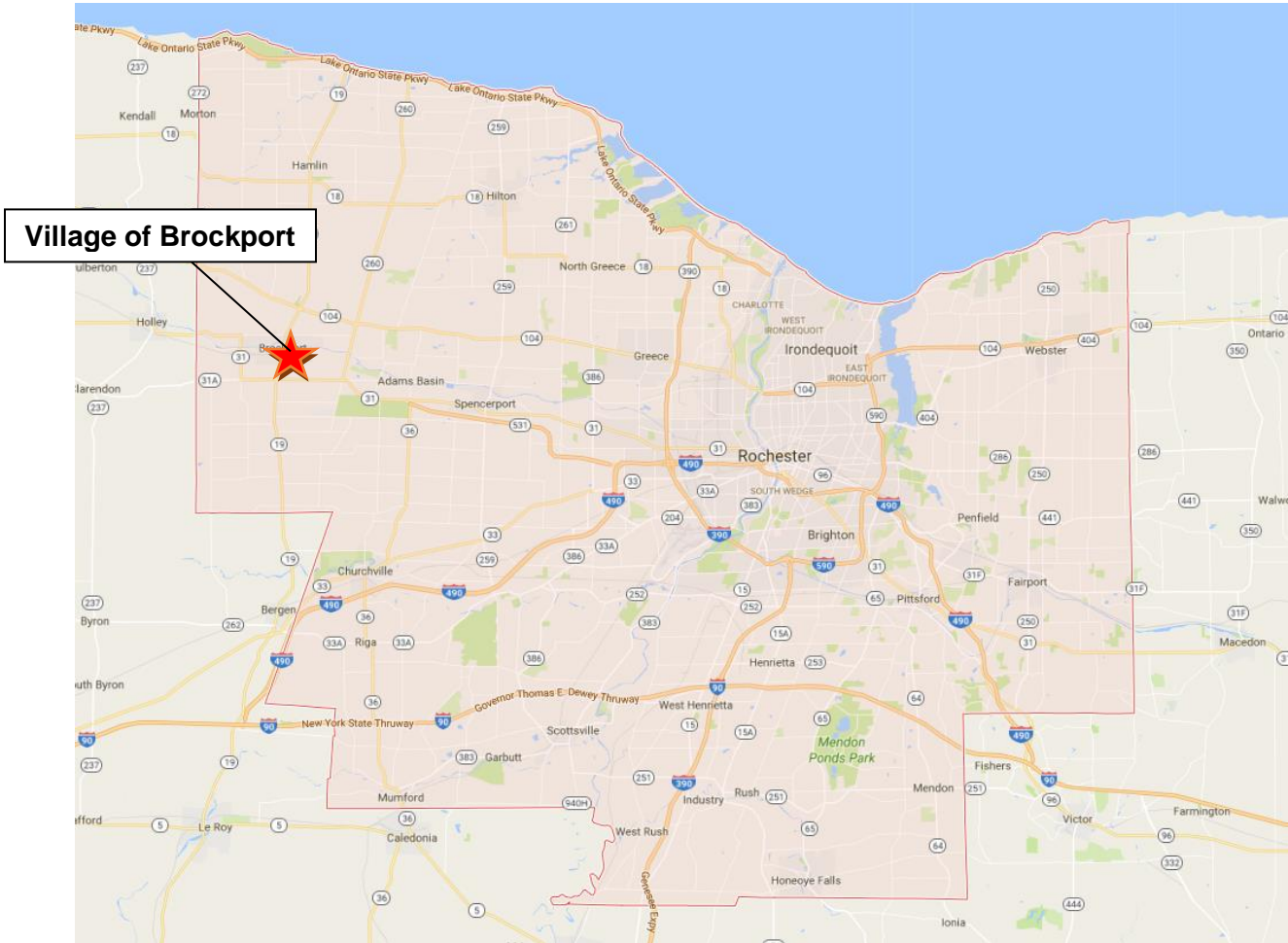
In 2013, CBCA completed architectural descriptions for surveyed properties on the West Side, including the following streets: Beach, Clinton, College, Erie, Gardiner Alley, Holley, King, Maxon, Merchant, Perry, Queen, and Utica (fig1.3). The 2013 work was reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Office. The Historic Preservation Board focused next steps for the area on an Intensive level Survey of select properties on Clinton, College and King Streets.

As a result of this survey, several properties have been identified as potentially eligible for National Register of Historic Places listing, and three potential local historic districts were identified.

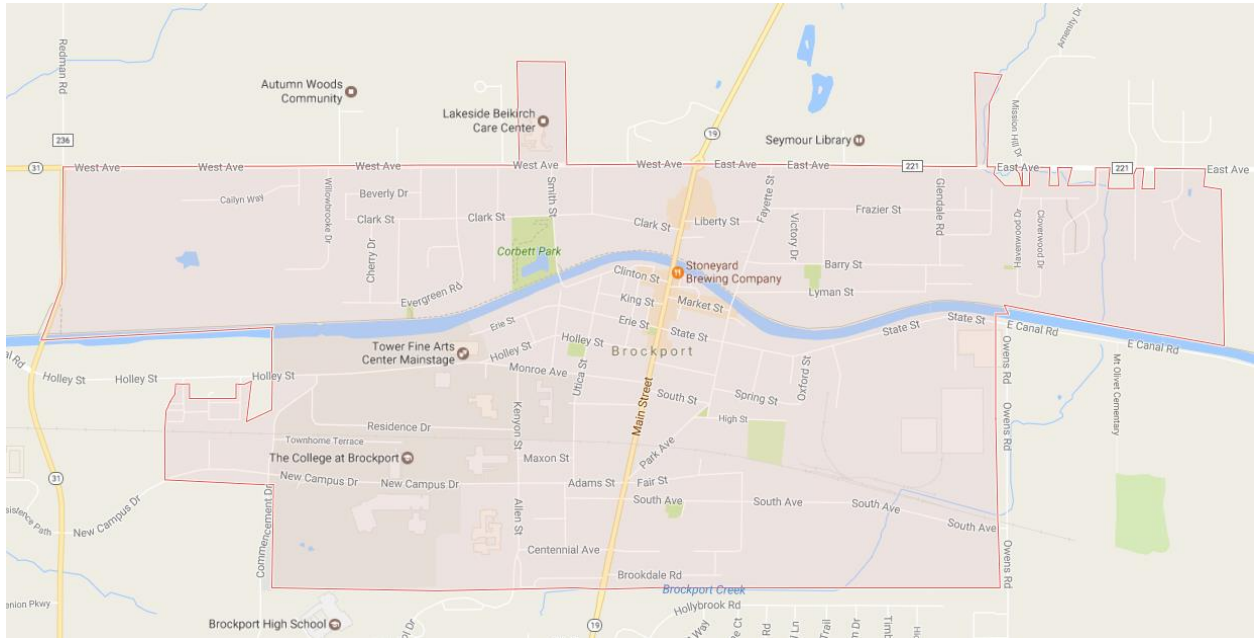
This report begins with the project methodology (Section 2), which explains how we conducted the Intensive Level Historic Resources Survey. It is followed by an historic overview of the Village of Brockport (Section 3) that provides an historic narrative of the Village's development. The next section is an Annotated List of Properties (Section 4), an overview of information about the properties surveyed. Section 5 contains a preliminary recommendations for recognizing historic resources identified in this survey. Maps are included in Section 6, and a working bibliography is included in Section 7. The New York State Historic Resource Inventory Forms are found in Section 8.

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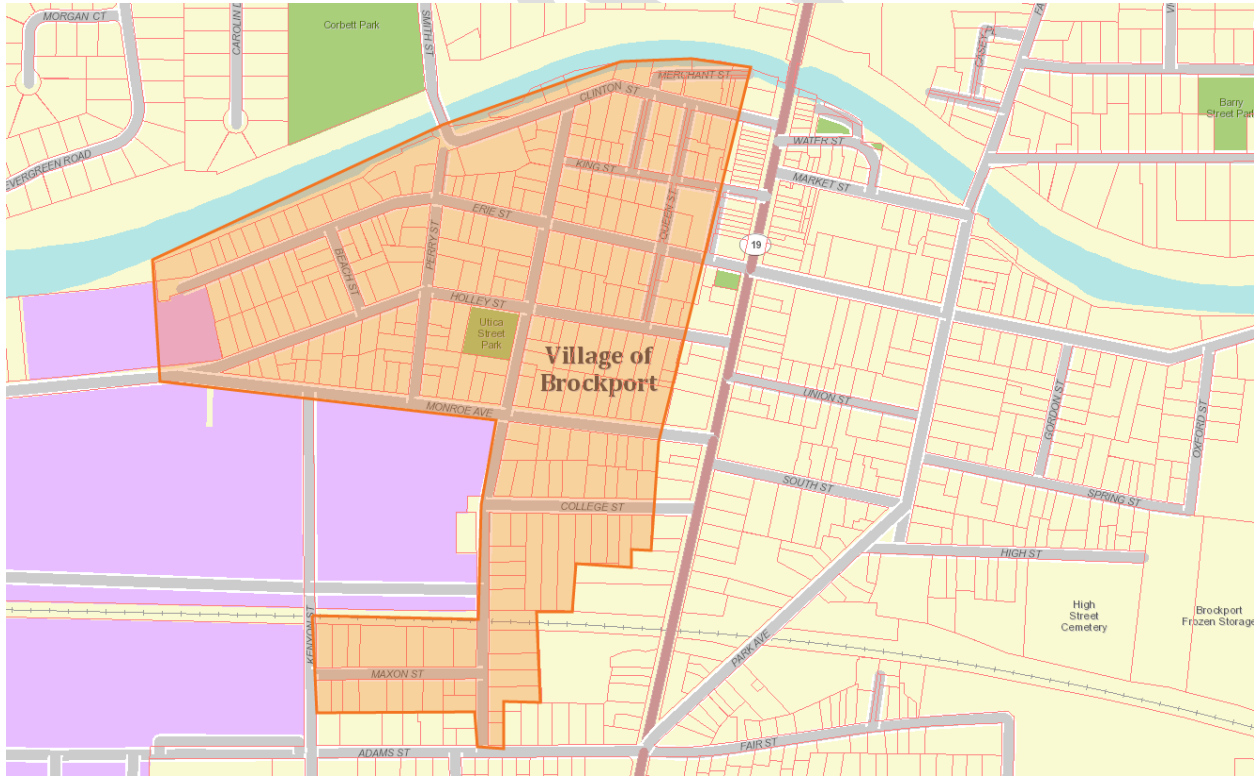
<sup>1</sup> (Historic Preservation Board, 2017)



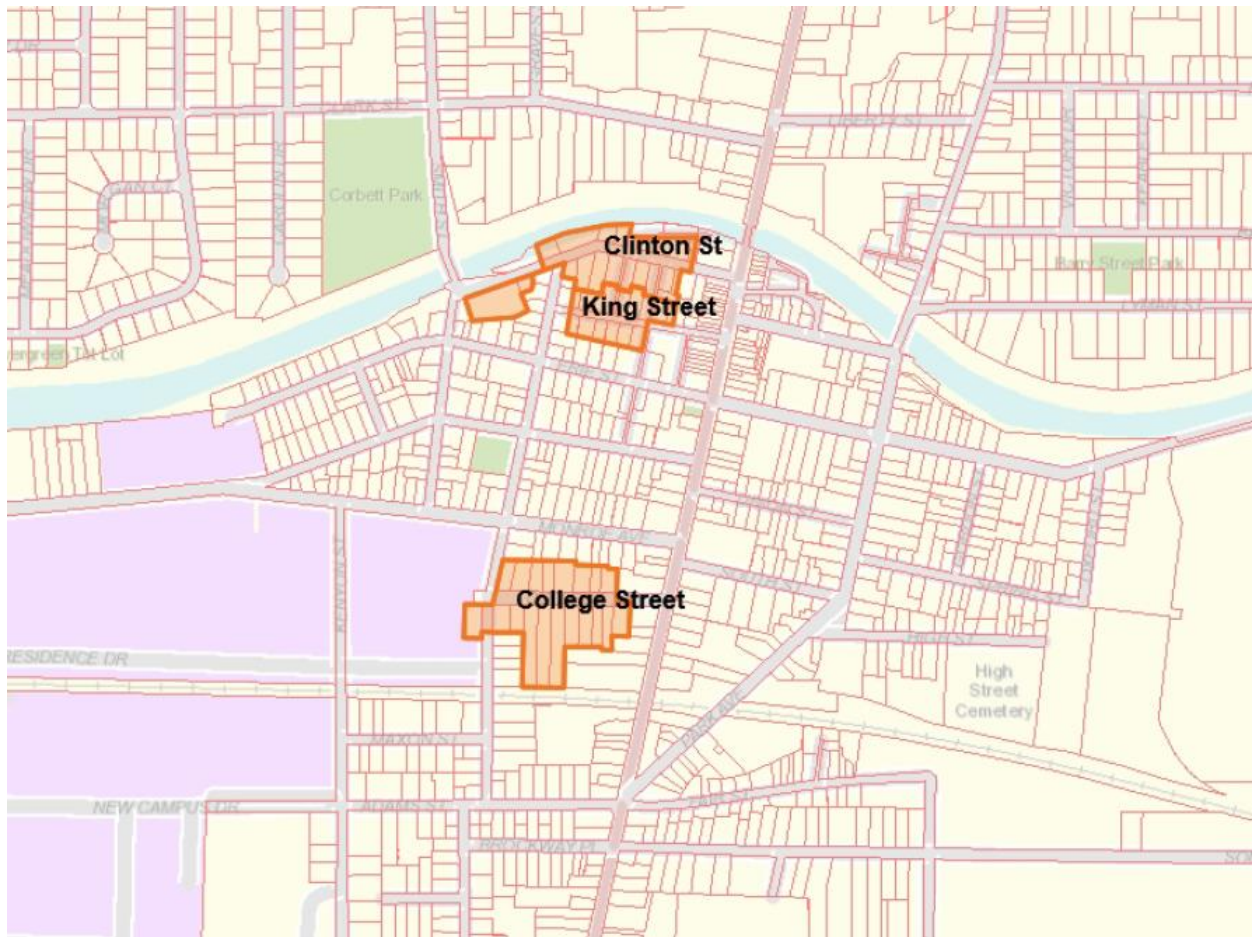
**Figure 1.1- Location of the Village of Brockport in Monroe County, NY**



**Figure 1.2- Map of the Village of Brockport, NY**



**Figure 1.3 – Area included in the 2013 Architectural Description Project for Village of Brockport, NY**



**Figure 1.4 – Area included in the Intensive Level Historic Resource Survey for Village of Brockport, NY**