

## 2.0 METHODOLOGY

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This methodology statement is prepared as part of the project tasks. It outlines the research sources identified, field strategies, context development approach, and decision-making structure for the project. It includes the selection criteria used to identify surveyed properties. All project tasks and products will meet the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (NYSOPRHP) criteria, methodology, and current standards for Cultural Resource Surveys.

The survey area encompasses those properties within the Village of Brockport which were not documented by previous surveys and to prepare New York State Historic Resource Inventory Forms. The survey is limited to those properties located on Clinton, College, and King Streets. The findings of the initial surveys served as the basis for this Intensive Level Historic Resources Survey conducted by CBCA.

The CBCA project team worked in full cooperation with the local contacts in the Village of Brockport, including Village Deputy Mayor and Historic Preservation Board member Bill Andrews, to finalize the project objectives, formalize project schedules and clarify issues, and establish contacts.

## 2.1 BACKGROUND RESEARCH

A search for documentary research materials for the Village of Brockport has been completed and the information gleaned will form the basis for the historical narrative. The project team reviewed NYSOPRHP files for existing building inventory and National Register forms. Research was also conducted by reviewing books and other written resources and via online databases such as ProQuest, HeritageQuest, JSTOR and others. Sources on the overall history and development of the Village of Brockport (primary and secondary sources, historic maps, city records, local histories, unpublished materials, etc.) were identified and examined. A working bibliography appears in Section 7.

## 2.2 CULTURAL RESOURCE FIELD SURVEY

In general, buildings that are a minimum of 50 years of age are considered historic. The current survey was limited to above ground historic resources. Prehistoric and historic archaeological sites were outside the scope of this study. The Village of Brockport study area base map was generated from Monroe County Tax Maps (Section 6). The CBCA survey team used the map in the field to locate and record inventoried properties.

Selection criteria and guidelines were developed to guide the selection of those properties within the specific survey area that was proscribed by the Village of Brockport Historic Preservation Board and the SHPO and that were previously inventoried. The criteria for evaluation of potential eligibility for National Register listing were based on the National Register Bulletin, *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*. The National Register Criteria are:

*The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and*

*A. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or*

*B. that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or*

*C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction or that represent a significant distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or*

*D. that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.*

Jill Nowicki, Clinton Brown and Corey Fabian Borenstein visited and observed the Survey site. Information collected in the field for each inventoried property was recorded on a cultural resource survey matrix form for use in the completion of the New York State Historic Resource Inventory Form. The type of information gathered for the survey included a street address, property name, architectural style, architectural and stylistic details, approximate date of construction, past and present use, condition, and integrity. All inventoried properties were photographed with a digital camera. All inventoried properties are presented in the report in an annotated list of properties (Section 4). Completed Historic Resource Inventory Forms are found in Section 8 at the end of the report.

### **2.3 HISTORIC OVERVIEW and BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Jill Nowicki and Clinton Brown compiled the historic overview of the Village of Brockport (Section 3), relying substantially on the excellent work previously prepared by Robert T. Englert of the State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau's Survey and Evaluation Unit. This context statement provides general information about important events that had an impact on the Village's development. It can be used to aid in establishing a greater understanding of the Village of Brockport. Information gathered from the background research and fieldwork formed the basis for statements of significance for each identified property. Historic maps, photographs and other images supplement the historical overview. The bibliography (Section 7) represents a working list of sources used in developing the historical and architectural overview, and those that were useful in documenting historical facts about the resources that were subject of the Intensive Level Historic Resources Survey.