

THE WELLAND CANALS;
HISTORICAL RESOURCE ANALYSIS AND PRESERVATION ALTERNATIVES

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HERITAGE PLANNING STUDY 1

2d. (Rev) ed.

reprinted

Toronto

Historical Planning and Research Branch
Ontario Ministry of Culture and Recreation

1979

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THE FEEDER

Resource Analysis*

The Feeder supplied the first two canal systems with water from the Grand River and provided an alternate to the main route between Welland and Port Colborne.

It extended southwest from the town of Welland to the town of Port Maitland, on the Grand River, with a small extension from Port Maitland north to Dunnville.

It is over 20 miles in length, and today is but an excavated channel, with the exception of the two lock structures, one buried at Welland, the other surviving at Port Maitland. It resembles a long, almost straight drainage ditch which cuts through flat agricultural land for its entire length. This ditch has been interrupted by fill for roads in numerous places so that flow within has been reduced in some areas, eliminated in others.

The lock at the end of the Feeder is in Port Maitland. It is located at the intersection of the Feeder Road and Rymer Road just north of the town. The stone walls are intact, complete with hardware but no gates. It is half full of water.

Theme Associations

This channel with its ruined lock is a mute testament to the technical problems tackled by engineers of the first two canals. The development of communities following construction is amply demonstrated by the existence of Dunnville, Stromness and Wainfleet.

Present Considerations

The Feeder Canal lies within the townships of Wainfleet and Moulton and therefore partially within the bounds of the Regional Municipality of Haldimand-Norfolk, and the Regional Municipality of Niagara.

In its 1972 Report, the Niagara Conservation Authority recommended that the Feeder Canal area should be rehabilitated to provide facilities

* The inventory for this area may be found on page 175.

Lake Ontario

Port
Weller

Port
Dalhousie

St. Catharines

Thorold

Allanburg

Port
Robinson

Welland

Port
Colborne

SHADED AREA LOCATES

MAP ON FACING PAGE

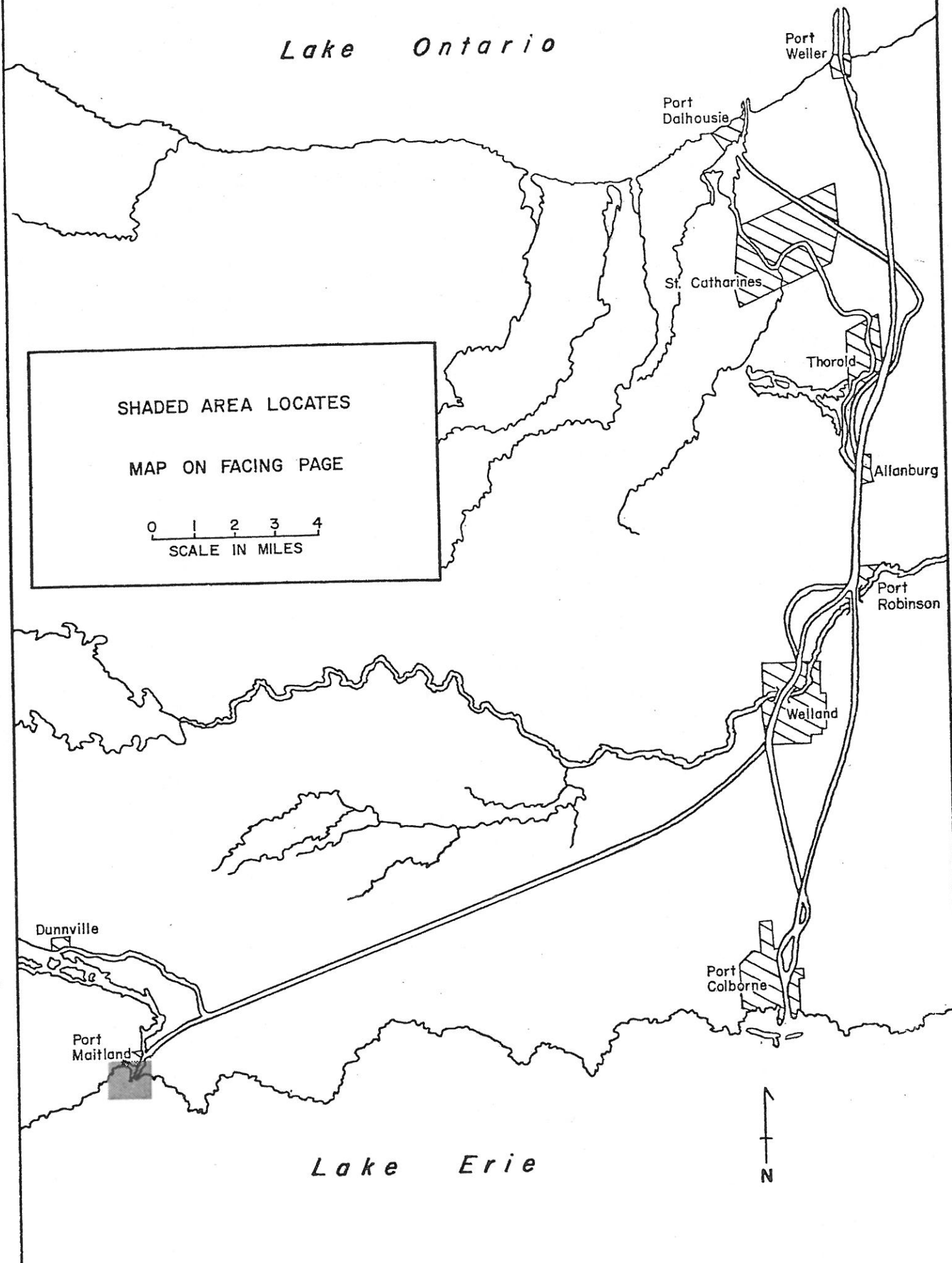
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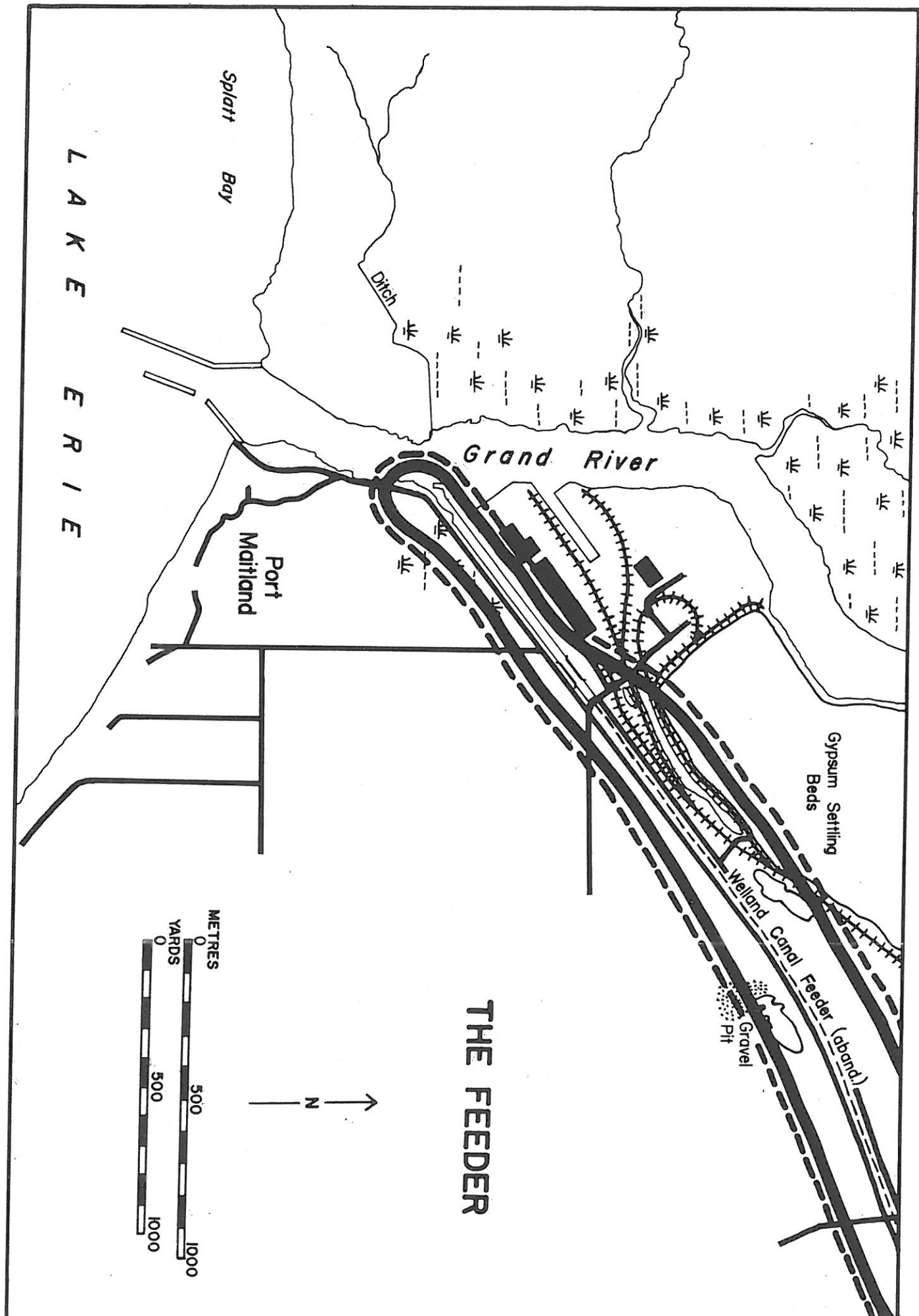
Dunnville

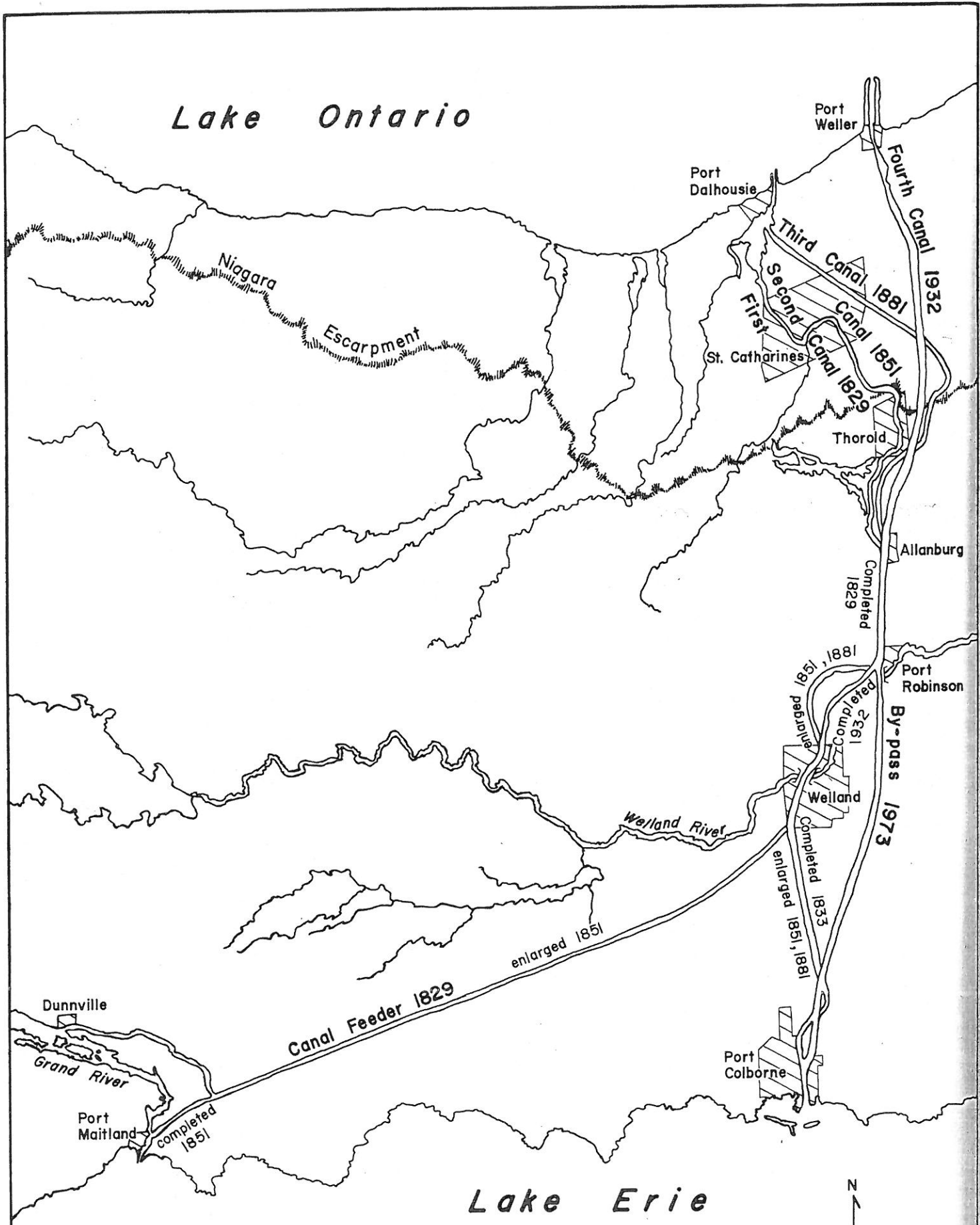
Port
Maitland

Lake Erie

N







Lake Ontario

Niagara

Escarpment

Port Dalhousie

Port Weller

Fourth Canal 1932

Third Canal 1881

Second Canal 1851

First Canal 1829

St. Catharines

Thorold

Allanburg

Completed 1829

enlarged 1851, 1881

Completed 1851

enlarged 1851, 1881

Completed 1851

enlarged 1851, 1881

Completed 1851

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Completed 1851

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Completed 1851

enlarged 1851, 1881

Welland River

Canal Feeder 1829

enlarged 1851

Dunnville

Grand River

Port Maitland

completed 1851

Port Colborne

Lake Erie

THE ROUTES OF THE WELLAND CANALS

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