

Plattsburgh, New York

Building & Zoning Dept.
41 City Hall Place
Plattsburgh, New York 12901
Ph: 518-563-7707
Fax: 518-563-6426

Plattsburgh

____ USE
CLASS A VARIANCE

X AREA
CLASS B VARIANCE

____ SUP
SPECIAL USE PERMIT

Date June 17, 2022

Appeal No 2324

An application is hereby made to the Zoning Board of Appeals pursuant to the City of Plattsburgh Zoning Ordinance for a variance to allow the property use as herein described.

Applicant: Joel Parker and Karen Parker

Applicant's Address: 56 Lynde Street
 Plattsburgh, NY 12901

Telephone No.: 518-335-5568

Parcel Identification: 207.11-6-27

Location of Request: 56 Lynde Street

Property Owner: Joel Parker and Karen Parker

Request Description: Class B variance to add porch cover to rebuilt porch at side of house.

Zoning District: R2

Section Appealed: 360-11

Previous Appeal: No.: _____ Date: _____

Identify Applicant's Right to Apply for Variance:

Ownership: X Long Term Lease: _____ Contract To Purchase: _____

Other (Please Explain): _____

Applications for Zoning Variances must be accompanied by:

13 copies of existing and proposed site plan plus original application.

13 copies of existing and proposed floor plan.

The Zoning Board of Appeals may impose reasonable conditions and restrictions on the grant of area and use variances provided they are directly related to and incidental to the proposed use of the property. Such conditions shall be consistent with the spirit and intent of the zoning law, and shall be imposed for the purpose of minimizing any adverse impact such variance may have on the neighborhood or community.

* Joel Parker
Signature (Owner/Applicant)

Joel Parker
Print First and Last Name

Lisa M. Beebie
Notary Public

LISA M. BEEBIE
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 01BE6395749

Qualified in Clinton County
Commission expires August 5, 2023

*Signatures other than Property Owner require a Letter of Authorization to apply

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

CITY HALL

PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK 12901

STANDARDS OF PROOF - AREA VARIANCE

A. The applicant for an area variance is not entitled to an area variance unless he has furnished competent proof to satisfy the "practical difficulty standard" and that the variance, if granted will not alter the essential character of the neighborhood.

In order to satisfy the practical difficulty standard, the applicant must prove that the Zoning Ordinance as it applies to his land creates significant economic injury and that the variance, if granted, will not produce a substantial change in the character of the neighborhood. The courts of this state hold that "significant economic injury cannot be established except by dollars and cents proof which includes:

1. The original purchase price of the premises.
2. The current market value of the premises without an area variance.
3. The projected market value of the premises with the variance having been granted."

"Projected market value" in item 3 does not include any cost of valuation for the proposed construction. It includes only the current market value without any variance plus the "value of the right to build." The "value of the right to build" may be said to be the "value of the building permit". How much more valuable is the entire property with a building permit allowing the future construction of the proposed work? Projected market value which includes the value of the work to be constructed will be rejected.

Projected market value can be best shown by the in-person testimony of a real estate appraiser who is present at the hearing. Written appraisals may be less satisfactory because the writer is not present to answer any questions.

The difference between the current market value without the variance and the projected market value with the variance is the amount of economic injury. If the Zoning Board of Appeals determines that this economic injury is significant, then the applicant may be entitled to the area variance.

However, if a town official comes forward at the hearing with testimony establishing that it is important in this particular instance to enforce the Zoning Ordinance as it is written, in order to protect the health, safety and welfare, then the application must be denied. It is important to note that such testimony must be by a town official or someone hired by the town to give the testimony. If the Zoning Board of Appeals agrees with the Town Official that it is important in this case to enforce the Zoning Ordinance as written, then the applicant is not entitled to the area variance, unless he presents further testimony that the enforcement of the ordinance as written will deprive him of any reasonable use of his land. If applicant proves that, then he is entitled to the area variance.

B. The second question to be determined by the Zoning Board of Appeals is whether the the propose will alte the essential character of the neighborhood. Will a substantial detriment to adjoining properties be created? If it will, then the variance may be denied.

C. Other Grounds for Denial:

1. Whether the variance applied for is the minimum variance that is necessary.
2. Is the variance sought one that is merely desirable for the greater enjoyment of the property, as opposed to one that is necessary for continued practical utilization of the premises? (Bielak v. Zoning Board of Appeals, 78 AD 2d 435).

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

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STANDARDS OF PROOF - AREA VARIANCE

3. Is this hardship self-created? An area variance cannot be denied solely on the ground of self-created hardship, but is a factor to be considered.
4. Is the plight of the owner due to personal problems of the owner as opposed to matters dealing with the land or buildings? While an area variance may not be denied solely on this basis, it is a factor to be considered.

Area Variances Standards

The state statues define area variances as: "the authorization by the zoning board of appeals for the use of land in a manner which is not allowed by dimensional or physical requirements of the applicable zoning regulations."

General City Law, 81-b(1)

The state statues then go on to provide the zoning board with the standards for granting the area variances;

"(b) In making it's determination, the zoning board shall take into consideration the benefit to the applicant if the variance is granted, as weighed against the detriment to the health, safety and welfare of the neighborhood or community by such grant. In making such determination the board shall also consider:

(1) whether an undesirable change will be produced in the character of the neighborhood or a detriment to nearby properties will be created by the granting of the area variance;

(2) whether the benefit sought by the applicant can be achieved by some method feasible for the applicant to pursue, other than an area variance;

(3) whether the requested area variance is substantial;

(4) whether the proposed variance will have an adverse effect or impact on the physical or environmental condition in the neighborhood or district; and

(5) whether the alleged difficulty was self-created; which consideration shall be relevant to the decision of the board of appeals, but shall not necessarily preclude the granting of the area variance.

The board of appeals , in the granting of area variances, shall grant the minimum variance that it shall deem necessary and adequate and at the same time preserve and protect the character of the neighborhood and the health, safety and welfare of the community."

General City Law, 81-b(4)

Area or Dimensional Variances

Area variances may be granted where setback, frontage, lot size or yard requirements of this Code cannot be reasonably met. In making its determination the ZBA shall take into consideration the benefit to the applicant if the variance is granted, as weighed against the detriment to the health, safety and welfare of the neighborhood or community by such grant. In making such determinations the board shall also consider the following criteria:

Please give a written response to each section.

(1) Will an undesirable change be produced to the character of the neighborhood or a detriment to nearby properties be created by the granting of the area variance?

No. See supplement for justifications.

(2) Can the benefit sought by the applicant be achieved by some method, feasible to the applicant to pursue, other than an area variance?

No. See supplement for justifications.

(3) Is the requested area variance substantial?

No. See supplement for justifications.

(4) Will the proposed variance have an adverse effect or impact on the physical or environmental conditions in the neighborhood?

No. See supplement for justifications.

(5) Has the alleged difficulty been self-created?
This information shall be relevant to the decision of the board but shall not necessarily preclude granting of the variance.

No. See supplement for justifications.

617.20
Appendix B
Short Environmental Assessment Form

Instructions for Completing

Part 1 - Project Information. The applicant or project sponsor is responsible for the completion of Part 1. Responses become part of the application for approval or funding, are subject to public review, and may be subject to further verification. Complete Part 1 based on information currently available. If additional research or investigation would be needed to fully respond to any item, please answer as thoroughly as possible based on current information.

Complete all items in Part 1. You may also provide any additional information which you believe will be needed by or useful to the lead agency; attach additional pages as necessary to supplement any item.

Part 1 - Project and Sponsor Information			
Name of Action or Project: Parker Porch cover			
Project Location (describe, and attach a location map): 56 Lynde Street, Plattsburgh, NY 12901			
Brief Description of Proposed Action: Adding a porch cover to rebuilt 5ft x 6 ft side porch on the pre-existing footprint.			
Name of Applicant or Sponsor: Joel Parker		Telephone: 518-335-5568	
		E-Mail: parker.joel@gmail.com	
Address: 56 Lynde Street, Plattsburgh, NY 12901			
City/PO: Plattsburgh		State: New York	Zip Code: 12091
1. Does the proposed action only involve the legislative adoption of a plan, local law, ordinance, administrative rule, or regulation? If Yes, attach a narrative description of the intent of the proposed action and the environmental resources that may be affected in the municipality and proceed to Part 2. If no, continue to question 2.			NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Does the proposed action require a permit, approval or funding from any other governmental Agency? If Yes, list agency(s) name and permit or approval: City of Plattsburgh Building Permit and Planning Appeals Board			YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.a. Total acreage of the site of the proposed action? _____ acres			
b. Total acreage to be physically disturbed? _____ acres			
c. Total acreage (project site and any contiguous properties) owned or controlled by the applicant or project sponsor? _____ acres			
4. Check all land uses that occur on, adjoining and near the proposed action.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Urban <input type="checkbox"/> Rural (non-agriculture) <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Residential (suburban)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Forest <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____			
<input type="checkbox"/> Parkland			

5. Is the proposed action, a. A permitted use under the zoning regulations?	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Consistent with the adopted comprehensive plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6. Is the proposed action consistent with the predominant character of the existing built or natural landscape?		NO <input type="checkbox"/>	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7. Is the site of the proposed action located in, or does it adjoin, a state listed Critical Environmental Area? If Yes, identify: _____		NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>
8. a. Will the proposed action result in a substantial increase in traffic above present levels?		NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>
b. Are public transportation service(s) available at or near the site of the proposed action?		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Are any pedestrian accommodations or bicycle routes available on or near site of the proposed action?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Does the proposed action meet or exceed the state energy code requirements? If the proposed action will exceed requirements, describe design features and technologies: _____	N/A	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>
10. Will the proposed action connect to an existing public/private water supply? If No, describe method for providing potable water: _____		NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>
11. Will the proposed action connect to existing wastewater utilities? If No, describe method for providing wastewater treatment _____		NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>
12. a. Does the site contain a structure that is listed on either the State or National Register of Historic Places?		NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>
b. Is the proposed action located in an archeological sensitive area?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. a. Does any portion of the site of the proposed action, or lands adjoining the proposed action, contain wetlands or other waterbodies regulated by a federal, state or local agency?		NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>
b. Would the proposed action physically alter, or encroach into, any existing wetland or waterbody? If Yes, identify the wetland or waterbody and extent of alterations in square feet or acres: _____		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Identify the typical habitat types that occur on, or are likely to be found on the project site. Check all that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> Shoreline <input type="checkbox"/> Forest <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural/grasslands <input type="checkbox"/> Early mid-successional <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland <input type="checkbox"/> Urban <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suburban			
15. Does the site of the proposed action contain any species of animal, or associated habitats, listed by the State or Federal government as threatened or endangered?		NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>
16. Is the project site located in the 100 year flood plain?		NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>
17. Will the proposed action create storm water discharge, either from point or non-point sources? If Yes, a. Will storm water discharges flow to adjacent properties? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES		NO <input type="checkbox"/>	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Will storm water discharges be directed to established conveyance systems (runoff and storm drains)? If Yes, briefly describe: _____		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES	

18. Does the proposed action include construction or other activities that result in the impoundment of water or other liquids (e.g. retention pond, waste lagoon, dam)? If Yes, explain purpose and size: _____	NO	YES
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the location of an active or closed solid waste management facility? If Yes, describe: _____	NO	YES
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the subject of remediation (ongoing or completed) for hazardous waste? If Yes, describe: _____	NO	YES
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I AFFIRM THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ABOVE IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE		
Applicant/sponsor name: <u>Deel Porter</u>	Date: <u>June 18, 2022</u>	
Signature: <u>[Signature]</u>		

Zoning Board to Fill out. Applicant does not fill out Part 2.

Part 2 - Impact Assessment. The Lead Agency is responsible for the completion of Part 2. Answer all of the following questions in Part 2 using the information contained in Part 1 and other materials submitted by the project sponsor or otherwise available to the reviewer. When answering the questions the reviewer should be guided by the concept "Have my responses been reasonable considering the scale and context of the proposed action?"

	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
1. Will the proposed action create a material conflict with an adopted land use plan or zoning regulations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Will the proposed action result in a change in the use or intensity of use of land?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of the existing community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Will the proposed action have an impact on the environmental characteristics that caused the establishment of a Critical Environmental Area (CEA)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change in the existing level of traffic or affect existing infrastructure for mass transit, biking or walkway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Will the proposed action cause an increase in the use of energy and it fails to incorporate reasonably available energy conservation or renewable energy opportunities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Will the proposed action impact existing:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. public / private water supplies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. public / private wastewater treatment utilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of important historic, archaeological, architectural or aesthetic resources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change to natural resources (e.g., wetlands, waterbodies, groundwater, air quality, flora and fauna)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
10. Will the proposed action result in an increase in the potential for erosion, flooding or drainage problems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Will the proposed action create a hazard to environmental resources or human health?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Part 3 - Determination of significance. The Lead Agency is responsible for the completion of Part 3. For every question in Part 2 that was answered "moderate to large impact may occur", or if there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action may or will not result in a significant adverse environmental impact, please complete Part 3. Part 3 should, in sufficient detail, identify the impact, including any measures or design elements that have been included by the project sponsor to avoid or reduce impacts. Part 3 should also explain how the lead agency determined that the impact may or will not be significant. Each potential impact should be assessed considering its setting, probability of occurring, duration, irreversibility, geographic scope and magnitude. Also consider the potential for short-term, long-term and cumulative impacts.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action may result in one or more potentially large or significant adverse impacts and an environmental impact statement is required.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts.
_____	_____
Name of Lead Agency	Date
_____	_____
Print or Type Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency	Title of Responsible Officer
_____	_____
Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency	Signature of Preparer (if different from Responsible Officer)

PRINT

Summary of our area variance request including answers to the five “Area or Dimensional Variances” questions.

We are requesting a dimensional area variance for a porch cover on the side of our house. Unfortunately, I did not understand the zoning rules and began construction before seeking this variance so the porch and cover is almost complete. When I went to rectify the permit situation the building inspector informed me of the requirement that the total sum of the setbacks on the sides of the house must be 25 feet. The pre-existing porch on the side makes this total only 20 feet (13 ft + 7 ft = 20ft) hence the need for a variance. The new construction sits on the pre-existing porch footprint.

Written responses

(1) Will an undesirable change be produced to the character of the neighborhood or detriment to nearby properties be created by the granting of area variance?

No, the opposite is true.

- a) The new construction is of high quality and perfectly in style with the rest of the neighborhood and our house. The cover is in the same style of, and echoes the roof line of the house. There is an almost exactly similar porch cover in the front of the house across the street 2 doors down (61 Lynde Street). Many houses in our neighborhood have covers on the side and front porches.
- b) This is the side of the house with our driveway that the porch reaches out to. The property line is 13 feet from the front edge of the porch and there will be no further encroachment than with the original porch.
- c) The porch is situating towards the back of the house so there is no visual solid line of building across the front to make the lot appear crowded.

(2) Can the benefit by the applicant be achieved by some method, feasible to the applicant to pursue, other than the area variance.

No.

- a) The newer 25-foot rule makes any new building on the side porch of our most used entrance a violation requiring a variance. This rule brings the required side setbacks right up to both side walls of the main structure.
- b) The weather in this region requires robust construction such that fabric or simple cheap awnings are impractical.

(3) Is the requested variance substantial?

No.

- a) The cover will have no effect on the dimensional area calculations and is unlikely to justify future expansion. The construction is not going beyond the existing footprint and the cover is open on the sides except for railing. The cover does not have an imposing or crowded visual

impact. The distance from the structure to the property line across the driveway would certainly not lead anyone think there would be problem with the setback.

(4) Will the proposed variance have an adverse effect or impact on the physical environmental conditions of the neighborhood?

No.

- a) The structure is set well back away from the sidewalk and street and 13 feet from the side property line so there are no physical impacts to neighbors

(5) Has the alleged difficulty been self-created?

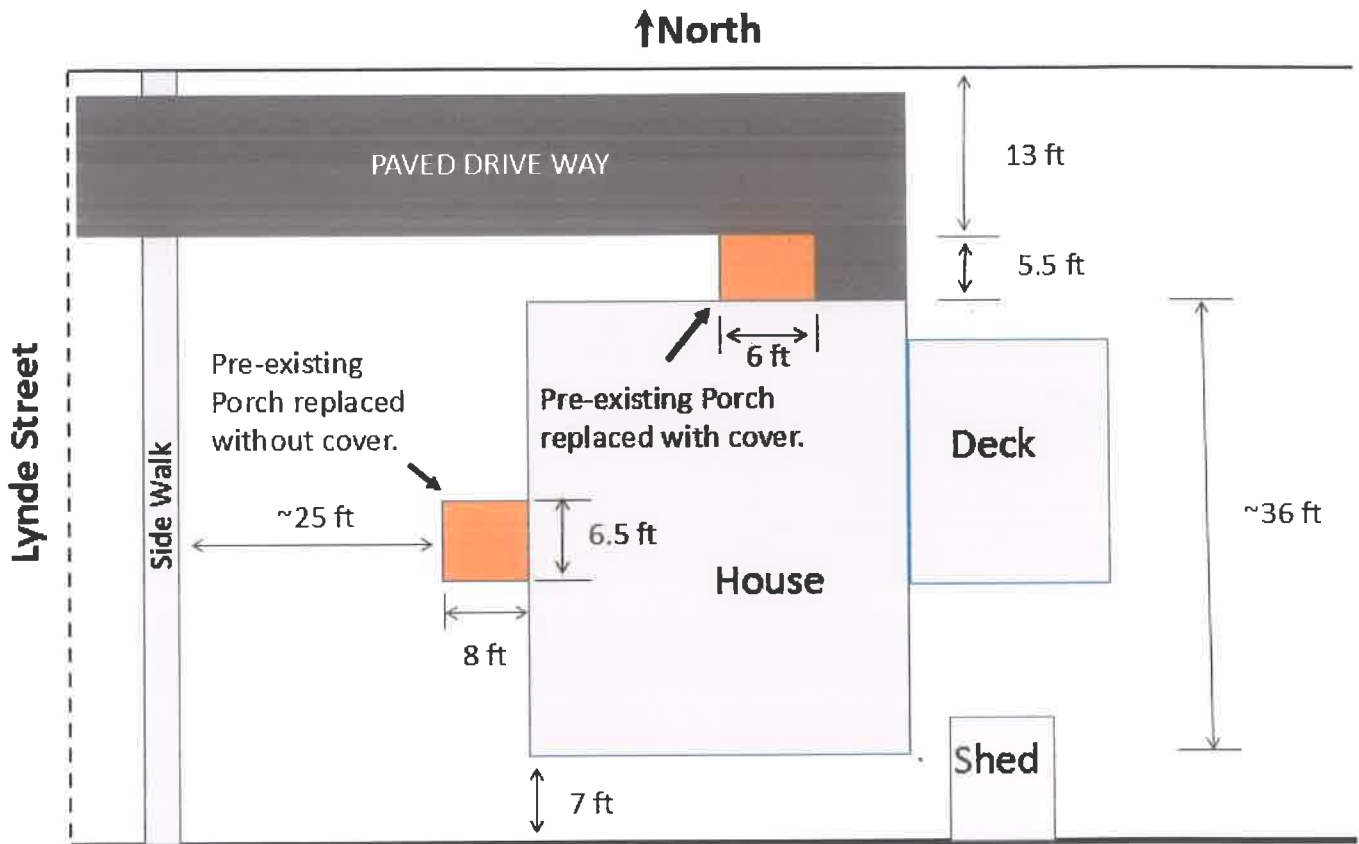
No

- a) The problem comes from the house as built in 1952 leaving exactly 25 feet when summing both side yards together WITHOUT including the side porch. To bring this particular house in complete compliance today would require sealing off the side exit because of the drop off from the door. This house would not have built the way it is under the newer code in question.

Picture from sidewalk of what the cover will remain to look like if the variance is approved.



Diagrams showing relevant dimensions. (~ = paced, others directly measured)



Google Satellite view of lot.



Clinton County GIS map showing location and adjacent parcels.

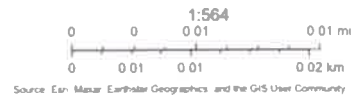


Clinton County GIS Map

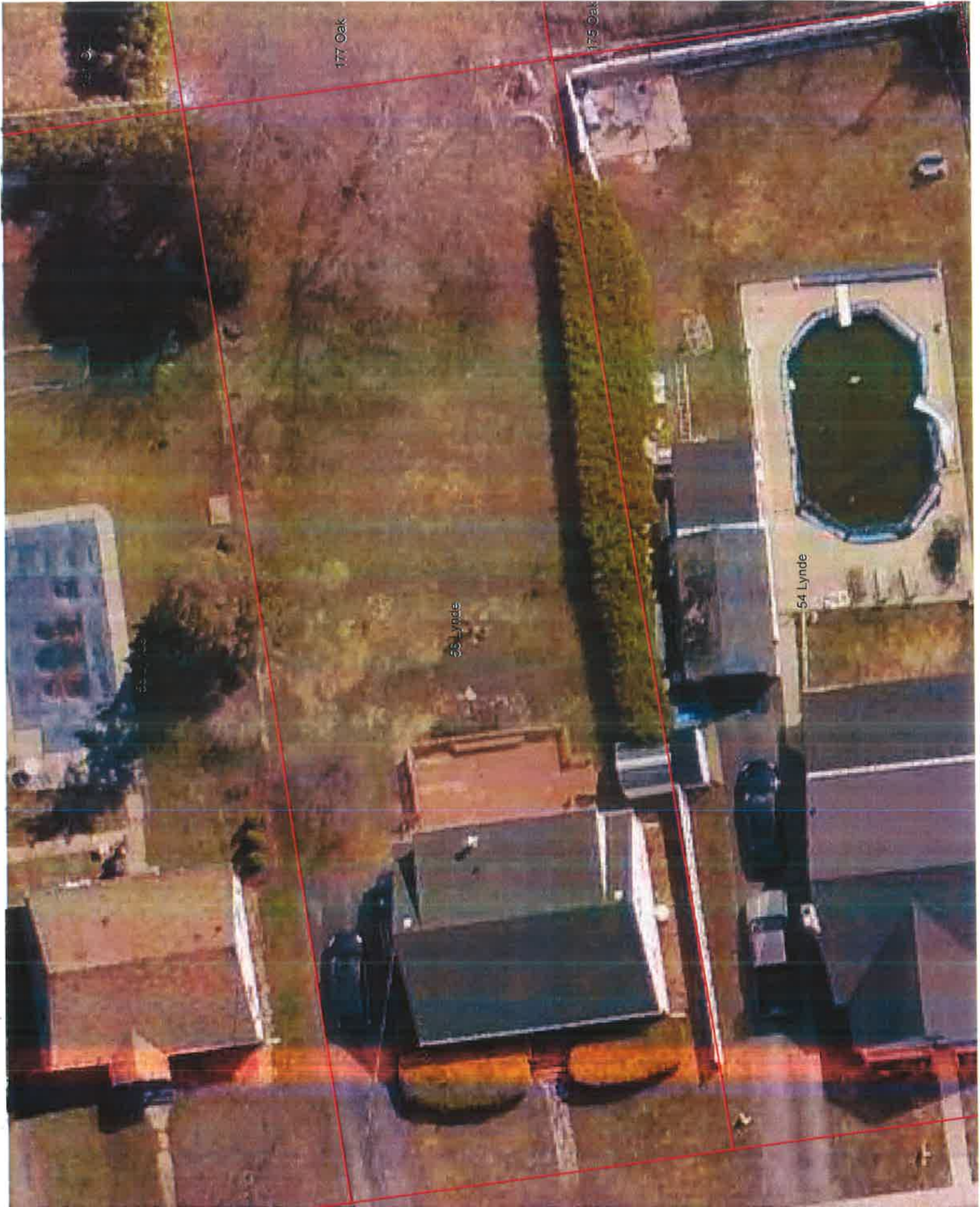


6/17/2022, 9:40:14 AM

- Address Location
 - Clinton_Roads
 - Parcels020321
- 5



Clinton County
New York State MapInfo MicroStation



177 Oak

175 Oak

56 Lynde

54 Lynde

