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PHASE IA ARCHEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

Scenic Beacon Development LLC

22 Edgewater Place
City of Beacon
Dutchess County, New York

HAA # 5174-11
OPRHP 17PR06370

Submitted to:
Scenic Beacon Developments LLC
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September 2017

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

SHPO Project Review Number: *17PR06370*
Involved State and Federal Agencies: *New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)*
Phase of Survey: *Phase IA*

LOCATION INFORMATION

Municipality: *City of Beacon*
County: *Dutchess*

SURVEY AREA

Length: *825 ft*
Width: *750 ft*
Acres: *12 acres*

RESULTS OF RESEARCH

Archeological sites within one mile: *Nineteen*
Surveys in or adjacent: *None*
NR/NRE sites in or adjacent: *None*
Precontact Sensitivity: *Moderate to high*
Historic Sensitivity: *Moderate to high*

ARCHEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

A surface reconnaissance of the property revealed extensive prior disturbance and areas of slopes greater than 12 % across the entire parcel.

RECOMMENDATIONS

No further archeological investigation is recommended.

Report Authors: *Jennifer Geraghty and Andre Krievs*
Date of Report: *September 2017*

ABSTRACT

A Phase IA archeological investigation was completed for the proposed Edgewater LLC project located in the City of Beacon, Dutchess County, New York. The 10-acre project area has experienced extensive soil disturbance, initially the result of historic development followed by excavations resulting in the removal of the historic buildings that once occupied the property. The recent use of the property as a storage facility for aggregate and topsoil stockpiling have also affected the landscape. A significant portion of the property, especially along the eastern, southern, and western perimeters, have slopes exceeding 12%. With the high level of disturbance and the presence of slopes greater than 12%, no further archeological investigation is recommended.

The proposed development plan includes removal of two standing structures located at the north and south ends of the project area. Both buildings have been inventoried and one of the buildings (02741.000536) was determined not National Register eligible while the other building (02741.000535) was undetermined. The building (02741.000535) does no or likely will not meet the criteria for National Register listing. According to the USN forms, both structures date from the early 20th century.

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PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY

1 Introduction

Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc. (Hartgen) conducted a Phase IA archeological investigation for the proposed Scenic Beacon Development LLC (Project) located in the City of Beacon, Dutchess County, New York. The Project requires approvals by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and City of Beacon Planning Board.

This investigation was conducted to comply with Section 14.09 of the State Historic Preservation Act and will be reviewed by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP). The investigation was conducted according to the New York Archaeological Council's *Standards for Cultural Resource Investigations and the Curation of Archaeological Collections* (1994), which are endorsed by OPRHP. This report has been prepared according to OPRHP's *State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Phase I Archaeological Report Format Requirements* (2005).

2 Project Information

2.1 Project Location

The Scenic Beacon Development LLC premises is located south of Tompkins Terrace and west of Bank Street in the City of Beacon, Dutchess County, New York, commonly referred to as 22 Edgewater Place..

2.2 Description of the Project

The project will include the construction of a multi-unit residential development with 307 units. Project effects will include surface soil excavations resulting from the construction of housing units, roads, parking lots and the installation of utility lines and a storm-water drainage system.

2.3 Description of the Area of Potential Effects (APE)

The area of potential effects (APE) includes all portions of the property that will be directly altered by the proposed undertaking. The APE encompasses approximately 10 acres of the overall 12-acre parcel.

For the purpose of this study, the Project Area and APE are considered to be synonymous and the terms are used interchangeably.

3 Environmental Background

The environment of an area is significant for determining the sensitivity of the Project Area for archeological resources. Precontact and historic groups often favored level, well-drained areas near wetlands and waterways. Therefore, topography, proximity to wetlands, and soils are examined to determine if there are landforms in the Project Area that are more likely to contain archeological resources. In addition, bedrock formations may contain chert or other resources that may have been quarried by precontact groups. Soil conditions can provide a clue to past climatic conditions, as well as changes in local hydrology.

3.1 Present Land Use and Current Conditions

A site visit was conducted by Andre Krievs on September 18, 2017 to observe and photograph existing conditions within the Project Area. The proposed APE is located along a steep to moderately sloping hillside overlooking the City of Beacon train station parking lot to the west. Beyond the parking lot lie the railroad tracks and Hudson River (Maps 1 and 2). The surface reconnaissance revealed extensive soil disturbance across the property. Several large stockpiles of aggregate and topsoil are located within the central portion of the property (Map 2; Photos 1, 2 and 3). The stockpiles lie on either side of the remnants of an asphalt road that

extends across the central portion of the property (Map 2; Photos 4 and 5). A manhole to what appears to be an earlier storm-water drainage system lies within the roadway (Map 2; Photo 6).

The surface vegetation across the western portion of the property consists of small locust trees (Map 2; Photo 7). This type of vegetation is commonly found in areas of disturbed soils. Numerous large blocks of concrete protruding out of the surface soil were evident throughout the area (Map 2; Photos 8 and 9). An examination of the westernmost perimeter of the property near the edge of the steep slope revealed large deposits of concrete rubble intermixed with brick and the remnants of large concrete pipe. According to the client, the building materials originated from several previously demolished buildings that once occupied the property (Map 2; Photos 10 and 11). Backhoe tests conducted for the client indicate some the material continues to depths in excess of six feet below the surface (Hudson Land Design; Personal Communication 2017).

The eastern and southern perimeters of the property slope sharply towards Bank Street (Map 2; Photo 12). The western perimeter slopes sharply towards the train station parking lot (Map 2; Photo 13).

A section of exposed shale and greywacke bedrock was encountered along the southern slope (Map 2; Photo 14). The bedrock outcrops were examined for possible rockshelters and chert outcrops and none were identified.

3.2 Soils

Soil surveys provide a general characterization of the types and depth of soils that are found in an area. This information is an important factor in determining the appropriate methodology if and when a field study is recommended. According to the soil survey for Dutchess County, (Map 3) the project area contains Dutchess-Cardigan complex soils (USDA NRCS 2006).

Table 1. Soils in Project Area

Symbol	Name	Depth	Textures	Slope	Drainage	Landform
DwB	Dutchess-Cardigan Complex	0-10 cm (0-4 in) 10-25 cm (4-10 in) 25-51 cm (10-20 in) 51-66 cm (20-26 in) 66-165 cm (26-65 in)	Si Lo Si Lo Si Lo w/rocks Si Lo w/rocks Si Lo w/rocks	0-70%	Well drained	Glaciated uplands

Key: Texture: Co-Coarse, Fi-Fine, Gv-Gravelly, Lo-Loam, Sa-Sand, Si-Silt, Vy-Very

3.3 Bedrock Geology

According to the Geological Map of New York, the underlying bedrock is part of the Eugeosynclinal Sequence consisting of Austin Glen Formation greywacke and shale (Fisher, et al. 1970).

3.4 Physiography and Hydrology

Steeply sloped areas are considered largely unsuitable for human occupation. As such, the standards for archeological fieldwork in New York State generally exclude areas with a slope in excess of 12% from archeological testing (NYAC 1994). Exceptions to this rule include steep areas with bedrock outcrops, overhangs, and large boulders that may have been used by precontact people as quarries or rock-shelters. Such areas may still warrant a systematic field examination.

4 Documentary Research

Hartgen conducted research using the New York State Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS), which is maintained by the New York SHPO and the Division for Historic Preservation DHP within OPRHP. CRIS contains a comprehensive inventory of archeological sites, State and National Register (NR) properties, properties determined eligible for the NR (NRE), and previous cultural resource surveys.

4.1 Archeological Sites

An examination of CRIS identified nineteen reported archeological sites within one mile (1.6 km) of the Project (Table 2). Previously reported archeological sites provide an overview of both the types of sites that may be present in the Project Area and relation of sites throughout the surrounding region. The presence of few reported sites, however, may result from a lack of previous systematic survey and does not necessarily indicate a decreased archeological sensitivity within the Project Area.

Table 2. Archeological sites within one mile (1.6 km) of the Project

OPRHP Site No.	NYSM Site No.	Site Identifier	Description	Proximity to Project Area
-	1154	Beacon; SUNY ALB 2	No information.	2,700 feet north
-	3146	ACP DUCH 14	Precontact village, overlaps with NYSM 7259 (see below).	4,600 feet south
-	7259	Site S; ACP DUCH 16A; ACP WEST no #	North end of site is within search radius.	4,300 feet south
-	7856	ACP DUCH no #; ACP DUCH 13A?	Burial site plotted in a broad area east of the Project.	2,500 feet east
-	3145	ACP DUCH 13C	Precontact village, described as "recent" [perhaps meaning Late Woodland].	1,200 feet southwest
02706.000051	-	G. A. Seaman Historic Site	Late 19th-century house location, known from shovel testing (no extant structure above ground). NR status is undetermined.	3,900 feet northeast
02706.000052	-	Miss E. Seaman Site	Historic house site, known from shovel testing (no extant structure above ground). NR status is undetermined.	4,000 feet northeast
02741.000011	-	Wiltsie Site and Site of Store	Map-documented location of late 18th-century Wiltsie house and store. NR status is undetermined.	4,900 feet south
02741.000012	-	School Site	Map-documented location of late 18th-century school, between Sargent and South Avenues. NR status is undetermined.	4,300 feet southeast
02741.000014	-	Fishkill Ferry Landing and Beekman Street; also known as Fishkill Landing	Said in 1974 to be in the area slated for urban renewal. Citing the landing's importance in the Colonial Era and during the Revolutionary War, "there is a strong potential for significant archeological sites remaining in undisturbed areas along Beekman Street…" More research was needed, however, to determine if the targeted street on late 18th-century maps was Beekman or Ferry street. A 1995 letter from John Bonafide asserts that the Landing is NRE because of important historic events.	900 feet south
02741.000015	-	Jarvis Site	Map-documented location of late 18th-century Jarvis farm. NR status is undetermined.	4,700 feet
02741.000016	-	Fishkill Landing Settlement	Cluster of map-documented, 18th-century structures between Verplank Avenue, Main Street, Walnut Street, and North Avenue. One, the Country Club house, stands on the north side of North Avenue, opposite Verplank. NR status is undetermined.	1,900 feet east

OPRHP Site No.	NYSM Site No.	Site Identifier	Description	Proximity to Project Area
02741.000021	-	ALB&Beacon Bridge Site, NYAC 292	NR status is undetermined.	3,300 feet north
02741.000342	-	Fishkill Landing Upper Landing	Late 18th- and early 19th-century commercial center on the Hudson River, extending inland along Main Street. NR status is undetermined.	200 feet west
02741.000344	-	Long Dock	Map-documented location of 19th-century pier, at foot of Ferry Street. NR status is undetermined.	1,700 feet southwest
02741.000347	-	Frankfort Storehouse	Map-documented location of 18th-century storehouse, served at one time as the Wiltsie storehouse. NR status is undetermined.	4,000 feet south
02741.000521	-	Structure 14 Cistern	19th century	600 feet southeast
02706.000006		Mount. Gulian Historic Archeological Site	NRL; Late 17th- and 18th-century historic site with precontact component	4,700 feet north
02741.000364		Verplanck Landing Archeological site	NRE; Late Woodland occupation	4,400 feet north

4.2 Historic Properties

An examination of CRIS identified no NR properties, no NRE properties, one property previously determined to be ineligible, and one property of undetermined status within the Project Area (Table 3).

Table 3. Inventoried properties within the Project Area

USN	Property Name	Status	Description	Location and Proximity to Project Area
02741.000535	22 Edgewater Place	Undetermined	Circa 1920 brick structure	Within
02741.000536	8 Branch Street	Not eligible	Circa 1900	Within

4.3 Previous Surveys

A review of CRIS identified no previous surveys within the immediate vicinity of the Project.

5 Historical Map Review

To trace the development of the project, a review of historical maps was conducted. The maps include 19th-century landowner maps, 20th-century Sanborn insurance maps, and 20th-century topographic quadrangles Maps 4a and 4b). The maps are geo-referenced and the Project has been superimposed on each map. The maps are discussed in chronological order.

The earliest map examined is the 1850 Sidney *Map of Dutchess County, New York*. No structures are indicated within the project area. The 1856 Gillette *Map of Dutchess County, New York* shows a cluster of three buildings (J Stanton, J Harris, and J Mosber) at the southern end of the project area. The 1891 *Atlas of the Hudson River Valley from New York to Troy* show two structures (Tompkins) and a group of three short interconnected roads within the central portion of the project area. The three structures shown at the south end of the project area on the earlier map are not indicated.

The 1903 USGS *Poughkeepsie 15' Topographic Quadrangle* shows a structure at the southern end of the project area. The 1919 and 1927 Sanborn Maps indicate a cluster of five structures at the southern end of the project area. The 1946 Sanborn Map shows four structures in the same general area. No coverage is provided for the rest of the project area.

The 1943 USGS *Poughkeepsie 15' Topographic Quadrangle* indicates three structures within the project area. Two are indicated in the north central portion of the property and one at the south end of the parcel. The 1956 and 1981 USGS *Wappinger Falls 7.5' Topographic Quadrangles* show a series of five structures extending across the central portion of the project area.

5.1 Map-Documented and Existing Structures

Each past or current structure within the Project Area is assigned a unique structure number. Map-documented structures—those structures that are depicted on one or more maps—are distinguished using the abbreviation "MDS" after the structure number (e.g. Structure 3 (MDS)).

Table 4. Summary of map-documented and existing structures within the Project Area/APE

Structure #	Map 4. (1850)	Map 4. (1858)	Map 4. (1891)	Map 4. (1919)	Map 4. (1927)	Map 4. (1943)	Map 4. (1946)	Map 4. (1956)	Map 4. (1981)	Extant
1		X								
2		X								
3		X								
4			X							
5			X			X		X		
6				X	X		X			
7				X	X	X	X			
8				X	X		X	X	X	
9				X	X		X	X	X	X
10						X		X	X	X
11								X	X	
12								X	X	

6 Architectural Discussion

There are two individual structures within the Project Area. Both structures have been inventoried and assigned USN numbers. The two structures are summarized in the Historic Structures section of the report and in Table 5. Both buildings will be removed as part of the development plan.

Table 5. Architectural properties within or adjacent to the current Project

Structure #	Photo	Name/Address	Date	Potential associated archeological deposits
02741.000535*	15	22 Edgewater Place	c. 1920	Historic cultural deposits dating from the 20th century.
02741.000536	16	8 Branch Street	c. 1900	Historic cultural deposits dating from the 20th century.

* Does not or likely will not meet the criteria for National Register listing.

7 Archeological Sensitivity Assessment

The New York Archaeological Council provides the following description of archeological sensitivity:

> Archaeologically sensitive areas contain one or more variables that make them likely locations for evidence of past human activities. Sensitive areas can include places near known prehistoric sites that share the same valley or that occupy a similar landform (e.g., terrace above a river), areas where historic maps or photographs show that a building once stood but is now gone as well as the areas within the former yards around such structures, an environmental setting similar to settings that tend to contain cultural resources, and locations where Native

Americans and published sources note sacred places, such as cemeteries or spots of spiritual importance (NYAC 1994:9).

7.1 Precontact Archeological Sensitivity

The precontact sensitivity of an area is based on proximity to previously documented precontact archeological sites, known precontact resources (e.g. chert outcrops), and physiographic characteristics such as topography and drainage. Generally, areas in the vicinity of streams and wetlands are considered to have elevated sensitivity for sites associated with Native American use or occupation because they provided potential food and water sources as well as transportation corridors.

The site file data indicate eight (8) precontact sites within a mile of the project area. The sites are located mainly along the Hudson River and the Fishkill. Based on the project area's proximity to the Fishkill and Hudson River and the identification of numerous previously identified precontact sites, the project area is considered as having moderate to high sensitivity for precontact cultural resources.

7.2 Historic Archeological Sensitivity

The historic sensitivity of an area is based primarily on proximity to previously documented historic archeological sites, map-documented structures, or other documented historical activities (e.g. battlefields).

The late 19th-century landowner maps, early 20th-century Sanborn maps and 20th-century USGS topographic quadrangles show several structures within or directly adjacent to the project area. The project area is considered as having a moderate to high sensitivity for historic cultural resources dating from the late 19th and 20th centuries.

8 Archeological Potential

Archeological potential is the likelihood of locating intact archeological remains within an area. The consideration of archeological potential takes into account subsequent uses of an area and the impact those uses would likely have on archeological remains.

The surface reconnaissance indicates the project area has experienced extensive prior disturbance. Past historic development accompanied by more recent excavations have significantly altered the property's original landscape along with any precontact cultural resources that may have been present. The project area has a low archeological potential for yielding intact precontact cultural resources.

The property has experienced historic development beginning during the mid to late 19th century and continuing into the mid-20th century. Only two of the structures remain. They are located at the north and south ends of the property and have been inventoried and assigned USN numbers. The remaining map documented structures have been removed and it is very likely that some of the debris from the buildings was buried on site as indicated by the large amount of concrete, brick and other construction debris found protruding out of the surface soils and found along the edges of the slope, specifically at the south end of the property. Based on the more recent age of the surrounding vegetation and the historic maps data, most of the buildings were probably removed sometimes during the mid- to late-20th century. It is also very likely that soils from the surrounding landscape were used to bury the building debris, thus further affecting the property's original landscape. Although several structures dating from the late-19th and 20th centuries have occupied the property, their removal has significantly compromised the integrity of the building footprints and the historical landscape surrounding them. The project area is considered as having a low archeological potential for yielding intact historic cultural resources dating from the 19th century or earlier.

9 Recommendations

The project area has experienced extensive soil disturbance, initially the result of historic development followed by excavations related to the removal of the historic buildings that once occupied the site. The recent use of

the property as a storage facility for aggregate and topsoil stockpiling have also affected the landscape. A significate portion of the property, especially along the eastern, southern and western perimeters, have slopes exceeding 12%. With the high level of disturbance and the presence of slopes greater than 12%, no further archeological investigation is recommended.

The proposed development plan includes removal of two standing structures located at the north and south ends of the project area. Both buildings have been inventoried and one of the buildings (02741.000536) was determined not National Register eligible while the other building (02741.000535) was undetermined. The building (02741.000535) does no or likely will not meet the criteria for National Register listing. According to the USN forms, both structures date from the early 20th century.

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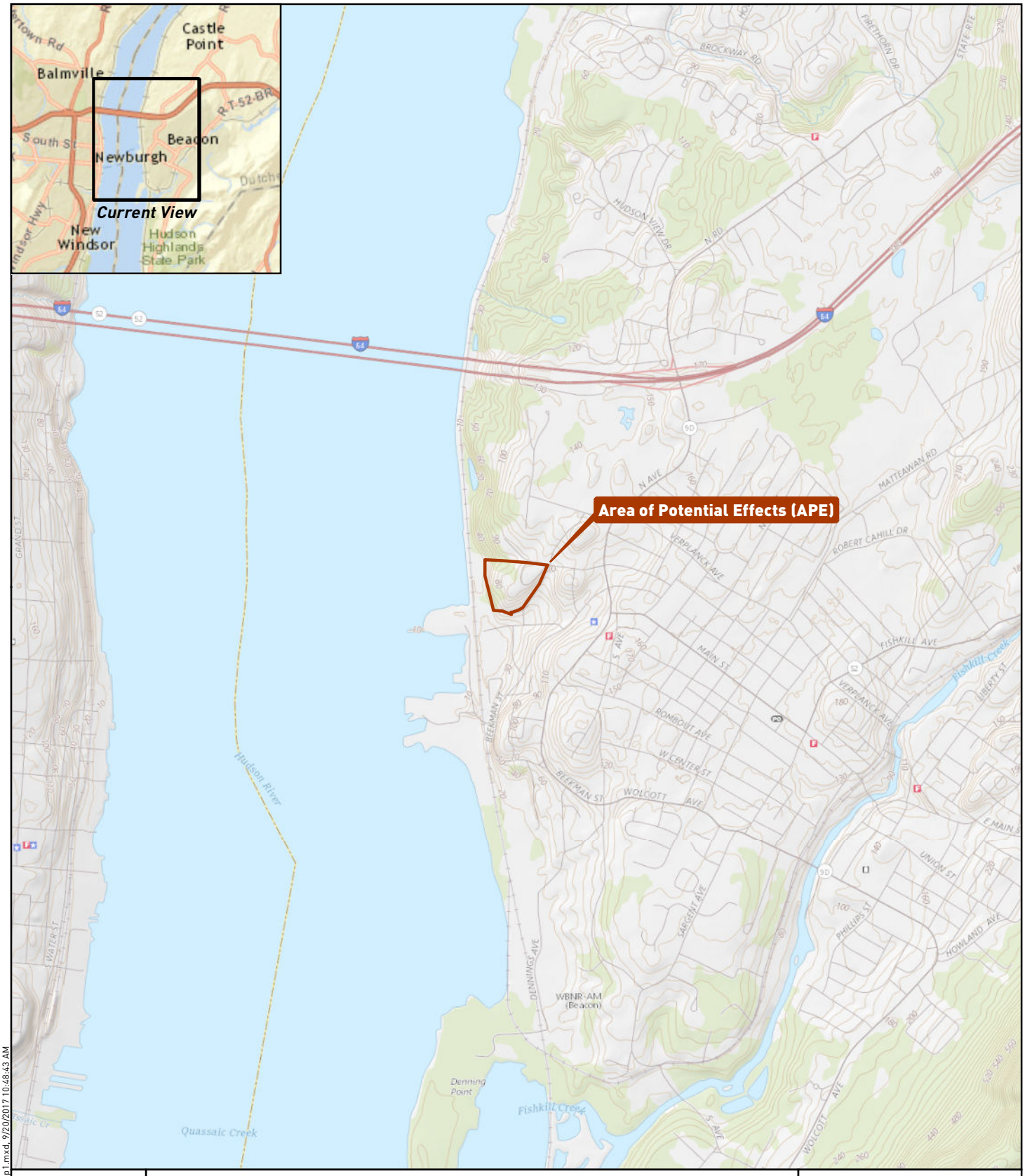
Maps



1,000 0 1,000 2,000 Feet

300 0 300 600 Meters

Note: Contour interval is 10 feet.

Project Location
(ESRI 2017; USGS 2015)

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Map 1

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50 0 50 100 Feet
15 0 15 30 Meters

Legend

Photo Angles
Area of Potential Effects (APE)
Major Contour
Minor Contour

Project Map
(Hartgen 2017;
Hudson Land Design 2017)

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Map 2

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250 0 250 500 Feet

75 0 75 150 Meters

Soil Map
(USDA NRCS 2006, ESRI 2017)

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Map 3

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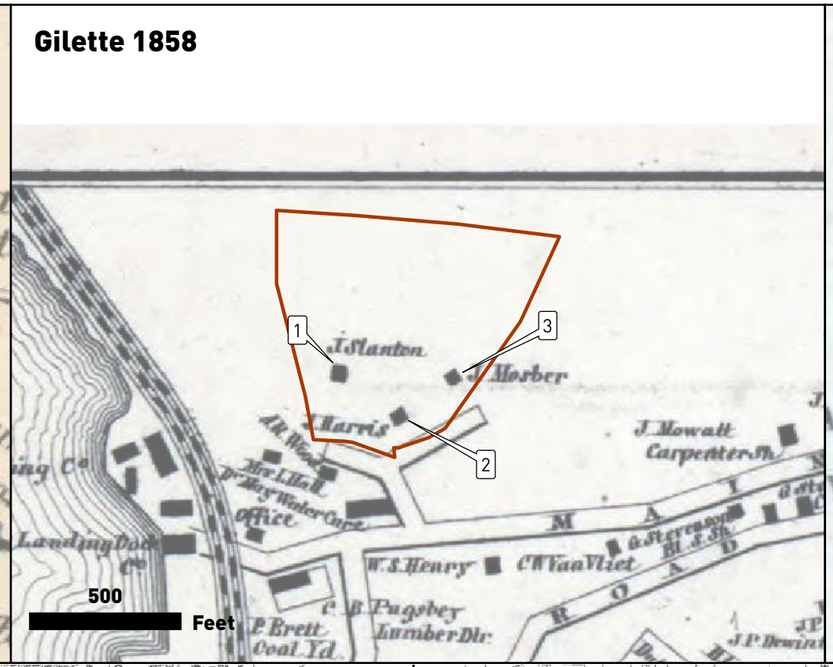

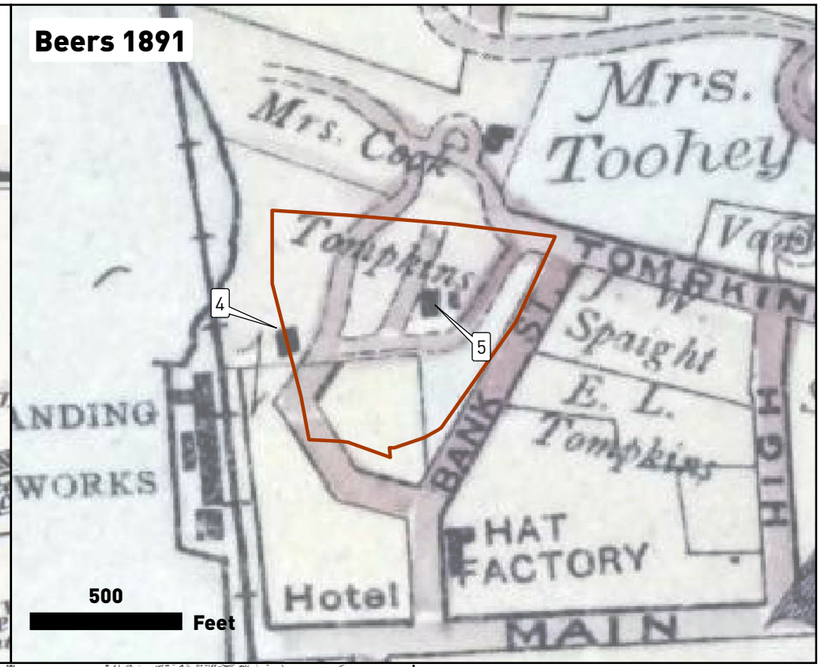

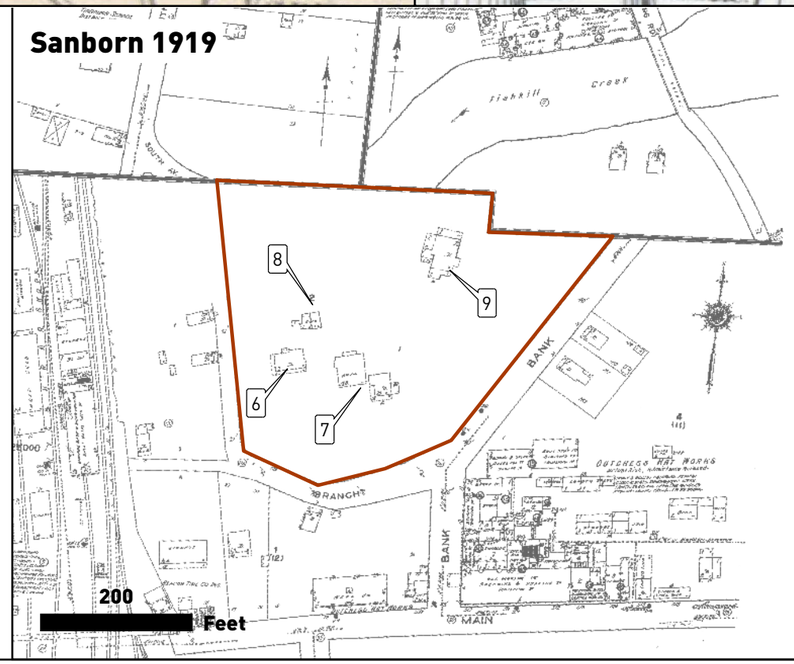

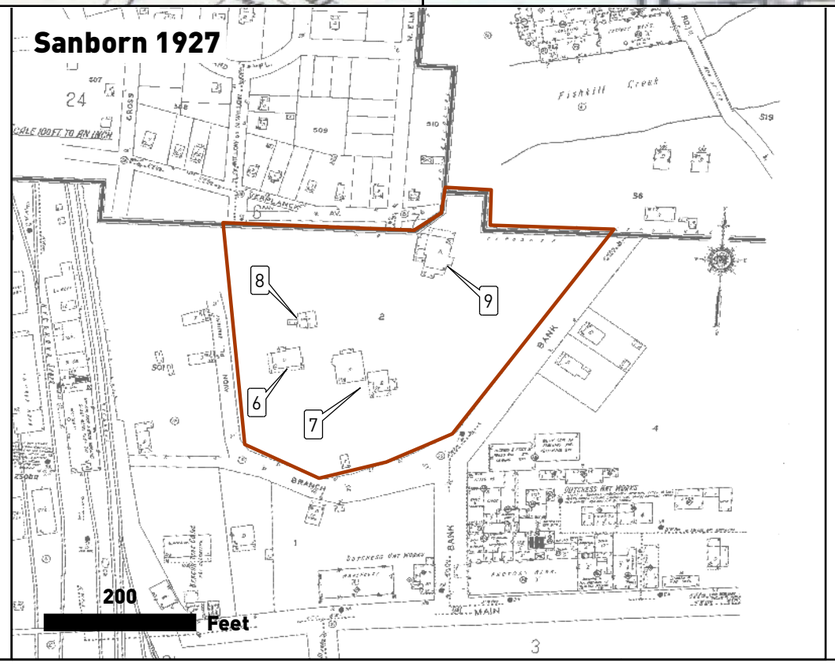

Legend

Area of Potential Effects (APE)

1 Building Number

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Historical Maps 1850-1927

Map 4a

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Legend

Area of Potential Effects (APE)

1 Building Number

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Historical Maps 1946-1981

Map 4b

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Photographs

Photo 1. View south of the north central portion of the project area. The surface conditions indicate extensive soil disturbance throughout the area.

Photo 2. View southeast of the large aggregate piles located within the north central portion of the project area. The surface conditions indicate extensive disturbance throughout the area.

Photo 3. View north of the general surface conditions that extend across the central portion of the project area. The surface conditions indicate extensive soil disturbance throughout the area.

Photo 4. View north of the asphalt roadway and general surface conditions that extend across the northeastern portion of the project area. The surface conditions indicate extensive soil disturbance.

Photo 5. View south of the abandoned roadway that extends along the eastern portion of the project area. Road construction has significantly affected the surface soils in this area

Photo 6. View east of a manhole to a storm-water system that continues along the eastern and southern portion of the project area. Installation of the storm-water system has significantly affected the soils in this area.

Photo 7. View southeast of the surface vegetation and moderate to steep topography that extends across the southern and eastern portions of the project area.

Photo 8. View east of large concrete debris extending out of the surface soil along the south central portion of the project area.

Photo 9. View southeast of buried concrete debris extending out of the surface soil along the southeastern portion of the project area.

Photo 10. View northwest of the southwestern most edge of the project area showing a mixture of construction debris and soil that was pushed over the edge of the slope.

Photo 11. View northwest of the southwestern most edge of the project area showing a mixture of construction debris and soil that was pushed over the edge of the slope.

Photo 12. View northeast of the steep sloping southeastern portion of the project area.

Photo 13. View north of the steep sloping western portion of the project area.

Photo 14. View north of a shale and greywacke bedrock outcrop located at the south edge of the project area along the slope. The bedrock outcrops were examined for rockshelters and chert outcrops and none were identified.

Photo 15. View north of 22 Edgewater place located at the north end of the project area. The building will be removed as part of the development plan

Photo 16. View north of 8 Branch Street located at the south end of the project area. The building will be removed as part of the development plan.