Area Variance Application

Shuman Parcel Madison Avenue & Prospect Street Beacon, NY 12508 Proposed Single-Family Residence

Prepared for: Rina Shuman 30 Frances Road Pequannock, NJ 07440

August 29, 2017 Revised February 27, 2018





Prepared by:
Hudson Land Design Professional Engineering, P.C.
174 Main Street
Beacon, NY 12508
Ph: (845) 440-6926

F: (845) 440-6637

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	INTRODUCTION	1
1.	Project Narrative	1
1.2		1
2.0	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	1
2.	1 Regulatory Compliance	1
	2.1.1 Area Variance	1
	2.1.1.1 City of Beacon Area Variance Application	3
	2.1.1.2 New York State General City Law Balancing Test	3
3.0	ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT	5

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: AREA VARIANCE APPLICATION

APPENDIX B: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FORM

APPENDIX C: DEED

APPENDIX D: NEIGHBORHOOD STUDY PLAN

APPENDIX E: PLOT PLAN

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Narrative

The subject parcel is located at the northwest corner of Madison Avenue and Prospect Street in Beacon, New York and is currently owned by Rina Shuman. The $\pm 5,500$ square-foot parcel is located within the City's R1-10 Residential Zoning District and is further identified as tax parcel 6054-46-208527. The parcel is vacant, maintained as grass lawn area.

The owner and applicant, Rina Shuman, wishes to construct a single-family dwelling on the subject parcel.

1.2 Required Permits

In order for the proposed single-family dwelling project to commence to a point where a building permit application can be submitted to the City Building Department, the applicant will need to obtain the following permit:

- 1. Area Variance from the City of Beacon Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA)
 - a. The side yard setback per §223-17(C).
 - i. The applicant is proposing a side yard setback of 12.2 feet, where 15 feet is required, thereby requesting a variance of 2.8 feet.
 - ii. The applicant is proposing the total of two side yards of 24.7 feet where 40 feet is required, thereby requesting a variance of 15.3 feet.

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 Regulatory Compliance

2.1.1 Area Variance

As the parcel is only 5,500 square feet in area (50 feet by 110 feet), the parcel is non-conforming to the zoning district in which it lies (required area is 10,000 square feet, minimum lot width is 85 feet). To compound the problem, it is a corner lot; thereby necessitating a larger yard along both street frontages. Per Section 223-13J of the Zoning Code, on a corner lot in any residence district, there shall be provided a side yard on the side street equal in depth to the required front yard on said lot, or, if the lot is to be occupied by a one family home, such side yard may be reduced to 25% of actual (emphasis added) lot width. A marginal house has been proposed on the plot plan (refer to Appendix E). The requested variances are for side yard, and the total (of the two) side yard as discussed in Section 1.2 above.

Hudson Land Design has delineated the neighborhood in order to make comparisons of the requested variance on the subject parcel to the existing conditions on adjacent parcels within the neighborhood. The neighborhood was limited to those parcels within the R1-10 zoning district that do not front on the State Highway Wolcott Avenue, NYS Route 9D). Parcels that front on the State Highway are distinctly different than the parcels that are in the less busy interior street system. The resulting study area consists of 17 parcels,

as can be seen in Appendix D, and is hereinafter referred to as the neighborhood study area. Dutchess County parcel access was used to determine the area of each parcel within the limits of the neighborhood study area. The concept behind the study was to determine the number of parcels that are also undersized in terms of the zoning district regulations. The search results showed that there are 5 of these types of uses within the study area, corresponding to 29.4% (or nearly 1 in 3) of the parcels being undersized. Of the 5 undersized parcels, 4 of them have houses (the subject parcel being the vacant parcel), and three of them are corner lots (again, the subject parcel being one of them). The last 6 digits of the tax ID of the three undersized corner lots are 208527 (subject parcel), 192539 (located two properties to the west), and 196548 (located two properties to the northwest). Parcel 208527, as previously noted, has 55' X 110' dimensions. Parcel 192539 has a dimension of 100' X 66' (average, 63' one side, 69' other side). Parcel 196548 has a dimension of 100' X 50'.

Then, using available GIS and orthophotos, the undersized corner parcels' setback dimensions were delineated in order to compare the side yard setbacks of the similar parcels within the neighborhood study plan. Dimensions were confirmed without the benefit of a survey, but based on laser measurement in the field. The results are that 100% of the developed undersized corner lots do not meet the side yard setbacks, as follows:

Parcel 192539:

Side Yard Setback: 0 feet (deficient ± 15 feet)

Side Yard (total of two): ± 25.5 feet (deficient ± 14.5 feet)

Parcel 196548:

Side Yard Setback: 0 feet (may be over the property line, deficient ± 15 feet)

Side Yard (total of two): ± 15 feet (deficient ± 25 feet)

The applicant is requesting a side yard of 12.2 feet, which is much greater than the side yard provided on the other two developed undersized corner lots. The applicant is also requesting that the total of the two side yards is 24.7 feet, which is nearly identical to Parcel 192539, and is 10 feet more than Parcel 196548.

In addition, the average distance to every house (not limited to the undersized parcels) was laser measured from the edge of the pavement of the adjoining road. The average setback for the neighborhood was 25.7 feet (with a range of 6.5 feet to 59.5 feet). The proposal calls for the house to be 19.4 feet to the edge of pavement at Madison Avenue, and 44.2 feet to Prospect Street. The proposed 19.4 feet measurement The proposed house will be consistent with others in the neighborhood. Finally, all of the corner lots in the neighborhood were measured to the edge of pavement. Since each has two, dimensions to a street, the average was taken. The existing lots averaged 25.1 feet to the edge of pavement. The average of the two dimensions for the proposed house is 31.8 feet, which is in conformance with the other corner lots in the neighborhood.

The requested variance increase is negligible and conforms with the neighborhood.

2.1.1.1 City of Beacon Area Variance Application

The City of Beacon's variance application can be found in Appendix A.

2.1.1.2 New York State General City Law Balancing Test

The standards for an area variance are governed by New York State General City Law §81-b(4)(b). This law requires a balancing test inclusive of five (5) specific sets of criteria. The responses to each of the five criteria show that the project does not pose a detriment to the health, safety and welfare of the neighborhood or community. As such, the area variance should be granted. The balancing test criteria are as follows, and the responses are underlined:

- 1. The Board shall consider 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. The project will not create an undesirable change to the neighborhood. As discussed Section 2.1.1 of this report, within the neighborhood study area, there are two similar undersized corner parcels that have residences constructed on them. The dimensional regulations on those two lots are not met, and are comparable or exceed the relief that the applicant is requesting. The construction of a house on the subject parcel is consistent with the parcels within the neighborhood study plan, as the majority also have residences constructed on them.
- 2. The Board shall consider whether the benefit sought by the applicant can be achieved by some method, feasible for the applicant to pursue, other than an area variance. The building envelope, considering application of the total of two side yards of 40 feet results in a 10-foot wide by 40-foot long area. The City of Beacon Architectural Review Board will not approve a house with 10-foot dimension, nor is a house with that dimension compatible with the neighborhood. There are no other methods for this applicant, who purchased the parcel, to achieve her goal of constructing a residence. Further, the variance that would be required in order to construct a house that fits within the setback would be much more difficult to approve as there are no houses within the studied neighborhood that would have similar dimensions of 10 feet by 40 feet.
- 3. The Board shall consider whether the requested area variance is substantial. As noted in Section 2.1.1 of this report, the requested relief is similar to, and even less than existing side yard setback dimensions of the undersized developed corner lots within the neighborhood study plan, both of which are less than 150 feet from the subject parcel. Therefore, the requested relief is not substantial.
- 4. The Board shall consider whether the proposed variance will have an adverse effect or impact on the physical or environmental conditions in the neighborhood or district. The site is served by municipal water and sewer, of which there is capacity. The applicant proposes to install a small landscaped berm on the west side of the parcel that will serve to both screen the

- neighboring parcel from the proposed house and driveway, and to divert stormwater runoff that flows generally in a westerly direction to the tow of the berm, where it will be diverted to the stormwater conveyance system in the street. Other items identified in the short EAF show that there will be no adverse effects resulting from the proposal. In fact, the short EAF was submitted even though the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, in accordance with 6NYCRR Part 617.5 deems area variances and construction of single family homes (specifically subsections C9, C12 and C13) as ministerial (or Type 2) actions, or actions (that) have been determined not to have a significant impact on the environment. These types of actions do not even require preparation of an EAF. The project will not create any environmental impacts.
- 5. The Board shall consider 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. Refer to Appendix C. The deed for this parcel shows that the parcel was created well before 1966. In fact, the parcel was conveyed by deed as a portion of certain premises in 1949, which is likely the date that the parcel was created. The City of Beacon adopted Chapter 223 (Zoning) on March 21, 1977, long after the parcel was created. Had the parcel been created after zoning, dimensional regulations would have been considered. However, as discussed earlier, nearly 1 in 3 parcels in the neighborhood study plan is pre-existing nonconforming in terms of area, likely as a result of lot creation in this area prezoning law. When the applicant purchased this property very recently, there was no indication that there would be any issue with setbacks. At a cursory appearance before the Zoning Board of Appeals in July of 2017, it was brought to the applicant's attention that an area variance was requested previously by William Komisar. That application (which asked for more relief than the current application and is inherently different) was denied. However, at the time of that application, William Komisar also controlled the parcel directly to the north. This clearly weighed in on the decision made at that time as that applicant had contiguous lot ownership, which the Code states that such other lots or so much thereof as might be necessary shall be combined with the first named lot to make a single conforming lot, or a lot that conforms to the fullest extent possible, whereupon a permit may be issued, but only for such combined lots. The City had an opportunity to enforce this section of the Code at the time of the application when the parcels were held in ownership by one entity; however, that was not the case. This applicant did not create this situation. Further, NYS General City Law states that any self-created difficulty shall not necessarily preclude the granting of an area variance. The ZBA is in full power to grant this requested relief.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

A short Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) has been prepared and can be found in Appendix B. Review of 6NYCRR Part 617 (State Environmental Quality Review) determines that an area variance and construction of a single-family home is classified as a Type II action that does not require the preparation of an EAF; however, in support of this application, the short EAF has been prepared because there is substantial information provided in the document that supports a decision in favor of granting the area variance to the applicant as it evidences that there is no environmental impact associated with the construction of a single family house on the subject parcel.

APPENDIX A AREA VARIANCE APPLICATION

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

City of Beacon, New York

APPLICATION FOR APPEAL

OWNER: Kina Shuman	ADDRESS: 30 Frances Road
	Pequannock NJ 07440
TELEPHONE: 201-274-4771	E-MAIL: Rina Shuman @ sptonline. net
APPLICANT (if not owner):	ADDRESS:
TELEDITONIE.	Е МАП
TELEPHONE:	E-MAIL:
REPRESENTED BY: Hudson Land Design, P.C.	ADDRESS: 174 Main Street
Daniel G. Kochler, P.E.	Beacon NY 12500
TELEPHONE: 845-440-6926	E-MAIL: DKoehler @ Hudson land Design . con
	1 1 1 2
PROPERTY LOCATION: N corner, Madison Ave. & Prospect Street	ZONING DISTRICT: £1-10
TAX MAP DESIGNATION: SECTION 6054	BLOCK 46 LOT 208527
Section of Zoning Code appealed from or Interpretation of 223-17 (c)	
Reason supporting request: For construction of a single-family home	undersized lot, where where area for construction of a reasonable
the bildable area does not provide adequate	whe area for construction of a reasonable
Conventional home. Supporting documents submitted herewith: Site Plan, Su	
Plat plan	avey, etc. as required.
Date: 6-2-17	Din R Numan
	Owner's Signature
Fee Schedule	_ (Dena (X Suman
AREA VARIANCE \$ 250	Applicant's Signature
USE VARIANCE \$ 500 INTERPRETATION: \$ 250	**escrow fees may apply if required by Chairman**

APPENDIX B ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FORM

Short Environmental Assessment Form Part 1 - Project Information

Instructions for Completing

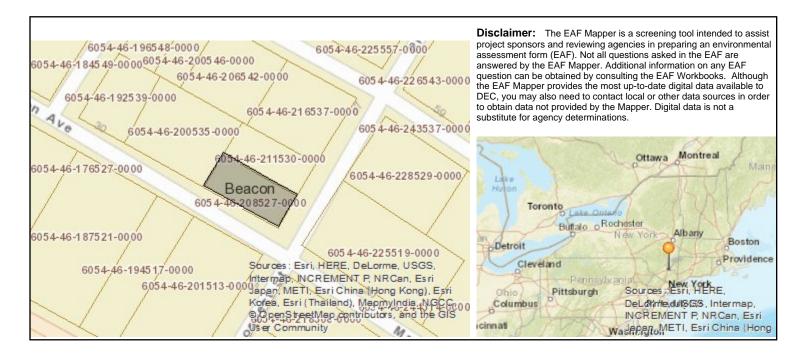
Part 1 - Project Information. The applicant or project sponsor is responsible for the completion of Part 1. Responses become part of the application for approval or funding, are subject to public review, and may be subject to further verification. Complete Part 1 based on information currently available. 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.

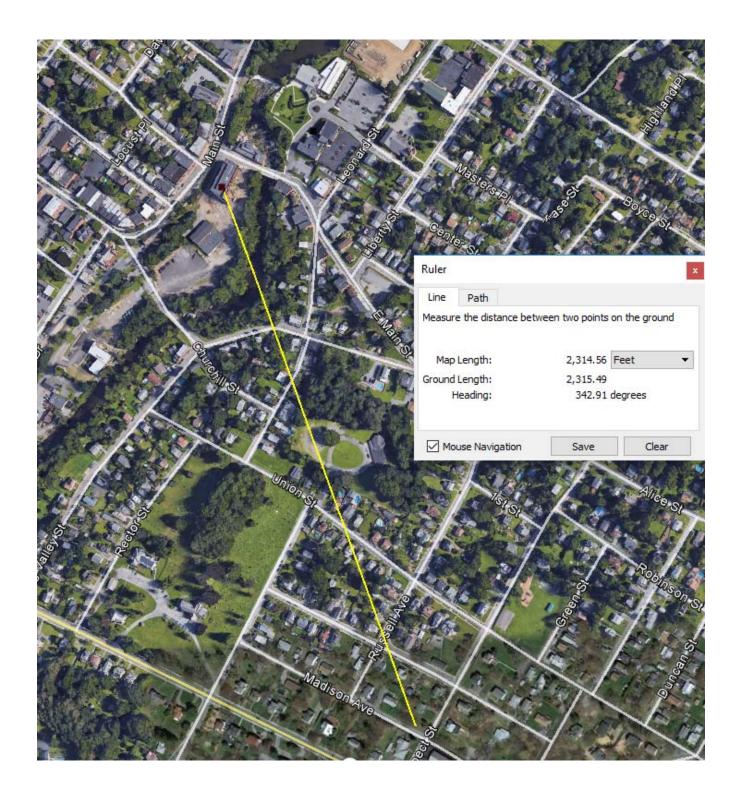
Part 1 - Project and Sponsor Information					
Name of Action or Project:					
Project Location (describe, and attach a location map):					
110Jeor 200mion (accorno), and aman a 100mion map).					
Brief Description of Proposed Action:					
	1				
Name of Applicant or Sponsor:	_	Telephone:			
	E-Mai	l:			
Address:					
City/PO:		State:	Zip (Code:	
1. Does the proposed action only involve the legislative adoption of a plan, l	local law	, ordinance,		NO	YES
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	questio	n 2.			
2. Does the proposed action require a permit, approval or funding from any If Yes, list agency(s) name and permit or approval:	other go	overnmental Agency?		NO	YES
in rest, has agone y(s) name and permit of approval.					
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 □ Urban □ Rural (non-agriculture) □ Industrial □ Comm		□ Residential (suburl	ban)		
□ Forest □ Agriculture □ Aquatic □ Other		`			
□ Parkland					

5. Is the proposed action,	NO	YES	N/A	
a. A permitted use under the zoning regulations?				
b. Consistent with the adopted comprehensive plan?				
6. Is the proposed action consistent with the predominant character of the existing built or natural	1	NO	YES	
landscape?				
7. Is the site of the proposed action located in, or does it adjoin, a state listed Critical Environmental Al If Yes, identify:	rea?	NO	YES	
If Tes, identify.				
8. a. Will the proposed action result in a substantial increase in traffic above present levels?		NO	YES	
b. Are public transportation service(s) available at or near the site of the proposed action?				
c. Are any pedestrian accommodations or bicycle routes available on or near site of the proposed ac	tion?			
9. Does the proposed action meet or exceed the state energy code requirements?		NO	YES	
If the proposed action will exceed requirements, describe design features and technologies:				
10. Will the proposed action connect to an existing public/private water supply?		NO	YES	
If No, describe method for providing potable water:				
11. Will the proposed action connect to existing wastewater utilities?				
If No, describe method for providing wastewater treatment:				
12. a. Does the site contain a structure that is listed on either the State or National Register of Historic		NO	YES	
Places? b. Is the proposed action located in an archeological sensitive area?				
b. is the proposed action located in an archeological sensitive area:				
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?	n	NO	YES	
b. Would the proposed action physically alter, or encroach into, any existing wetland or waterbody?	ı			
If Yes, identify the wetland or waterbody and extent of alterations in square feet or acres:				
14. Identify the typical habitat types that occur on, or are likely to be found on the project site. Check a	all that	apply:		
☐ Shoreline ☐ Forest ☐ Agricultural/grasslands ☐ Early mid-successi	ional			
☐ Wetland ☐ Urban ☐ Suburban		NO	***********	
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	YES	
		NO	TITIO	
16. Is the project site located in the 100 year flood plain?		NO	YES	
17. Will the proposed action create storm water discharge, either from point or non-point sources?		NO	YES	
If Yes, a. Will storm water discharges flow to adjacent properties? □ NO □ YES				
b. Will storm water discharges be directed to established conveyance systems (runoff and storm drain If Yes, briefly describe:	1s)?			

18. Does the proposed action include construction or other activities that result in the impoundment of	NO	YES
water or other liquids (e.g. retention pond, waste lagoon, dam)? If Yes, explain purpose and size:		
Ti Tes, explain purpose and size.		
<u> </u>		
19. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the location of an active or closed	NO	YES
solid waste management facility?		
If Yes, describe:		
		
		-
20. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the subject of remediation (ongoing or	NO	YES
completed) for hazardous waste?		
If Yes, describe: Site is located approximately 2,300 feet (per Google Earth) to Site C 314118 - Churchill Mills. EAF mapper provides an automatic		
Ves in this case.		
	DIFOT O	TO BACK
I AFFIRM THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ABOVE IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE I KNOWLEDGE	BEST U	FIVIX
	1	
Applicant/sponsor name: Rina Shuman Date: Date:	/	 _
Signature: Lina & Shuman		



Part 1 / Question 7 [Critical Environmental Area]	No
Part 1 / Question 12a [National Register of Historic Places]	No
Part 1 / Question 12b [Archeological Sites]	Yes
Part 1 / Question 13a [Wetlands or Other Regulated Waterbodies]	No
Part 1 / Question 15 [Threatened or Endangered Animal]	No
Part 1 / Question 16 [100 Year Flood Plain]	No
Part 1 / Question 20 [Remediation Site]	Yes



APPENDIX C DEED

Chief Indending,

Made the 1st

day of June

Mineteen Hundred and sixty six

Between HAZEL M. KING, residing at 3 Prentiss Drive, Hopewell Junction, Town of East Fishkill, Dutchess County, New York

Tuttle Law Print Publis

State of New York

Recorded on the

County of

day A. D., 19 at M. in liber

o'clock M, in libe of DEEDS at page

and examined.

Clerk

party of the first part, and MARIE PUSZTAY, residing at 93 Prospect Street, Beacon,

Dutchess County, New York,

party of the second part, witnesseth that the part y of the first part, in consideration of

lawful money of the United States, and other good and valuable consideration paid by the party of the second part, do es hereby grant and release unto the part y of the second part, her heirs and assigns forever, all that piece or parcel of land situate, lying and being in the City of Beacon, County of Dutchess and State of New York, bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at the intersection of the northwest side of Prospect Street with the northeast side of Madison Avenue and running thence northwesterly along the northeasterly side of Madison Avenue 110.07 feet more or less to lands now or formerly of Thurston; thence northeasterly parallel with Prospect Street and along lands now or formerly of Thurston 50 feet; thence southeasterly parallel with Madison Avenue 110 feet more or less to Prospect Street and thence southwesterly along Prospect Street about 50 feet to the point or place of beginning.

The above described property is a portion of certain premises conveyed to Alfred F. King and Hazel M. King by a certain deed dated January 19, 1949 and recorded in the Dutchess County Clerk's Office on January 31, 1949 in Liber 710 of deeds at page 150.

The above mentioned Hazel M. King is more commonly known as

Hazel D. King.
Subject to the zoning laws and ordinances of the City of

Beacon, Dutchess County, New York.

DEED SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUMENT

GERT \$1.00 NO 2223

PAGE 3/70 IND BY

REF. TAMP 29

TOR. U.D. TAMP 29

DUTCHESS COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

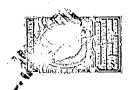
RECEIVED ON THE 3 DAY OF June 1966

AT 9 M A M. RECORDED IN

BOOK NO. 1203 OF duds

AT PAGE 980 AND EXAMINED

CLERK



of the first part in and to said premises.

To have and in half the premises herein granted unto the part y of the second part, her heirs and assigns forever.

And the party of the first part covenants that S he has not done or suffered anything whereby the said premises have been incumbered in any way whatever.

And That, in Compliance with Sec. 13 of the Lien Law, the grantor will receive the consideration for this conveyance and will hold the right to receive such consideration as a trust fund to be applied first for the purpose of paying the cost of the improvement and will apply the same first to the payment of the cost of the improvement before using any part of the total of the same for any other purpose.

In Mitness Mirred, the part y of the first part has hereunto set her hand and seal the day and year first above written.

In Presence of

9 Jane	277.	Kina	n a
		1	

State of New York

County of Dutchess | No. On this 1st day of June before me, the subscriber, personally appeared

HAZEL M. KING

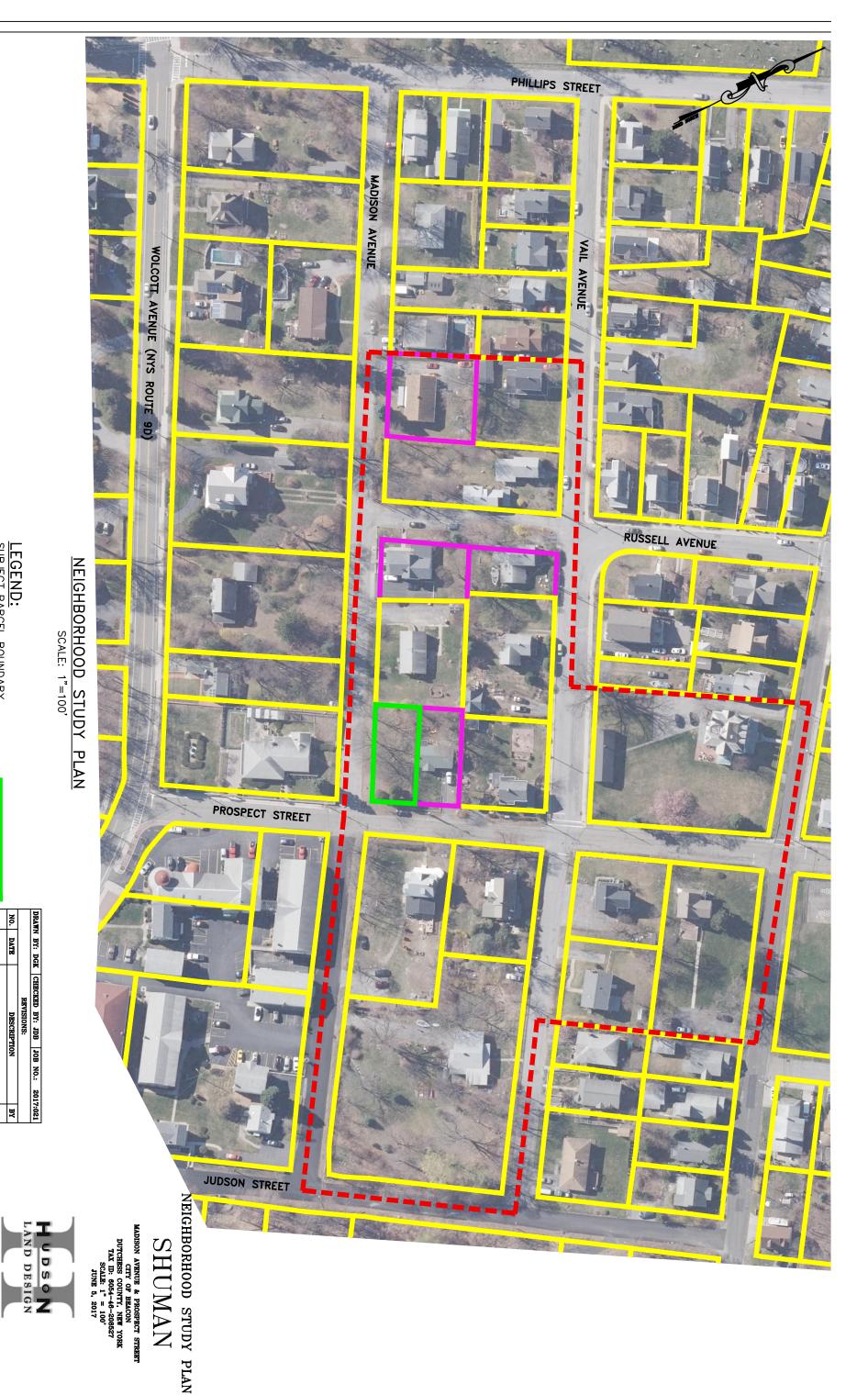
to me personally known and known to me to be the same person described in and who executed the within Instrument, and S he acknowledged to me that she executed the same.

Notary Public

Recent Feest

18ER 1203 PALE 981

APPENDIX D NEIGHBORHOOD STUDY PLAN



NOTES:

1. BASE MAPPING PER DUTCHESS COUNTY GIS.
2. 2016 ORTHOPHOTO USED AS BACKGROUND IMAGE.

LEGEND:

SUBJECT PARCEL BOUNDARY

OTHER PARCEL BOUNDARY

OTHER PARCEL BOUNDARY (UNDERSIZED)

STUDY AREA LIMITS

DATE

HUDSON LAND DESIGN
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING P.C. NYS I
174 MAIN STREET
BEACON, NEW YORK 12506
PH: 645-440-6926 F: 645-440-6637
SHEET:

JON D. BODENDORF, P.E. NYS LICENSE NO. 076245 DANIEL G. KOEHLER, P.E. NYS LICENSE NO. 082716

0F 1

APPENDIX E PLOT PLAN

