

**PHASE 1A LITERATURE SEARCH AND SENSITIVITY ASSESSMENT &  
PHASE 1B ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY  
PROSPECT GARDENS PROJECT**

143, 159, 173 PROSPECT ROAD AND 1283 MAIN ENTRANCE DRIVE  
VILLAGE OF SOUTH BLOOMING GROVE, ORANGE COUNTY, NEW YORK

PREPARED FOR:

SKY EQUITY GROUP LLC  
2 SKILLMAN STREET, SUITE 143,  
BROOKLYN, NY 11205



PO Box 124  
LAGRANGEVILLE NEW YORK 12540

MAY 2023

## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

SHPO Project Review Number (if available):

Involved State and Federal Agencies: SEQR

Phase of Survey: **Phase 1A Literature Search & Sensitivity Assessment & Phase 1B Archaeological Field Reconnaissance Survey**

Location Information:

Location: **143, 159, 173 Prospect Road and 1283 Main Entrance Drive**

Minor Civil Division: **Village of South Blooming Grove**

County: **Orange County**

USGS Quadrangle: **2019 Maybrook & Monroe, NY Quadrangle**

Survey Area (Metric & English)

Length: **2,887' / 880.08m**

Width: **2,131' / 649.4m**

Number of Acres Surveyed: **±27.3 (11.04 hectares)**

Archaeological Survey Overview

Number & Interval of Shovel Tests: **299 completed @ 50' (15 m) intervals**

Number & Size of Units: N/A

Width of Plowed Strips: N/A

Surface Survey Transect Interval: N/A

Results of Archaeological Survey

Number & name of precontact sites identified: **0.**

Number & name of historic sites identified: **0**

Number & name of sites recommended for Phase II/Avoidance: **0.**

Report Author (s): **Sarah Gilleland, MA, RPA, Franco Zani Jr, Beth Selig, MA, RPA.**

HCS Project Number: **23-01-668**

Date of Report: **May 5, 2023**

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## I. PHASE 1A LITERATURE SEARCH AND SENSITIVITY ASSESSMENT

### A. PROSPECT GARDENS PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In February of 2023, Hudson Cultural Services (HCS) was retained by Sky Equity Group LLC to complete a Phase 1A Literature Search and Sensitivity Assessment and Phase 1B Archaeological Field Reconnaissance Survey of the Prospect Gardens Project in the at 143, 159 and 173 Prospect Road, and 1286 Main Entrance Drive, in the Village of South Blooming Grove, Orange County, New York.

The purpose of the Phase 1 Cultural Resources Survey is to determine whether previously identified cultural resources (historic and archeological sites) are located within the boundaries of the proposed project, and to evaluate the potential for previously unidentified cultural resources to be located within the boundaries of the Project Parcel of Potential Effect (APE). All work was completed in accordance with *the Standards for Cultural Resource Investigations and the Curation of Archeological Collections* published by the New York Archeological Council (NYAC) and recommended for use by New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP). The report has been prepared according to New York State OPRHP's Phase 1 Archaeological Report Format Requirements, established in 2005.

The background research as well as the cultural and environmental overviews were completed by Julia Pergolizzi, Sarah Gilleland, Franco Zani Jr., and Beth Selig, MA, RPA, President and Principal Investigator with HCS.

The Prospect Gardens Project site (Project Parcel) consists of a ± 73.5 acres (29.7 h) parcel located on the eastern side of Prospect Road, in the Village of South Blooming Grove. The Project Parcel consists of four separate parcels, each with a residential structure and addressed as 143, 159, and 173 Prospect Road, and 1283 Main Entrance Drive (State Route 208). The property is currently a combination of cleared fields and wooded areas, with existing residences located at the central and western portions of the Project Parcel. The residences in the western portion are surrounded dense woodland and briars. The dense brush extends into the center of the Project Parcel. There are gravel driveways leading to all residences, extending from Prospect Road and Main Entrance Drive. The landscape within the Project Parcel decreases in elevation from south to north, with a steep incline along the western and northern portions of the Project Parcel. Satterly Creek runs near the eastern corner of the Project Parcel. A small unamend water way flows through the southern portion of the Project APE. The Project APE consists of 27.65 acres (11.19 h) in the southwestern portion of the Project Parcel.

The proposed undertaking involves the subdivision of the Project APE into single family homes and community buildings. The residential lots will contain single family homes with the eastern portion containing larger multi-purpose buildings. The existing structures will be demolished as part of the proposed undertaking.

The property at 1283 Main Entrance Drive was formerly associated with Toro-Hill farm that was established in the early 1920s. The farm focused on livestock that were entered into statewide competitions. The original boundaries of the farm included over 1000 acres. To the northeast, outside the boundaries of the Project Parcel are Toro Pond and the former Toro Hill bungalow colony and summer camp, located on portions of the former 1000 acre Toro-Hill farm. The bungalow colony operated as a summer camp until the late 1970s, and for a short time served as a summer day camp, before closing in the late 1990s.

The Project APE currently includes three standing residential structures, and two small standing outbuildings or cabins, 2 stone foundations that appear to have supported outbuildings or cabins and one large stone foundation that may have been associated with the orchard or vineyard that once existed on the property.

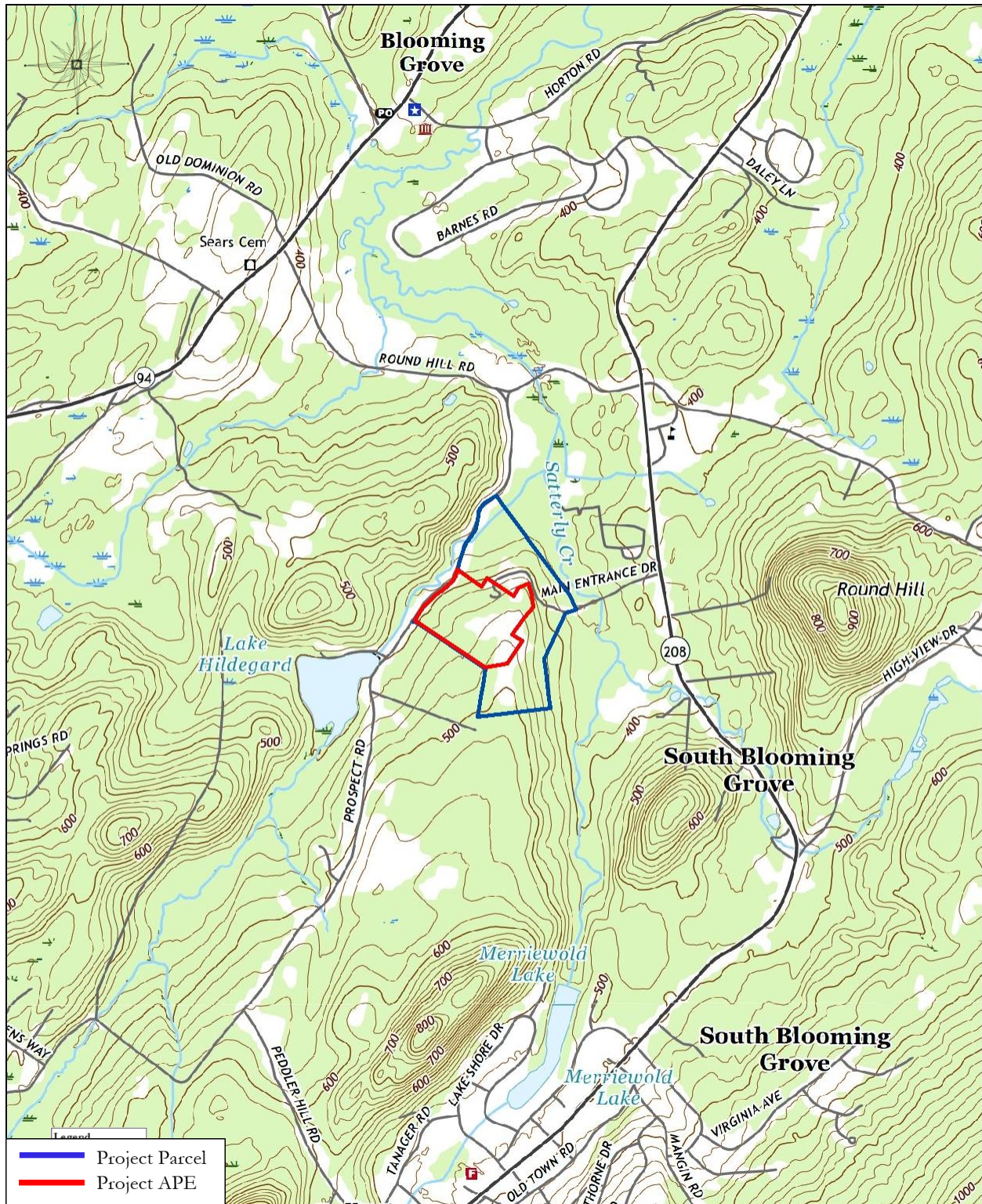


Figure 1: 2019 USGS Topographical Map. Maybrook & Monroe, NY Quadrangles. 7.5 Minute Series. (Source: USGS.gov.) Scale: 1=2,000'.



Figure 2: 2021 Aerial image showing the location of the Project Parcel (Source: New York GIS Clearinghouse). Scale: 1"=400'.



## B. ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

The landscape within the Project Parcel is currently a mix of fallow farm fields, maintained lawn, and wooded areas, with steep slopes on the northwestern borders approaching Prospect Road. The elevation of the parcel descends from 510' (155.3 m) Above Mean Sea Level (AMSL) at the southern border of the parcel, to 346' (105.5 m) along the northern border.

### ECOLOGY

The Project Parcel lies on the border of the Northeastern Highlands and Ridge and Valley ecoregions of the Eastern Broadleaf Forest, and are at the northern reaches of the oak-hickory forests, containing increasing numbers of maple, beech and basswood (Bailey 1995). These ecoregions cover the majority of the mountainous regions of New England and New York. Forest vegetation is transitional between the deciduous hardwood forests of the south and the boreal forests to the north, typically including a mosaic of northern hardwoods and spruce-fir forests (Bryce et al. 2010).

### GEOLOGY

The Project Parcel is located in the Glaciated Reading Prong ecoregion of the Northeastern Highlands. This low portion of the Appalachian Mountains connects the mid-Appalachians with the Berkshires and Green Mountains in New England. Exposed, resistant bedrock is present where the Hudson River cuts through highland bedrock, creating cliff faces on both sides of the river. Soils in this ecoregion are shallow, rocky, and highly acidic (Bryce et al. 2010).

The Hudson Highlands area is a northeast-southwest trending band of igneous and metamorphic rock, which extends from New England through New York, crossing the Hudson River in the vicinity of Cold Spring and West Point. Because of their structural origin and their durability, the Hudson Highlands reach a higher elevation than the physiographic provinces that border them, such as the Hudson-Mohawk Lowlands to the north and the Piedmont Triassic Lowlands to the south. The Hudson Highlands are almost entirely blanketed by a thin layer of glacial till, with frequent bedrock outcrops. Outwash sand and gravel occupy some of the river and stream valleys that border and run through the Highlands (Fisher et al 1970).

### DRAINAGE

The parcel drains down slope through the parcel west to an unnamed creek adjacent to Prospect Road and Northeast and east to Satterly Creek.

### SOILS

Soil surveys provide a general characterization of the types and depths of soils that are found in an area. The characteristics of the soils within the Project Parcel have an important impact on the potential for the presence of cultural material, since the types of soils present affect the ability of an area to support human populations. The Soil Survey's mapped boundaries are considered approximate, as they generally correspond poorly to the actual boundaries of landforms and soil types within an area. The Natural Resources Conservation Service indicates that the soils within the Parcel are a mix of gravelly silt loam and channery silt loam.

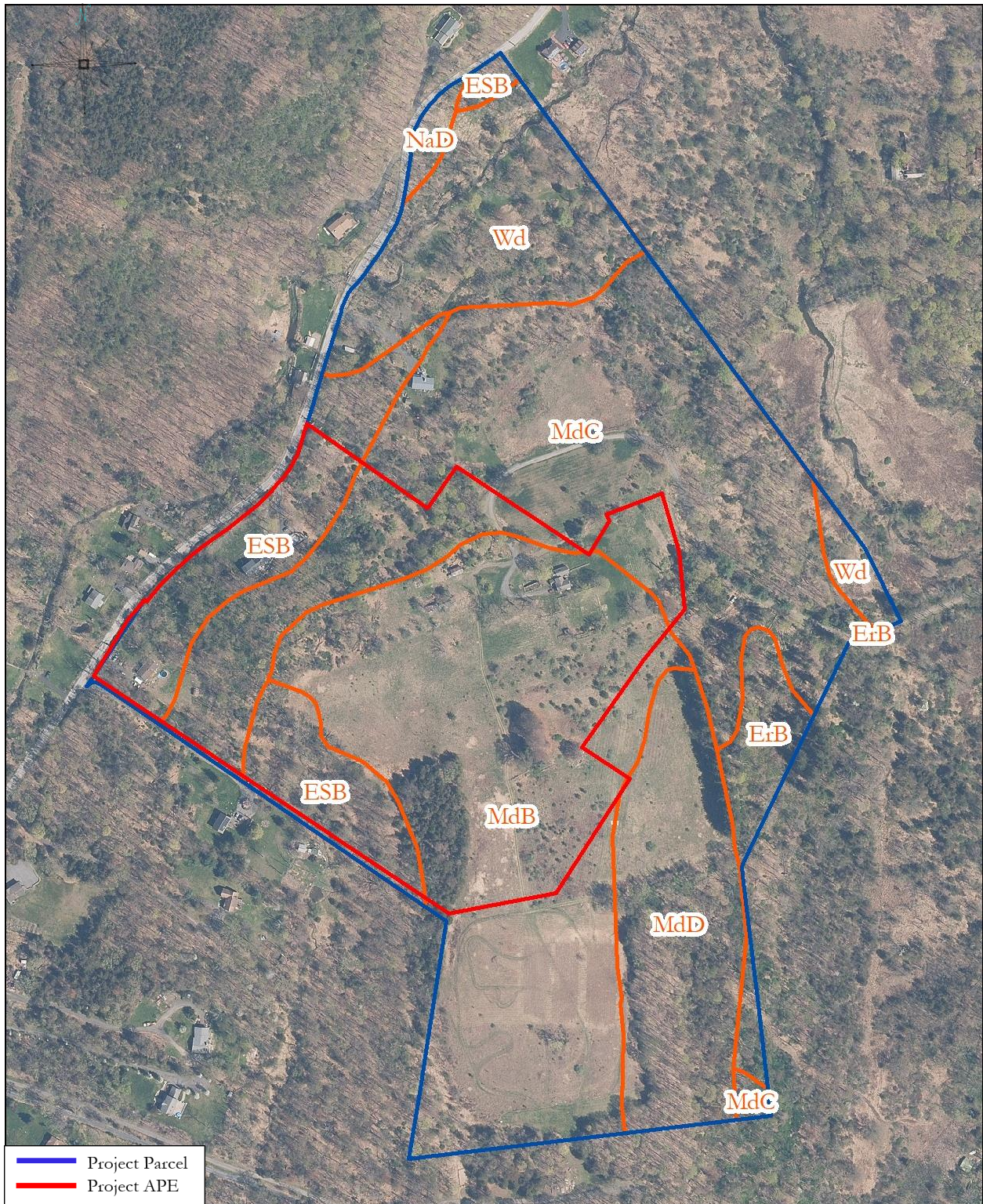


Figure 3: Aerial Image showing soil units within the Project Parcel. (Source: Natural Resources Conservation Service.) Scale: 1"=400'.

**Table 1: Soil Unit Descriptions (Natural Resources Conservation Service)**

<b>Map Symbol</b>	<b>Map Unit Name</b>	<b>Soil Horizons &amp; Texture</b>	<b>Slope</b>	<b>Drainage</b>	<b>Landform</b>
ErB	Erie gravelly silt loam	H1 - 0 to 9 inches: gravelly silt loam H2 - 9 to 18 inches: channery silt loam H3 - 18 to 54 inches: channery silt loam H4 - 54 to 70 inches: channery silt loam	3 to 8%	Somewhat poorly drained	Drumlinoid ridges, till plains, hills
ESB	Erie extremely stony soils, gently sloping	H1 - 0 to 4 inches: gravelly silt loam H2 - 4 to 18 inches: channery silt loam H3 - 18 to 50 inches: channery silt loam H4 - 50 to 70 inches: channery silt loam	3 to 8%	Somewhat poorly drained	Drumlinoid ridges, till plains, hills
MdB	Mardin gravelly silt loam	Ap - 0 to 8 inches: gravelly silt loam Bw - 8 to 15 inches: gravelly silt loam E - 15 to 20 inches: gravelly silt loam Bx - 20 to 72 inches: gravelly silt loam	3 to 8%	Moderately well drained	Mountains, hills
MdC	Mardin gravelly silt loam	Ap - 0 to 8 inches: gravelly silt loam Bw - 8 to 15 inches: gravelly silt loam E - 15 to 20 inches: gravelly silt loam Bx - 20 to 72 inches: gravelly silt loam	8 to 15%	Moderately well drained	Mountains, hills
MdD	Mardin gravelly silt loam	Ap - 0 to 8 inches: gravelly silt loam Bw - 8 to 15 inches: gravelly silt loam E - 15 to 20 inches: gravelly silt loam Bx - 20 to 72 inches: gravelly silt loam	15 to 25%	Moderately well drained	Mountains, hills
NaD	Nassau channery silt loam,	H1 - 0 to 10 inches: channery silt loam H2 - 10 to 18 inches: very channery silt loam H3 - 18 to 22 inches: unweathered bedrock	15 to 25%	Somewhat excessively drained	Till plains, ridges, benches
Wd	Wayland soils complex, non-calcareous substratum frequently flooded	Ap - 0 to 9 inches: silt loam Bg - 9 to 21 inches: silt loam Cg1 - 21 to 28 inches: silt loam Cg2 - 28 to 47 inches: silt loam Cg3 - 47 to 54 inches: silt loam Cg4 - 54 to 60 inches: silt loam	0 to 3%	Poorly drained; Hydric	Flood plains



Photo 1: The western portion of the Project Parcel is wooded and sloped. View to the east from Prospect Road.



Photo 2: A small drainage is located along the southern boundary of the parcel. View to the south.



Photo 3: The western portion of the APE is heavily overgrown with dense briar and grape vine. View to the east from Prospect Road.



Photo 4: A foundation comprised of dry laid and mortared stone with cement facing is located to the northwest of the 1920s house. View to the northeast.

C. RECORDED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND SURVEYS

To gather information on the history of the Project Parcel and the surrounding region, HCS consulted historical documents and maps available at the Library of Congress, David Rumsey Cartography Associates and the New York Public Library. On February 1, 2023, HCS reviewed the combined site files of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) and the New York State Museum (NYSM) for information regarding previously recorded archeological sites within one mile (1.6 km) of Project Parcel. HCS also consulted regional precontact sources (e.g. Beauchamp 1900; Parker 1920; Ritchie 1980; Ritchie and Funk 1973) for descriptions of regional archeological sites.

PREVIOUSLY RECORDED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

Three archaeological sites have been previously identified within a one mile radius of the Project Parcel. The site is summarized in the Table below.

<b>Table 2: Previously Recorded Archaeological Sites within one mile-radius</b>				
<b>Site Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Distance from Project</b>	<b>Time Period</b>	<b>Site Type Materials Recovered</b>
07167.000009	M. H. Howell Farm Complex	3960' / 1.2 k	Historic	Intact remains of Matthew Henry Howell farm complex; substantial stone foundations and walls
07167.000010	Round Hill Cemetery/ Howell Family Cemetery	3960' / 1.2 k	Historic	75' x 40' cemetery, enclosed by wrought iron fence
07167.000013	Clove Road Precontact Site	3960' / 1.2 k	Precontact	Small fragment of Fire Cracked Rock; non-diagnostic Projectile Point; small lithic scatter

PREVIOUSLY COMPLETED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEYS

As part of the research for this report, surveys completed for projects in the general area were consulted. Fifteen (15) surveys have been completed within a one-mile radius of the Parcel. One of these surveys, a 2003 Phase 1A Archaeological Assessment for the Proposed Catskill Aqueduct Connection, Village of Kiryas Joel, Orange County, New York, completed by Historical Perspectives, Inc., surveyed an area which included the land within the boundaries of the Project Parcel.

D. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBLE/LISTED SITES

The OPRHP files were reviewed to identify structures on or in the vicinity of the Project APE that have been listed on the National Register of Historic Places or identified as National Register Eligible. There are no structures listed on the National Register of Historic Places within a one-half mile radius of the Project APE.

## E. NATIVE AMERICAN CONTEXT

During the Paleoindian period, mobile bands of hunter-gatherers occupied what is now New York State. These bands exploited the resources of the landscape by hunting game and gathering plants. Paleoindian sites have been in the upland regions a short distance from the Hudson River (Ritchie and Funk 1976). Frequently these sites are associated with sources of stone, as is the case with a site in Greene County where a quarry-workshop complex has been excavated. More frequently, the sites appear to have been temporary campsites located where it would be possible to watch for game as it moved across the landscape (Ritchie 1980). Ritchie (1980) identified more than ten locations within Orange County where fluted points, the hallmark projectile point of this period, have been recovered. The majority of the Paleoindian period sites identified in the Hudson River Valley appear to have been temporary campsites.

With the lowering of the water table during the Archaic period, subsistence methods and technologies changed in response to climatic warming. This was accompanied by an increase in vegetation density and diversity, changing faunal migrations and a change in sea levels (Sirkin 1977). The Archaic Period was likely a time of incipient sedentism among the inhabitants of the area. Changes in settlement and subsistence patterns that occurred during the Late Archaic period reflect an increased exploitation of coastal and riverine resources (Snow 1980). Ground stone food processing tools are more common, reflecting an increase in processed plant resources in the diet. Projectile points commonly found at Late Archaic sites include narrow stemmed, broad stemmed and side notched types (Snow 1980). The Laurentian Tradition of the Late Archaic is the most represented throughout New York State, and is subdivided into a series of phases: Vergennes, Vosburg, Sylvan Lake, River and Snook Kill. Ground stone tools appear, and steatite bowls are associated with the later part of this time period (Pretola and Freedman 2007).

The Woodland period is distinguished from the Archaic in part, by the use of ceramics. Horticulture, although practiced in other parts of North America at an earlier date, does not appear in the Hudson River Valley until c. 1000 AD (Funk 1976). The soil and moisture requirements for the cultivation of maize, beans, and squash created a marked change in the pattern of land use and the selection of locations for villages (Hart and Brumbach 2005). Cord marked ceramics became common during the Middle Woodland period, and incised vessels, many with a collar area, are typical of Late Woodland cultures (Lavin et al 1993).

Initial contact between Europeans and Native Americans was made when early explorers entered the area to engage in trade. The introduction of European material goods, the demands of trading relationships, rapid colonial expansion, and the spread of diseases brought by the Europeans had profound effects on the settlement and subsistence adaptations of the indigenous populations. Tribal and clan affiliations were affected, and much of the indigenous population was displaced. Some estimates suggest that between 60 and 90 percent of the indigenous population was lost to European diseases in the seventeenth century in southern New England and New York (Snow 1980). The introduction of small pox by the Dutch reduced the Indigenous population to less than 1000 by the year 1700 (MacCracken 1956).

## F. HISTORIC CONTEXT

At the time of European Contact and settlement, the Project Area was likely occupied by the Waoranecks who lived between Stoney Point and Danns Kammer (near Newburgh). The western boundary of their territory is unknown. This indigenous group is believed to have been a branch or clan related to the Munsee tribe, who were members of the Delaware linguistic family. The term Minsi or Munsee means people of the

stony country (Ruttenber and Clark 1881). The Munsee are described by Becker (1993) as a horticultural nation, who supported their domestic subsistence through hunting and gathering (Hull 1996).

At the time of its formation, Orange County included nearly all of the southern part of New York that bordered the Hudson River. Established in 1683, Orange County was one of the first counties in New York. The Village of South Blooming Grove is one of the oldest towns in Orange County, with the first land grant being the Mompesson Patent in 1709. The first known settler in Blooming Grove was Vincent Mathews, who acquired the Rip Van Dam Patent on August 22, 1721. He built a grist mill and named his estate “Mathewsfield.” About ten years later, Thomas Goldsmith settled in Blooming Grove and acquired the Mompesson Patent. Leading up to the Revolutionary War, as the original land patents continued to exchange hands, and as new patents were established, more settlers moved into the region and started businesses such as mills and taverns (Sears 1909).

Up until 1764, when it became part of Cornwall, present day Blooming Grove was officially part of the Town of Goshen. On March 23, 1799, the Village of South Blooming Grove was established, although the area had been locally known as Blooming Grove for many years prior. The first town meeting was held at the house belonging to John Chandler, in April of 1799. Here, Selah Strong became the first elected supervisor, and Daniel Brewster the first town clerk of Blooming Grove. John Chandler was a member of the original Blooming Grove Church, erected in 1759, and president of the Newburgh and New Windsor Turnpike Company and of the Blooming Grove and Greycourt Turnpike Company (Sears 1909).

The earliest settlements within Orange County were primarily established by waves of people of separate and distinct nationality and religious affiliation, setting a pattern for development that has persisted into the twenty-first century. These hamlets were a thriving place of trade and commerce in the early nineteenth century. In the nineteenth century, the development of the turnpike system throughout Orange County brought additional settlers to the region. The turnpikes and other transportation routes were built with the goal of efficient distribution of specific products. As an example, the Mount Hope and Lumberland Turnpike, built in 1812, was constructed to benefit the Goshen men who had invested in Orange County woodlands. The turnpike allowed them to transport their lumberjacks and supplies to the woodlands where the forest was harvested, and the lumber was then rafted down the Delaware River to the market in Philadelphia. The lands along the Goshen Turnpike were agricultural through the early part of the twentieth century. By the mid-twentieth century New York State had begun construction on its interstate road system with the establishment of NYS Route 17 and Route 211. Route 17K follows the route of the Newburgh–Cochecton Turnpike.

## CARTOGRAPHIC RESEARCH

HCS examined historical maps of Orange County to identify possible structures, previous road alignments and other landscape features or alterations that could affect the likelihood that archeological and/or historic resources could be located within the Project Parcel. These maps are included in this report, with the boundaries of the Project Parcel superimposed. Nineteenth century maps frequently lack the accuracy of location and scale present in modern surveys. As a result of this common level of inaccuracy on the historic maps, the location of the Project Parcel is drafted relative to the roads, structures, and other features as they are drawn, and should be regarded as approximate. The historic maps included in this report depict the sequence of road construction and settlement/development in the vicinity of the Project Parcel.





Figure 4: 1851 Newell S. Brown. *Map of Orange County, N.Y.: from actual surveys.* (Source: Library of Congress) Scale: 1" =2,000'.

The earliest map included in this report is the 1851 *Map of Orange County, New York*. A structure owned by E. Strong is shown within northeastern portion of the Project Parcel. A road bisects the northern portion of the Parcel and connects to Prospect Road. A structure owned by W. Strong is located to the southwest.

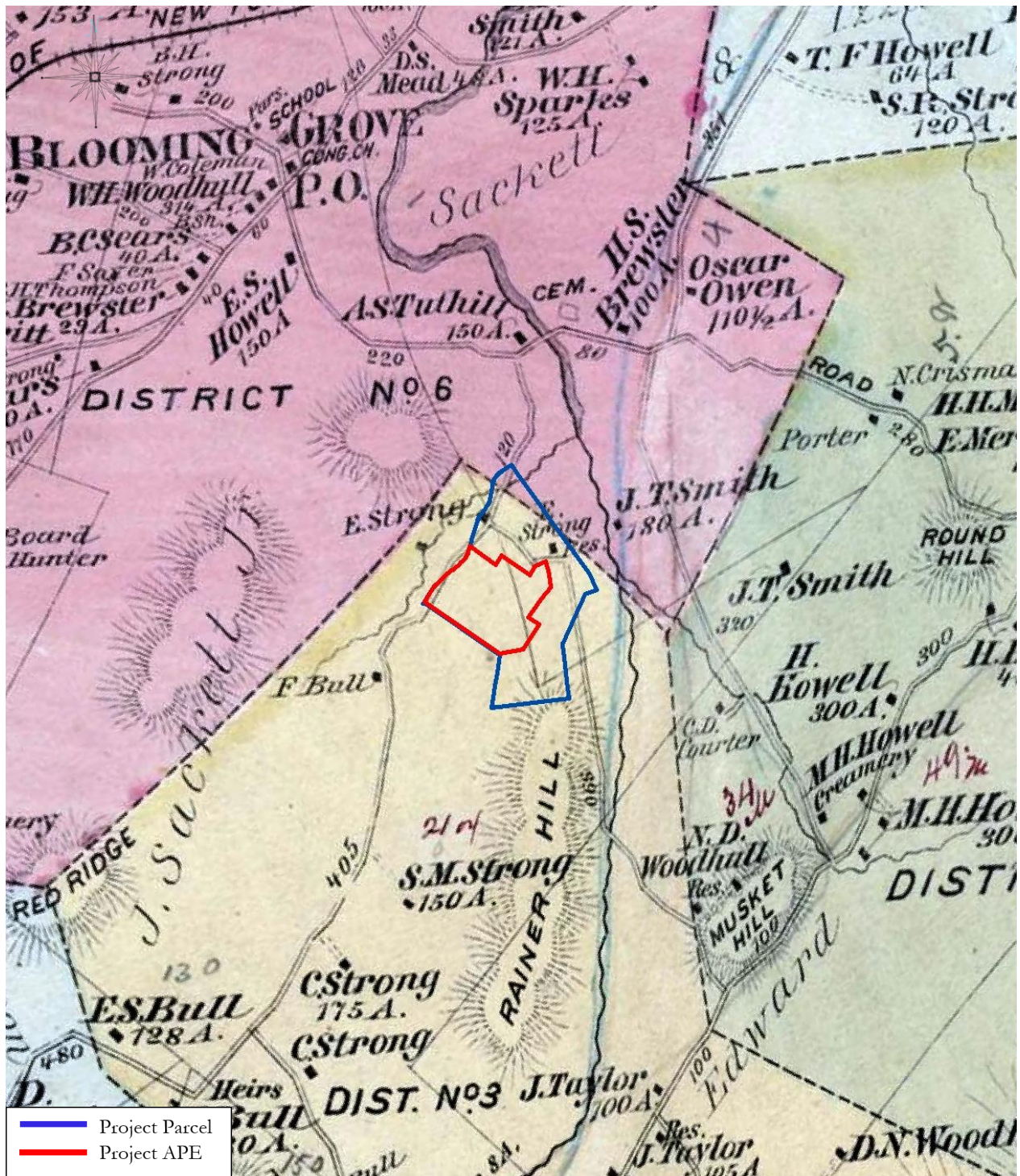


Figure 5: 1875 F.W. Beers. *County Atlas of Orange, New York*. (Source: New York Public Library) Scale: 1" = 2,000'.

The second map consulted for this report is the 1875 *County Atlas of Orange, New York* surveyed by Beers. This map shows the structure owned by E. Strong is located in the northern central portion of the Project Parcel, outside the boundaries of the Project APE. The roads within the Project Parcel have been straightened. E. Strong also owns a structure to the northwest of the Project Parcel, on the western side of Prospect Road.

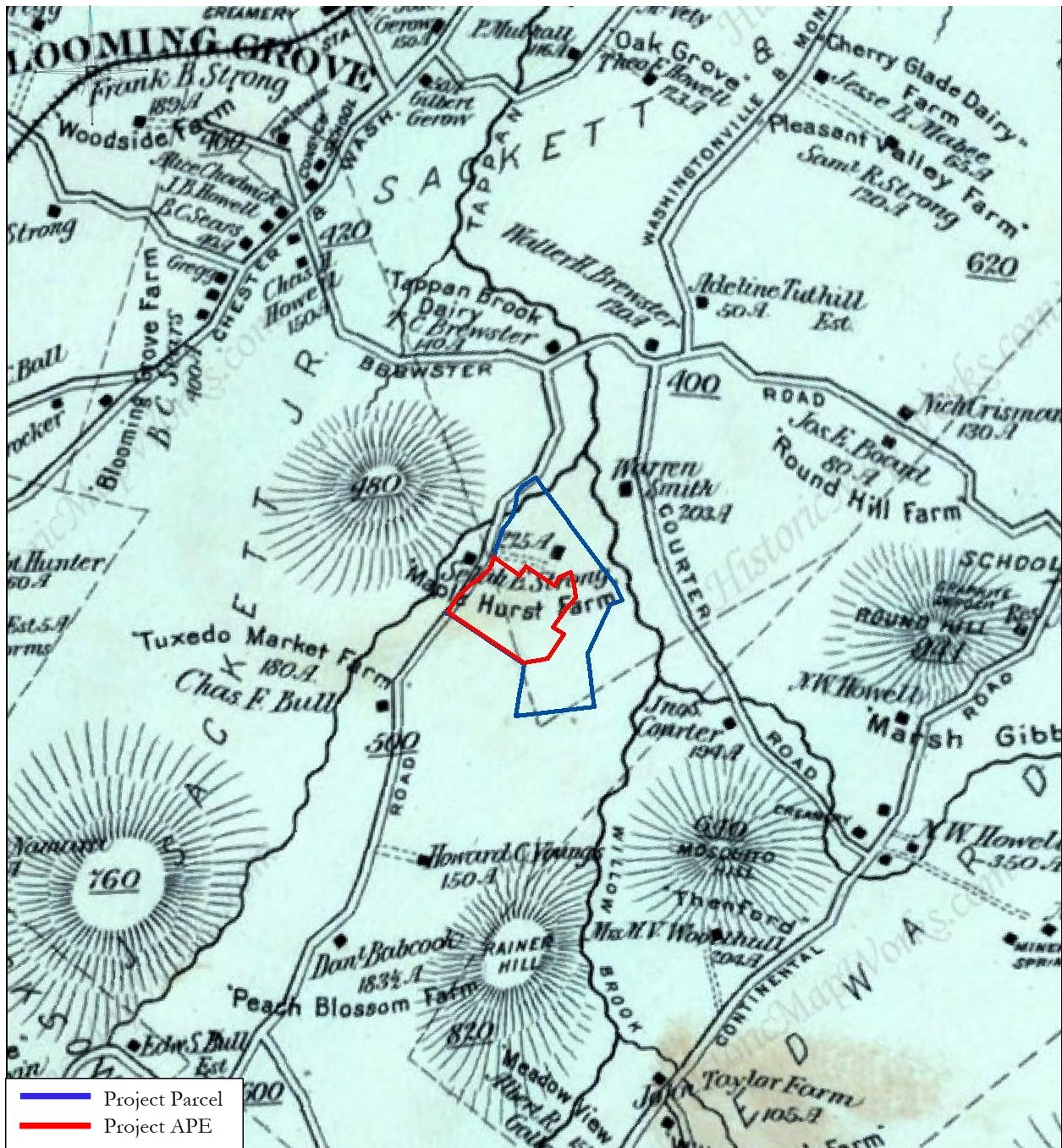


Figure 6: 1903 J. Lathrop. *Atlas of Orange County, New York*. (Source: Historic Mapworks) Scale: 1" = 2,000'

The next map consulted for this report is the 1903 *Atlas of Orange County, New York*. This map shows the area is now called the Maple Hurst Farm. The structure owned by E. Strong is still present within the project parcel, although access is only from Prospect Road. This farm is identified as being owned by Selah Strong. A structure owned by Selah is seen to the west across Prospect Road and a structure owned by Warren Smith located to the northeast.

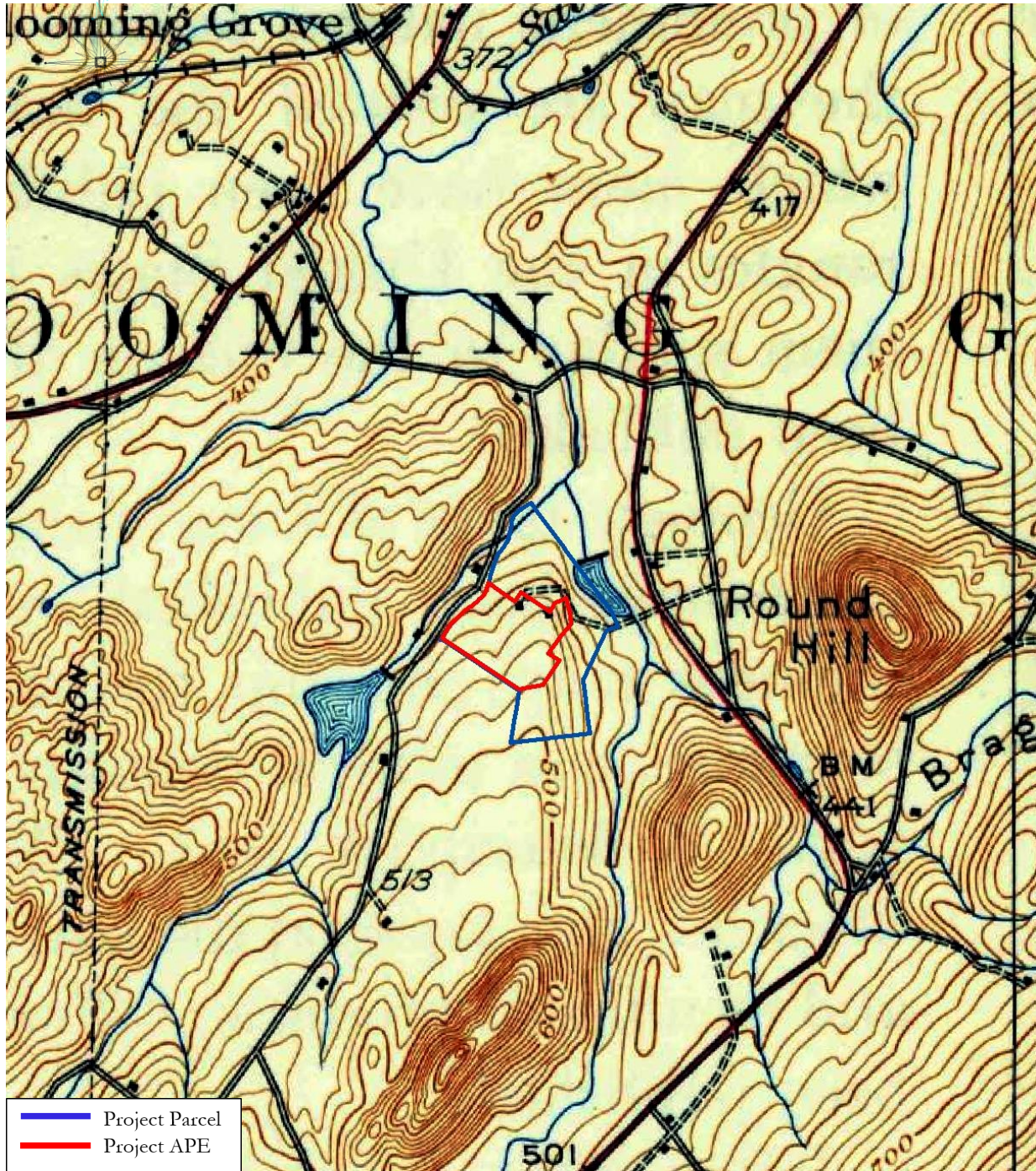


Figure 7: 1935 USGS Topographical Map. Schunemunk Quadrangle. 15 Minute Series. (Source: USGS.gov)  
 Scale: 1" = 1,500'

The 1935 USGS topographical map shows that Main Entrance Drive has been constructed and two structures are now located within the northeastern portion of the Project APE. The structure that was owned by E. Strone is no longer shown, and a large pond is located in the area north of the existing buildings.

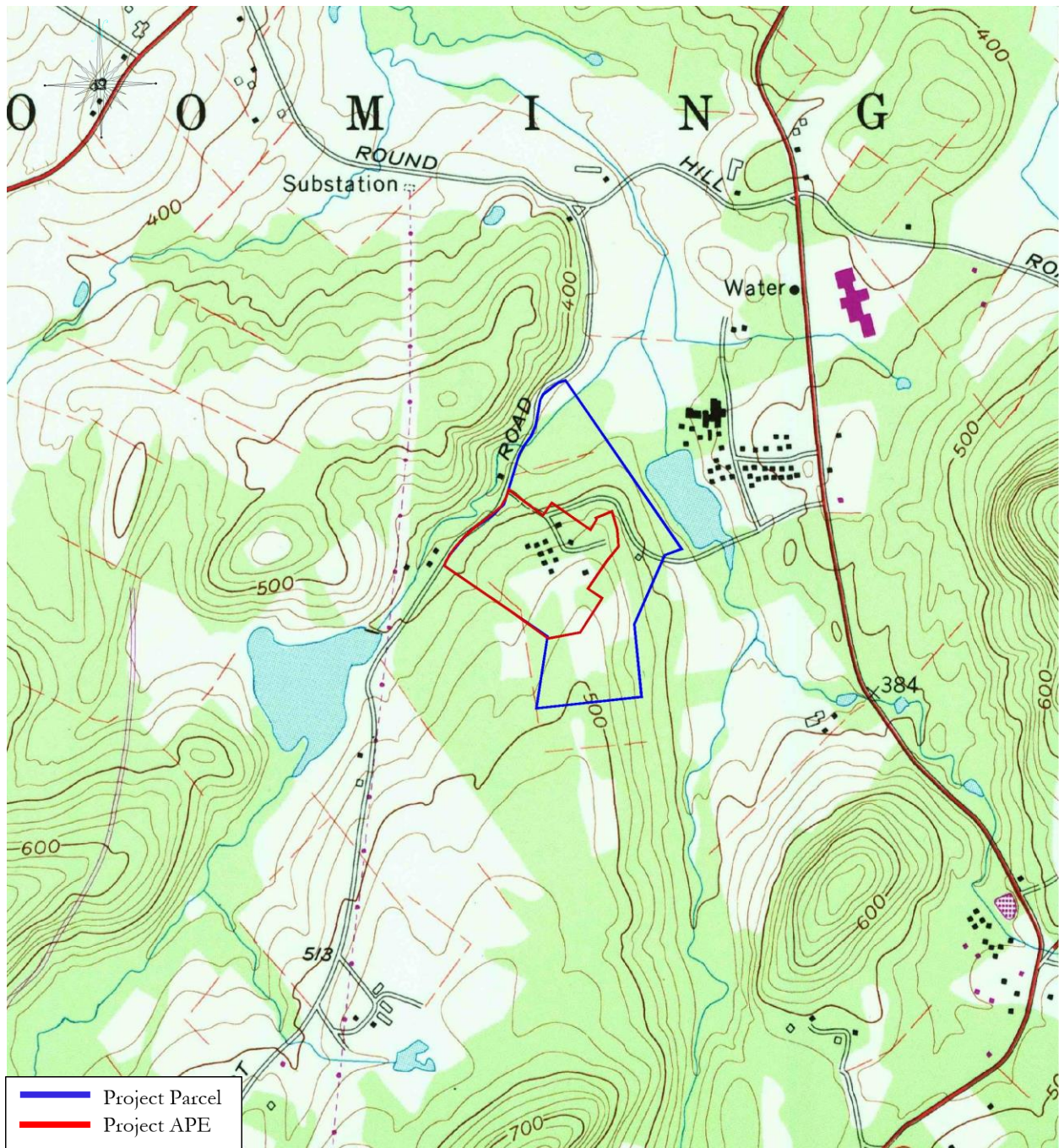


Figure 8: 1959/1981 USGS Topographical Map. Maybrook Quadrangle. 7.5 Minute Series. (Source: USGS.gov) Scale: 1" = 1,500'

The 1959 topographical map that was updated in 1981 shows that there are a number of buildings within the boundaries of the Project APE. This property has been identified as part of the original Toro Hill farm, that once contained over 1000 acres of land. The main house was constructed in 1920. This map shows that there are eleven structures within the boundaries of the APE. To the northeast, on the northeastern side of the pond (Toro Pond) is the Toro Hill Bungalow Colony and summer camp. That property operated as a summer camp from the 1940s to the late 1970's when it merged with a local day camp. The aerial images indicate that it was abandoned by the late 1990s. The buildings within the APE are associated with farming and the vineyard that was previously operational within the property.



Photo 5: The eastern portion of the Project APE consists of open fallow farm fields. View to the east.



Photo 6: A 1920's house is located in the northern portion of the Project APE, along with several outbuildings. These buildings are associated with the former Toro Hill Farm. View to the northeast.



Photo 7: The southern portion of the Project APE is a former vineyard/orchard. View to the south.



Photo 8: The landscape slopes steeply towards Prospect Road. View to the northeast.

## G. ASSESSMENT OF SENSITIVITY FOR CULTURAL RESOURCES

### PRECONTACT SENSITIVITY

Precontact period archaeological sensitivity of an area is based primarily on proximity to previously documented Precontact archeological sites, known Precontact period resources, and physiographic characteristics, such as topography and proximity to freshwater. The project's location, a short distance from Satterly Creek and previously identified archaeological sites, along with the level terrain that exists within this Project APE, makes this landscape moderate to highly sensitive for precontact cultural resources.

### HISTORIC SENSITIVITY

Cartographic research confirmed that the land surrounding the Project Parcel has been occupied by residences and farmland for over two centuries. From the late eighteenth century until the late nineteenth or early twentieth century, much of the land included in the Project Parcel belonged to the Strong family. Given the presence of a nineteenth century farmstead on the property, the historic sensitivity is considered high.

## H. SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The environmental conditions present within and adjacent to the Project Parcel indicate that the area is sensitive for precontact and historic cultural resources. It is therefore recommended that a Phase 1B Archaeological Field Reconnaissance Survey be undertaken on those undisturbed areas within the Project Parcel that will be impacted by the proposed Prospect Road Project.



## II. PHASE 1B ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY

### I. ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY METHODOLOGY

Results of the Phase 1A confirmed that the Project Parcel is located in an area of precontact activity. In addition, the landscape closely conforms to an ecological model that indicates that the level, undisturbed portions of the property are sensitive for precontact cultural materials. Phase 1B field investigations took place on March 28–April 3, 2023 under the supervision of Franco Zani Jr and Beth Selig, MA, RPA.

Areas selected for subsurface testing were identified during an intensive walkover inspection which evaluated the landscape to determine areas of prior disturbance, slope in excess of 12% grade, saturated or wet soils, and documented evidence of former land usage. Shovel tests were excavated at intervals of 50' (15 m) along transects conforming to the land surface and the boundaries of the Project Parcel. The locations of the tests and disturbed areas were recorded on a scaled map that shows surveyed borders and has the locations of the various structures or features identified (Field Reconnaissance Map).

Shovel tests (ST's) approximately 45 cm in diameter were spaced 50 feet apart and excavated at least 10 cm into sterile subsoil, unless impeded by rocks or other obstructions. This subsurface testing strategy was employed in areas of undisturbed soils and areas that did not contain surface water. All excavated soils were screened through 0.25-inch hardware cloth. Shovel test profiles were recorded on standard field forms which included stratigraphic depths, Munsell soil color, texture and inclusions, disturbances and artifacts (Appendix A). The presence of clearly modern materials, such as plastic fragments, modern bottle glass fragments, or twentieth-century architectural materials was noted on field forms, but HCS does not generally collect these materials for analysis or inclusion in the artifact assemblage. If any cultural material was recovered, these finds would be bagged and labeled with standard project provenience information. Following completion of archaeological fieldwork, all recovered materials would be washed, identified, inventoried, and re-bagged in labeled clean 4-mil archival quality plastic bags. All cultural material collected would be identified and described based on material type and standard descriptive characteristics and included in an artifact inventory.

### J. ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY RESULTS

Initially the field methodology included the completion of twenty (20) transects each containing a various number of shovel tests, with each transect beginning along the western boundary of the Project Parcel. The planned field investigation had been to utilize Prospect Road as a baseline. However the methodology was adjusted over the course of the investigations as the APE was expanded further to the east. In addition, portions of the Project APE, which were heavily wooded and overgrown were in the process of being cleared at the time of the field investigations. The presence of downed trees severely impeded the ability of the field team to access the formerly wooded areas of the parcel. The location of each transect was cleared of brush and trees manually, to allow for the completion of shovel tests. Each transect was walked, and shovel tests were completed in areas that did not contain steep slope, exposed bedrock, saturated soils or other impediments.

Testing began in the northeastern corner of the Project APE and transects were aligned west to east from the edge of the slope above Prospect Road. Soils in this area consisted of a dark grayish brown, dark yellowish brown, brown or olive brown silty loam, silty clay loam or loam with gravel and cobbles overlaying a light olive brown, olive, yellowish brown, light yellowish brown, brown, pale brown or mottled yellowish brown and light yellowish brown silty clay loam, clay loam, gravelly clay with gravel and cobbles. Much of the

western portion is sloped, but transects were still walked to see if any terraces that could be tested were present. The field team observed areas that had been graded and leveled, when the residential structures located at 159 and 173 Prospect Road were constructed.

Transect 18 was shortened due to slope and a stream bed that continued to the western portion of the property. Soils primarily consisted of brown silty clay loam with gravel and cobbles overlaying a pale brown silty clay loam. Soils along the small drainage were a mixed dark yellowish brown and olive brown silty clay loam with large rock.

Transects 18.5–20 were a series of judgment test pits due to the heavy rock content, slope and saturated soils in the area. Three (3) tests were placed in this area in the level well drained areas that did not feature any surface rock. Soils found here were a dark grey silty clay loam with gravel and cobbles overlaying a light brownish grey or pale brown clay loam. One test, ST 229 encountered grey clay before rapidly filling with water.

Transects 21–25 began along the southeastern border of the Project APE. These transects began in a fallow farm field and ended in a heavily overgrown former vineyard. Soils primarily consisted of olive brown, brown, dark yellowish brown, very dark grayish brown or dark grayish brown silty loam, silty clay loam or clay loam with gravel and cobbles overlaying a light olive brown, light yellowish brown or yellowish brown clay loam, gravelly clay or silty loam with gravel and cobbles.

Transects 26–27 began in the northern portion of site adjacent to Transect 1. Only two (2) tests were able to be completed due to steep slopes. Soils consisted of dark yellowish brown silty loam with gravel and cobbles over a yellowish brown gravelly silty loam.

Of the two hundred and ninety-nine (299) planned shovel tests, seventy-three (73) were unable to be excavated due to slope in excess of 12% grade, surface bedrock, saturated soils, foundations, or other impediments and disturbances. Cultural material consisting of window glass, clear bottle glass, coal, brick, ceramic sewer pipe and glass slag were identified in widely disbursed shovel tests and were not collected. No concentrations of significant cultural material was identified.

## K. SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In March and April of 2023, Hudson Cultural Services (HCS) completed a Phase 1A Literature Search and Sensitivity Assessment and Phase 1B Archaeological Field Reconnaissance Survey of the proposed Prospect Gardens Project in the Village of South Blooming Grove, Orange County, New York. The survey evaluated the portions of the parcel to be disturbed. The Project Area of Potential Effect (APE) includes ±27.3 acres (11.04 hectares) of rocky and sloped woodland, cleared land, overgrown agricultural land, vineyard and residential housing. Two hundred twenty-six (226) shovel tests were completed within the boundaries of the Project Parcel. No significant concentrations of cultural material or archaeological sites were identified.

It is the recommendation of Hudson Cultural Services that no further archaeological investigations are warranted. These recommendations are subject to concurrence by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.



Photo 9: Between the initial site visit and the Phase 1B survey the trees on site were cut and dropped. View to the southwest.



Photo 10: View west along Transect 7, in the central portion of the Project APE.



Photo 11: View northeast from the start of TR 10.



Photo 12: Within the lawn areas of the current residential structures, the landscape has been graded and with drainage channels along the boundaries. View to the east from the lawn of 179 Prospect Road.



Photo 13: A small water course crosses the Project APE near the southern boundary. View to the west.



Photo 14: The landscape surrounding the stream contains dense rock and saturated soils. View to the south.



Photo 15: In the northern portion of the Project APE the landscape drops sharply to the east. View to the north at TR 27.



Photo 16: The stone and cement foundation is located to the northwest of the residential structure in the northeastern portion of the Project APE. View to the southwest.

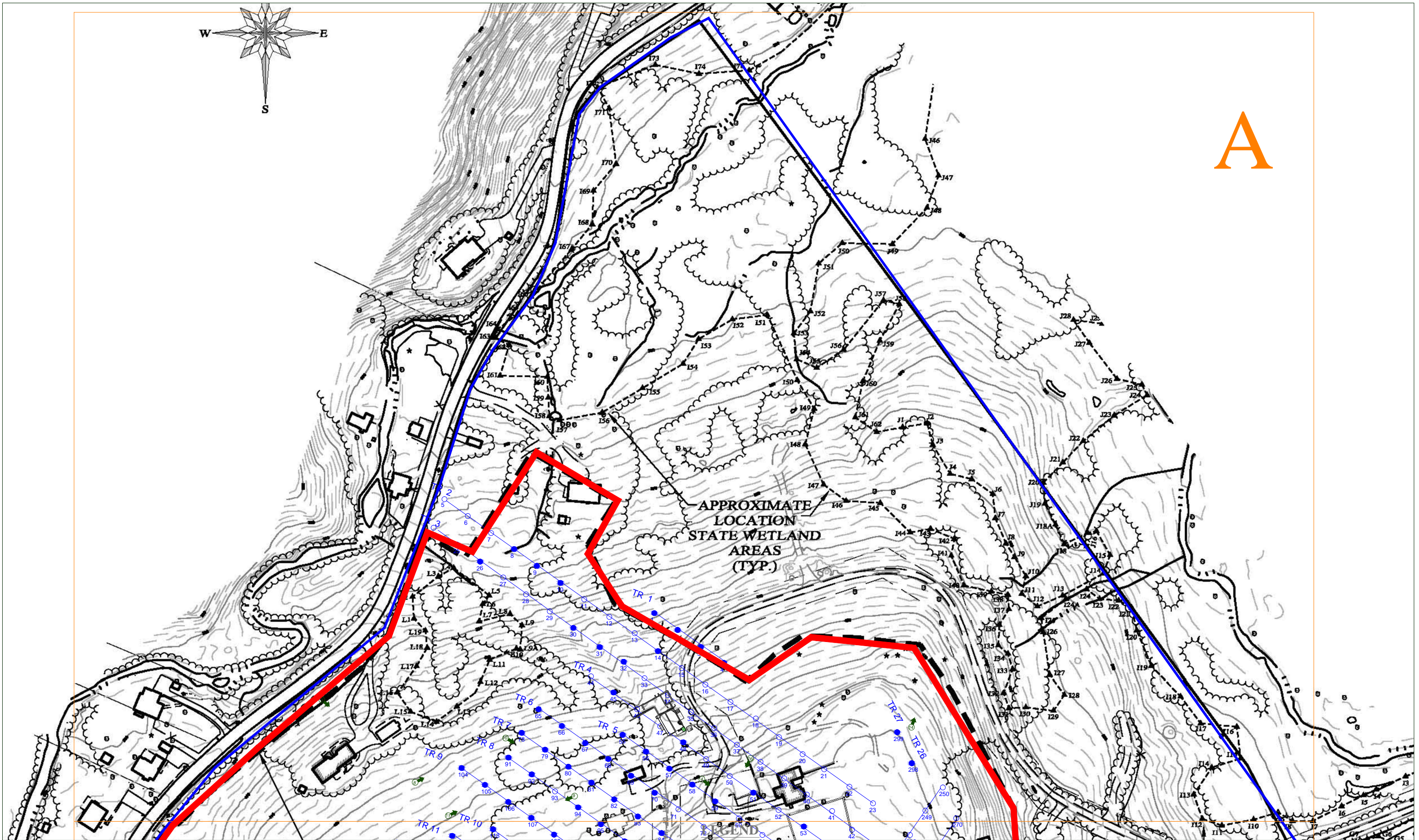
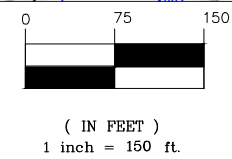


Figure 9A: Prospect Gardens Project  
Phase 1B Field Reconnaissance Map  
Scale 1" = 150'



- |      |                                    |     |                   |
|------|------------------------------------|-----|-------------------|
| ● ST | Sterile Shovel Test Location       | ➔ ① | Photographic View |
| ○ ST | Planned Shovel Test, Not Excavated | —   | Parcel Boundaries |



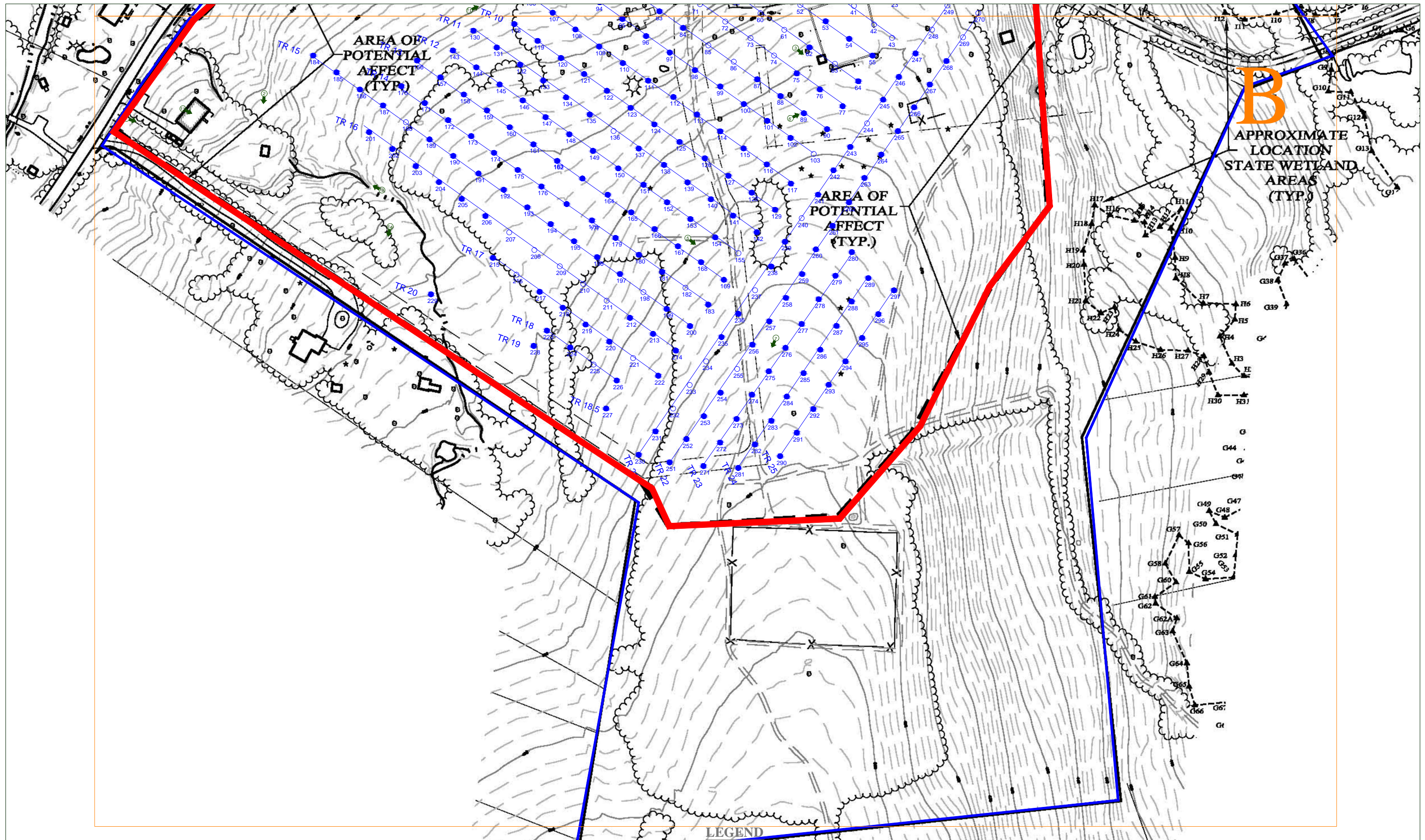
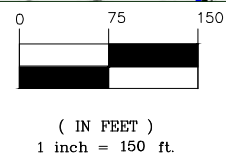
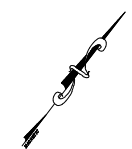


Figure 9B: Prospect Gardens Project  
Phase 1B Field Reconnaissance Map  
Scale 1" = 150'



- |      |                                    |   |                   |
|------|------------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| ● ST | Sterile Shovel Test Location       | ➔ | Photographic View |
| ○ ST | Planned Shovel Test, Not Excavated | — | Parcel Boundaries |





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APPENDIX A: SHOVEL TEST RECORDS