

**NARRATIVE REPORT
ALBANY COUNTRY CLUB**

**APPENDIX G
ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT REPORT**

**PHASE IA CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT SUMMARY
LANDS OF THE ALBANY COUNTRY CLUB**

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This letter report will confirm we have completed a Phase IA Sensitivity Assessment for the proposed residential development project on lands of the Albany Country Club and will briefly summarize our findings and recommendations. The Phase IA study consisted of: (1) review of pertinent published material pertaining to this part of the Town of Guilderland; (2) search of the historical and archaeological site files maintained by the New York State Museum and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to identify documented cultural resources located on or adjacent to the property; and (3) walking reconnaissance of the affected area (a) to identify areas of greater and lesser potential for containing buried cultural remains, (b) to note areas where serious prior disturbance to upper soils may have eliminated such potential, and (c) to photodocument any standing structures over 50 years of age with a view of the development.

The New York State Museum site files list 15 Native American sites and the OPHRP files list seven Native American and five European American archaeological sites within one mile of the project area. One native site was identified along Route 155 near its intersection with Wormer Road just outside the limits of Country Club property. Given the documented Native American presence and the proximity of the Normanskill and its tributaries, an above average potential was assessed for buried cultural remains pertaining to the Native American occupation of the region to occur within the project area. The potential for structural remains or cultural features associated with early European American era settlement was considered low except in the vicinity of Wormer Road, which dates from at least the first half the 19th century and along which several buildings were located prior to 1900. No visible anomalies likely to indicate the presence of structural remains, cultural features or burial grounds were encountered during walking reconnaissance of the study area. Two residences and one barn that meet age eligibility criteria for inclusion on the State and National Register of Historic Places were noted within the likely project viewshed and photodocumented.

Based on these findings, a Phase IB site identification survey is likely to be required by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to determine whether buried cultural resources are in fact present and subject to impact by proposed ground disturbance. Flatter, better-drained project impact areas for which obvious serious disturbance to or removal of upper soils cannot be visually demonstrated would be systematically archaeologically sampled by a series of hand-dug screened shovel tests dug at intervals considered appropriate by state reviewers for detecting traces of Native and/or Euro-American era occupation. An extended, more detailed discussion of this Phase IA study would be combined with the results of the Phase IB site identification survey in a Phase I cultural resources report to be submitted to the SHPO for review.

APPENDIX H

PROJECT PLANS

1. Dwg. # EC-1 – Topography, Drainage and Slopes
2. Dwg. # EC-2 – Buildable Land
3. Dwg. # DP-1 – Development Plan
4. Dwg. # CP-1 – Concept Plan
5. Dwg. # CP-2 – Concept Plan
6. Dwg. # OP-1 – Public Linkages, Land for Town Park,
Restricted Open Space for Proposed
Country Hamlet (CH) District
7. Dwg. # CH-1 – Map of Country Hamlet (CH) District