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PHASE IA CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSED FAWN MEADOW SOLAR CENTER IN WOODBURY, CONNECTICUT

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ABSTRACT

This report presents the results of a Phase IA cultural resources assessment survey for a proposed Fawn Meadow Solar Center in Woodbury, Connecticut. The project area encompasses approximately 36 acres of land to the west of Orchard Avenue. The current investigation consisted of: 1) preparation of an overview of the region's precontact, post-European Contact period, and natural settings; 2) a literature search to identify and discuss previously recorded cultural resources in the region; 3) a review of readily available maps and aerial imagery depicting the solar facility to identify potential post-European Contact period resources and/or areas of past disturbance; and 4) pedestrian survey and photo-documentation of the project area to determine its archaeological sensitivity. The results of the pedestrian survey indicate that 23.36 acres in the northern, central, and western portions of project parcel is primarily defined by low slopes, wooded areas in the north, well-drained soils, and is in close proximity to Harvey Brook, the Nonnewaug River, and the Housatonic River to the south. Conversely, the eastern and southern portions of the project area, which encompasses 12.83 acres, is characterized by wetland areas, standing water, and modern disturbances associated with the construction of Fawn Meadow Lane. In addition, two Connecticut State Register of Historic Places properties, the Van Vleck Farm State Register Area and one eighteenth century Saltbox Residence are both situated within 1.6 km (1 mi) of the project area. Based on the above referenced information, it was determined that the 23.36 acres of project area is deemed to possess a moderate/high archaeological sensitivity, and it is recommended that a Phase IB cultural resources reconnaissance survey be completed prior to the construction of the solar center. The remaining 12.83 acres along the eastern and southern boundaries is not archaeologically sensitive and no further examination of these areas is recommended.

Finally, five dry laid stone walls were identified along the western and northern boundaries of the project parcel during the pedestrian survey. Specifically, the stone wall located at the edge of the wooded area in the northern portion of the project area may have originally been associated with a wooden zig-zag style split rail fence. In the nineteenth century, zig-zag split rail fences were often built in forested areas because they were portable and did not require posts or holes to construct them; however, once the land had been cleared of trees for farming, farmers switched to using stone in their fences. Stones were often tossed against the wood zig-zag fences, and as the wood rotted, the stones took the form of the original fence. It is recommended, to the extent practicable, that these five stone walls be protected in place and that they be included on construction maps and marked with high visibility fencing in the field so that they are not impacted during construction.

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CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of a Phase IA cultural resources assessment survey of the proposed solar facility (the Facility) located along Fawn Meadow Lane in Woodbury, Connecticut (Figure 1). Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc., (VHB) requested that Heritage Consultants, LLC (Heritage) complete the Phase IA assessment survey as part of the planning process for the proposed solar center. Heritage completed this investigation in September of 2023. All work associated with this project was performed in accordance with the *Environmental Review Primer for Connecticut's Archaeological Resources* (Poirier 1987) promulgated by the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office (CT-SHPO).

Project Description and Methods Overview

The Facility will be located off Fawn Meadow Lane in Woodbury, Connecticut. The project area is situated at elevations at approximately 750 m (2,461 ft) NGVD and will be the location of a proposed solar array, access road, an interconnection route, fencing, and associated infrastructure (Figure 2). At the time of the pedestrian survey, the project area was accessed via Fawn Meadow Lane, and vegetation consisted of a mixture of open grassy areas and wooded areas.

The Phase IA cultural resources assessment survey consisted of the completion of the following tasks: 1) a contextual overview of the region's precontact, post-European Contact period, and natural settings (e.g., soils, ecology, hydrology, etc.); 2) a literature search to identify and discuss previously completed cultural resources surveys and previously recorded cultural resources in the region encompassing the Facility; 3) a review of readily available maps and aerial imagery depicting the project area in order to identify potential post-European Contact period resources and/or areas of past disturbance; and 4) pedestrian survey and photo-documentation of the Facility area in order to determine its archaeological sensitivity.

Project Results and Management Recommendations Overview

The review of maps and aerial images depicting the study area, as well as files maintained by the CT-SHPO did not detect any previously identified archaeological sites within 1.6 km (1 mi) of the project area. In addition, a total of two Connecticut State Register of Historic Places properties, the Van Vleck Farm State Register Area and one eighteenth century Saltbox Residence, are both situated within 1.6 km (1 mi) of the project area. They are discussed in Chapter V. Finally, Heritage also combined data from map and aerial image analyses, as well as subsequent pedestrian survey, to stratify the project area into zones of no/low and/or moderate/high archaeological sensitivity.

The results of the pedestrian survey indicate that 23.36 acres in the northern, central, and western portions of project parcel is primarily defined by low slopes, wooded areas in the north, well-drained soils, and is in close proximity to Harvey Brook to the west, the Nonnewaug River, and the Housatonic River to the south. Conversely, the eastern and southern portions of the project area, which encompasses 12.83 acres, is characterized by wetland areas, standing water, and modern disturbances associated with the construction of Fawn Meadow Lane. Based on the above referenced information, it was determined that the 23.36 acres of project area is deemed to possess a moderate/high archaeological sensitivity, and it is recommended that a Phase IB cultural resources reconnaissance survey be completed prior to the construction of the solar center. The remaining 12.83 acres along the eastern and southern boundaries is not archaeologically sensitive and no further examination of these areas is recommended.

Finally, five dry laid stone walls were identified along the western and northern boundaries of the project parcel during the pedestrian survey. Specifically, the stone wall located at the edge of the wooded area in the northern portion of the project area may have originally been associated with a wooden zig-zag style split rail fence. In the nineteenth century, zig-zag split rail fences were often built in forested areas because they were portable and did not require posts or holes to construct them; however, once the land had been cleared of trees for farming, farmers switched to using stone in their fences. Stones that were cleared from farmland were often tossed against the wood zig-zag fences, and as the wood rotted, the stones took the form of the original wood fence. It is recommended, to the extent practicable, that these five stone walls be protected in place and that they be included on construction maps and marked with high visibility fencing in the field so that they are not impacted during construction.

Project Personnel

Heritage Personnel who contributed to the project include David R. George, M.A., RPA, (Principal Investigator); Antonio Medina, B.A. (Field Operations Manager), Cole Peterson, B.A. (GIS Specialist), and David Naumec, PhD., (Historian).

CHAPTER II
NATURAL SETTING

Introduction

This chapter provides a brief overview of the natural setting of the region containing the Fawn Meadow Solar Center in Woodbury, Connecticut. Previous archaeological research has documented that a few specific environmental factors can be associated with both precontact era and post-European Contact period site selection. These include general ecological conditions, as well as types of fresh water sources and soils present. The remainder of this section provides a brief overview of the ecology, hydrological resources, and soils present within the project area and the larger region in general.

Ecoregions of Connecticut

Throughout the Pleistocene and Holocene Periods, Connecticut has undergone numerous environmental changes. Variations in climate, geology, and physiography have led to the "regionalization" of Connecticut's modern environment. It is clear, for example, that the northwestern portion of the state has very different natural characteristics than the coastline. Recognizing this fact, Dowhan and Craig (1976), as part of their study of the distribution of rare and endangered species in Connecticut, subdivided the state into various ecoregions. Dowhan and Craig (1976:27) defined an ecoregion as:

> "an area characterized by a distinctive pattern of landscapes and regional climate as expressed by the vegetation composition and pattern, and the presence or absence of certain indicator species and species groups. Each ecoregion has a similar interrelationship between landforms, local climate, soil profiles, and plant and animal communities. Furthermore, the pattern of development of plant communities (chronosequences and toposequences) and of soil profile is similar in similar physiographic sites. Ecoregions are thus natural divisions of land, climate, and biota."

Dowhan and Craig defined nine major ecoregions for the State of Connecticut. They are based on regional diversity in plant and animal indicator species (Dowhan and Craig 1976). Only one of the ecoregions is germane to the current investigation: Northwest Hills Ecoregion. A brief summary of this ecoregion is presented below. It is followed by a discussion of the hydrology and soils found in and adjacent to the project area.

<u>Northwest Hills Ecoregion</u>

The Northwest Hills ecoregion region consists of a hilly upland terrain characterized by "a moderately hilly landscape of intermediate elevation, with narrow valleys and local areas of steep and rugged topography" (Dowhan and Craig 1976:31). Elevations in the Northwest Hills ecoregion range from 228.6 to 304.8 m (750 to 1,000 ft) above sea level. The bedrock of the region is composed of schists and gneisses deposited during the Paleozoic (Dowhan and Craig 1976; Bell 1985). Soils in these uplands areas have developed on top of glacial till in upland locales, and on top of stratified deposits of sand, gravel, and silt in the local valleys (Dowhan and Craig 1976).

Hydrology in the Vicinity of the Project Area

The Facility location is situated within close proximity to several sources of freshwater, including Harvey Brook, Nonnewaug River, Lewis Atwood Brook, East Spring Brook, East Meadow Brook, and the Housatonic River to the south. Small, unnamed bodies of water are also nearby. Previously completed archaeological investigations in Connecticut have demonstrated that streams, rivers, and wetlands were

focal points for precontact era occupations because they provided access to transportation routes, sources of freshwater, and abundant faunal and floral resources.

Soils Comprising the Project Area

Soil formation is the direct result of the interaction of a number of variables, including climate, vegetation, parent material, time, and organisms present (Gerrard 1981). Once archaeological deposits are buried within the soil, they are subject to a number of diagenic processes. Different classes of artifacts may be preferentially protected, or unaffected by these processes, whereas others may deteriorate rapidly. Cyclical wetting and drying, freezing and thawing, and compression can accelerate chemically and mechanically the decay processes for animal bones, shells, lithics, ceramics, and plant remains. Lithic and ceramic artifacts are largely unaffected by soil pH, whereas animal bones and shells decay more quickly in acidic soils such as those that are present within the current project area. In contrast, acidic soils enhance the preservation of charred plant remains.

The project parcel is characterized by the presence of Canton-Charlton and Paxton-Montauk soils (Figure 3), which are characterized as very deep well drained loamy soils. Where they are not disturbed, these types of soils are generally well correlated with both post-European Contact period and precontact era archaeological site locations. A descriptive profile for each soil type is presented below; they were gathered from the National Resources Conservation Service.

<u>Canton and Charlton Soils</u>

The Canton series consists of very deep, well drained soils formed in a loamy mantle underlain by sandy till. They are on nearly-level to very steep moraines, hills, and ridges. Slope ranges from 0 to 45 percent. A typical profile associated with Canton soils is as follows: **Oi**--0 to 5 cm; slightly decomposed plant material; **A**--5 to 13 cm; very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) fine sandy loam; weak fine granular structure; friable; common fine roots; 5 percent gravel; very strongly acid (pH 4.6); abrupt smooth boundary; **Bw1**--13 to 30 cm; yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) fine sandy loam; weak medium subangular blocky structure; friable; common fine and medium roots; 5 percent gravel; very strongly acid (pH 4.6); clear smooth boundary; **Bw2**--30 to 41 cm; yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) fine sandy loam; weak medium subangular blocky structure; friable; common fine and medium roots; 5 percent gravel; strongly acid (pH 5.1); clear smooth boundary; **Bw3**--41 to 56 cm; yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) gravelly fine sandy loam; weak medium subangular blocky; friable; common fine and medium roots; 15 percent gravel; strongly acid (pH 5.1); abrupt smooth boundary; and**2C**--56 to 170 cm; grayish brown (2.5Y 5/2) gravelly loamy sand; massive; friable; 25 percent gravel; moderately acid (pH 5.6).

The Charlton series consists of very deep, well drained soils formed in loamy melt-out till. They are nearly level to very steep soils on moraines, hills, and ridges. Slope ranges from 0 to 60 percent. A typical profile associated with Charlton soils is as follows: **Oe**--0 to 4 cm; black (10YR 2/1) moderately decomposed forest plant material; **A**--4 to 10 cm; dark brown (10YR 3/3) fine sandy loam; weak fine granular structure; very friable; many fine roots; 5 percent gravel; very strongly acid; abrupt smooth boundary; **Bw1**--10 to 18 cm; brown (7.5YR 4/4) fine sandy loam; weak coarse granular structure; very friable; many fine and medium roots; 5 percent gravel; very strongly acid; clear wavy boundary; **Bw2**--18 to 48 cm; yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) fine sandy loam; weak medium subangular blocky structure; very friable; common fine and medium roots; 10 percent gravel and cobbles; very strongly acid; clear wavy boundary; **Bw3**--48 to 69 cm; light olive brown (2.5Y 5/4) gravelly fine sandy loam; massive; very friable; few medium roots; 15 percent gravel and cobbles; very strongly acid; abrupt wavy boundary; and **C**--69 to 165 cm; grayish brown (2.5Y 5/2) gravelly fine sandy loam with thin lenses of loamy sand; massive; friable, some lenses firm; few medium roots; 25 percent gravel and cobbles; strongly acid.

Paxton and Montauk Soils

The Paxton series consists of well drained loamy soils formed in lodgment till. The soil is very deep to bedrock and moderately deep to a densic contact. They are found on nearly level to steep soils on hills, drumlins, till plains, and ground moraines. Slope associated with these soils range from 0 to 45 percent. A typical profile associated with Paxton soils is as follows: **Ap**--0 to 20 cm; dark brown (10YR 3/3) fine sandy loam, pale brown (10YR 6/3) dry; moderate medium granular structure; friable; many fine roots; 5 percent gravel; strongly acid; abrupt smooth boundary; **Bw1**--20 to 38 cm; dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) fine sandy loam; weak medium subangular blocky structure; friable; common fine roots; 5 percent gravel; few earthworm casts; strongly acid; gradual wavy boundary; **Bw2**--38 to 66 cm; olive brown (2.5Y 4/4) fine sandy loam; weak medium subangular blocky structure; friable; few fine roots; 10 percent gravel; strongly acid; clear wavy boundary; and **Cd**--66 to 165 cm; olive (5Y 5/3) gravelly fine sandy loam; medium plate-like divisions; massive; very firm, brittle; 25 percent gravel; many dark coatings on plates; strongly acid.

The Montauk series consists of well drained soils formed in lodgment or flow till derived primarily from granitic materials with lesser amounts of gneiss and schist. The soil is very deep to bedrock and moderately deep to a densic contact. This soil is on upland hills and moraines. Slopes associated with these soils range from 0 to 35 percent. A typical profile associated with Montauk soils is as follows: **Ap**--0 to 10 cm; very dark gray (10YR 3/1) loam; moderate fine granular structure; very friable; many very fine, fine, medium, and coarse roots; 2 percent gravel, 1 percent cobbles, and 1 percent stones; extremely acid (pH 4.1); clear smooth boundary; **BA**--10 to 34 cm; brown (10YR 4/3) loam; moderate medium and coarse subangular blocky structure; friable; many fine, medium, and coarse roots; many fine and medium pores; 4 percent gravel, 1 percent cobbles, and 1 percent stones; extremely acid (pH 4.3); clear wavy boundary; **Bw1**--34 to 65 cm; dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) loam; moderate coarse subangular blocky structure; friable; many fine, medium, and coarse roots; many fine and medium pores; 6 percent gravel, 1 percent cobbles, and 1 percent stones; extremely acid (pH 4.3); clear wavy boundary; **Bw2**--65 to 87 cm; yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) sandy loam; moderate medium and coarse subangular blocky structure; friable; many very fine, fine, and coarse roots; many fine and medium pores; 5 percent gravel and 1 percent cobbles; extremely acid (pH 4.3); clear smooth boundary; **2Cd1**--87 to 101 cm; strong brown (7.5YR 5/6) gravelly loamy sand; moderate medium plates; firm; few fine roots; many fine pores; 10 percent gravel, 5 percent cobbles, and 1 percent stones; very strongly acid (pH 4.7); clear wavy boundary; and **2Cd2**--101 to 184 cm; dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) gravelly loamy sand; moderate medium plates; firm; many fine pores; 10 percent gravel, 5 percent cobbles, and 1 percent stones; strongly acid (pH 5.1).

Summary

The natural setting of the area containing the project parcel is common throughout the Northwest Hills ecoregion. Streams and rivers of this area empty into the Naugatuck or Farmington Rivers, which in turn, drain into the Long Island Sound. Further, the landscape in general is dominated by loamy soil types with some wetland soils intermixed. In addition, low slopes dominate the region. Thus, in general, the project region was well suited to Native American occupation throughout the precontact era. This portion of Woodbury was also used throughout the post-European Contact period, as evidenced by the presence of numerous post-European Contact period residences and agricultural fields throughout the region; thus, archaeological deposits dating from the last 350 years or so may also be expected near or within the proposed project area.

CHAPTER III
PRECONTACT ERA SETTING

Introduction

Prior to the late 1970s and early 1980s, very few systematic archaeological surveys of large portions of the State of Connecticut had been undertaken. Rather, the precontact era occupation of the region was studied at the site level. Sites chosen for excavation were highly visible and they were in such areas as the coastal zone, e.g., shell middens, and Connecticut River Valley. As a result, a skewed interpretation of the precontact era occupation of Connecticut was developed. It was suggested that the upland portions of the state, i.e., the northeastern and northwestern hills ecoregions, were little used and rarely occupied by precontact era Native Americans, while the coastal zone, i.e., the eastern and western coastal and the southeastern and southwestern hills ecoregions, was the focus of settlements and exploitation. This interpretation remained unchallenged until the 1970s and 1980s when several town-wide and regional archaeological studies were completed. These investigations led to the creation of several archaeological phases that subsequently were applied to understand the precontact period of Connecticut. The remainder of this chapter provides an overview of the precontact era setting of the region encompassing the Facility.

Paleo-Indian Period (12,000 to 10,000 Before Present [B.P.])

The earliest inhabitants of the area encompassing the State of Connecticut, who have been referred to as Paleo-Indians, arrived in the area by ca., 13,000 B.P. (Gramly and Funk 1990; Snow 1980). Due to the presence of large Pleistocene mammals at that time and the ubiquity of large fluted projectile points in archaeological deposits of this age, Paleo-Indians often have been described as big-game hunters (Ritchie and Funk 1973; Snow 1980); however, as discussed below, it is more likely that they hunted a broad spectrum of animals. While there have been over 50 surface finds of Paleo-Indian projectile points throughout the State of Connecticut, only three sites, the Templeton Site (6-LF-21) in Washington, Connecticut, the Hidden Creek Site (72-163) in Ledyard, Connecticut, and the Brian D. Jones Site (4-10B) in Avon, Connecticut have been studied in detail and dated using the radiocarbon method (Jones 1997; Moeller 1980; Singer 2017a; Leslie et al., 2020).

The Templeton Site (6-LF-21) in Washington, Connecticut was occupied between 10,490 and 9,890 years ago (Moeller 1980). In addition to a single large and two small, fluted points, the Templeton Site produced a stone tool assemblage consisting of gravers, drills, core fragments, scrapers, and channel flakes, which indicates that the full range of stone tool production and maintenance took place at the site (Moeller 1980). Moreover, the use of both local and non-local raw materials was documented in the recovered tool assemblage, suggesting that not only did the site's occupants spend some time in the area, but they also had access to distant stone sources, the use of which likely occurred during movement from region to region. More recently, the site has undergone re-investigation by Singer (2017a and 2017b), who has determined that the overwhelming majority of tools and debitage are exotic and were quarried directly from the Hudson River Valley. Recent research has focused on task-specific loci at the Templeton Site, particularly the production of numerous Michaud-Neponset projectile points, as identified through remnant channel flakes.

The Hidden Creek Site (72-163) is situated on the southeastern margin of the Great Cedar Swamp on the Mashantucket Pequot Reservation in Ledyard, Connecticut (Jones 1997). While excavation of the Hidden Creek Site produced evidence of Terminal Archaic and Woodland Period components (see below) in the

upper soil horizons, the lower levels of the site yielded artifacts dating from the Paleo-Indian era. Recovered Paleo-Indian artifacts included broken bifaces, side-scrapers, a fluted preform, gravers, and end-scrapers. Based on the types and number of tools present, Jones (1997:77) has hypothesized that the Hidden Creek Site represented a short-term occupation, and that separate stone tool reduction and rejuvenation areas were present.

The Brian D. Jones Site (4-10B) was identified in a Pleistocene levee on the Farmington River in Avon, Connecticut; it was buried under 1.5 m (3.3 ft) of alluvium (Leslie et al., 2020). The Brian D. Jones Site was identified by Archaeological and Historical Services, Inc., in 2019 during a survey for the Connecticut Department of Transportation preceding a proposed bridge construction project. It is now the oldest known archaeological site in Connecticut at +12,500 years old. The site also provides a rare example of a Paleo-Indian site on a river rather than the more common upland areas or on the edges of wetlands. Ground-penetrating radar survey revealed overbank flooding and sedimentation that resulted in the creating of a stable ancient river levee with gentle, low-energy floods. Archaeological deposits on the levee were therefore protected.

Excavations at the Brian D. Jones Site revealed 44 soil anomalies, 27 of which were characterized as cultural features used as hearths and post holes, among other uses. Of these, one hearth has been dated thus far (10,520 ± 30 14C yr BP; charred Pinus; 2-sigma 12,568 to 12,410 CAL BP) (Leslie et al. 2020:4). Further radiocarbon testing will be completed in the future. Artifact concentrations surrounded these features and were separated in two stratigraphic layers representing at least two temporally discrete Paleo-Indian occupations. The recovered lithic artifacts are fashioned from Normanskill chert, Hardyston jasper, Jefferson/Mount Jasper rhyolite, chalcedony, siltstone, and quartz. They include examples of a fluted point base, preforms, channel flakes, pièces esquillées, end scrapers, side scrapers, grinding stones, bifaces, utilized flakes, gravers, and drilled stone pendant fragments. Lithic tools numbered over 100, while toolmaking debris was in the thousands. The channel flakes represent the production of spear points used in hunting. Scrapers, perforators, and grinding stones indicate animal butchering, plant food grinding, the production of wood and bone tools, and the processing of animal skins for clothing and tents. Other collected cultural materials included charred botanicals and calcined bone. Botanical specimens recovered in hearth features included burned remains of cattail, pin cherry, strawberry, acorn, sumac, water lily, and dogwood. Approximately 15,000 artifacts were collected in total.

The scarcity of identified Paleo-Indian sites suggests a low population density during this period. The small size of most Paleo-Indian sites, their likely inundation by rising sea levels, and the high degree of landscape disturbance over the past 10,000 years likely contribute to poor site visibility, although the presence of two deeply alluvially buried Paleo-Indian sites in Connecticut suggests that other sites may be located along stable rivers (Leslie et al. 2021).

Archaic Period (10,000 to 2,700 B.P.)

The Archaic Period, which succeeded the Paleo-Indian Period, began by ca., 10,000 B.P. (Ritchie and Funk 1973; Snow 1980), and it has been divided into three subperiods: Early Archaic (10,000 to 8,000 B.P.), Middle Archaic (8,000 to 6,000 B.P.), and Late Archaic (6,000 to 3,400 B.P.). These periods were devised to describe all non-farming, non-ceramic producing populations in the area. Regional archeologists recently have recognized a final “transitional” Archaic Period, the Terminal Archaic Period (3,400-2,700 B.P.), which was meant to describe those groups that existed just prior to the onset of the Woodland Period and the widespread adoption of ceramics into the toolkit (Snow 1980; McBride 1984; Pfeiffer 1984, 1990; Witthoft 1949, 1953).

Early Archaic Period (10,000 to 8,000 B.P.)

To date, very few Early Archaic sites have been identified in southern New England. As a result, researchers such as Fitting (1968) and Ritchie (1969), have suggested a lack of these sites likely is tied to cultural discontinuity between the Early Archaic and preceding Paleo-Indian Period, as well as a population decrease from earlier times. However, with continued identification of Early Archaic sites in the region, and the recognition of the problems of preservation, it is difficult to maintain the discontinuity hypothesis (Curran and Dincauze 1977; Snow 1980).

Like their Paleo-Indian predecessors, Early Archaic sites tend to be very small and produce few artifacts, most of which are not temporally diagnostic. While Early Archaic sites in other portions of the United States are represented by projectile points of the Kirk series (Ritchie and Funk 1973) and by Kanawha types (Coe 1964), sites of this age in southern New England are identified on the basis of a series of ill-defined bifurcate-based projectile points. These projectile points are identified by the presence of their characteristic bifurcated base, and they generally are made from high quality raw materials. Moreover, finds of these projectile points have rarely been in stratified contexts. Rather, they occur commonly either as surface expressions or intermixed with artifacts representative of later periods. Early Archaic occupations, such as the Dill Farm Site and Sites 6LF64 and 6LF70 in Litchfield County, are represented by camps that were relocated periodically to take advantage of seasonally available resources (McBride 1984; Pfeiffer 1986). In this sense, a foraging type of settlement pattern was employed during the Early Archaic Period.

Another localized cultural tradition, the Gulf of Maine Archaic, which lasted from ca. 9,500 to 6,000 14C BP, is beginning to be recognized in Southern New England (Petersen and Putnam 1992). It is distinguished by its microlithic industry, which may be associated with the production of compound tools (Robinson and Peterson 1993). Assemblages from Maine (Petersen et al. 1986; Petersen 1991; Sanger et al. 1992), Massachusetts (Strauss 2017; Leslie et al. 2022), and Connecticut (Forrest 1999) reflect the selection of local, coarse-grained stones. Large choppers and hoe-like forms from southeastern Connecticut's Sandy Hill Site likely functioned as digging implements. Woodworking tools, including adzes, celts, and gull-channeled gouges recovered at the Brigham and Sharrow sites in Maine (Robinson and Petersen 1993:68), may have been used for dugout canoe manufacture. The deeply stratified Sandy Hill (Forrest 1999; Jones and Forrest 2003) and Sharrow sites (Petersen 1991), with their overlapping lenses of "black sand" floor deposits, suggest intensive site re-occupations according to an adaptation that relied, in part, on seasonally available wetland resources. Thus far, sites from this tradition have only been identified within coastal and near-coastal territories along the Gulf of Maine, in southeastern Connecticut, and in Massachusetts.

Middle Archaic Period (8,000 to 6,000 B.P.)

By the onset of the Middle Archaic Period modern deciduous forests had developed in the region (Davis 1969). Increased numbers and types of sites associated with this period are noted in Connecticut (McBride 1984). The most well-known Middle Archaic site in New England is the Neville Site in Manchester, New Hampshire studied by Dincauze (1976). Careful analysis of the Neville Site indicated that the Middle Archaic occupation dated from between 7,700 and 6,000 years ago. In fact, Dincauze obtained several radiocarbon dates from the Middle Archaic component of the Neville Site associated with the then-newly named Neville type projectile point, ranging from 7,740±280 and 7,015±160 B.P. (Dincauze 1976).

In addition to Neville points, Dincauze (1976) described two other projectile points styles that are attributed to the Middle Archaic Period: Stark and Merrimac projectile points. While no absolute dates

were recovered from deposits that yielded Stark points, the Merrimac type dated from 5,910±180 B.P. Dincauze argued that both the Neville and later Merrimac and Stark occupations were established to take advantage of the excellent fishing that the falls situated adjacent to the site area would have afforded Native American groups. Thus, based on the available archaeological evidence, the Middle Archaic Period is characterized by continued increases in diversification of tool types and resources exploited, as well as by sophisticated changes in the settlement pattern to include different site types, including both base camps and task-specific sites (McBride 1984:96).

Late Archaic Period (6,000 to 3,700 B.P.)

The Late Archaic Period in southern New England is divided into two major cultural traditions that appear to have coexisted. They include the Laurentian and Narrow-Stemmed Traditions (Funk 1976; McBride 1984; Ritchie 1969a and b). Artifacts assigned to the Laurentian Tradition include ground stone axes, adzes, gouges, ulus (semi-lunar knives), pestles, atlatl weights, and scrapers. The diagnostic projectile point forms of this time period in southern New England include the Brewerton Eared-Notched, Brewerton Eared and Brewerton Side-Notched varieties (McBride 1984; Ritchie 1969a; Thompson 1969). In general, the stone tool assemblage of the Laurentian Tradition is characterized by flint, felsite, rhyolite, and quartzite, while quartz was largely avoided for stone tool production.

In terms of settlement and subsistence patterns, archaeological evidence in southern New England suggests that Laurentian Tradition populations consisted of groups of mobile hunter-gatherers. While a few large Laurentian Tradition occupations have been studied, sites of this age generally encompass less than 500 m^2 (5,383 ft^2). These base camps reflect frequent movements by small groups of people in search of seasonally abundant resources. The overall settlement pattern of the Laurentian Tradition was dispersed in nature, with base camps located in a wide range of microenvironments, including riverine as well as upland zones (McBride 1978, 1984:252). Finally, subsistence strategies of Laurentian Tradition focused on hunting and gathering of wild plants and animals from multiple ecozones.

The second Late Archaic tradition, known as the Narrow-Stemmed Tradition, is unlike the Laurentian Tradition, and it likely represents a different cultural adaptation. The Narrow-Stemmed Tradition is recognized by the presence of quartz and quartzite narrow stemmed projectile points, triangular quartz Squibnocket projectile points, and a bipolar lithic reduction strategy (McBride 1984). Other tools found in Narrow-Stemmed Tradition artifact assemblages include choppers, adzes, pestles, antler and bone projectile points, harpoons, awls, and notched atlatl weights. Many of these tools, notably the projectile points and pestles, indicate a subsistence pattern dominated by hunting and fishing, as well the collection of a wide range of plant foods (McBride 1984; Snow 1980:228).

Terminal Archaic Period (3,700 to 2,700 B.P.)

The Terminal Archaic, which lasted from ca., 3,700 to 2,700 BP, is perhaps the most interesting, yet confusing of the Archaic Periods in southern New England precontact period. Originally termed the "Transitional Archaic" by Witthoft (1953) and recognized by the introduction of technological innovations, e.g., broadspear projectile points and soapstone bowls, the Terminal Archaic has long posed problems for regional archeologists. While the Narrow-Stemmed Tradition persisted through the Terminal Archaic and into the Early Woodland Period, the Terminal Archaic is coeval with what appears to be a different technological adaptation, the Susquehanna Tradition (McBride 1984; Ritchie 1969b). The Susquehanna Tradition is recognized in southern New England by the presence of a new stone tool industry that was based on the use of high-quality raw materials for stone tool production and a settlement pattern different from the "coeval" Narrow-Stemmed Tradition.

The Susquehanna Tradition is based on the classification of several Broadspear projectile point types and associated artifacts. There are several local sequences within the tradition, and they are based on projectile point type chronology. Temporally diagnostic projectile points of these sequences include the Snook Kill, Susquehanna Broadspear, Mansion Inn, and Orient Fishtail types (Lavin 1984; McBride 1984; Pfeiffer 1984). The initial portion of the Terminal Archaic Period (ca., 3,700-3,200 BP) is characterized by the presence of Snook Kill and Susquehanna Broadspear projectile points while the latter Terminal Archaic (3,200-2,700 BP) is distinguished by Orient Fishtail projectile points (McBride 1984:119; Ritchie 1971).

In addition, it was during the late Terminal Archaic that interior cord marked, grit tempered, thick-walled ceramics with conoidal (pointed) bases made their initial appearance in the Native American toolkit. These are the first ceramics in the region, and they are named Vinette I (Ritchie 1969a; Snow 1980:242); this type of ceramic vessel appears with much more frequency during the ensuing Early Woodland Period. In addition, the adoption and widespread use of soapstone bowls, as well as the implementation of subterranean storage, suggests that Terminal Archaic groups were characterized by reduced mobility and longer-term use of established occupation sites (Snow 1980:250).

Finally, while settlement patterns appeared to have changed, Terminal Archaic subsistence patterns were analogous to earlier patterns. The subsistence pattern was still diffuse in nature, and it was scheduled carefully. Typical food remains recovered from sites of this period consist of fragments of white-tailed deer, beaver, turtle, fish, and various small mammals. Botanical remains recovered from the site area consisted of *Chenopodium* sp., hickory, butternut, and walnut (Pagoulatos 1988:81). Such diversity in food remains suggests at least minimal use of a wide range of microenvironments for subsistence purposes.

Woodland Period (2,700 to 350 B.P.)

Traditionally, the advent of the Woodland Period in southern New England has been associated with the introduction of pottery; however, as mentioned above, early dates associated with pottery now suggest the presence of Vinette I ceramics appeared toward the end of the preceding Terminal Archaic Period (Ritchie 1969a; McBride 1984). Like the Archaic Period, the Woodland Period has been divided into three subperiods: Early, Middle, and Late Woodland. The various subperiods are discussed below.

<u>Early Woodland Period (ca., 2,700 to 2,000 B.P.)</u>

The Early Woodland Period of the northeastern United States dates from ca., 2,700 to 2,000 B.P., and it was thought to have been characterized by the advent of farming, the initial use of ceramic vessels, and increasingly complex burial ceremonialism (Griffin 1967; Ritchie 1969a and 1969b; Snow 1980). In the Northeast, the earliest ceramics of the Early Woodland Period are thick walled, cord marked on both the interior and exterior, and possess grit temper. Archaeological investigations of Early Woodland sites in southern New England resulted in the recovery of narrow stemmed projectile points in association with ceramic sherds and subsistence remains, including specimens of White-tailed deer, soft and hard-shell clams, and oyster shells (Lavin and Salwen: 1983; McBride 1984:296-297; Pope 1952). McBride (1984) has argued that the combination of the subsistence remains and the recognition of multiple superimposed cultural features at various sites indicates that Early Woodland Period settlement patterns were characterized by multiple re-use of the same sites on a seasonal basis by small co-residential groups.

<u>Middle Woodland Period (2,000 to 1,200 B.P.)</u>

The Middle Woodland Period is marked by an increase in the number of ceramic types and forms

utilized (Lizee 1994a), as well as an increase in the amount of exotic lithic raw material used in stone tool manufacture (McBride 1984). The latter suggests that regional exchange networks were established, and that they were used to supply local populations with necessary raw materials (McBride 1984; Snow 1980). The Middle Woodland Period is represented archaeologically by narrow stemmed and Jack's Reef projectile points; increased amounts of exotic raw materials in recovered lithic assemblages, including chert, argillite, jasper, and hornfels; and conoidal ceramic vessels decorated with dentate stamping. Ceramic types that are indicative of the Middle Woodland Period include Linear Dentate, Rocker Dentate, Windsor Cord Marked, Windsor Brushed, Windsor Plain, and Hollister Stamped (Lizee 1994a:200).

In terms of settlement patterns, the Middle Woodland Period is characterized by the occupation of village sites by large co-residential groups that utilized native plant and animal species for food and raw materials in tool making (George 1997). These sites were the principal place of occupation, and they were positioned close to major river valleys, tidal marshes, estuaries, and the coastline, all of which would have supplied an abundance of plant and animal resources (McBride 1984:309). In addition to villages, numerous temporary and task-specific sites were utilized in the surrounding upland areas, as well as in closer ecozones such as wetlands, estuaries, and floodplains. The use of temporary and task-specific sites to support large village populations indicates that the Middle Woodland Period was characterized by a resource acquisition strategy that can best be termed as logistical collection (McBride 1984:310).

Late Woodland Period (ca., 1,200 to 350 B.P.)

The Late Woodland Period in southern New England dates from ca., 1,200 to 350 B.P., and it is characterized by the earliest evidence for the use of corn in the lower Connecticut River Valley (Bendremer 1993; Bendremer and Dewar 1993; Bendremer et al. 1991; George 1997; McBride 1984); an increase in the frequency of exchange of non-local lithics (Feder 1984; George and Tryon 1996; McBride 1984; Lavin 1984); increased variability in ceramic form, function, surface treatment, and decoration (Lavin 1980, 1986, 1987; Lizee 1994a, 1994b); and a continuation of a trend towards larger, more permanent settlements in riverine, estuarine, and coastal ecozones (Dincauze 1974; McBride 1984; Snow 1980).

Stone tool assemblages associated with Late Woodland occupations, especially village-sized sites, are functionally variable and they reflect plant and animal resource processing and consumption on a large scale. Finished stone tools recovered from Late Woodland sites include Levanna and Madison projectile points; drills; side-, end-, and thumbnail scrapers; mortars and pestles; nutting stones; netsinkers; and celts, adzes, axes, and digging tools. These tools were used in activities ranging from hide preparation to plant processing to the manufacture of canoes, bowls, and utensils, as well as other settlement and subsistence-related items (McBride 1984; Snow 1980). Finally, ceramic assemblages recovered from Late Woodland sites are as variable as the lithic assemblages. Ceramic types identified include Windsor Fabric Impressed, Windsor Brushed, Windsor Cord Marked, Windsor Plain, Clearview Stamped, Sebonac Stamped, Selden Island, Hollister Plain, Hollister Stamped, and Shantok Cove Incised (Lavin 1980, 1988a, 1988b; Lizee 1994a; Pope 1953; Rouse 1947; Salwen and Ottesen 1972; Smith 1947). These types are more stylistically diverse than their predecessors with incision, shell stamping, punctation, single point, linear dentate, rocker dentate stamping, and stamp and drag impressions common (Lizee 1994a:216).

Summary of Connecticut's Precontact Era

The precontact era of Connecticut spans from ca. 13,000 to 350 B.P., and it is characterized by numerous changes in tool types, subsistence patterns, and land use strategies. Much of this era is

characterized by local Native American groups who practiced a subsistence pattern based on a mixed economy of hunting and gathering plant and animal resources. It is not until the Late Woodland Period that incontrovertible evidence for the use of domesticated species is available. Further, settlement patterns throughout the precontact period shifted from seasonal occupations of small co-residential groups to large aggregations of people in riverine, estuarine, and coastal ecozones. In terms of the region that includes the proposed project area, a variety of precontact site types may be expected, ranging from seasonal camps utilized by Paleo-Indian and Archaic populations to temporary and task-specific sites of the Woodland era.

CHAPTER IV
POST-EUROPEAN CONTACT PERIOD OVERVIEW

Introduction

The proposed Fawn Meadow Solar Center is located on 36 acres of land to the west of Orchard Avenue in the town of Woodbury in Litchfield County, Connecticut. Settled in 1673, Woodbury originally encompassed a large territory and included the modern towns of Southbury, Roxbury, and Bethlehem, as well as parts of Washington and Middlebury. While agriculture dominated Woodbury for most of its history, the town eventually became a residential suburb. This chapter presents a brief overview of the history of Litchfield County and the town of Woodbury, as well as data specific to the proposed project area.

Litchfield County

Litchfield County was founded in 1751 with land drawn from Fairfield, New Haven, and Hartford Counties (Hoadly 1877). Located in the northwest corner of Connecticut, it is bounded to the south by New Haven and Fairfield Counties, to the east by Hartford County, to the north by Berkshire and Hampden Counties, Massachusetts, and to the west by Dutchess County, New York. Litchfield County is the largest county in Connecticut by total area. Its landscape includes rocky hills adjacent to the Berkshire Mountains, including Bear Mountain, the highest peak in Connecticut, interspersed with flat lands and watersheds. Important bodies of water associated with Litchfield County include the Housatonic River, Naugatuck River, Candlewood Lake, Barkhamsted Reservoir, Lake Waramaug, in addition to smaller un-named streams and ponds. Torrington is the only city in Litchfield County and the most populous location in the county (Connecticut 2021).

Woodland Period to the Seventeenth Century

During the Woodland Period of northeastern North American history (ca., 3,000 to 500 years ago), the Indigenous peoples who resided along the shoreline in central Connecticut were part of the greater Algonquian culture of northeastern North America (Lavin 2013). They spoke local variations of Southern New England Algonquian (SNEA) languages and lived in extended kinship groups on lands they maintained for a variety of horticultural and resource extraction purposes (Goddard 1978). Indigenous people in the region practiced subsistence activities including hunting, fowling, and fishing, along with the cultivation of various crops, the most important of which were maize, squash, and beans. They supplemented these foods seasonally by collecting shellfish, fruits, and plants during warmer periods, and gathering nuts, roots, and tubers during colder times. In addition , these communities came together in large groups to hunt deer in the fall and winter. Indigenous peoples lived with their immediate or extended families in large settlements, often concentrated along rivers and/or wetlands. Some villages were fortified by wooden palisades. Their habitation, known as a *weetu* or *wigwam*, was usually constructed of a tree-sapling frame and covered in reed matting during warm months and tree bark throughout the winter. These varied in size from a small, individual dwelling, to an expansive “long house,” which could accommodate several families. Native communities commonly traded among their immediate neighbors and often maintained long-distance networks (Lavin 2013). Southwestern Connecticut was the territory of the Pootatuck and Paugussett tribes. The domain of these groups ran from the coast of Long Island Sound to as far northward as present-day Waterbury and Woodbury.

In 1633, the Pequot allowed the Dutch to build a fortified trading post on the Connecticut River at the site of present-day Hartford to further cement both parties' domination over the flow of wampum, fur, and trade goods. To break from the Pequot, several Connecticut River sachems invited the English to settle in the Connecticut River Valley (Van Dusen 1961). Increased European interaction resulted in exposure to diseases and epidemics Indigenous people had never encountered and to which they had no natural immunity. Illnesses such as smallpox, measles, tuberculosis, and cholera devastated Indigenous communities (Lavin 2013). In 1633, an epidemic spread through the region impacting the Pequot and may have spread among the Quinnipiac as well. Additionally, tensions between Native and European groups laying claim to the Connecticut River resulted in the death of several colonial traders between 1634 and 1636, which the Pequot were assumed responsible. In retaliation, English forces from Massachusetts Bay destroyed Pequot and Nehantic villages on the Pequot (Thames) River in August 1636 which began the Pequot War. The Pequot laid siege to Saybrook Fort at the mouth of the Connecticut River during the winter of 1636-1637 and attacked Wethersfield in April 1637 further upriver. Connecticut Colony declared war on the Pequot and were joined by Native warriors from the Connecticut River and Mohegans under the Sachem Uncas (Oberg 2006). In May 1637, English allied forces destroyed the fortified Pequot village at Mistick which proved to be the turning point of the war. Pequot refugees fled west with their Sachem, Sassacus. English forces gave chase, making landfall at Quinnipiac and pursuing them west through present-day New Haven County (Cave 1996). In July 1637, the Pequot were defeated in present-day Fairfield and the war soon came to an end. After the war, the Connecticut English claimed Pequot territory as conquered lands for their newly established colony.

In January of 1639 the river towns adopted the "fundamental orders" which outlined the framework for the self-governed Connecticut Colony, separate from Massachusetts Bay or Plimoth (Trumbull 1886). Soon after, Connecticut Colony joined with Massachusetts Bay, Plimoth, and New Haven Colonies to form the United Colonies of New England in 1643 for mutual defense against regional threats. In 1662, Governor John Winthrop, Jr. obtained a royal charter from King Charles II to legitimize the existence of Connecticut Colony in the English Empire. Hartford County was established in 1666 as one of the four original counties and consisted of the towns of Windsor, Wethersfield, Hartford, Farmington (1645), and Middletown (1651) (Barry 1985).

While there is a dearth of data on the early Native populations, land transfers shed some light on the Indigenous peoples of Connecticut. English colonists purchased the Woodbury territory, called Pomperaug, from the local Native Americans, though the English concept of land ownership differed from that of the natives. In 1659, a group of "Pagasset" Native Americans sold a vast amount of land in the area that became Woodbury, though members of the Pootatuck tribe occupied that area. In 1673, the colonists paid Pootatuck leaders for a large section of land flanking the Pomperaug River and continued to make additional purchases of land until 1706. A substantial portion on the north bank of the Pootatuck River was kept back from these sales as a reservation. The Pootatucks who remained in the area began selling off this reservation in 1729, making subsequent sales in 1733 and 1734. The remaining land, which only a few people occupied, was finally sold, and then abandoned in 1758 (Cothren 1854). These types of land sales that drove Native Americans from their ancestral lands to settle elsewhere were common occurrences in colonial Connecticut. The territory of Woodbury originally stretched as far south as the Housatonic River and as far north as the northern border of Bethlehem. Woodbury was established by colonists from the coastal town of Stratford who chose to relocate because of religious differences, and in 1673, they established their new community and made their first land purchase in what became Woodbury (Cothren 1854).

Eighteenth through Nineteenth Century

Early settlers focused mostly on subsistence farming, while others raised sheep as well. Apple orchards were commonplace throughout the area and locals also raised flax and clover, producing cloth, twine, linseed oil, and clover seed for market. The Roxbury area proved to be an abundant mine and quarry location and yielded iron used to make steel, stone for hearthstones, and quartz that was ground down for a variety of uses (Ancient Woodbury Tercentennial Committee 1959). By 1774, there were 5,313 residents in Woodbury, after which the town experienced a series of separations. Slavery existed in Litchfield County, including in Woodbury, although it was uncommon in the seventeenth century, and by the eighteenth century it was primarily practiced by wealthy families, merchants, and ministers in larger towns (Hurd 1881; Orcutt 1886; Rockey 1892). The 1774 Connecticut colonial census for the Town of Woodbury recorded a "White" population of 5,224, with 89 African Americans and 9 Native Americans, although the number of enslaved individuals was not noted (Hoadly 1887). In 1779, the northwestern corner of the territory became the southern section of the town of Washington.

During the American Revolution (1775-1783), Connecticut played an important role in the process of recruiting soldiers, supplying food stores, and providing a variety of military goods for the war effort. Throughout the war, the Connecticut shoreline suffered from raids from Long Island-based loyalists who would take cattle and sheep to sell in British New York. In 1779, several western Connecticut shoreline towns were invaded in what became known as "Tryon's Raid." British troops looted and set fire to the towns before reembarking (Lambert 1838; Van Dusen 1961). Meanwhile, some Connecticut towns housed populations supportive to the British cause, including the Tory strongholds of Woodbury and Waterbury (Van Dusen 1961). Of note, the Town of Woodbury offered freedom to any enslaved individuals who fought in the Revolutionary Army; 25 African American men from town then joined the fighting forces (Lewis 1881). After the Revolution, the region recovered from wartime economic disruptions thanks to its robust agricultural production and maritime trade. In 1784, the State passed a gradual manumission law, but slavery was not fully abolished until 1848 (Normen 2013). On January 9, 1788, Connecticut ratified the U.S. Constitution to become the fifth state (Van Dusen 1961). In 1787, the new towns of Bethlehem and Southbury were created from Woodbury's northernmost and southernmost portions, reducing its population to 2,662 residents as of 1790. The town of Roxbury separated in 1796 and Woodbury's population fell further to 1,944 inhabitants as of 1800 (Connecticut 2021, 2023a).

Nineteenth through Twenty-first Centuries

The growth and development of towns in the early nineteenth century created a need for better roads. This work was taken up by private corporations who established toll-funded turnpikes throughout the state. Two of these were built through Woodbury as of 1803. The Washington Turnpike ran from the center of Woodbury to the northwest, to the center of Washington. The Middle Road Turnpike ran from southwest to northeast through central Woodbury on a route from Danbury to Hartford (Wood 1919). The purpose of these roads was to promote commerce and industry in the region, and to some extent they had that effect. As of 1819, Woodbury's agriculture focused on grains and tree fruits, especially apples. The town also had timber resources and three good mill streams, which supported a handful of tinware factories, fulling mills, grist mills, tanneries, and wool carding machines (Pease and Niles 1819). By the 1850s, Woodbury had numerous factories making a variety of products, including textiles, leather and leather goods, cigars, buttons, thimbles, cabinets, and spectacles (United States Census Bureau 1850). Woodbury was also known as the cutlery capital of the state, due to the number of producers in town (Ancient Woodbury Tercentennial Committee 1959). Despite these various industrial endeavors, the town did not experience significant growth and the population fluctuated throughout the second half of the nineteenth century. In 1850, Woodbury had 2,150 residents and by 1890 there were 1,815

(Connecticut 2023b; Table 1). One key factor in Woodbury's lack of growth was that no railroads entered the town (Turner and Jacobus 1989). Without access to this efficient and relatively inexpensive transport option, in the long run Woodbury's industries could not compete with those located elsewhere. Additionally, rocky soil and the exodus of Connecticut farmers to the western territory of Ohio kept the population low (Stiles 1959).

As of the early twentieth century, Woodbury was a farming community with limited industrial facilities, which primarily consisted of manufacturing shears and cutlery (Connecticut 1910). The town's population continued to fluctuate during the early decades, never reaching 2,000 inhabitants, mostly because of the limited economic opportunities for residents (Connecticut 2023c). Around mid-century, the population increased dramatically due to the suburbanization trend when many people moved out of cities. As part of the changing demographics in town, Woodbury became a center for Surrealist artists (Hodara 2021). While in 1940, the town had 1,998 residents, by 1970 the population had risen to 5,869 (Table 1; Connecticut 2021c, 2021d). At that time, Woodbury had moved away from agriculture and machine shops were the most prominent industry (Connecticut 1970). Woodbury's population continued to increase as the town became a residential suburb. By 2021, Woodbury had 9,562 residents and the largest employment sector in town was retail, with nearly 20 percent of jobs (AdvanceCT and CTData Collaborative 2021). While there are small mining, industrial, and agricultural areas, most of the town's landscape consists of residential houses. In terms of future growth, town officials intend to focus on attracting and retaining residents to maintain the town's residential character (Woodbury 2020).

Table 1: Population of Woodbury, Connecticut 1790-2020 (Connecticut 2023a-d; USCB 2023)

Town	1790	1800	1810	1820	1830	1840	1850	1860	1870	1880	1890	1900
Woodbury, Litchfield County	2,662	1,944	1,963	1,885	2,045	1,948	2,150	2,037	1,931	2,149	1,815	1,988
	1910	**1920**	**1930**	**1940**	**1950**	**1960**	**1970**	**1980**	**1990**	**2000**	**2010**	**2020**
	1,860	1,698	1,744	1,998	2,564	3,910	5,869	6,942	8,131	9,198	9,975	9,726

History of the Project Area

During the nineteenth century, the area for the proposed solar project was a largely agricultural landscape near the northern border of Woodbury and to the west of a more residential area of settlement that included a school. An 1859 map indicates that the project area was located directly to the north of a property owned by J. Judson, likely Joseph Judson, one of the earliest settlers in Woodbury. Judson was a common surname in the town in the nineteenth century, as is evidenced by the numerous landowners in the vicinity named Judson (Figure 4; 1859 map; Cothren 1854). By 1874, the region was mostly unchanged and the project area was in what was then considered the "Nonnewaug District" of town (Figure 5; 1874 map). The property of J. Judson was no longer listed, but those of G. N. Judson and R. B. Judson were closest to the project area. The documentary record suggests that these individuals were George N. Judson and Rodrick B. Judson, both farmers (USCB 1870a-b). This confirms the use of the land for agricultural purposes throughout the nineteenth century.

Throughout the twentieth century, the region around the project area remained largely agricultural land. In 1934, the first year in which aerial photography was available, the photograph shows the project area on land that was mostly cleared agricultural land, with a small, wooded area in the northern portion of the area (Figure 6; 1934 Aerial). There were no homes or structures on the property. By 1951, the landscape remained mostly the same, although a utility corridor was evident directly to the north of the project area (Figure 7; 1951 Aerial). This was still the case in 1970, and the project area was still open agricultural land, but it was one large area by this point rather than distinctly separated fields, as was the

case in 1934 (Figure 8; 1970 Aerial). The land directly abutting the project area was becoming more wooded at this time as well and a couple widely spaced homes were present to the west of the project area. The project area itself still did not have standing structures within it. This trend of increasingly wooded land near the project area continued, as seen in the aerial photography from 1990 (Figure 9; 1990 Aerial).

By the early twenty-first century, only slight development was noted near the project area, while the project area remained cleared land. In 2004, roughly 8 more widely spread single-family homes were constructed to the south of the project area (Figure 10; 2004 Aerial). By 2019, the aerial photography shows that an access road was constructed to the east of the project area which enters the southern portion of the area (Figure 11; 2019 aerial). Few other changes were made at this time.

Conclusions

The documentary research investigation indicates that the location of the proposed Fawn Meadow Solar Center to the west of Orchard Avenue in Woodbury is unlikely to be associated with any post-European Contact period cultural resources. Due to the landscape mainly consisting of agricultural fields, there is the possibility of encountering remains of outbuildings, stone walls, or other evidence of farming.

CHAPTER V
PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

Introduction

This chapter presents an overview of previous cultural resources research completed within the vicinity of the project area in Woodbury, Connecticut. This discussion provides the comparative data necessary for assessing the results of the current Phase IA cultural resources assessment survey, and it ensures that the potential impacts to all previously recorded cultural resources located within and adjacent to the project area are taken into consideration. Specifically, this chapter reviews previously identified archaeological sites, and National/State Register of Historic Places properties situated in the project region (Figures 12 and 13). The discussions presented below are based on information currently on file at the CT-SHPO in Hartford, Connecticut. In addition, the electronic site files maintained by Heritage were examined during this investigation. Both the quantity and quality of the information contained in the original cultural resources survey reports and State of Connecticut archaeological site forms are reflected below.

Previously Recorded Archaeological Sites, National/State Register of Historic Places Properties/District, and Inventoried Historic Standing Structure in the Vicinity of the Project Area

A review of data currently on file at the CT-SHPO, as well as the electronic site files maintained by Heritage, did not detect any previously identified archaeological sites or National Register of Historic places properties/districts located within 1.6 km (1 mi) of the project area (Figure 12). A total of two Connecticut State Register of Historic Places properties, the Van Vleck Farm State Register Area and one eighteenth century Saltbox Residence were also identified within 1.6 km (1 mi) of the project area (Figure 13). These two resources are described below.

Van Vleck Farm State Register Area

The Van Vleck Farm is also referred to as the Flanders Nature Center and Land Trust, and it is located at 596 Flanders Road in Woodbury, Connecticut (Figure 13). The nature center was listed on the SRHP in 2014. Built by Thomas Judson in 1786 and purchased by the Van Vlecks in 1926, it is a center chimney Cape style house with a lean-to and long ell added to the rear. From the slight double pitch of the lean-to, it is apparent that the Van Vleck House was built in two sections. The main block was constructed with a double plate with a slight overhang across the façade; the overhang extends over both end elevations. At the time of its listing, it was considered to be exceptionally well preserved and it is one of the best examples of post-Revolutionary domestic architecture in Woodbury. The state register area consists of the Van Vleck House, which was constructed in 1786 and is situated on the northeast corner of the intersection of Flanders Road and Church Hill Road. To the east of the house is a small saltbox studio that was built in 1929. To the north is a barn complex (c. 1790). To the south of the Van Vleck House, across Church Hill Road is the South Farm House (1840). Directly to the east of the South Farm House is an English style barn (c. 1840). Further to the east, off Church Hill Road and set within the woodland is the sugar house which was constructed c. 2002. To the north of the sugar house, across the street (Church Hill Road) is the Trail House (1964). The state register area is located approximately 750 meters (2,461 feet) to the southwest of the project area and will not be impacted by the proposed construction.

c. 1750-1770 Saltbox Residence

The eighteenth century Colonial style saltbox residence is located at the northeast corner of Falls Road and Hickory Lane in Bethlehem, Connecticut (Figure 13). The home was recorded in July of 1966 by John Beringer of the Connecticut Historical Commission. Mr. Beringer described the house as a two-story

wood frame with a five window front with stone chimney stack. The house was restored in 1937. The Saltbox residence is located approximately 1.6 km (1 m) to the northeast of the project area; it will not be directly impacted by the proposed construction.

Summary and Interpretations

As noted earlier in this chapter, Heritage did not detect any previously identified archaeological sites located within 1.6 km (1 mi) of the project area, however, this could be due to a lack of professional surveys completed in the area. A total of two post-European Contact period properties from the Colonial Period and later also exist in the project region; therefore, additional post-European Contact period cultural resources may be located in the project area.

CHAPTER VI
METHODS

Introduction

This chapter describes the research design and field methodology used to complete the Phase IA cultural resources assessment survey of the project parcel in Woodbury, Connecticut. The following tasks were completed during this investigation: 1) study of the region's precontact era, post-European Contact period, and natural settings; 2) a literature search to identify and discuss previously recorded cultural resources in the area encompassing the project parcel; 3) a review of post-European Contact period maps, topographic quadrangles, and aerial imagery depicting the project parcel in order to identify potential post-European Contact period resources and/or areas of past disturbance; and 4) pedestrian survey and photo-documentation of the project parcel in order to determine its archaeological sensitivity. These methods are in keeping with those required by the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office in the document entitled: *Environmental Review Primer for Connecticut's Archaeological Resources* (Poirier 1987).

Research Framework

The current Phase IA cultural resources assessment survey was designed to identify and assess the archaeological sensitivity of the project area, as well as to visually examine the area and record any previously unidentified cultural resources during pedestrian survey. The undertaking was comprehensive in nature, and project planning took into consideration the distribution of previously recorded cultural resources located within the project region, as well as the visual assessment of the project area. The methods used to complete this investigation were designed to provide coverage of all portions of the project area. The fieldwork portion of this undertaking entailed pedestrian survey, photo-documentation, and mapping (see below).

Archival Research & Literature Review

Background research for this project included a review of a variety of maps depicting the project area; an examination of USGS 7.5' series topographic quadrangles; an examination of aerial images dating from 1934 through 2019; and a review of all archaeological sites, National and State Register of Historic Places, and inventoried historic standing structures on file with the CT-SHPO, as well as electronic cultural resources data maintained by Heritage. The intent of this review was to identify all previously recorded cultural resources situated within and immediately adjacent to the project area and to provide a natural and cultural context for the project region. This information was used to develop the archaeological context of the project area and to assess its sensitivity with respect to the potential for producing intact cultural resources.

Field Methodology and Data Synthesis

Heritage performed fieldwork for the Phase IA cultural resources assessment survey of the project area with the proposed solar project in Woodbury, Connecticut in September of 2023. This included pedestrian survey, photo-documentation, and mapping. During the completion of the pedestrian survey, representatives from Heritage photo-documented all potential areas of impact using digital media.

CHAPTER VII
RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION & MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Introduction

This chapter presents the results of the Phase IA cultural resources assessment survey of the project area in Woodbury, Connecticut, as well as management recommendations for the proposed Facility. As stated in the introductory section of this report, the investigation involved the following tasks: 1) a contextual overview of the region's precontact, post-European contact, and natural settings (e.g., soils, ecology, hydrology, etc.); 2) a literature search to identify and discuss previously recorded archaeological and cultural resources in the project region; 3) a review of readily available maps and aerial imagery depicting the project area in order to identify potential post-European Contact period resources and/or areas of past disturbance; 4) pedestrian survey and photo-documentation of the facility area to determine its archaeological sensitivity; and 5) preparation of the current Phase IA cultural resources assessment survey report.

Overall Sensitivity of the Proposed Facility

The field data associated with soils, slopes, aspect, distance to water, and previous disturbance collected during the pedestrian survey and presented above was used in conjunction with the analysis of historical maps, aerial images, and data regarding previously identified archaeological sites and National and State Register of Historic Places properties, and inventoried historical standing structures to stratify the Facility area into zones of no/low or moderate/high archaeological sensitivity. In general, post-European Contact period archaeological sites are relatively easy to identify on the current landscape because the features associated with them tend to be relatively permanent constructions that extend above the ground surface (i.e., stone foundations, pens, wells, privies, etc.). Archaeological sites dating from the precontact era, on the other hand, are less often identified during pedestrian survey because they are buried, and predicting their locations relies more on the analysis and interpretation of environmental factors that would have informed Native American site choices.

With respect to the potential for identifying precontact era archaeological sites, the project area was divided into areas of no/low, moderate, and/or high archaeological potential by analyzing the landform types, slope, aspect, soils contained within them, and their distance to water. In general, areas located less than 300 meters (1,000 feet) from a freshwater source and that contain slopes of less than 8 percent and well-drained soils possess a high potential for producing precontact era archaeological deposits. Those areas located between 300 and 600 meters (1,000 and 2,000 feet) from a freshwater source and well drained soils are considered moderate probability areas. This is in keeping with broadly based interpretations of precontact era settlement and subsistence models that are supported by decades of previous archaeological research throughout the region. It is also expected that there may be variability of precontact site types found in the moderate/high sensitivity zones. For example, large Woodland period village sites and Archaic period seasonal camps may be expected along large river floodplains and near stream/river confluences, while smaller temporary or task specific sites may be expected on level areas with well-drained soils that are situated more than 300 meters (1,000 feet) but less than 600 meters (2,000 feet) from a water source. Finally, steeply sloping areas, poorly drained soils, or areas of previous disturbance are generally deemed to retain a no/low archaeological sensitivity with respect to their potential to contain precontact era archaeological sites.

In addition, the potential for a given area to yield evidence of post-European Contact period archaeological deposits is based not only the above-defined landscape features but also on the presence or absence of previously identified post-European Contact period archaeological resources as identified during previous archaeological surveys, recorded on historical maps, or captured in aerial images of the region under study. In this case, proposed development areas that are situated within 100 meters (328 feet) of a previously identified post-European Contact period archaeological site, a National or State Register of Historic Places district/individually listed property, or an area that contains known post-European Contact period buildings also may be deemed to retain a moderate/high archaeological sensitivity. In contrast, those areas situated over 100 meters (328 feet) from any of the above-referenced properties would be considered to retain a no/low post-European Contact period archaeological sensitivity.

Results of Phase IA Survey and Management Recommendations

Heritage personnel conducted a pedestrian survey of the proposed project area in September of 2023. The pedestrian survey was supplemented by mapping and photo-documentation (Figure 14 and Photos 1 through 11). The project area is situated at elevations at approximately 750 m (2,461 ft) NGVD. At the time of the pedestrian survey, the project area was accessed via Fawn Meadow Lane, and vegetation consisted of a mixture of open grassy areas and wooded areas. The predominant soil types located noted throughout the project parcel are Canton-Charlton and Paxton-Montauk soils which are well-drained loamy soils. Where they are not disturbed, these types of soils are generally well correlated with both post-European Contact period and precontact era archaeological site locations.

The results of the pedestrian survey indicate that the project area is primarily characterized by an open grassy field with slightly rolling topography and wooded areas in the north. The project area is located in close proximity to Harvey Brook to the west, Nonnewaug River, and the Housatonic River to the south. No previously identified archaeological sites were detected within 1.6 km (1 m) of the project area; however, this may be the result of a lack of professional surveys completed in the area. While no NRHP properties/districts were identified within 1.6 km (1 m) of the project area, there are two SRHP properties/areas, the Van Vleck Farm and an eighteenth century Salt Box residence nearby. Based on this combined information, it was determined that 23.36 acres of the project parcel are archaeologically sensitive for intact cultural deposits. It is recommended that the 23.36 acres be subjected to Phase IB cultural resources survey prior to the construction of the proposed solar center. Conversely, the eastern portion of the project parcel, which encompasses 12.83 acres, was defined by wetland areas, standing water, and modern disturbances associated with the construction of Fawn Meadow Lane; it was determined that the 12.83 acres is not archaeologically sensitive and no further examination of them is recommended prior to construction.

Finally, five dry laid stone walls were identified along the western and northern boundaries of the project parcel during the pedestrian survey. Specifically, the stone wall in the north, which is located at the edge of the wooded area, may have originally been associated with a wooden zig-zag style split rail fence (Figure 14 and Photos 7 through 9). In the nineteenth century, zig-zag split rail fences were often built in forested areas because they were portable and did not require posts or holes to construct them. Once the land had been cleared of trees for farming, farmers often switched to using stone in their fences. Stones were tossed against the wood zig-zag fences, and as the original wood rotted, the stones eventually took the form of the original fence (Allport 2012). It is recommended, to the extent practicable, that the stone walls be protected in place and that they be included on construction maps and marked with high visibility fencing in the field so that they are not impacted during construction.

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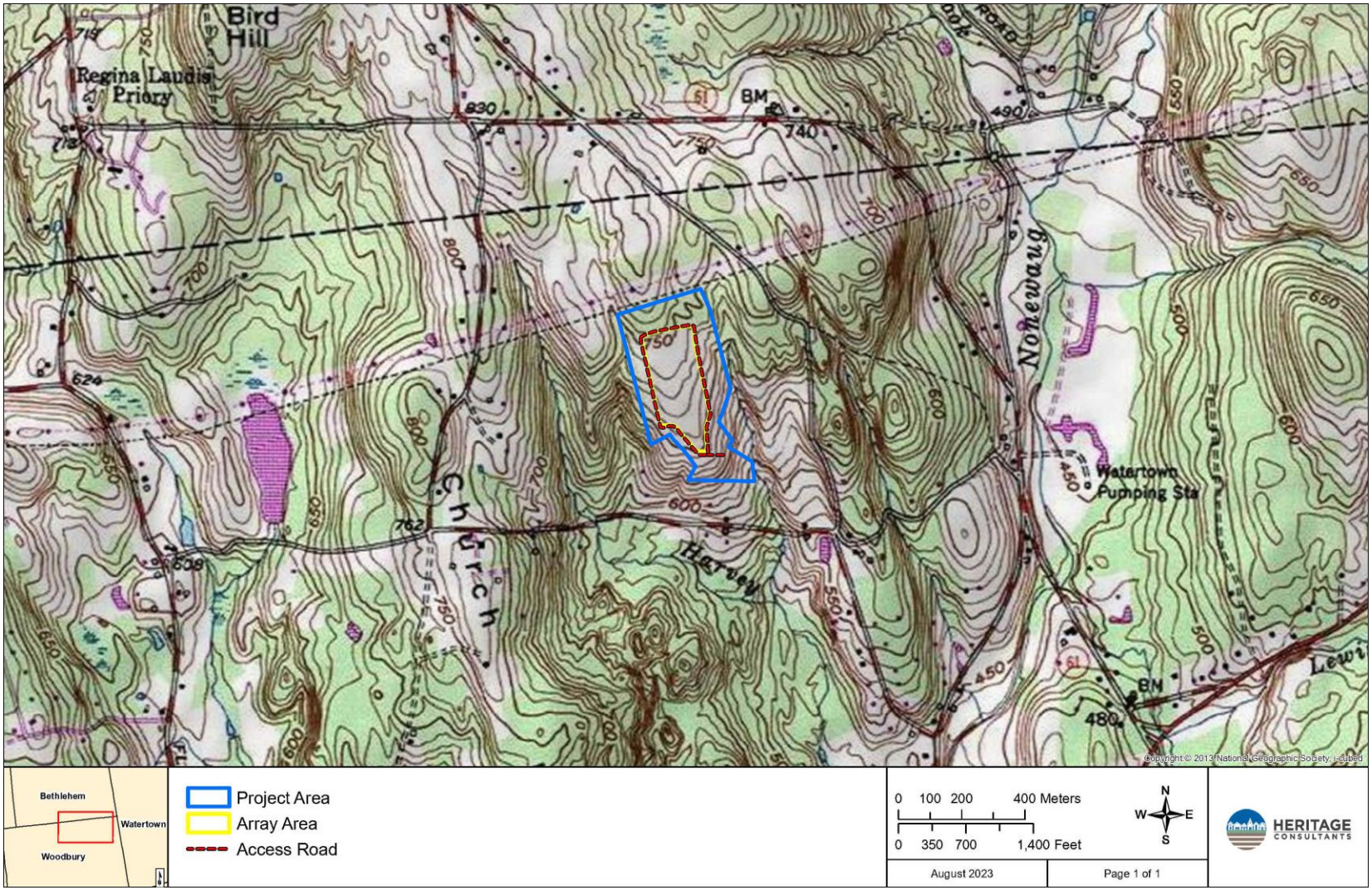
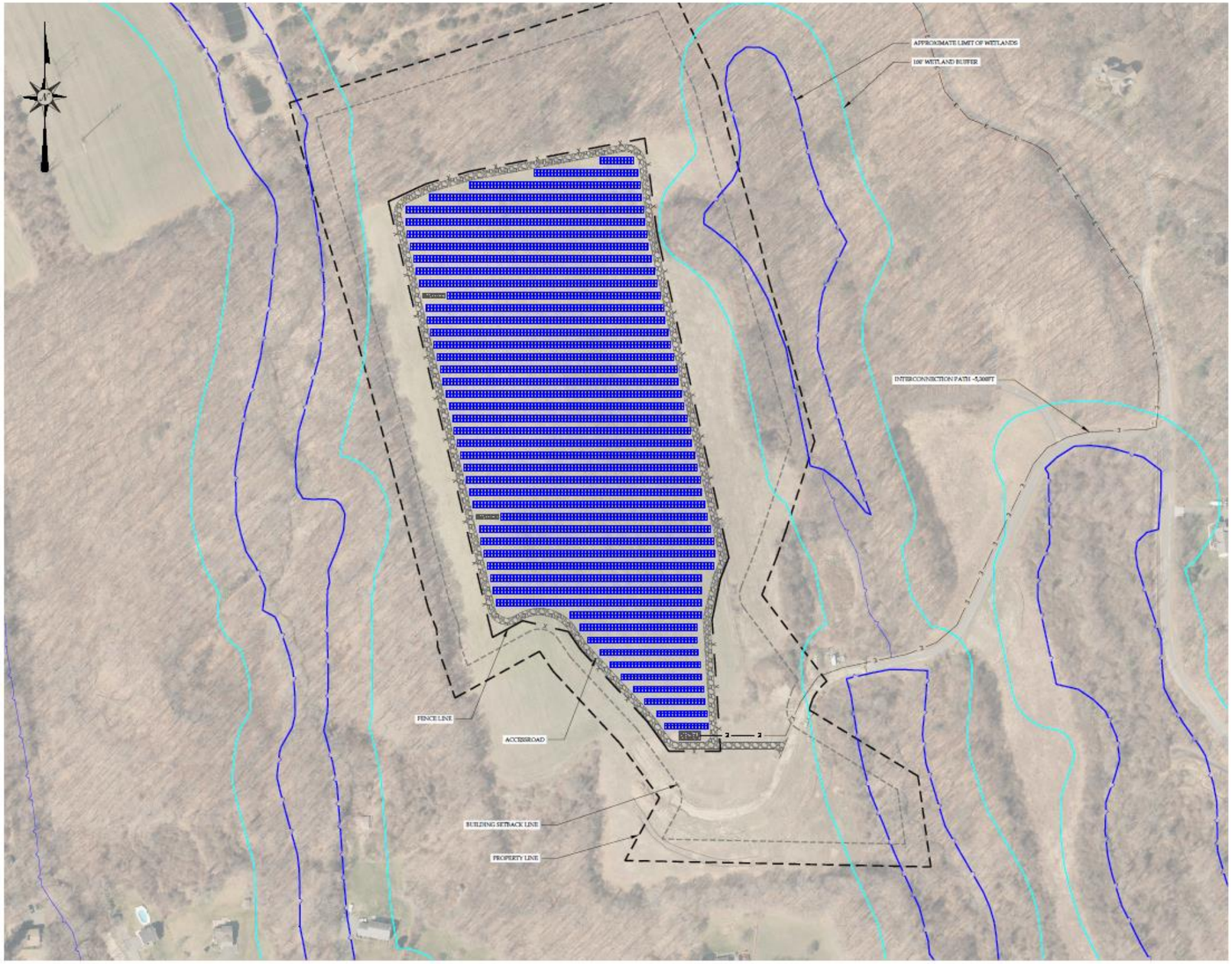


Figure 1. Excerpt from a USGS 7.5' series topographic quadrangle image showing the location of the project parcel in Woodbury, Connecticut.



GENERAL NOTES

1. BASEMAP IMAGERY OBTAINED FROM CT ECO ON 04/19/2023.
2. EXISTING SITE BOUNDARY INFORMATION PROVIDED BY ANDERSON OPTIMIZATION.
3. WETLAND & WATERCOURSE LOCATIONS PROVIDED BY CT ECO.

LEGEND:

- PROPERTY LINE
- BUILDING SETBACK LINE
- FENCE LINE
- ELECTRICAL LINE
- LIMIT OF WETLANDS
- LIMIT OF WETLAND BUFFER

SYSTEM INFORMATION

SYSTEM SIZE (DC)	5.76 MW
SYSTEM SIZE (AC)	5.00 MW
PARCEL SIZE	34 ACRES
TOTAL SYSTEM AREA	15.16 ACRES
PANEL TYPE	HELIENE 144HC M10 535W*
PANEL QUANTITY	10,764
PANEL TILT	20°
PANEL AZIMUTH	0°
ROW SPACING	13.5'
INVERTER	(60) SOLECTRIA XG3 125W*

*Preliminary equipment selection, equivalent alternative may be used in actual installation.

Rev. #	Date	Description

GREENSKIES

PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC ARRAY
FAWN MEADOW LANE
WOODBURY, CT 06798

Drawn By:	MM
Checked By:	JL
CRM ID:	19568
Plan Date:	06/22/23

SITE LAYOUT PLAN

Figure 2. Proposed project plans for the solar facility along Fawn Meadow Lane in Woodbury, Connecticut.

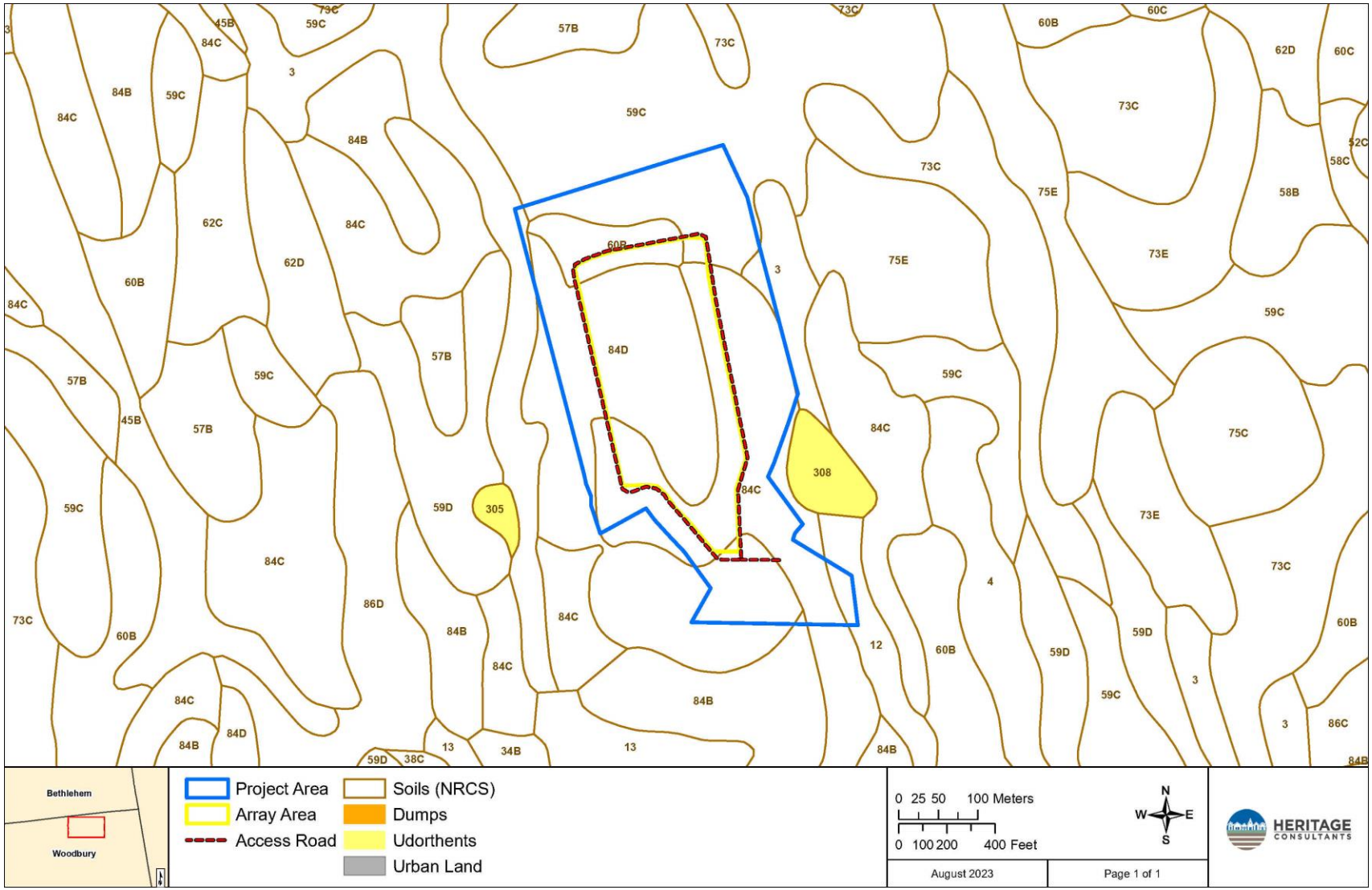
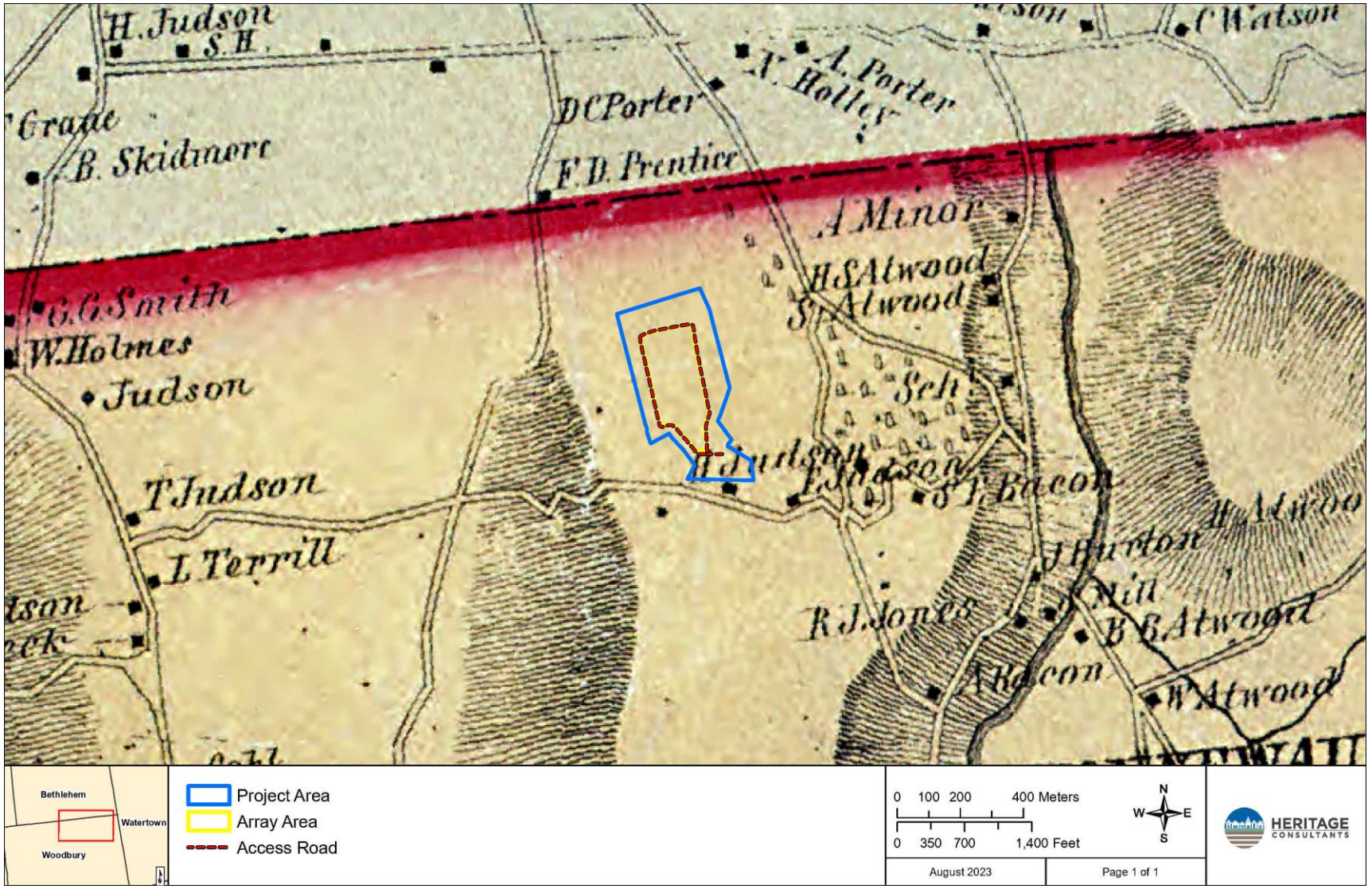


Figure 3. Digital map depicting the soil types present in the vicinity of the project parcel in Woodbury, Connecticut.



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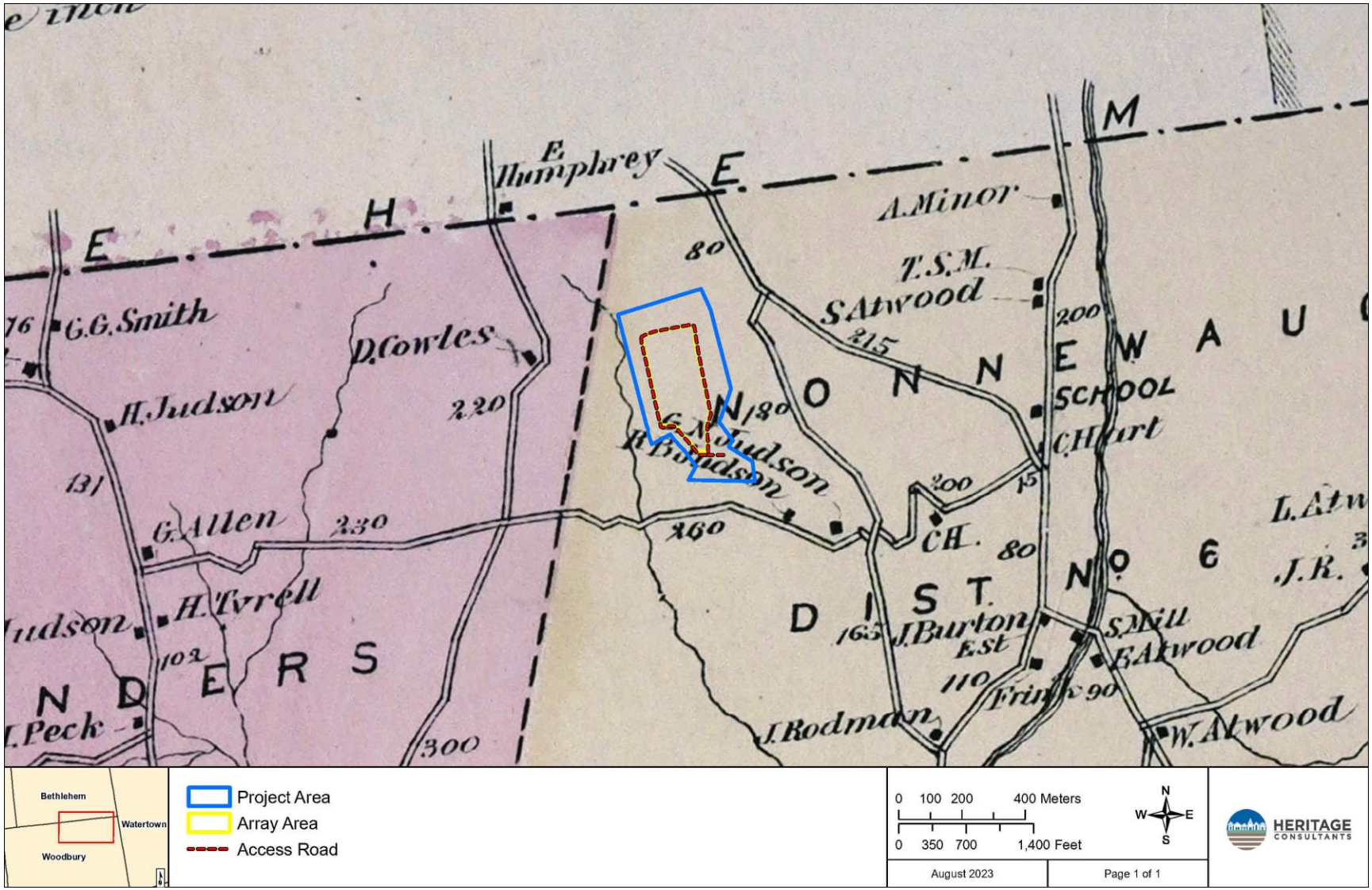

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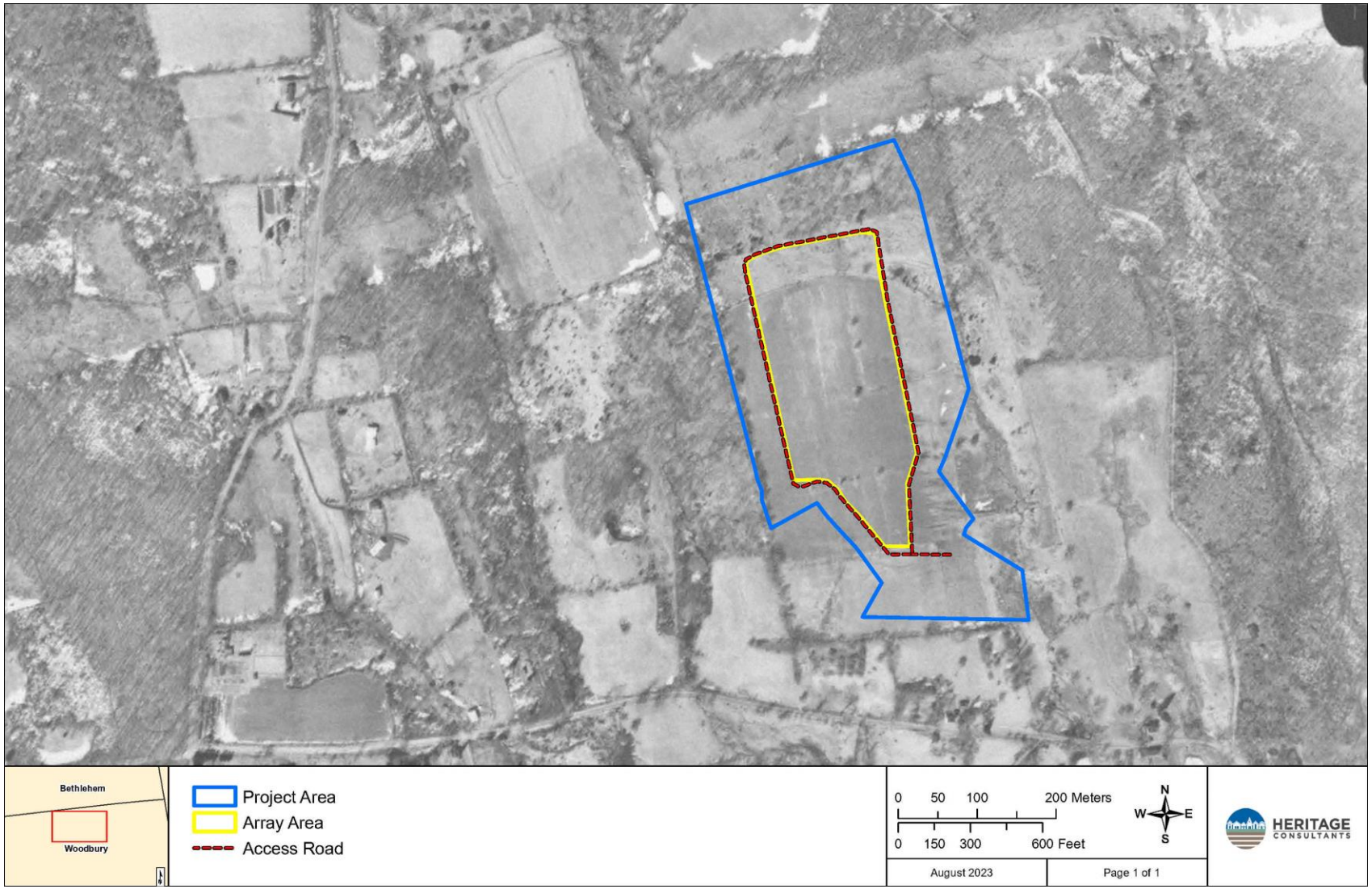

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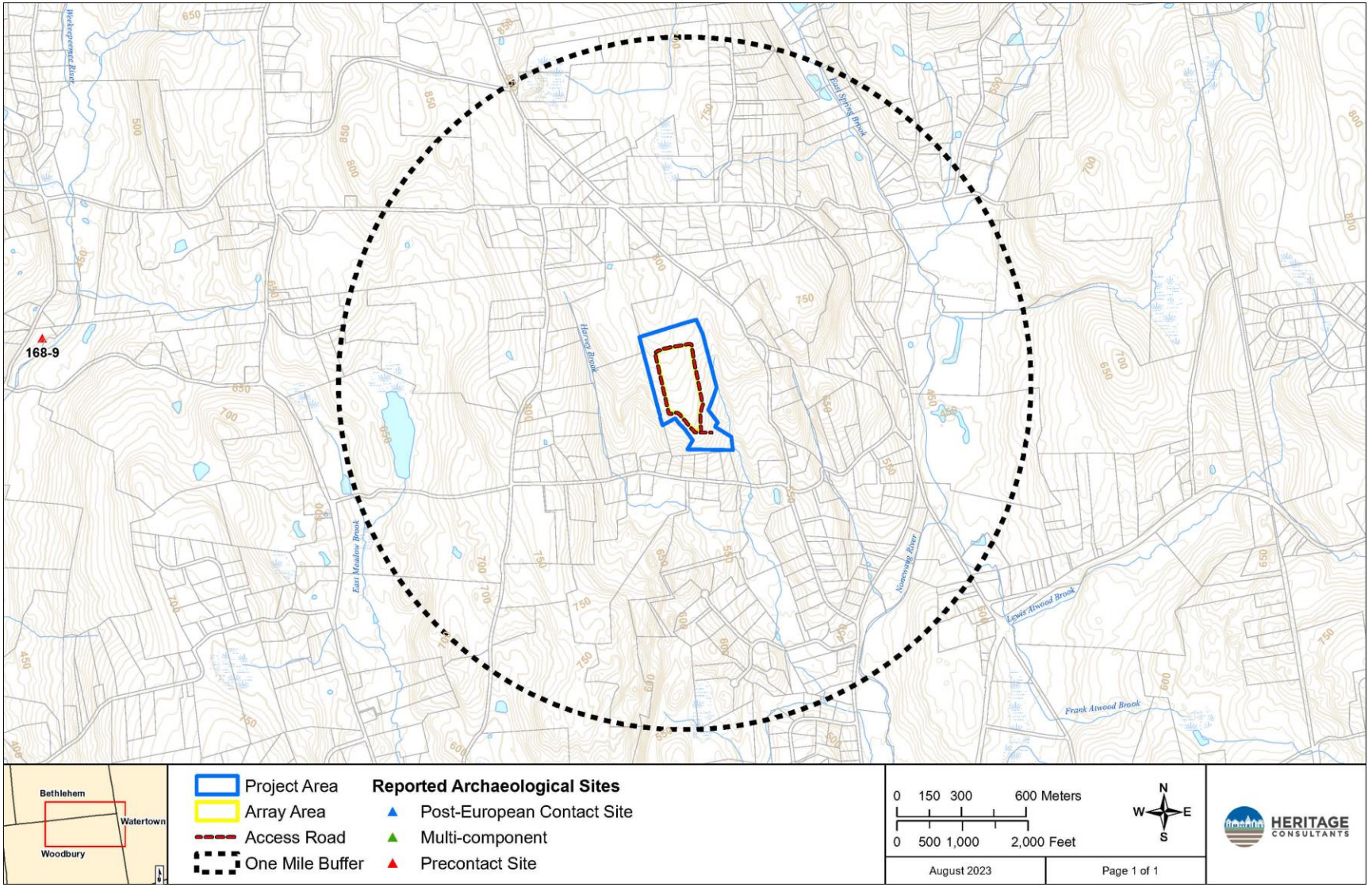

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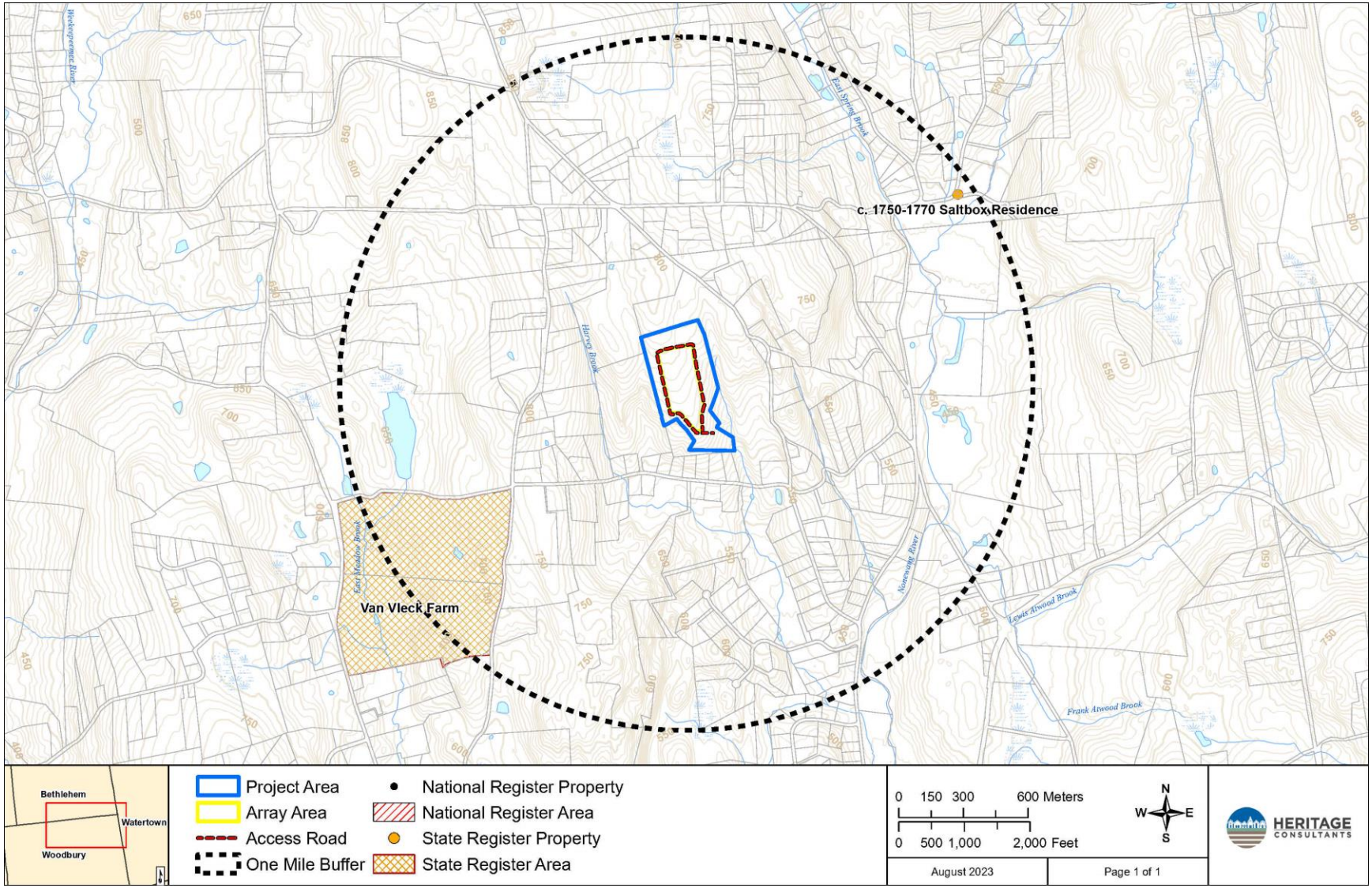

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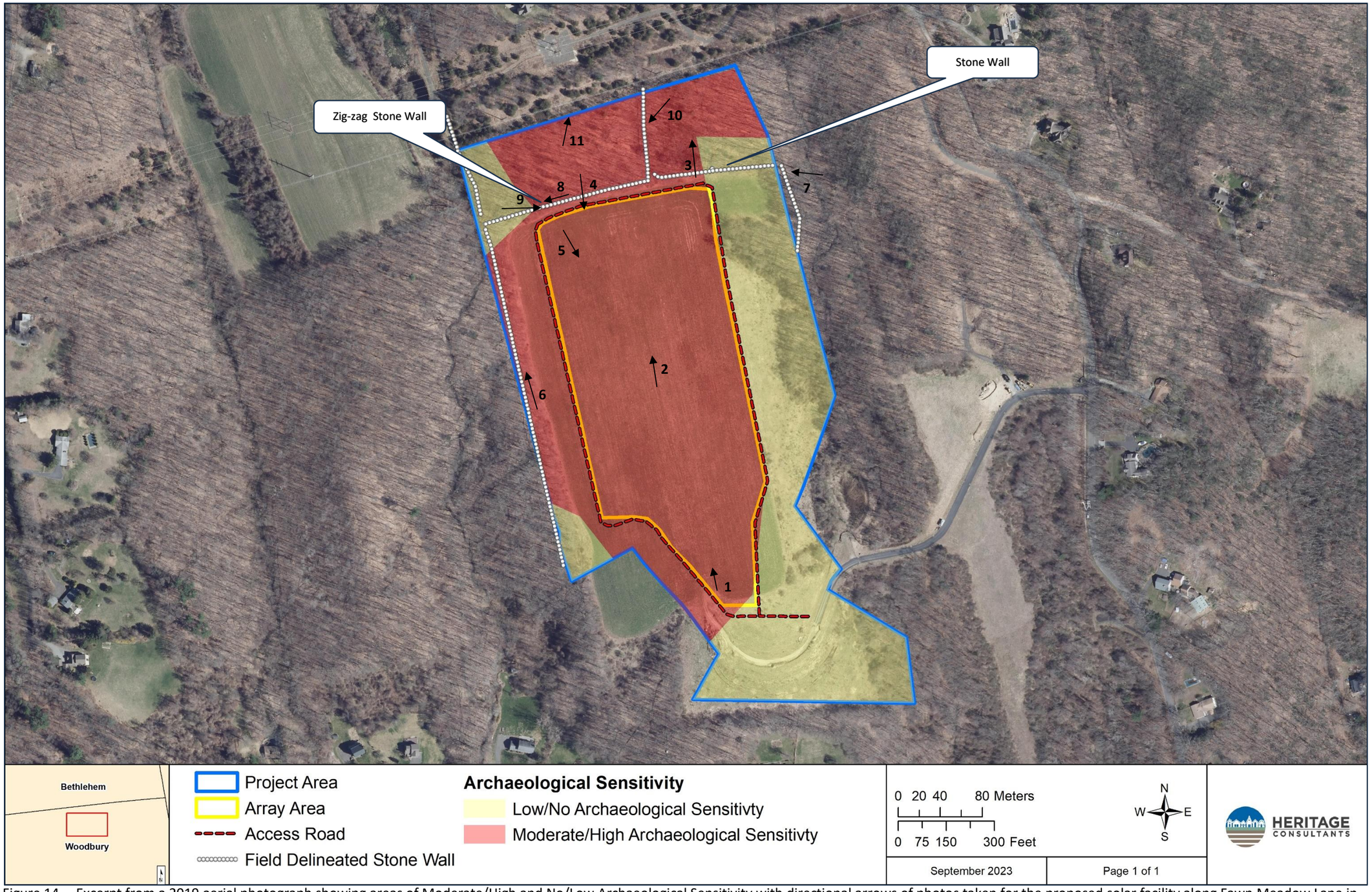

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MARCH 2024

PHASE IB CULTURAL RESOURCES RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY FOR A PROPOSED SOLAR PROJECT ALONG FAWN MEADOW ROAD IN WOODBURY, CONNECTICUT

PREPARED FOR:

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ABSTRACT

This report presents the results of the Phase IB Cultural Resources Reconnaissance survey of a proposed Fawn Meadow Solar Center in Woodbury, Connecticut. Heritage Consultants, LLC completed a previous Phase IA cultural resources assessment survey of the Project area and determined that 23.36 acres of the 36 acre project parcel retained moderate/high archaeological sensitivity. The Phase IB cultural reconnaissance survey was completed in February of 2024. A total of 69 shovel test were excavated throughout development area. Of these, two shovel tests yielded three post-European Contact Period cultural material (pieces of brick and glass shards) and one shovel test produced a two precontact era Native American artifacts (debitage and a biface). The post-European Contact period artifacts were not found in association with any features or architectural elements and were described as typical field scatter. Heritage personnel excavated four delineation pits placed at 7.5 meter (24 foot) intervals in each cardinal direction around the precontact era findspot in effort to determine if the area contained additional archaeological deposits. Despite careful investigation, no additional cultural material or evidence of cultural features were encountered during the delineation effort. Due to the lack of temporally diagnostic artifacts and/or substantial cultural deposits, the precontact era findspot was assessed as lacking research potential and the qualities of significance for listing on the National Register of Historic Places applying the criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). Therefore, no additional archaeological examination of the findspot or the remainder of the project area is recommended prior to construction.

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CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of a Phase IB Cultural Resources Reconnaissance survey of a proposed solar project (the Project) located along Fawn Meadow Lane in Woodbury, Connecticut (Figure 2). Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc., (VHB) requested that Heritage Consultants, LLC (Heritage) complete the Phase IB cultural resources reconnaissance survey to Project development. A previously conducted Phase IA cultural assessment survey indicated that 23.36 acres of the 36 acre Project area retained moderate to high archaeological sensitivity. The Phase IB survey was completed by Heritage in February of 2024. All work associated with this project was performed in accordance with the *Environmental Review Primer for Connecticut's Archaeological Resources* (Poirier 1987) promulgated by the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office (CT-SHPO).

Project Description, Methods, & Results Overview

The proposed Project will be built on a 36 acre parcel of land in Woodbury, Connecticut and will include the construction of a proposed solar array, access road, an interconnection route, fencing, and associated infrastructure (Figure 2). The Project area is situated at elevations ranging from 207 to 227 m (679 to 745 ft) NGVD. At the time of the pedestrian survey, it contained vegetation consisted of a mixture of open grassy areas and wooded areas. The Phase IB survey included shovel testing of a 23.36 acre moderate/high sensitivity area. This was is characterized by low slopes, wooded areas in the north, well-drained soils, and is in close proximity to Harvey Brook to the west, the Nonnewaug River, and the Housatonic River to the south. The field methods employed during the Phase IB survey consisted of pedestrian survey, mapping, photo-documentation, and subsurface testing throughout the archaeologically sensitive area. The details of the field methods used, as well as the results of the Phase IB survey, are reviewed below.

During survey, shovel test pits spaced at 30 meter (98.4 feet) intervals along survey transects positioned 30 meters (98.4 feet) apart. All shovel tests excavated measured 50 x 50 centimeters (19.4 x 19.4 inches) in size and were excavated until glacially derived C-Horizon soils or immovable objects (boulders, large tree roots) were encountered. Each shovel test was excavated in 10 centimeters (3.9 inches) levels within natural soil horizons, and the fill from each level was screened separately. All shovel test fill was screened through 0.635 centimeters (0.25 inches) hardware cloth and examined visually for cultural material. Soil characteristics were recorded using Munsell Soil Color Charts and standard soils nomenclature. Shovel tests were backfilled after being recorded.

The Phase IB survey effort resulted in the excavation of 69 of 69 (100 percent) planned shovel tests throughout the sensitivity area. Of these, two shovel tests yielded three post-European Contact Period cultural material (pieces of brick and glass shards) and one shovel test produced a two precontact era Native American artifacts (debitage and a biface). The post-European Contact period artifacts were not found in association with any features or architectural elements and were described as typical field scatter. Heritage personnel excavated four delineation pits placed at 7.5 meter (24 foot) intervals in each cardinal direction around the precontact era findspot in effort to determine if the area contained additional archaeological deposits. Despite careful investigation, no additional cultural material or evidence of cultural features were encountered during the delineation effort. Due to the lack of temporally diagnostic artifacts and/or substantial cultural deposits, the precontact era findspot was

assessed as lacking research potential and the qualities of significance for listing on the National Register of Historic Places applying the criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). Therefore, no additional archaeological examination of the findspot or the remainder of the project area is recommended prior to construction.

Project Personnel

Key personnel for this investigation included David R. George, M.A., RPA, (Principal Investigator), Brenna Pisanelli (Senior Project Manager, M.A.), Sam Spitzschuh, B.A, (Project Archaeologist), Jill Beihler, B.A., (Project Archaeologist); Dr. David Naumec, Ph.D. (Historian), and Tevin Jourdain, B.A., (GIS Specialist).

Chapter II
Natural Setting

Introduction

This chapter provides a brief overview of the natural setting of the region containing the project region in Woodbury, Connecticut. Previous archaeological research has documented that specific environmental factors can be associated with both precontact and post-European contact period site selection. These include general ecological conditions, as well as types of fresh water sources present, degree of slopes, and soils situated within a given project area. The remainder of this chapter provides a brief overview of the ecology, hydrological resources, and soils present within the project area and the larger region in general.

Ecoregions of Connecticut

Throughout the Pleistocene and Holocene Periods, Connecticut has undergone numerous environmental changes. Variations in climate, geology, and physiography have led to the "regionalization" of Connecticut's modern environment. It is clear, for example, that the northwestern portion of the state has different natural characteristics than the coastline. Recognizing this fact, Dowhan, and Craig (1976), as part of their study of the distribution of rare and endangered species in Connecticut, subdivided the state into various ecoregions. Dowhan and Craig (1976:27) defined an ecoregion as:

> an area characterized by a distinctive pattern of landscapes and regional climate as expressed by the vegetation composition and pattern, and the presence or absence of certain indicator species and species groups. Each ecoregion has a similar interrelationship between landforms, local climate, soil profiles, and plant and animal communities. Furthermore, the pattern of development of plant communities (chronosequences and toposequences) and of soil profile is similar in similar physiographic sites. Ecoregions are thus natural divisions of land, climate, and biota.

Dowhan and Craig defined nine major ecoregions for the State of Connecticut. They are based on regional diversity in plant and animal indicator species (Dowhan and Craig 1976). Only one of the ecoregions is germane to the current investigation: North-Central Lowlands ecoregion. A summary of this ecoregion is presented below. It is followed by a discussion of the hydrology and soils found in and adjacent to the project area.

<u>Northwest Hills Ecoregion</u>

The Northwest Hills ecoregion region consists of a hilly upland terrain characterized by "a moderately hilly landscape of intermediate elevation, with narrow valleys and local areas of steep and rugged topography" (Dowhan and Craig 1976:31). Elevations in the Northwest Hills ecoregion range from 228.6 to 304.8 m (750 to 1,000 ft) above sea level. The bedrock of the region is composed of schists and gneisses deposited during the Paleozoic (Dowhan and Craig 1976; Bell 1985). Soils in these uplands areas have developed on top of glacial till in upland locales, and on top of stratified deposits of sand, gravel, and silt in the local valleys (Dowhan and Craig 1976).

Hydrology in the Vicinity of the Project Area

The Project area is situated within a region that contains several sources of freshwater, including the Scantic River, Pierce Brook, Buckhorn Brook, Frog Brook, and wetlands. These freshwater sources may have served as resource extraction areas for precontact and post-European contact populations. Previously completed archaeological investigations in Connecticut have demonstrated that streams, rivers, and wetlands were focal points for precontact occupations because they provided access to transportation routes, sources of freshwater, and abundant faunal and floral resources.

Soils Comprising the Project Area

Soil formation is the direct result of the interaction of many variables, including climate, vegetation, parent material, time, and organisms present (Gerrard 1981). Once archaeological deposits are buried within the soil, they are subject to various diagenic and taphonomic processes. Different classes of artifacts may be preferentially protected, or unaffected by these processes, whereas others may deteriorate rapidly. Cyclical wetting and drying, freezing, and thawing, and compression can accelerate chemically and mechanically the decay processes for animal bones, shells, lithics, ceramics, and plant remains. Lithic and ceramic artifacts are largely unaffected by soil pH, whereas animal bones and shells decay more quickly in acidic soils. In contrast, acidic soils enhance the preservation of charred plant remains.

The project parcel is characterized by the presence of Canton-Charlton, Paxton-Montauk, and Gloucester soils (Figure 3), which are characterized as very deep well drained loamy soils. Where they are not disturbed, these types of soils are generally well correlated with both post-European Contact period and precontact era archaeological site locations. A descriptive profile for each soil type is presented below; they were gathered from the National Resources Conservation Service.

Canton and Charlton Soils (60B)

The Canton series consists of very deep, well drained soils formed in a loamy mantle underlain by sandy till. They are on nearly-level to very steep moraines, hills, and ridges. Slope ranges from 0 to 45 percent. A typical profile associated with Canton soils is as follows: **Oi**--0 to 5 cm; slightly decomposed plant material; **A**--5 to 13 cm; very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) fine sandy loam; weak fine granular structure; friable; common fine roots; 5 percent gravel; very strongly acid (pH 4.6); abrupt smooth boundary; **Bw1**--13 to 30 cm; yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) fine sandy loam; weak medium subangular blocky structure; friable; common fine and medium roots; 5 percent gravel; very strongly acid (pH 4.6); clear smooth boundary; **Bw2**--30 to 41 cm; yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) fine sandy loam; weak medium subangular blocky structure; friable; common fine and medium roots; 5 percent gravel; strongly acid (pH 5.1); clear smooth boundary; **Bw3**--41 to 56 cm; yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) gravelly fine sandy loam; weak medium subangular blocky; friable; common fine and medium roots; 15 percent gravel; strongly acid (pH 5.1); abrupt smooth boundary; and **2C**--56 to 170 cm; grayish brown (2.5Y 5/2) gravelly loamy sand; massive; friable; 25 percent gravel; moderately acid (pH 5.6).

The Charlton series consists of very deep, well drained soils formed in loamy melt-out till. They are nearly level to very steep soils on moraines, hills, and ridges. Slope ranges from 0 to 60 percent. A typical profile associated with Charlton soils is as follows: **Oe**--0 to 4 cm; black (10YR 2/1) moderately decomposed forest plant material; **A**--4 to 10 cm; dark brown (10YR 3/3) fine sandy loam; weak fine granular structure; very friable; many fine roots; 5 percent gravel; very strongly acid; abrupt smooth boundary; **Bw1**--10 to 18 cm; brown (7.5YR 4/4) fine sandy loam; weak coarse granular structure; very friable; many fine and medium roots; 5 percent gravel; very strongly acid; clear wavy boundary; **Bw2**--18 to 48 cm; yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) fine sandy loam; weak medium subangular blocky structure; very friable; common fine and medium roots; 10 percent gravel and cobbles; very strongly acid; clear wavy boundary; **Bw3**--48 to 69 cm; light olive brown (2.5Y 5/4) gravelly fine sandy loam; massive; very friable; few medium roots; 15 percent gravel and cobbles; very strongly acid; abrupt wavy boundary; and **C**--69 to 165 cm; grayish brown (2.5Y 5/2) gravelly fine sandy loam with thin lenses of loamy sand; massive; friable, some lenses firm; few medium roots; 25 percent gravel and cobbles; strongly acid.

Paxton and Montauk Soils (84B)

The Paxton series consists of well drained loamy soils formed in lodgment till. The soil is very deep to bedrock and moderately deep to a densic contact. They are found on nearly level to steep soils on hills, drumlins, till plains, and ground moraines. Slope associated with these soils range from 0 to 45 percent. A typical profile associated with Paxton soils is as follows: **Ap**--0 to 20 cm; dark brown (10YR 3/3) fine sandy loam, pale brown (10YR 6/3) dry; moderate medium granular structure; friable; many fine roots; 5 percent gravel; strongly acid; abrupt smooth boundary; **Bw1**--20 to 38 cm; dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) fine sandy loam; weak medium subangular blocky structure; friable; common fine roots; 5 percent gravel; few earthworm casts; strongly acid; gradual wavy boundary; **Bw2**--38 to 66 cm; olive brown (2.5Y 4/4) fine sandy loam; weak medium subangular blocky structure; friable; few fine roots; 10 percent gravel; strongly acid; clear wavy boundary; and **Cd**--66 to 165 cm; olive (5Y 5/3) gravelly fine sandy loam; medium plate-like divisions; massive; very firm, brittle; 25 percent gravel; many dark coatings on plates; strongly acid.

The Montauk series consists of well drained soils formed in lodgment or flow till derived primarily from granitic materials with lesser amounts of gneiss and schist. The soil is very deep to bedrock and moderately deep to a densic contact. This soil is on upland hills and moraines. Slopes associated with these soils range from 0 to 35 percent. A typical profile associated with Montauk soils is as follows: **Ap**--0 to 10 cm; very dark gray (10YR 3/1) loam; moderate fine granular structure; very friable; many very fine, fine, medium, and coarse roots; 2 percent gravel, 1 percent cobbles, and 1 percent stones; extremely acid (pH 4.1); clear smooth boundary; **BA**--10 to 34 cm; brown (10YR 4/3) loam; moderate medium and coarse subangular blocky structure; friable; many fine, medium, and coarse roots; many fine and medium pores; 4 percent gravel, 1 percent cobbles, and 1 percent stones; extremely acid (pH 4.3); clear wavy boundary; **Bw1**--34 to 65 cm; dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) loam; moderate coarse subangular blocky structure; friable; many fine, medium, and coarse roots; many fine and medium pores; 6 percent gravel, 1 percent cobbles, and 1 percent stones; extremely acid (pH 4.3); clear wavy boundary; **Bw2**--65 to 87 cm; yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) sandy loam; moderate medium and coarse subangular blocky structure; friable; many very fine, fine, and coarse roots; many fine and medium pores; 5 percent gravel and 1 percent cobbles; extremely acid (pH 4.3); clear smooth boundary; **2Cd1**--87 to 101 cm; strong brown (7.5YR 5/6) gravelly loamy sand; moderate medium plates; firm; few fine roots; many fine pores; 10 percent gravel, 5 percent cobbles, and 1 percent stones; very strongly acid (pH 4.7); clear wavy boundary; and **2Cd2**--101 to 184 cm; dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) gravelly loamy sand; moderate medium plates; firm; many fine pores; 10 percent gravel, 5 percent cobbles, and 1 percent stones; strongly acid (pH 5.1).

Gloucester (58B)

The Gloucester series consists of very deep, somewhat excessively drained soils formed in sandy till. They are nearly level through very steep soils on ground moraine uplands and moraines. Slope ranges from 0 through 50 percent. Oa -- 0 to 2 inch (0 to 5 centimeters); black (N 2/) highly decomposed plant material; many fine roots; very strongly acid; **A** -- 2 to 6 inches (5 to 15 centimeters); very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) sandy loam; weak fine and medium granular structure; very friable; many fine, medium and coarse roots; 10 percent gravel; very strongly acid; abrupt wavy boundary; **Bw**1 -- 6 to 15 inches (15 to 38 centimeters); strong brown (7.5YR 5/6) gravelly sandy loam; weak fine and medium granular structure; very friable; many fine, medium and coarse roots; 30 percent cobbles and gravel; strongly acid; clear wavy boundary; **Bw2** -- 15 to 29 inches (38 to 74 centimeters); yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) very gravelly loamy coarse sand; very weak fine and medium granular structure; very friable; common fine and medium roots; 40 percent cobbles and gravel; strongly acid; clear wavy boundary; and **C** -- 29 to 65 inches (74 to 165 centimeters); light yellowish brown (2.5Y 6/4) very gravelly loamy coarse sand; massive; very friable; few fine and medium roots; 40 percent cobbles and gravel; strongly acid

Summary

The natural setting of the area containing the project parcel is common throughout the Northwest Hills ecoregion. Streams and rivers of this area empty into the Naugatuck or Farmington Rivers, which in turn, drain into the Long Island Sound. Further, the landscape in general is dominated by loamy soil types with some wetland soils intermixed. In addition, low slopes dominate the region. Thus, in general, the project region was well suited to Native American occupation throughout the precontact era. This portion of Woodbury was also used throughout the post-European Contact period, as evidenced by the presence of numerous post-European Contact period residences and agricultural fields throughout the region; thus, archaeological deposits dating from the last 350 years or so may also be expected near or within the proposed project area.

CHAPTER III
PRECONTACT ERA SETTING

Introduction

Prior to the late 1970s and early 1980s, very few systematic archaeological surveys of large portions of the State of Connecticut had been undertaken. Rather, the precontact era occupation of the region was studied at the site level. Sites chosen for excavation were highly visible and they were in such areas as the coastal zone, e.g., shell middens, and Connecticut River Valley. As a result, a skewed interpretation of the precontact era occupation of Connecticut was developed. It was suggested that the upland portions of the state, i.e., the northeastern and northwestern hills ecoregions, were little used and rarely occupied by precontact era Native Americans, while the coastal zone, i.e., the eastern and western coastal and the southeastern and southwestern hills ecoregions, was the focus of settlements and exploitation. This interpretation remained unchallenged until the 1970s and 1980s when several town-wide and regional archaeological studies were completed. These investigations led to the creation of several archaeological phases that subsequently were applied to understand the precontact period of Connecticut. The remainder of this chapter provides an overview of the precontact era setting of the region encompassing the Facility.

Paleo-Indian Period (12,000 to 10,000 Before Present [B.P.])

The earliest inhabitants of the area encompassing the State of Connecticut, who have been referred to as Paleo-Indians, arrived in the area by ca., 13,000 B.P. (Gramly and Funk 1990; Snow 1980). Due to the presence of large Pleistocene mammals at that time and the ubiquity of large fluted projectile points in archaeological deposits of this age, Paleo-Indians often have been described as big-game hunters (Ritchie and Funk 1973; Snow 1980); however, as discussed below, it is more likely that they hunted a broad spectrum of animals. While there have been over 50 surface finds of Paleo-Indian projectile points throughout the State of Connecticut, only three sites, the Templeton Site (6-LF-21) in Washington, Connecticut, the Hidden Creek Site (72-163) in Ledyard, Connecticut, and the Brian D. Jones Site (4-10B) in Avon, Connecticut have been studied in detail and dated using the radiocarbon method (Jones 1997; Moeller 1980; Singer 2017a; Leslie et al., 2020).

The Templeton Site (6-LF-21) in Washington, Connecticut was occupied between 10,490 and 9,890 years ago (Moeller 1980). In addition to a single large and two small, fluted points, the Templeton Site produced a stone tool assemblage consisting of gravers, drills, core fragments, scrapers, and channel flakes, which indicates that the full range of stone tool production and maintenance took place at the site (Moeller 1980). Moreover, the use of both local and non-local raw materials was documented in the recovered tool assemblage, suggesting that not only did the site's occupants spend some time in the area, but they also had access to distant stone sources, the use of which likely occurred during movement from region to region. More recently, the site has undergone re-investigation by Singer (2017a and 2017b), who has determined that the overwhelming majority of tools and debitage are exotic and were quarried directly from the Hudson River Valley. Recent research has focused on task-specific loci at the Templeton Site, particularly the production of numerous Michaud-Neponset projectile points, as identified through remnant channel flakes.

The Hidden Creek Site (72-163) is situated on the southeastern margin of the Great Cedar Swamp on the Mashantucket Pequot Reservation in Ledyard, Connecticut (Jones 1997). While excavation of the Hidden Creek Site produced evidence of Terminal Archaic and Woodland Period components (see below) in the

upper soil horizons, the lower levels of the site yielded artifacts dating from the Paleo-Indian era. Recovered Paleo-Indian artifacts included broken bifaces, side-scrapers, a fluted preform, gravers, and end-scrapers. Based on the types and number of tools present, Jones (1997:77) has hypothesized that the Hidden Creek Site represented a short-term occupation, and that separate stone tool reduction and rejuvenation areas were present.

The Brian D. Jones Site (4-10B) was identified in a Pleistocene levee on the Farmington River in Avon, Connecticut; it was buried under 1.5 m (3.3 ft) of alluvium (Leslie et al., 2020). The Brian D. Jones Site was identified by Archaeological and Historical Services, Inc., in 2019 during a survey for the Connecticut Department of Transportation preceding a proposed bridge construction project. It is now the oldest known archaeological site in Connecticut at +12,500 years old. The site also provides a rare example of a Paleo-Indian site on a river rather than the more common upland areas or on the edges of wetlands. Ground-penetrating radar survey revealed overbank flooding and sedimentation that resulted in the creating of a stable ancient river levee with gentle, low-energy floods. Archaeological deposits on the levee were therefore protected.

Excavations at the Brian D. Jones Site revealed 44 soil anomalies, 27 of which were characterized as cultural features used as hearths and post holes, among other uses. Of these, one hearth has been dated thus far (10,520 ± 30 14C yr BP; charred Pinus; 2-sigma 12,568 to 12,410 CAL BP) (Leslie et al. 2020:4). Further radiocarbon testing will be completed in the future. Artifact concentrations surrounded these features and were separated in two stratigraphic layers representing at least two temporally discrete Paleo-Indian occupations. The recovered lithic artifacts are fashioned from Normanskill chert, Hardyston jasper, Jefferson/Mount Jasper rhyolite, chalcedony, siltstone, and quartz. They include examples of a fluted point base, preforms, channel flakes, pièces esquillées, end scrapers, side scrapers, grinding stones, bifaces, utilized flakes, gravers, and drilled stone pendant fragments. Lithic tools numbered over 100, while toolmaking debris was in the thousands. The channel flakes represent the production of spear points used in hunting. Scrapers, perforators, and grinding stones indicate animal butchering, plant food grinding, the production of wood and bone tools, and the processing of animal skins for clothing and tents. Other collected cultural materials included charred botanicals and calcined bone. Botanical specimens recovered in hearth features included burned remains of cattail, pin cherry, strawberry, acorn, sumac, water lily, and dogwood. Approximately 15,000 artifacts were collected in total.

The scarcity of identified Paleo-Indian sites suggests a low population density during this period. The small size of most Paleo-Indian sites, their likely inundation by rising sea levels, and the high degree of landscape disturbance over the past 10,000 years likely contribute to poor site visibility, although the presence of two deeply alluvially buried Paleo-Indian sites in Connecticut suggests that other sites may be located along stable rivers (Leslie et al. 2021).

Archaic Period (10,000 to 2,700 B.P.)

The Archaic Period, which succeeded the Paleo-Indian Period, began by ca., 10,000 B.P. (Ritchie and Funk 1973; Snow 1980), and it has been divided into three subperiods: Early Archaic (10,000 to 8,000 B.P.), Middle Archaic (8,000 to 6,000 B.P.), and Late Archaic (6,000 to 3,400 B.P.). These periods were devised to describe all non-farming, non-ceramic producing populations in the area. Regional archeologists recently have recognized a final “transitional” Archaic Period, the Terminal Archaic Period (3,400-2,700 B.P.), which was meant to describe those groups that existed just prior to the onset of the Woodland Period and the widespread adoption of ceramics into the toolkit (Snow 1980; McBride 1984; Pfeiffer 1984, 1990; Witthoft 1949, 1953).

Early Archaic Period (10,000 to 8,000 B.P.)

To date, very few Early Archaic sites have been identified in southern New England. As a result, researchers such as Fitting (1968) and Ritchie (1969), have suggested a lack of these sites likely is tied to cultural discontinuity between the Early Archaic and preceding Paleo-Indian Period, as well as a population decrease from earlier times. However, with continued identification of Early Archaic sites in the region, and the recognition of the problems of preservation, it is difficult to maintain the discontinuity hypothesis (Curran and Dincauze 1977; Snow 1980).

Like their Paleo-Indian predecessors, Early Archaic sites tend to be very small and produce few artifacts, most of which are not temporally diagnostic. While Early Archaic sites in other portions of the United States are represented by projectile points of the Kirk series (Ritchie and Funk 1973) and by Kanawha types (Coe 1964), sites of this age in southern New England are identified on the basis of a series of ill-defined bifurcate-based projectile points. These projectile points are identified by the presence of their characteristic bifurcated base, and they generally are made from high quality raw materials. Moreover, finds of these projectile points have rarely been in stratified contexts. Rather, they occur commonly either as surface expressions or intermixed with artifacts representative of later periods. Early Archaic occupations, such as the Dill Farm Site and Sites 6LF64 and 6LF70 in Litchfield County, are represented by camps that were relocated periodically to take advantage of seasonally available resources (McBride 1984; Pfeiffer 1986). In this sense, a foraging type of settlement pattern was employed during the Early Archaic Period.

Another localized cultural tradition, the Gulf of Maine Archaic, which lasted from ca. 9,500 to 6,000 14C BP, is beginning to be recognized in Southern New England (Petersen and Putnam 1992). It is distinguished by its microlithic industry, which may be associated with the production of compound tools (Robinson and Peterson 1993). Assemblages from Maine (Petersen et al. 1986; Petersen 1991; Sanger et al. 1992), Massachusetts (Strauss 2017; Leslie et al. 2022), and Connecticut (Forrest 1999) reflect the selection of local, coarse-grained stones. Large choppers and hoe-like forms from southeastern Connecticut's Sandy Hill Site likely functioned as digging implements. Woodworking tools, including adzes, celts, and gull-channeled gouges recovered at the Brigham and Sharrow sites in Maine (Robinson and Petersen 1993:68), may have been used for dugout canoe manufacture. The deeply stratified Sandy Hill (Forrest 1999; Jones and Forrest 2003) and Sharrow sites (Petersen 1991), with their overlapping lenses of "black sand" floor deposits, suggest intensive site re-occupations according to an adaptation that relied, in part, on seasonally available wetland resources. Thus far, sites from this tradition have only been identified within coastal and near-coastal territories along the Gulf of Maine, in southeastern Connecticut, and in Massachusetts.

Middle Archaic Period (8,000 to 6,000 B.P.)

By the onset of the Middle Archaic Period modern deciduous forests had developed in the region (Davis 1969). Increased numbers and types of sites associated with this period are noted in Connecticut (McBride 1984). The most well-known Middle Archaic site in New England is the Neville Site in Manchester, New Hampshire studied by Dincauze (1976). Careful analysis of the Neville Site indicated that the Middle Archaic occupation dated from between 7,700 and 6,000 years ago. In fact, Dincauze obtained several radiocarbon dates from the Middle Archaic component of the Neville Site associated with the then-newly named Neville type projectile point, ranging from 7,740±280 and 7,015±160 B.P. (Dincauze 1976).

In addition to Neville points, Dincauze (1976) described two other projectile points styles that are attributed to the Middle Archaic Period: Stark and Merrimac projectile points. While no absolute dates were recovered from deposits that yielded Stark points, the Merrimac type dated from 5,910±180 B.P.

Dincauze argued that both the Neville and later Merrimac and Stark occupations were established to take advantage of the excellent fishing that the falls situated adjacent to the site area would have afforded Native American groups. Thus, based on the available archaeological evidence, the Middle Archaic Period is characterized by continued increases in diversification of tool types and resources exploited, as well as by sophisticated changes in the settlement pattern to include different site types, including both base camps and task-specific sites (McBride 1984:96).

Late Archaic Period (6,000 to 3,700 B.P.)

The Late Archaic Period in southern New England is divided into two major cultural traditions that appear to have coexisted. They include the Laurentian and Narrow-Stemmed Traditions (Funk 1976; McBride 1984; Ritchie 1969a and b). Artifacts assigned to the Laurentian Tradition include ground stone axes, adzes, gouges, ulus (semi-lunar knives), pestles, atlatl weights, and scrapers. The diagnostic projectile point forms of this time period in southern New England include the Brewerton Eared-Notched, Brewerton Eared and Brewerton Side-Notched varieties (McBride 1984; Ritchie 1969a; Thompson 1969). In general, the stone tool assemblage of the Laurentian Tradition is characterized by flint, felsite, rhyolite, and quartzite, while quartz was largely avoided for stone tool production.

In terms of settlement and subsistence patterns, archaeological evidence in southern New England suggests that Laurentian Tradition populations consisted of groups of mobile hunter-gatherers. While a few large Laurentian Tradition occupations have been studied, sites of this age generally encompass less than 500 m^2 (5,383 ft^2). These base camps reflect frequent movements by small groups of people in search of seasonally abundant resources. The overall settlement pattern of the Laurentian Tradition was dispersed in nature, with base camps located in a wide range of microenvironments, including riverine as well as upland zones (McBride 1978, 1984:252). Finally, subsistence strategies of Laurentian Tradition focused on hunting and gathering of wild plants and animals from multiple ecozones.

The second Late Archaic tradition, known as the Narrow-Stemmed Tradition, is unlike the Laurentian Tradition, and it likely represents a different cultural adaptation. The Narrow-Stemmed Tradition is recognized by the presence of quartz and quartzite narrow stemmed projectile points, triangular quartz Squibnocket projectile points, and a bipolar lithic reduction strategy (McBride 1984). Other tools found in Narrow-Stemmed Tradition artifact assemblages include choppers, adzes, pestles, antler and bone projectile points, harpoons, awls, and notched atlatl weights. Many of these tools, notably the projectile points and pestles, indicate a subsistence pattern dominated by hunting and fishing, as well the collection of a wide range of plant foods (McBride 1984; Snow 1980:228).

Terminal Archaic Period (3,700 to 2,700 B.P.)

The Terminal Archaic, which lasted from ca., 3,700 to 2,700 BP, is perhaps the most interesting, yet confusing of the Archaic Periods in southern New England precontact period. Originally termed the "Transitional Archaic" by Witthoft (1953) and recognized by the introduction of technological innovations, e.g., broadspear projectile points and soapstone bowls, the Terminal Archaic has long posed problems for regional archeologists. While the Narrow-Stemmed Tradition persisted through the Terminal Archaic and into the Early Woodland Period, the Terminal Archaic is coeval with what appears to be a different technological adaptation, the Susquehanna Tradition (McBride 1984; Ritchie 1969b). The Susquehanna Tradition is recognized in southern New England by the presence of a new stone tool industry that was based on the use of high-quality raw materials for stone tool production and a settlement pattern different from the "coeval" Narrow-Stemmed Tradition.

The Susquehanna Tradition is based on the classification of several Broadspear projectile point types and

associated artifacts. There are several local sequences within the tradition, and they are based on projectile point type chronology. Temporally diagnostic projectile points of these sequences include the Snook Kill, Susquehanna Broadspear, Mansion Inn, and Orient Fishtail types (Lavin 1984; McBride 1984; Pfeiffer 1984). The initial portion of the Terminal Archaic Period (ca., 3,700-3,200 BP) is characterized by the presence of Snook Kill and Susquehanna Broadspear projectile points while the latter Terminal Archaic (3,200-2,700 BP) is distinguished by Orient Fishtail projectile points (McBride 1984:119; Ritchie 1971).

In addition, it was during the late Terminal Archaic that interior cord marked, grit tempered, thick-walled ceramics with conoidal (pointed) bases made their initial appearance in the Native American toolkit. These are the first ceramics in the region, and they are named Vinette I (Ritchie 1969a; Snow 1980:242); this type of ceramic vessel appears with much more frequency during the ensuing Early Woodland Period. In addition, the adoption and widespread use of soapstone bowls, as well as the implementation of subterranean storage, suggests that Terminal Archaic groups were characterized by reduced mobility and longer-term use of established occupation sites (Snow 1980:250).

Finally, while settlement patterns appeared to have changed, Terminal Archaic subsistence patterns were analogous to earlier patterns. The subsistence pattern was still diffuse in nature, and it was scheduled carefully. Typical food remains recovered from sites of this period consist of fragments of white-tailed deer, beaver, turtle, fish, and various small mammals. Botanical remains recovered from the site area consisted of *Chenopodium* sp., hickory, butternut, and walnut (Pagoulatos 1988:81). Such diversity in food remains suggests at least minimal use of a wide range of microenvironments for subsistence purposes.

Woodland Period (2,700 to 350 B.P.)

Traditionally, the advent of the Woodland Period in southern New England has been associated with the introduction of pottery; however, as mentioned above, early dates associated with pottery now suggest the presence of Vinette I ceramics appeared toward the end of the preceding Terminal Archaic Period (Ritchie 1969a; McBride 1984). Like the Archaic Period, the Woodland Period has been divided into three subperiods: Early, Middle, and Late Woodland. The various subperiods are discussed below.

Early Woodland Period (ca., 2,700 to 2,000 B.P.)

The Early Woodland Period of the northeastern United States dates from ca., 2,700 to 2,000 B.P., and it was thought to have been characterized by the advent of farming, the initial use of ceramic vessels, and increasingly complex burial ceremonialism (Griffin 1967; Ritchie 1969a and 1969b; Snow 1980). In the Northeast, the earliest ceramics of the Early Woodland Period are thick walled, cord marked on both the interior and exterior, and possess grit temper. Archaeological investigations of Early Woodland sites in southern New England resulted in the recovery of narrow stemmed projectile points in association with ceramic sherds and subsistence remains, including specimens of White-tailed deer, soft and hard-shell clams, and oyster shells (Lavin and Salwen: 1983; McBride 1984:296-297; Pope 1952). McBride (1984) has argued that the combination of the subsistence remains and the recognition of multiple superimposed cultural features at various sites indicates that Early Woodland Period settlement patterns were characterized by multiple re-use of the same sites on a seasonal basis by small co-residential groups.

Middle Woodland Period (2,000 to 1,200 B.P.)

The Middle Woodland Period is marked by an increase in the number of ceramic types and forms utilized (Lizee 1994a), as well as an increase in the amount of exotic lithic raw material used in stone tool manufacture (McBride 1984). The latter suggests that regional exchange networks were established, and that they were used to supply local populations with necessary raw materials (McBride 1984; Snow 1980). The Middle Woodland Period is represented archaeologically by narrow stemmed and Jack's Reef

projectile points; increased amounts of exotic raw materials in recovered lithic assemblages, including chert, argillite, jasper, and hornfels; and conoidal ceramic vessels decorated with dentate stamping. Ceramic types that are indicative of the Middle Woodland Period include Linear Dentate, Rocker Dentate, Windsor Cord Marked, Windsor Brushed, Windsor Plain, and Hollister Stamped (Lizee 1994a:200).

In terms of settlement patterns, the Middle Woodland Period is characterized by the occupation of village sites by large co-residential groups that utilized native plant and animal species for food and raw materials in tool making (George 1997). These sites were the principal place of occupation, and they were positioned close to major river valleys, tidal marshes, estuaries, and the coastline, all of which would have supplied an abundance of plant and animal resources (McBride 1984:309). In addition to villages, numerous temporary and task-specific sites were utilized in the surrounding upland areas, as well as in closer ecozones such as wetlands, estuaries, and floodplains. The use of temporary and task-specific sites to support large village populations indicates that the Middle Woodland Period was characterized by a resource acquisition strategy that can best be termed as logistical collection (McBride 1984:310).

Late Woodland Period (ca., 1,200 to 350 B.P.)

The Late Woodland Period in southern New England dates from ca., 1,200 to 350 B.P., and it is characterized by the earliest evidence for the use of corn in the lower Connecticut River Valley (Bendremer 1993; Bendremer and Dewar 1993; Bendremer et al. 1991; George 1997; McBride 1984); an increase in the frequency of exchange of non-local lithics (Feder 1984; George and Tryon 1996; McBride 1984; Lavin 1984); increased variability in ceramic form, function, surface treatment, and decoration (Lavin 1980, 1986, 1987; Lizee 1994a, 1994b); and a continuation of a trend towards larger, more permanent settlements in riverine, estuarine, and coastal ecozones (Dincauze 1974; McBride 1984; Snow 1980).

Stone tool assemblages associated with Late Woodland occupations, especially village-sized sites, are functionally variable and they reflect plant and animal resource processing and consumption on a large scale. Finished stone tools recovered from Late Woodland sites include Levanna and Madison projectile points; drills; side-, end-, and thumbnail scrapers; mortars and pestles; nutting stones; netsinkers; and celts, adzes, axes, and digging tools. These tools were used in activities ranging from hide preparation to plant processing to the manufacture of canoes, bowls, and utensils, as well as other settlement and subsistence-related items (McBride 1984; Snow 1980). Finally, ceramic assemblages recovered from Late Woodland sites are as variable as the lithic assemblages. Ceramic types identified include Windsor Fabric Impressed, Windsor Brushed, Windsor Cord Marked, Windsor Plain, Clearview Stamped, Sebonac Stamped, Selden Island, Hollister Plain, Hollister Stamped, and Shantok Cove Incised (Lavin 1980, 1988a, 1988b; Lizee 1994a; Pope 1953; Rouse 1947; Salwen and Ottesen 1972; Smith 1947). These types are more stylistically diverse than their predecessors with incision, shell stamping, punctation, single point, linear dentate, rocker dentate stamping, and stamp and drag impressions common (Lizee 1994a:216).

Summary of Connecticut's Precontact Era

The precontact era of Connecticut spans from ca. 13,000 to 350 B.P., and it is characterized by numerous changes in tool types, subsistence patterns, and land use strategies. Much of this era is characterized by local Native American groups who practiced a subsistence pattern based on a mixed economy of hunting and gathering plant and animal resources. It is not until the Late Woodland Period that incontrovertible evidence for the use of domesticated species is available. Further, settlement patterns throughout the precontact period shifted from seasonal occupations of small co-residential groups to large aggregations of people in riverine, estuarine, and coastal ecozones. In terms of the region that includes the proposed project area, a variety of precontact site types may be expected, ranging from seasonal camps utilized by Paleo-Indian and Archaic populations to temporary and task-specific sites of the Woodland era.

CHAPTER IV
POST-EUROPEAN CONTACT PERIOD OVERVIEW

Introduction

The proposed Project is located on 36 acres of land situated to the west of Orchard Avenue in the town of Woodbury in Litchfield County, Connecticut. Settled in 1673, Woodbury originally encompassed a large territory and included the modern towns of Southbury, Roxbury, and Bethlehem, as well as parts of Washington and Middlebury. While agriculture dominated Woodbury for most of its history, the town eventually became a residential suburb. This chapter presents a brief overview of the history of Litchfield County and the town of Woodbury, as well as data specific to the proposed Project area.

Litchfield County

Litchfield County was founded in 1751 with land drawn from Fairfield, New Haven, and Hartford Counties (Hoadly 1877). Located in the northwest corner of Connecticut, it is bounded to the south by New Haven and Fairfield Counties, to the east by Hartford County, to the north by Berkshire and Hampden Counties, Massachusetts, and to the west by Dutchess County, New York. Litchfield County is the largest county in Connecticut by total area. Its landscape includes rocky hills adjacent to the Berkshire Mountains, including Bear Mountain, the highest peak in Connecticut, interspersed with flat lands and watersheds. Important bodies of water associated with Litchfield County include the Housatonic River, Naugatuck River, Candlewood Lake, Barkhamsted Reservoir, Lake Waramaug, in addition to smaller un-named streams and ponds. Torrington is the only city in Litchfield County and the most populous location in the county (Connecticut 2021).

Woodland Period to the Seventeenth Century

During the Woodland Period of northeastern North American history (ca., 3,000 to 500 years ago), the Indigenous peoples who resided along the shoreline in central Connecticut were part of the greater Algonquian culture of northeastern North America (Lavin 2013). They spoke local variations of Southern New England Algonquian (SNEA) languages and lived in extended kinship groups on lands they maintained for a variety of horticultural and resource extraction purposes (Goddard 1978). Indigenous people in the region practiced subsistence activities including hunting, fowling, and fishing, along with the cultivation of various crops, the most important of which were maize, squash, and beans. They supplemented these foods seasonally by collecting shellfish, fruits, and plants during warmer periods, and gathering nuts, roots, and tubers during colder times. In addition , these communities came together in large groups to hunt deer in the fall and winter. Indigenous peoples lived with their immediate or extended families in large settlements, often concentrated along rivers and/or wetlands. Some villages were fortified by wooden palisades. Their habitation, known as a *weetu* or *wigwam*, was usually constructed of a tree-sapling frame and covered in reed matting during warm months and tree bark throughout the winter. These varied in size from a small, individual dwelling, to an expansive “long house,” which could accommodate several families. Native communities commonly traded among their immediate neighbors and often maintained long-distance networks (Lavin 2013). Southwestern Connecticut was the territory of the Pootatuck and Paugussett tribes. The domain of these groups ran from the coast of Long Island Sound to as far northward as present-day Waterbury and Woodbury.

In 1633, the Pequot allowed the Dutch to build a fortified trading post on the Connecticut River at the site of present-day Hartford to further cement both parties' domination over the flow of wampum, fur, and trade goods. To break from the Pequot, several Connecticut River sachems invited the English to settle in the Connecticut River Valley (Van Dusen 1961). Increased European interaction resulted in exposure to diseases and epidemics Indigenous people had never encountered and to which they had no natural immunity. Illnesses such as smallpox, measles, tuberculosis, and cholera devastated Indigenous communities (Lavin 2013). In 1633, an epidemic spread through the region impacting the Pequot and may have spread among the Quinnipiac as well. Additionally, tensions between Native and European groups laying claim to the Connecticut River resulted in the death of several colonial traders between 1634 and 1636, which the Pequot were assumed responsible. In retaliation, English forces from Massachusetts Bay destroyed Pequot and Nehantic villages on the Pequot (Thames) River in August 1636 which began the Pequot War. The Pequot laid siege to Saybrook Fort at the mouth of the Connecticut River during the winter of 1636-1637 and attacked Wethersfield in April 1637 further upriver. Connecticut Colony declared war on the Pequot and were joined by Native warriors from the Connecticut River and Mohegans under the Sachem Uncas (Oberg 2006). In May 1637, English allied forces destroyed the fortified Pequot village at Mistick which proved to be the turning point of the war. Pequot refugees fled west with their Sachem, Sassacus. English forces gave chase, making landfall at Quinnipiac and pursuing them west through present-day New Haven County (Cave 1996). In July 1637, the Pequot were defeated in present-day Fairfield and the war soon came to an end. After the war, the Connecticut English claimed Pequot territory as conquered lands for their newly established colony.

In January of 1639 the river towns adopted the "fundamental orders" which outlined the framework for the self-governed Connecticut Colony, separate from Massachusetts Bay or Plimoth (Trumbull 1886). Soon after, Connecticut Colony joined with Massachusetts Bay, Plimoth, and New Haven Colonies to form the United Colonies of New England in 1643 for mutual defense against regional threats. In 1662, Governor John Winthrop, Jr. obtained a royal charter from King Charles II to legitimize the existence of Connecticut Colony in the English Empire. Hartford County was established in 1666 as one of the four original counties and consisted of the towns of Windsor, Wethersfield, Hartford, Farmington (1645), and Middletown (1651) (Barry 1985).

While there is a dearth of data on the early Native populations, land transfers shed some light on the Indigenous peoples of Connecticut. English colonists purchased the Woodbury territory, called Pomperaug, from the local Native Americans, though the English concept of land ownership differed from that of the natives. In 1659, a group of "Pagasset" Native Americans sold a vast amount of land in the area that became Woodbury, though members of the Pootatuck tribe occupied that area. In 1673, the colonists paid Pootatuck leaders for a large section of land flanking the Pomperaug River and continued to make additional purchases of land until 1706. A substantial portion on the north bank of the Pootatuck River was kept back from these sales as a reservation. The Pootatucks who remained in the area began selling off this reservation in 1729, making subsequent sales in 1733 and 1734. The remaining land, which only a few people occupied, was finally sold, and then abandoned in 1758 (Cothren 1854). These types of land sales that drove Native Americans from their ancestral lands to settle elsewhere were common occurrences in colonial Connecticut. The territory of Woodbury originally stretched as far south as the Housatonic River and as far north as the northern border of Bethlehem. Woodbury was established by colonists from the coastal town of Stratford who chose to relocate because of religious differences, and in 1673, they established their new community and made their first land purchase in what became Woodbury (Cothren 1854).

Eighteenth through Nineteenth Century

Early settlers focused mostly on subsistence farming, while others raised sheep as well. Apple orchards were commonplace throughout the area and locals also raised flax and clover, producing cloth, twine, linseed oil, and clover seed for market. The Roxbury area proved to be an abundant mine and quarry location and yielded iron used to make steel, stone for hearthstones, and quartz that was ground down for a variety of uses (Ancient Woodbury Tercentennial Committee 1959). By 1774, there were 5,313 residents in Woodbury, after which the town experienced a series of separations. Slavery existed in Litchfield County, including in Woodbury, although it was uncommon in the seventeenth century, and by the eighteenth century it was primarily practiced by wealthy families, merchants, and ministers in larger towns (Hurd 1881; Orcutt 1886; Rockey 1892). The 1774 Connecticut colonial census for the Town of Woodbury recorded a "White" population of 5,224, with 89 African Americans and 9 Native Americans, although the number of enslaved individuals was not noted (Hoadly 1887). In 1779, the northwestern corner of the territory became the southern section of the town of Washington.

During the American Revolution (1775-1783), Connecticut played an important role in the process of recruiting soldiers, supplying food stores, and providing a variety of military goods for the war effort. Throughout the war, the Connecticut shoreline suffered from raids from Long Island-based loyalists who would take cattle and sheep to sell in British New York. In 1779, several western Connecticut shoreline towns were invaded in what became known as "Tryon's Raid." British troops looted and set fire to the towns before reembarking (Lambert 1838; Van Dusen 1961). Meanwhile, some Connecticut towns housed populations supportive to the British cause, including the Tory strongholds of Woodbury and Waterbury (Van Dusen 1961). Of note, the Town of Woodbury offered freedom to any enslaved individuals who fought in the Revolutionary Army; 25 African American men from town then joined the fighting forces (Lewis 1881). After the Revolution, the region recovered from wartime economic disruptions thanks to its robust agricultural production and maritime trade. In 1784, the State passed a gradual manumission law, but slavery was not fully abolished until 1848 (Normen 2013). On January 9, 1788, Connecticut ratified the U.S. Constitution to become the fifth state (Van Dusen 1961). In 1787, the new towns of Bethlehem and Southbury were created from Woodbury's northernmost and southernmost portions, reducing its population to 2,662 residents as of 1790. The town of Roxbury separated in 1796 and Woodbury's population fell further to 1,944 inhabitants as of 1800 (Connecticut 2021, 2023a).

Nineteenth through Twenty-first Centuries

The growth and development of towns in the early nineteenth century created a need for better roads. This work was taken up by private corporations who established toll-funded turnpikes throughout the state. Two of these were built through Woodbury as of 1803. The Washington Turnpike ran from the center of Woodbury to the northwest, to the center of Washington. The Middle Road Turnpike ran from southwest to northeast through central Woodbury on a route from Danbury to Hartford (Wood 1919). The purpose of these roads was to promote commerce and industry in the region, and to some extent they had that effect. As of 1819, Woodbury's agriculture focused on grains and tree fruits, especially apples. The town also had timber resources and three good mill streams, which supported a handful of tinware factories, fulling mills, grist mills, tanneries, and wool carding machines (Pease and Niles 1819). By the 1850s, Woodbury had numerous factories making a variety of products, including textiles, leather and leather goods, cigars, buttons, thimbles, cabinets, and spectacles (United States Census Bureau 1850). Woodbury was also known as the cutlery capital of the state, due to the number of producers in town (Ancient Woodbury Tercentennial Committee 1959). Despite these various industrial endeavors, the town did not experience significant growth and the population fluctuated throughout the second half of the nineteenth century. In 1850, Woodbury had 2,150 residents and by 1890 there were 1,815 (Connecticut 2023b; Table 1). One key factor in Woodbury's lack of growth was that no railroads entered the town

(Turner and Jacobus 1989). Without access to this efficient and relatively inexpensive transport option, in the long run Woodbury's industries could not compete with those located elsewhere. Additionally, rocky soil and the exodus of Connecticut farmers to the western territory of Ohio kept the population low (Stiles 1959).

As of the early twentieth century, Woodbury was a farming community with limited industrial facilities, which primarily consisted of manufacturing shears and cutlery (Connecticut 1910). The town's population continued to fluctuate during the early decades, never reaching 2,000 inhabitants, mostly because of the limited economic opportunities for residents (Connecticut 2023c). Around mid-century, the population increased dramatically due to the suburbanization trend when many people moved out of cities. As part of the changing demographics in town, Woodbury became a center for Surrealist artists (Hodara 2021). While in 1940, the town had 1,998 residents, by 1970 the population had risen to 5,869 (Table 1; Connecticut 2021c, 2021d). At that time, Woodbury had moved away from agriculture and machine shops were the most prominent industry (Connecticut 1970). Woodbury's population continued to increase as the town became a residential suburb. By 2021, Woodbury had 9,562 residents and the largest employment sector in town was retail, with nearly 20 percent of jobs (AdvanceCT and CTData Collaborative 2021). While there are small mining, industrial, and agricultural areas, most of the town's landscape consists of residential houses. In terms of future growth, town officials intend to focus on attracting and retaining residents to maintain the town's residential character (Woodbury 2020).

Table 1: Population of Woodbury, Connecticut 1790-2020 (Connecticut 2023a-d; USCB 2023)

Town	1790	1800	1810	1820	1830	1840	1850	1860	1870	1880	1890	1900
Woodbury, Litchfield County	2,662	1,944	1,963	1,885	2,045	1,948	2,150	2,037	1,931	2,149	1,815	1,988
	1910	**1920**	**1930**	**1940**	**1950**	**1960**	**1970**	**1980**	**1990**	**2000**	**2010**	**2020**
	1,860	1,698	1,744	1,998	2,564	3,910	5,869	6,942	8,131	9,198	9,975	9,726

History of the Project Area

During the nineteenth century, the area for the proposed solar project was a largely agricultural landscape near the northern border of Woodbury and to the west of a more residential area of settlement that included a school. An 1859 map indicates that the project area was located directly to the north of a property owned by J. Judson, likely Joseph Judson, one of the earliest settlers in Woodbury. Judson was a common surname in the town in the nineteenth century, as is evidenced by the numerous landowners in the vicinity named Judson (Figure 4; 1859 map; Cothren 1854). By 1874, the region was mostly unchanged and the project area was in what was then considered the "Nonnewaug District" of town (Figure 5; 1868 map). The property of J. Judson was no longer listed, but those of G. N. Judson and R. B. Judson were closest to the project area. The documentary record suggests that these individuals were George N. Judson and Rodrick B. Judson, both farmers (USCB 1870a-b). This confirms the use of the land for agricultural purposes throughout the nineteenth century.

Throughout the twentieth century, the region around the project area remained largely agricultural land. In 1934, the first year in which aerial photography was available, the photograph shows the project area on land that was mostly cleared agricultural land, with a small, wooded area in the northern portion of the area (Figure 6; 1934 Aerial). There were no homes or structures on the property. By 1951, the landscape remained mostly the same, although a utility corridor was evident directly to the north of the project area (Figure 7; 1951 Aerial). This was still the case in 1970, and the project area was still open agricultural land, but it was one large area by this point rather than distinctly separated fields, as was the case in 1934 (Figure 8; 1970 Aerial). The land directly abutting the project area was becoming more

wooded at this time as well and a couple widely spaced homes were present to the west of the project area. The project area itself still did not have standing structures within it. This trend of increasingly wooded land near the project area continued, as seen in the aerial photography from 1990 (Figure 9; 1990 Aerial).

By the early twenty-first century, only slight development was noted near the project area, while the project area remained cleared land. In 2004, roughly 8 more widely spread single-family homes were constructed to the south of the project area (Figure 10; 2004 Aerial). By 2019, the aerial photography shows that an access road was constructed to the east of the project area which enters the southern portion of the area (Figure 11; 2019 aerial). Few other changes were made at this time.

Conclusions

The documentary research indicates that the location of the proposed Project is unlikely to be associated with any large scale post-European Contact period cultural resources, including former residences or commercial operations. However, due to the landscape mainly consisting of agricultural fields, there is the possibility of encountering remains of stone walls or other evidence of farming.

CHAPTER V
PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

Introduction

This chapter presents an overview of previous cultural resources research completed within the vicinity of the project area in Woodbury, Connecticut. This discussion provides the comparative data necessary for assessing the results of the current Phase IA cultural resources assessment survey, and it ensures that the potential impacts to all previously recorded cultural resources located within and adjacent to the project area are taken into consideration. Specifically, this chapter reviews previously identified archaeological sites, and National/State Register of Historic Places properties situated in the project region (Figures 12 and 13). The discussions presented below are based on information currently on file at the CT-SHPO in Hartford, Connecticut. In addition, the electronic site files maintained by Heritage were examined during this investigation. Both the quantity and quality of the information contained in the original cultural resources survey reports and State of Connecticut archaeological site forms are reflected below.

Previously Recorded Archaeological Sites, National/State Register of Historic Places Properties/District, and Inventoried Historic Standing Structure in the Vicinity of the Project Area

A review of data currently on file at the CT-SHPO, as well as the electronic site files maintained by Heritage, did not detect any previously identified archaeological sites or National Register of Historic places (NRHP) properties/districts located within 1.6 km (1 mi) of the project area (Figure 12). However, two Connecticut State Register of Historic Places (SRHP) properties, the Van Vleck Farm State Register Area and one eighteenth century Saltbox Residence, were identified within 1.6 km (1 mi) of the Project area (Figure 13). These two resources are described below.

Van Vleck Farm State Register Area

The Van Vleck Farm, which is also referred to as the Flanders Nature Center and Land Trust, is located at 596 Flanders Road in Woodbury, Connecticut (Figure 13). The nature center was listed on the SRHP in 2014. Built by Thomas Judson in 1786 and purchased by the Van Vlecks in 1926, it is a center chimney Cape style house with a lean-to and long ell added to the rear. From the slight double pitch of the lean-to, it is apparent that the Van Vleck House was built in two sections. The main block was constructed with a double plate with a slight overhang across the façade; the overhang extends over both end elevations. At the time of its listing, it was considered to be exceptionally well preserved and it is one of the best examples of post-Revolutionary domestic architecture in Woodbury. To the east of the house, there is a small saltbox studio that was built in 1929. To the north is a barn complex (ca.. 1790). To the south of the Van Vleck House, across Church Hill Road is the South Farm House (1840). Directly to the east of the South Farm House is an English style barn (ca,. 1840). Further to the east, off Church Hill Road and set within the woodland is the sugar house, which was constructed ca,. 2002. To the north of the sugar house and across the street (Church Hill Road) is the Trail House (1964). The Van Vleck Farm is located approximately 750 meters (2,461 feet) to the southwest of the Project area and will not be impacted by the proposed construction.

Saltbox Residence

This eighteenth century Colonial style saltbox residence is located at the northeast corner of Falls Road and Hickory Lane in Bethlehem, Connecticut (Figure 13). The home was recorded in July of 1966 by John Beringer of the Connecticut Historical Commission. Mr. Beringer described the house as a two-story wood frame with a five window front façade and a stone chimney stack. The house was restored in 1937. The

Saltbox residence is located approximately 1.6 km (1 m) to the northeast of the Project area; it will not be directly impacted by the proposed construction.

CHAPTER VI
METHODS

Introduction

This chapter describes the research design and field methods used to complete the Phase IB cultural survey of the archaeologically sensitive area within the Project area in Woodbury, Connecticut. In addition, the location and point-of-contact for the facility at which all cultural material, drawings, maps, photographs, and field notes generated during survey will be curated is provided below.

Research Design

The current Phase IB cultural resources reconnaissance survey was designed to identify all precontact era and post-European Contact period cultural resources located within the previously identified high/moderate archaeologically sensitive area associated with the Project in Woodbury, Connecticut. Fieldwork for the Phase IB survey was comprehensive in nature and project planning considered the distribution of previously recorded archaeological sites located near the Project area, as well as an assessment of the natural qualities of the proposed Project area. The methods used to complete this investigation were designed to provide complete and thorough coverage of all portions of the Project area and considered both below and above ground resources. This undertaking entailed pedestrian survey, systematic subsurface testing, detailed mapping, and photo-documentation.

Field Methods

Following the completion of all background research, the previously identified high/moderate archaeologically sensitive areas were subjected to a Phase IB cultural resources reconnaissance survey utilizing pedestrian survey, photo-documentation, GPS recordation, and systematic shovel testing. The field strategy was designed such that the entirety of the sensitivity area was examined visually and photographed. The pedestrian survey portion of this investigation included visual reconnaissance of all of the archaeologically sensitive area. The subsurface examination was completed through the excavation of shovel tests at 30 meter (98.4 foot) intervals along six survey transects positioned 30 meters (98.4 feet) apart throughout the archaeologically sensitive areas. Each shovel test measured 50 x 50 cm (19.7 x 19.7 in) in size, and each was excavated until glacially derived C-Horizon or immovable object (e.g., boulders, large tree roots) were encountered. Each shovel test was excavated in 10 cm (3.9 in) arbitrary levels within natural strata, and the fill from each level was screened separately. All shovel test fill was screened through 0.635-centimeter (0.25 in) hardware cloth. Soil characteristics were recorded in the field using Munsell Soil Color Charts and standard soils nomenclature. Each shovel test was backfilled after it was fully documented.

Curation

Following the completion and acceptance of the Final Report of Investigations, all cultural material, drawings, maps, photographs, and field notes will be curated with:

Dr. Sarah Sportman
Office of Connecticut State Archaeology
Box U-1023
University of Connecticut
Storrs, Connecticut 06269

CHAPTER VII
RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION & MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Introduction

This chapter presents the results of the Phase IB cultural resources reconnaissance survey of high/moderate archaeological sensitivity area associated with the proposed Project area along Fawn Meadow Lane in Woodbury, Connecticut (Figure 14 and Photos 1 through 4). As discussed in Chapters I and IV, Phase IB survey included pedestrian survey, augmented by systematic shovel testing and photo-documentation throughout the limits of the sensitivity area (Figure 14). The results of the Phase IB survey effort is presented below.

Results of Phase IB Cultural Resources Reconnaissance Survey

As stated earlier, the archaeologically sensitive portion of the proposed Project parcel encompasses 23.36 acres of land that, at the time of survey, was characterized by an open grassy field with slightly rolling topography and wooded areas in the north. The Project area is situated at elevations ranging from 207 to 227 m (679 to 745 ft) NGVD. During the Phase IB survey, 69 of 69 (100 percent) planned shovel tests were excavated throughout the Project area. They were spaced at 30 meters (98.4 feet) intervals along six parallel transects located 30 meters (98.4 feet) apart (see Chapter VI and Figure 14).

A typical shovel test excavated within the Project area exhibited three soil horizons in profile. The Ap-Horizon (plowzone) extended from the ground surface to approximately 30 centimeters below surface (cmbs) (11.8 inches below the surface (inbs)) and consisted of a layer of brown (10YR 4/3) sandy loam. The underlying B1-Horizon (upper subsoil) was described as a deposit of yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) sandy loam that ranged in depth from 25 to 35 cmbs (9.8 to 13.8 inbs). Finally, the glacially derived C-Horizon was identified as a layer of olive brown (2.5Y 4/3) silt fine to medium sand that extended from 30 to 45 cmbs (11.8 to 17.7 inbs). This soil profile is exemplified within the southern profile of Transect 5, STP 11 as seen in Photo 5.

Of the 69 excavated shovel tests, only three (3 percent) yielded cultural material. A total of the two shovel tests produced post-European Contact periods artifacts, and one shovel test yielded cultural material dating from an unknown precontact era Native American time period. As seen in Table 2 below the recovered post-European Contact periods artifacts consisted of a single bottle glass shard and 2 pieces of brick (Photo 6). The bottle glass shard was recovered from the disturbed plowzone (Ap-Horizon), whereas the 2 piece of brick were collected from a disturbed soil deposit that was interpreted as a modern fill event. None of the post-European Contact periods artifacts was associated with either buried cultural features or above-ground architectural remains. As a result, they were interpreted as typical field scatter and were assessed as not eligible for listing on the NRHP applying the criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). No additional testing of these deposits is recommended prior to Project construction.

Table 2. Overview of All Cultural Material Recovered During the Phase 1B Survey.

Area	Soil Horizon	Artifact Class	Artifact Type	Total
Project Area	Ap	Lithic	Quartz Debitage	2
			Quartz Biface	1

		Glass	Bottle Glass Shard	1
	Ap Total			**4**
	Fill	Brick	Brick Fragments	2
	Fill Total			**2**
Grand Total				**6**

In addition, the Phase IB survey resulted in the identification of a single precontact ere Native American findspot in Shovel Test 12 along Transect 3. The cultural material recovered from the findspot included quartz debitage (n=2) and a quartz biface (Photos 7 and 8). All three of these precontact era Native American artifacts originated from the disturbed plowzone (Ap-Horizon). This suggests that the artifacts were likely removed from their original context. Despite the excavation of four delineation shovel tests in the cardinal directions around Shovel Test 12 along Transect 3, no additional artifacts or evidence of precontact era Native American features was detected. Due to the paucity of artifacts and lack of features, the findspot was determined to lack research potential and the qualities of significance for listing on the NRHP applying the criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). No additional testing of precontact era Native American findspot is recommended prior to Project construction.

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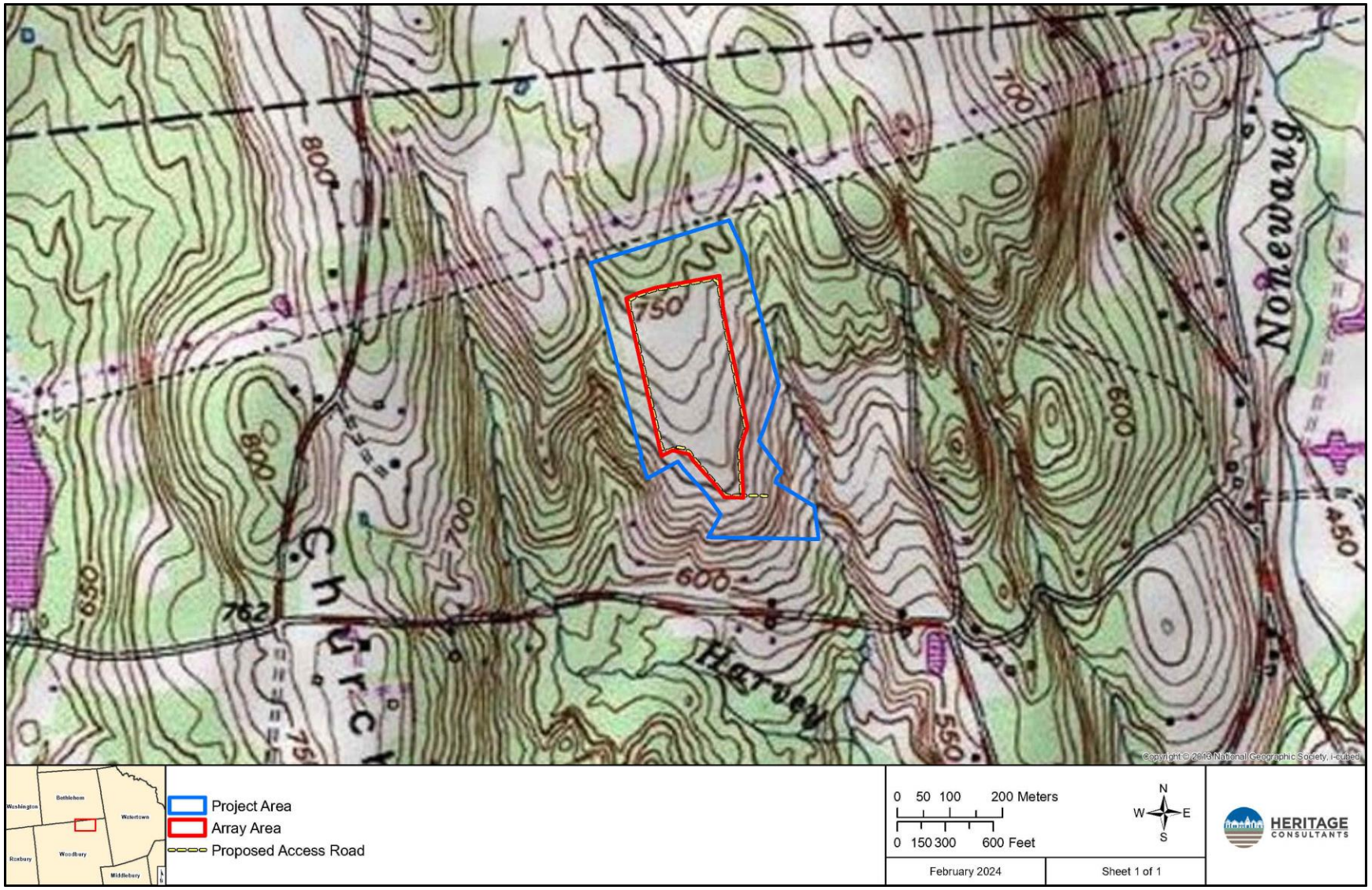

Figure 1. Excerpt from a USGS 7.5' series topographic quadrangle image showing the location of the project area in Woodbury, Connecticut.

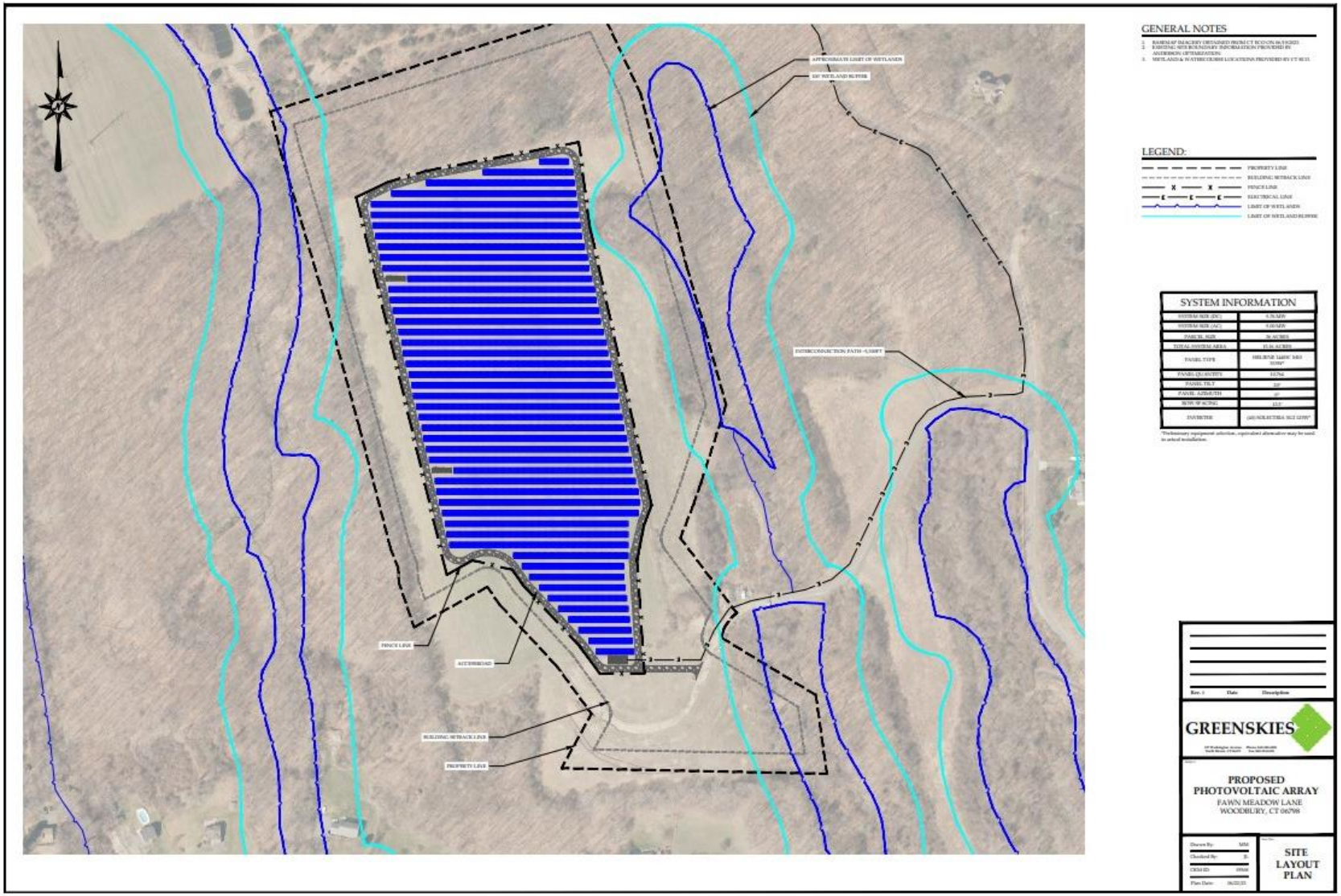

Figure 2. Client Provided Map of Project Area.

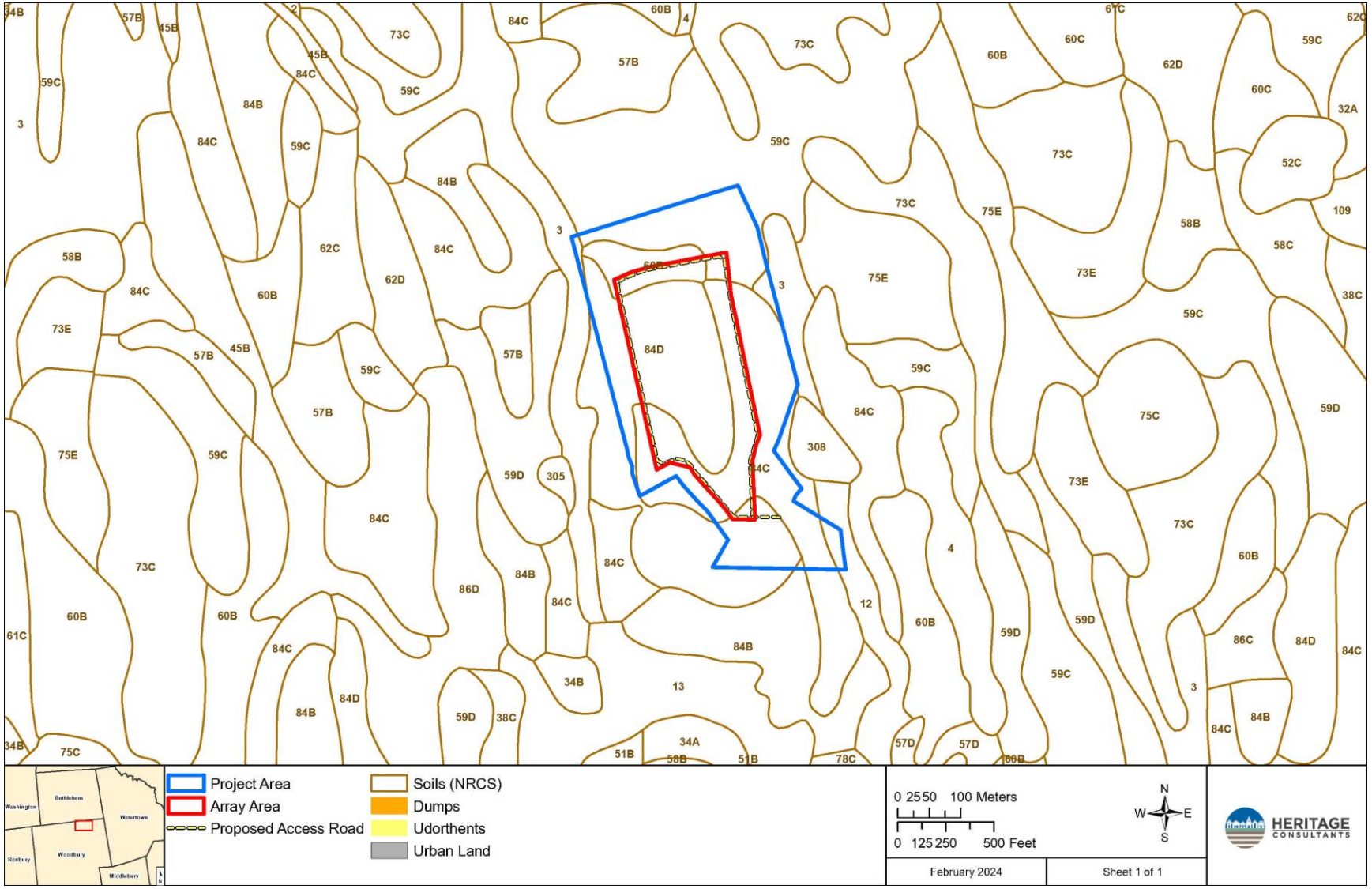

Figure 3. Digital map depicting the soil types present in the vicinity of the project area in Woodbury, Connecticut.

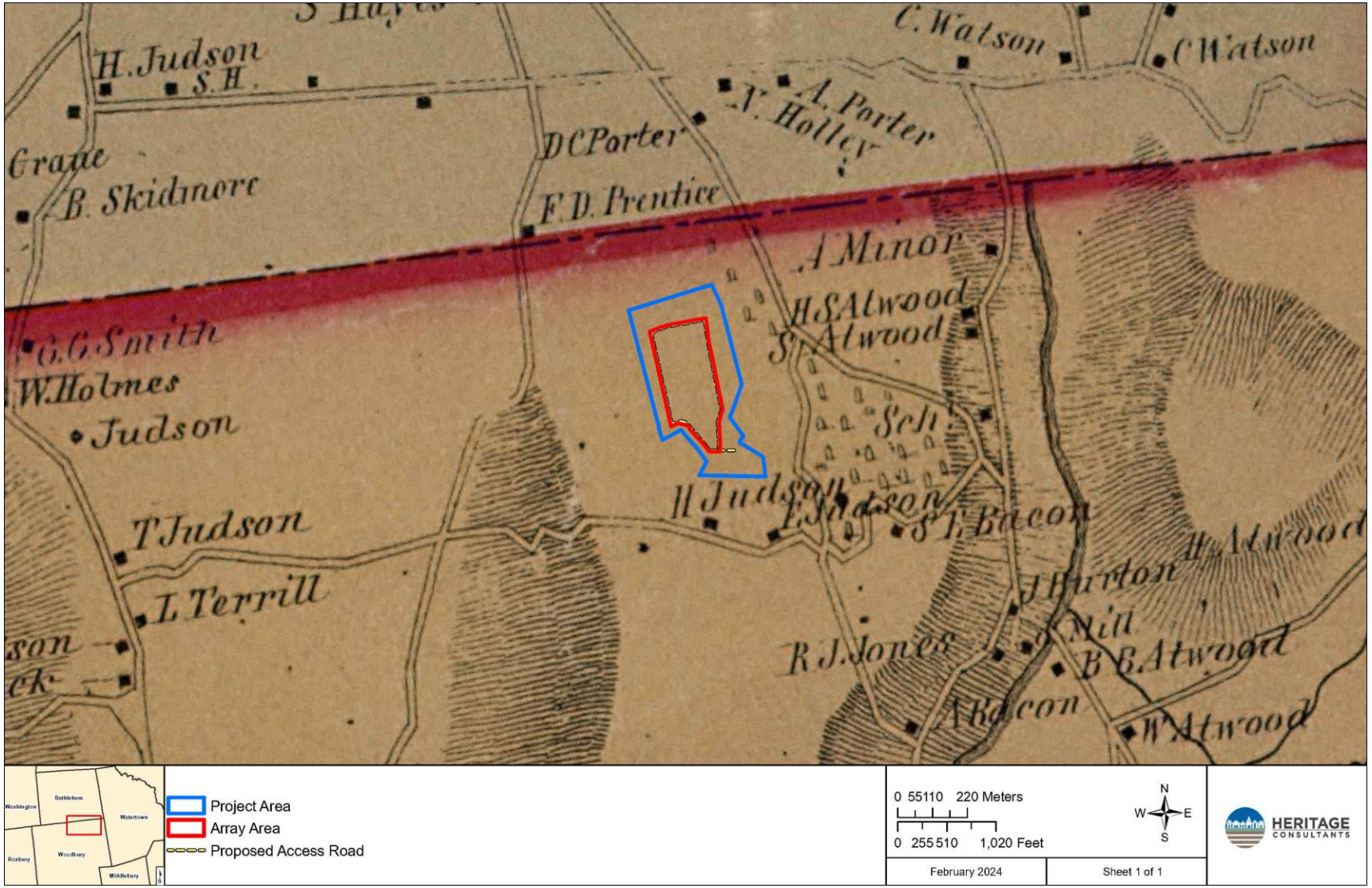

Figure 4. Excerpt from an 1859 historical map showing the project area in Woodbury, Connecticut.

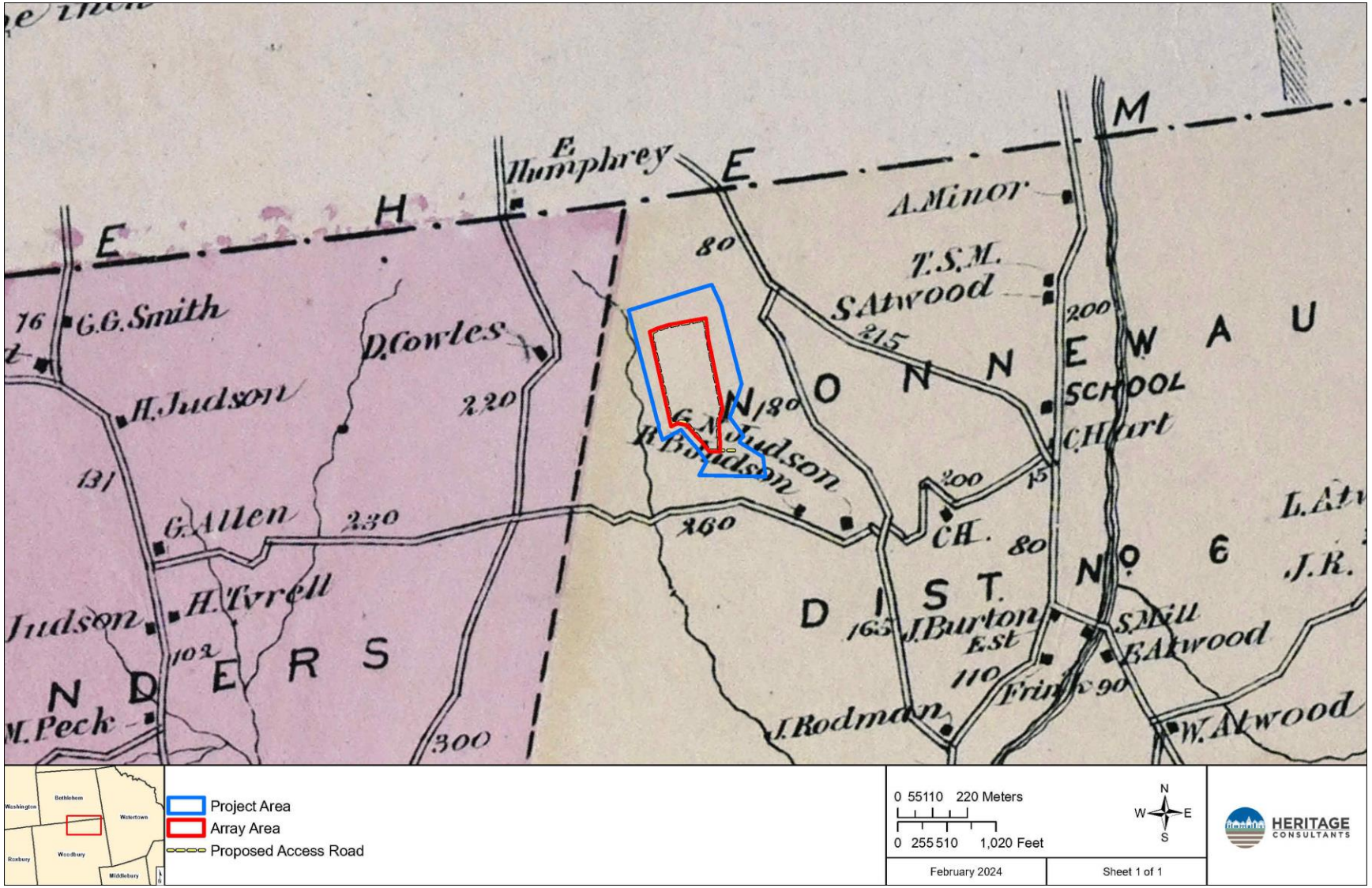

Figure 5. Excerpt from an 1868 historical map showing the location of the project area in Woodbury, Connecticut.

Figure 6. Excerpt from a 1934 aerial photograph showing the location of the project parcel in Woodbury, Connecticut.

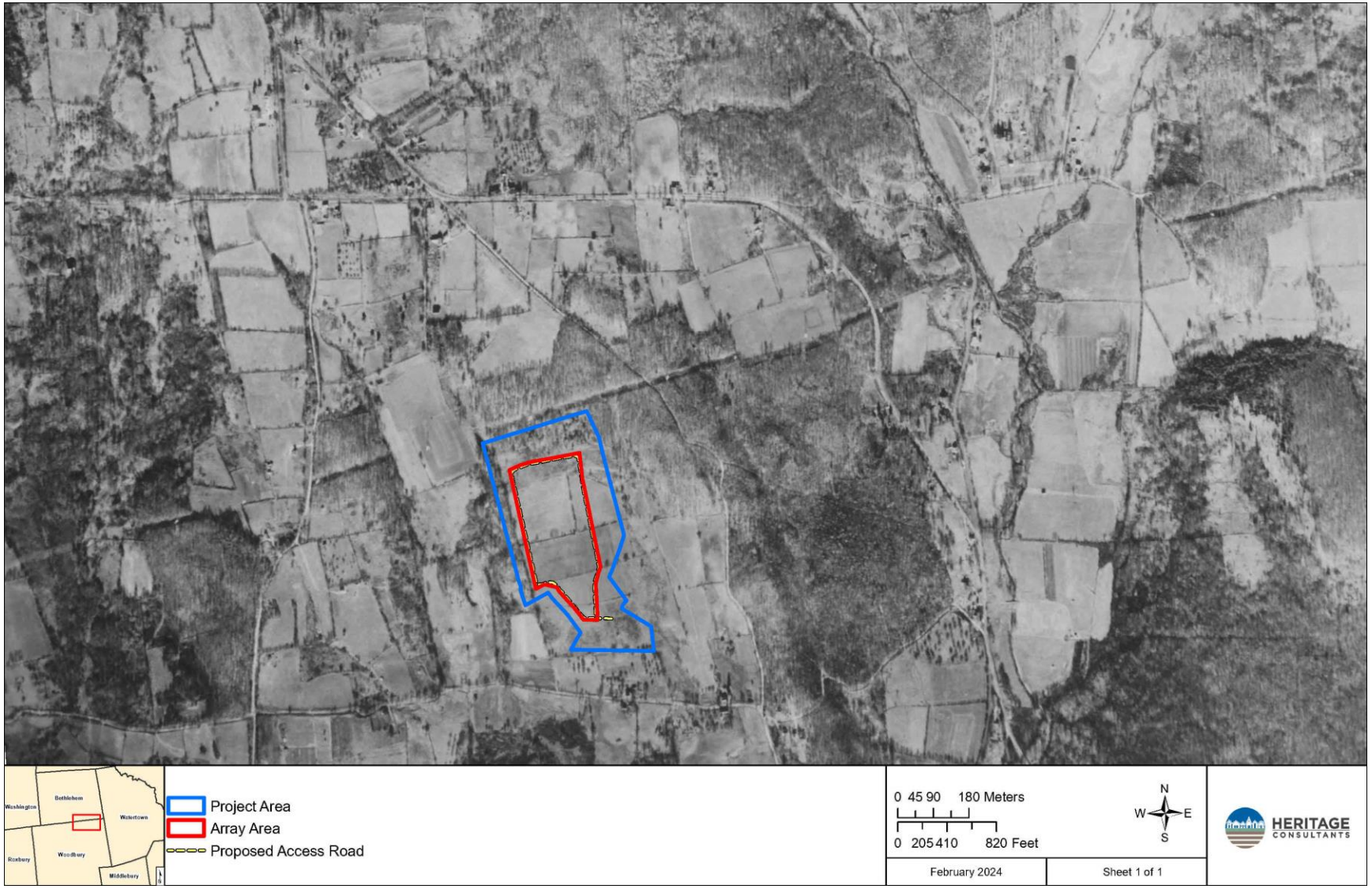

Figure 7. Excerpt from a 1951 aerial photograph showing the location of the project parcel in Woodbury, Connecticut.

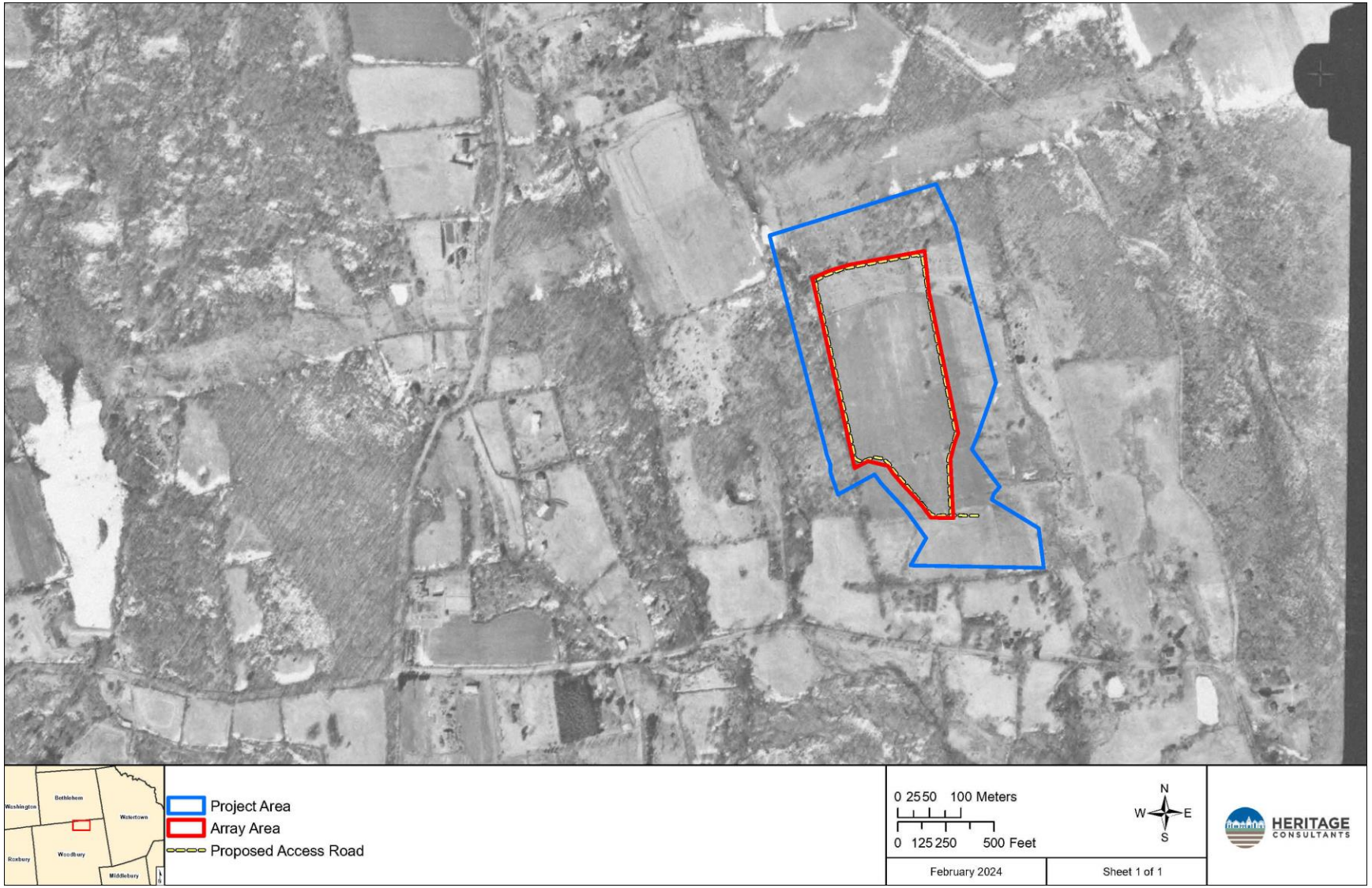

Figure 8. Excerpt from a 1970 aerial photograph showing the location of the project parcel in Woodbury, Connecticut.

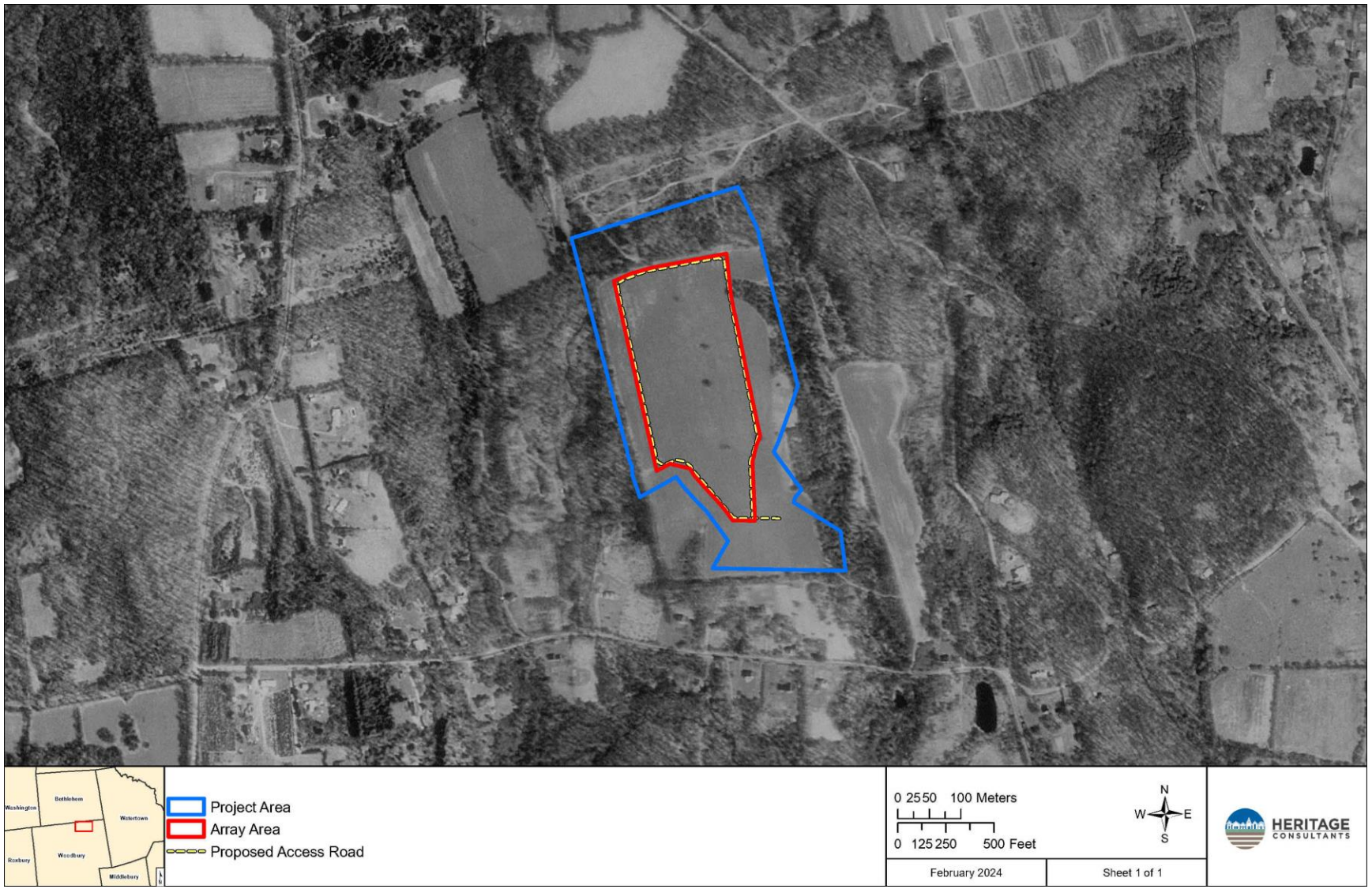

Figure 9. Excerpt from a 1990 aerial photograph showing the location of the project parcel in Woodbury, Connecticut.

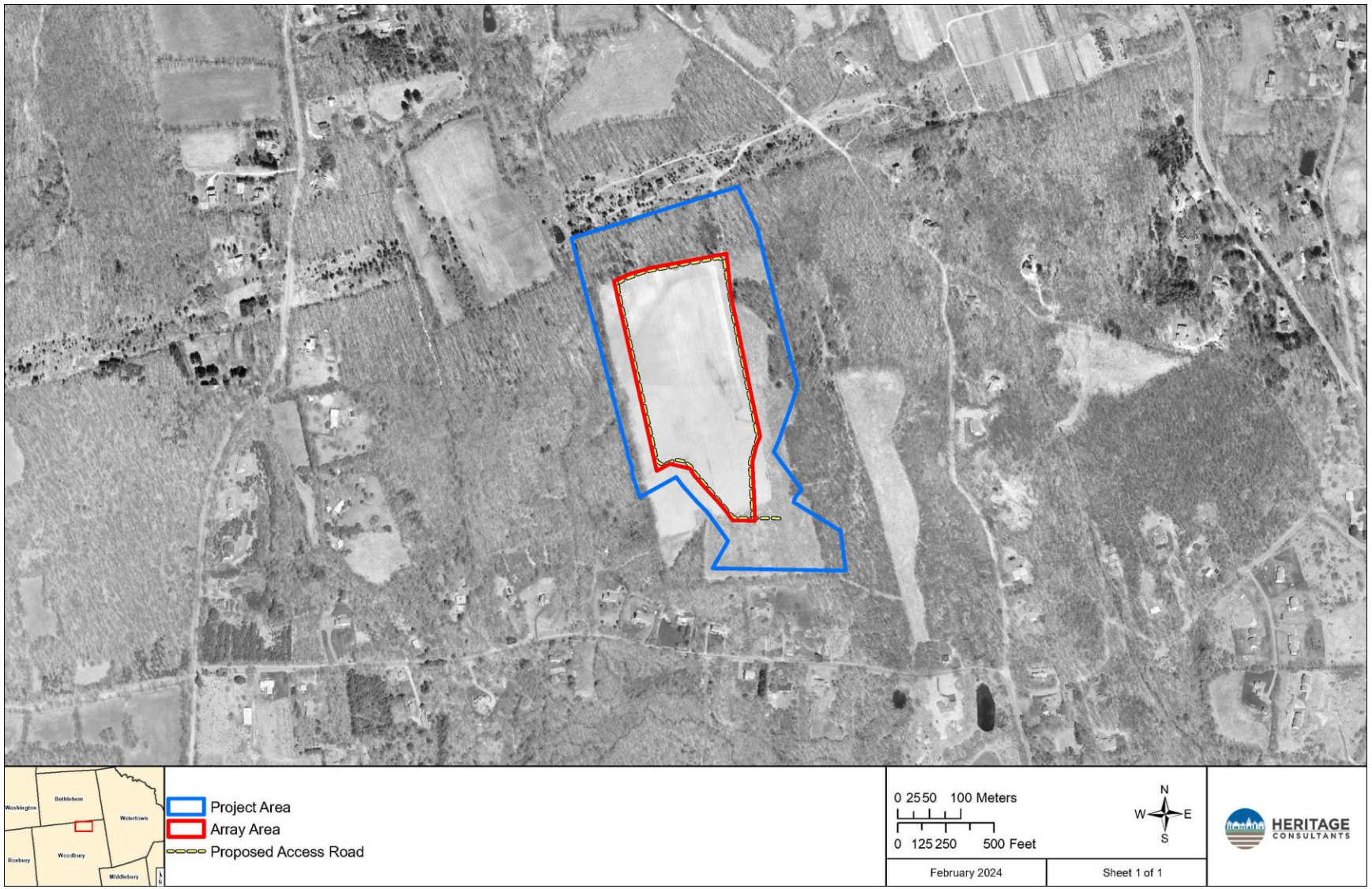

Figure 10. Excerpt from a 2004 aerial photograph showing the location of the project parcel in Woodbury, Connecticut.

Figure 11. Excerpt from a 2019 aerial photograph showing the location of the project parcel in Woodbury, Connecticut.

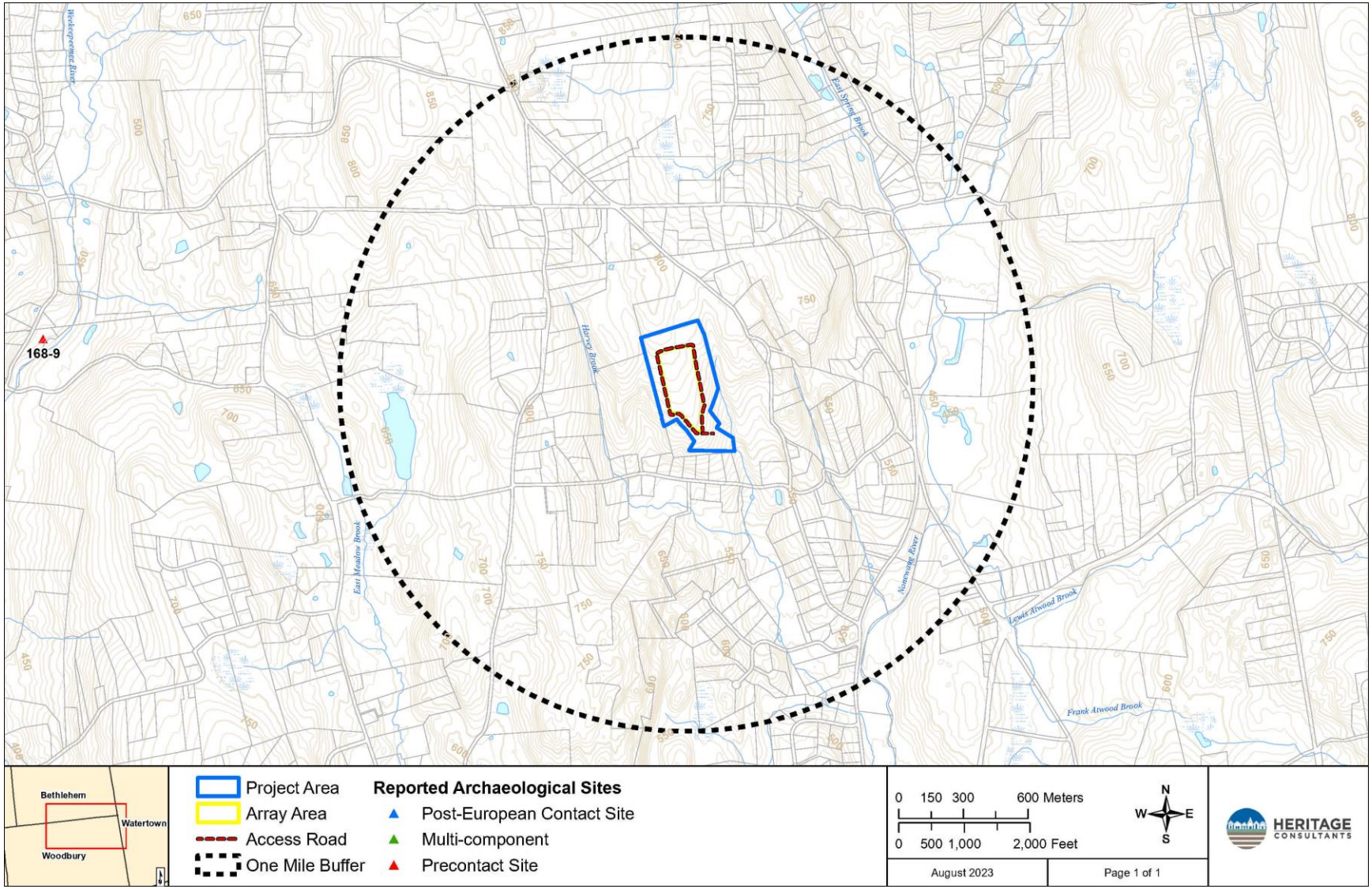

Figure 12. Digital map depicting the locations of the previously identified archaeological sites in the vicinity of the project parcel in Woodbury, Connecticut.

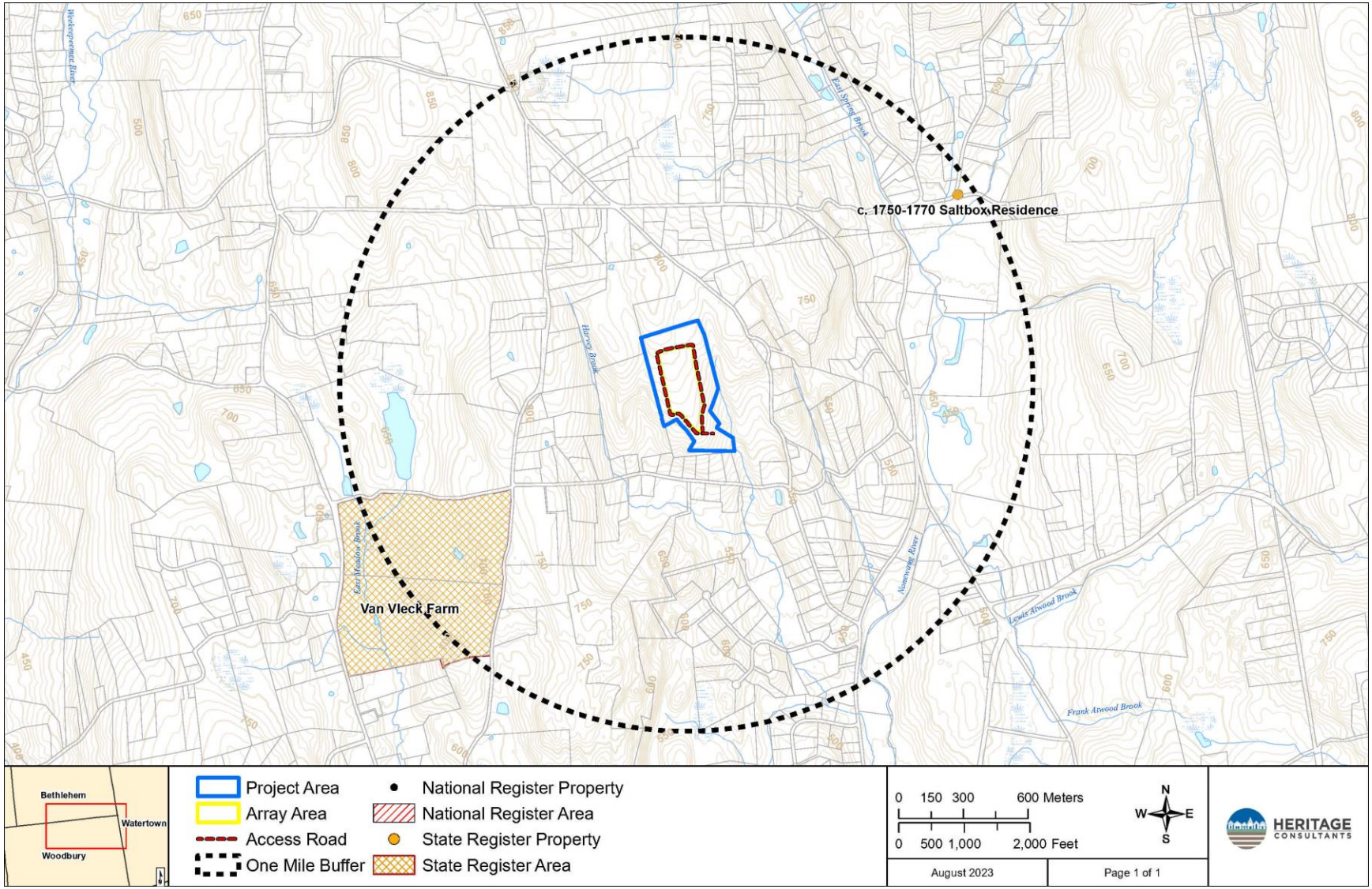

Figure 13. Digital map depicting the locations of the previously identified National Register of Historic Places and State Register of Historic Places properties in the vicinity of the project parcel in Enfield, Connecticut.

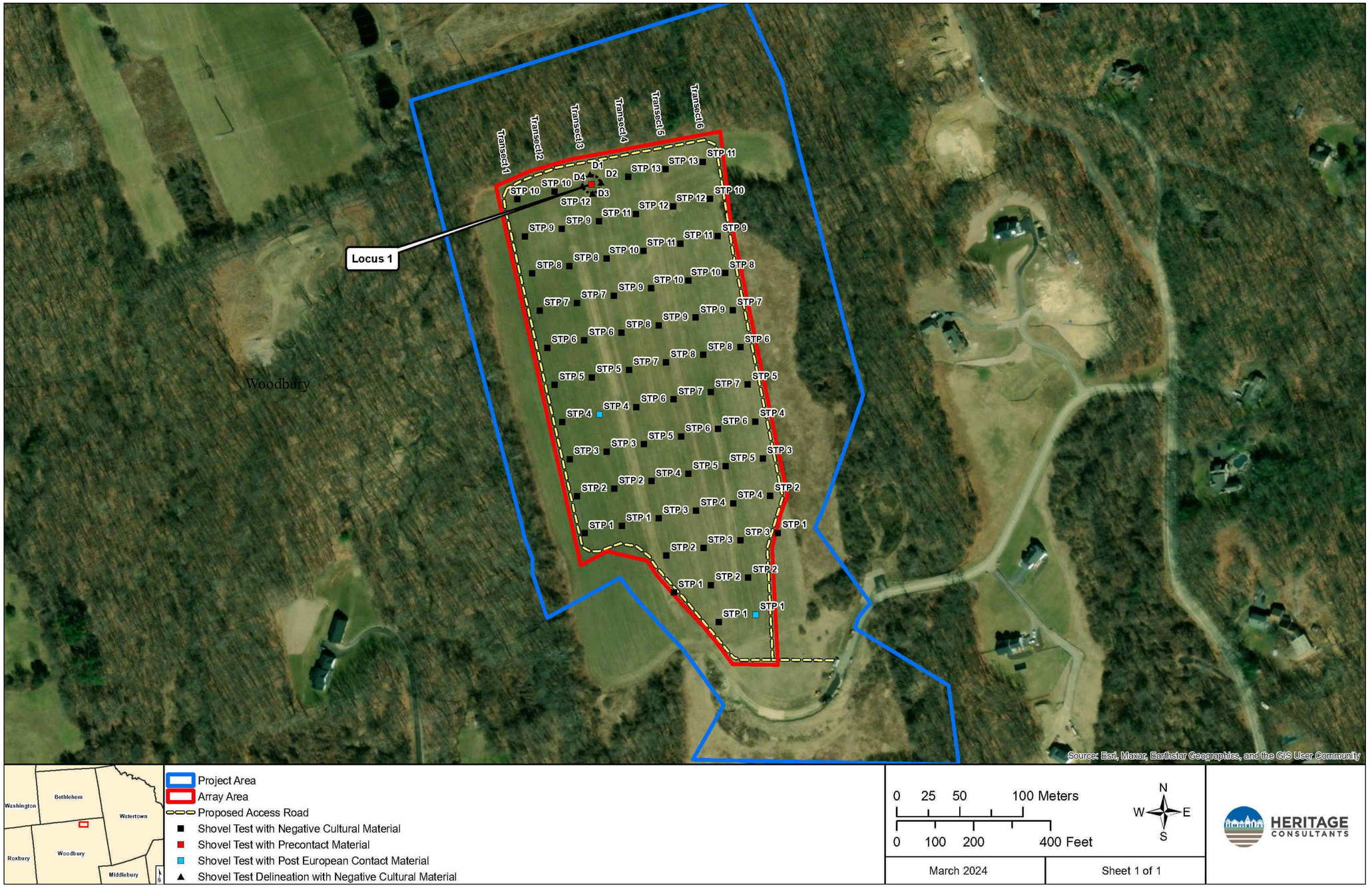

Figure 14. Excerpt from a 2019 aerial photograph showing Phase IB shovel tests and results in the development area in Glastonbury, Connecticut.

Photo 1. Overview photo from center of project area in Woodbury, Connecticut. Photo taken facing southeast.

Photo 2. Overview photo from center of project area in Woodbury, Connecticut Photo taken facing north.

Photo 3. Field Archaeologists excavating shovel test pits in the project area in Woodbury, Connecticut. Photo taken facing southwest.

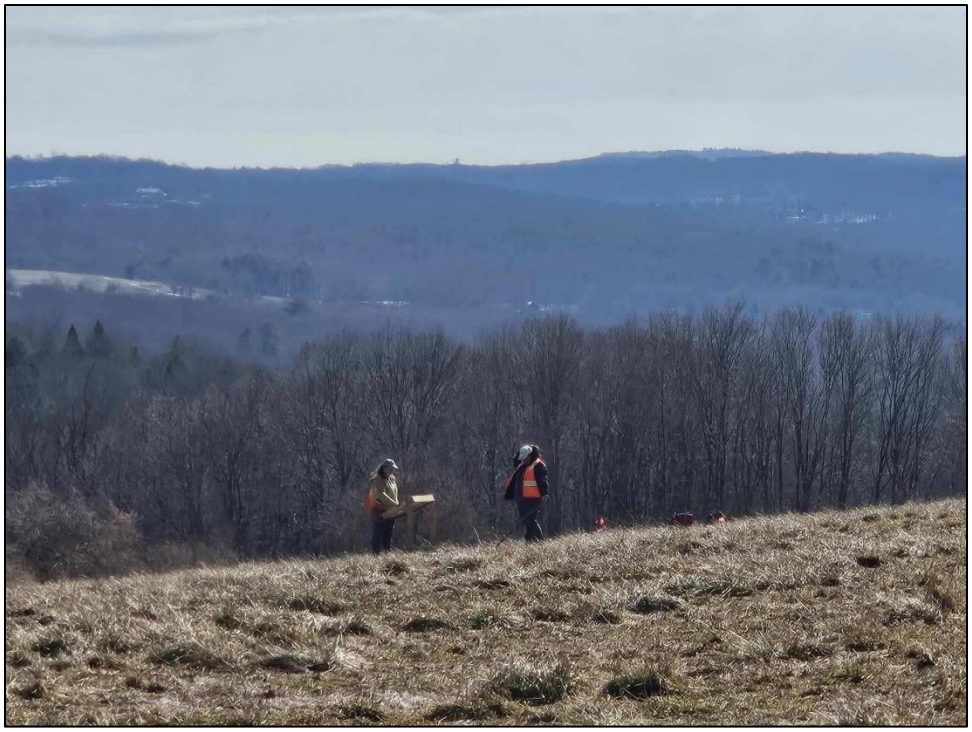

Photo 4. Field archaeologists excavating shovel test pits in the project area in Woodbury, Connecticut. Photo taken facing southeast.

Photo 5. Soil profile of Transect 5 STP 11. Photo taken facing west.

Photo 6. Representative photo of post-European Contact period artifacts recovered from the project area. A) Brick Fragment; B) Brick Fragment; C) Curved Frosted Glass Fragment

Photo 7. Precontact assemblage recovered from Locus 1; Side A. A) Quartz Angular Debris. B) Quartz Biface. C) Quartz Flake.

Photo 8. Precontact assemblage recovered from Locus 1; Side B. A) Quartz Angular Debris. B) Quartz Biface. C) Quartz Flake.