

Exhibit J

Phase 1A Cultural Resources Assessment Report

MAY 2020

PHASE IA CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT SURVEY OF THE
PROPOSED SUNJET SOLAR FACILITY IN BRISTOL, CONNECTICUT

PREPARED FOR:



ALL-POINTS
TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION

567 VAUXHALL STREET EXTENSION – SUITE 311
WATERFORD, CONNECTICUT 06385

PREPARED BY:



HERITAGE
CONSULTANTS

55 EAST CEDAR STREET
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06111

ABSTRACT

This report presents the results of a Phase IA cultural resources assessment survey for the proposed Sunjet Solar Facility in Bristol, Connecticut. All-Points Technology Corporation, P.C., contracted with Heritage Consultants, LLC to complete the survey of the proposed project area, which will be located at 481 Matthews Street in Bristol, Hartford County, Connecticut. The project area associated with the solar facility will occupy approximately 5.9 acres of land within a larger 11.8-acre parcel and will be accessed from Matthews Street on the northern boundary of the property. The investigation consisted of: 1) preparation of an overview of the region's prehistory, history, and natural setting; 2) a literature search to identify and discuss previously recorded cultural resources in the region; 3) a review of readily available historic maps and aerial imagery depicting the project area to identify potential historic resources and/or areas of past disturbance; and 4) pedestrian survey and photo-documentation of the project area to determine its archaeological sensitivity. The Phase IA survey was completed in May of 2020. At the time of the survey it was determined that the top 1.2 to 1.8 m (4 to 6 ft) of soil had been removed from the project area and was sold by the landowner to a developer. The results of the survey indicated that, due to this extensive modern disturbance, the project areas retain a no/low sensitivity for intact archaeological deposits. The pedestrian survey also revealed that there are two existing historic barns and two historic houses that will be visible from the proposed solar facility. The latter are located at 125 and 91 Hill Street. It is recommended that visual impacts to the home at 125 Hill Street and the two barns be avoided. The residence at 91 Hill Street will not be impacted by the project since vegetation is located between it and the proposed solar center, therefore no additional recommendations are necessary for this building.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of a Phase IA cultural resources management survey of the proposed Sunjet Energy Solar Facility in Bristol, Connecticut (Figure 1). All-Points Technology Corporation (All-Points) requested that Heritage Consultants, LLC (Heritage) complete the assessment survey as part of the planning process for the proposed solar array, which will occupy approximately 5.9 ac of land within a larger 11.8 ac parcel of land along Matthews Road. The proposed 5.9 ac development area is hereafter referred to as the project area and currently consists of a meadow and a few stands of small trees. The project area is situated in the central portion of a large parcel of land located at 481 Matthews Street in Bristol. It is bordered to the north by Matthews Street and a residential neighborhood, to the east by Hill Street and Roberts Orchards, and to the west by existing regulated wetlands. All work associated with the 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). The results the Phase IA cultural resources survey of the project area, including background research, pedestrian survey, photo-documentation, and management recommendations are provided in below.

Project Description and Methods Overview

The proposed project will consist of the construction of a solar array that will include the installation of 66 rows of solar panels. The development will include an access point from Matthews Street at the northern boundary of the property (Figure 2). At the time of survey, the project area consisted of a meadow with small stands of trees; it ranged in elevation from approximately 195 to 205 m (639.7 to 672.5 ft) NGVD, with the highest elevation in the northeast and sloping down to the west and southwest. Soils noted throughout the area are generally characterized as very deep poorly drained soils to very deep excessively drained soils with stratified sand, gravel, silt, and some clay.

This Phase IA cultural resources assessment survey consisted of the completion of the following tasks: 1) a contextual overview of the region's prehistory, history, and natural setting (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 project area; 3) a review of readily available historic maps and aerial imagery depicting the project area in order to identify potential historic resources and/or areas of past disturbance; 4) pedestrian survey and photo-documentation of the project area in order to determine their archaeological sensitivity; and 5) preparation of the current Phase IA cultural resources assessment survey report.

Project Results and Management Recommendations Overview

The review of historic maps and aerial images depicting the project area, and files maintained by the CT-SHPO, failed to identify any previously documented prehistoric or historic archaeological sites but did result in the identification on one National/State Register of Historic Places Properties and nine historic standing structures in the vicinity of the project area, all of which are discussed in Chapter V.

In addition to the cultural resources review, Heritage used data recovered during a pedestrian survey, as well as historic map and aerial image analysis, to stratify the project area into zones of no/low and /or moderate/high archaeological sensitivity. At the time of the survey, it was determined that the top 1.2 to 1.8 m (4 to 6 ft) of soil had been removed from the project area and was sold. This information was relayed

to Heritage personnel by the current landowner. Due to this extensive disturbance, the project area possesses a no/low sensitivity for intact archaeological deposits. Pedestrian survey of the area surrounding the project area revealed the presence of two historic houses and two historic barns. It is recommended that visual impacts to one of the houses and the barns be avoided. The viewshed of the other house is screened from the solar center by vegetation. No recommendations are necessary for this building as it will not be impacted by the project.

Project Personnel

Heritage Personnel who contributed to the project include Mr. David R. George, M.A., R.P.A., (Principal Investigator); Ms. Renée Petruzelli, M.A., R.P.A. (Project Archaeologist); Mr. Stephen Anderson, B.A., (Geographic Information Specialist); Ms. Elizabeth Correia M.A (Laboratory Specialist); and Ms. Christina Volpe, B.A., (Historian).

CHAPTER II

NATURAL SETTING

Introduction

This chapter provides a brief overview of the natural setting of the region containing the project area in Bristol, Connecticut. Previous archaeological research has documented that specific environmental factors can be associated with both prehistoric and historic 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: Northwest Uplands 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.

Northwest Hills Ecoregion

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 Region

The project area is close to many ponds, brooks, rivers, and wetlands. Freshwater sources in the project region include the Pequabuck River, Birge Pond, and Old Marsh Pond. The project area is located just slightly over 2,442 m (8,012 ft) to the east of the Pequabuck River and approximately 1,248 m (4,094 ft) to the southwest of Birge Pond. Old Marsh Pond is 2,396 m (7,860 ft) to the northwest of the project area.

Previously completed archaeological investigations in Connecticut have demonstrated that streams, rivers, and wetlands were focal points for prehistoric occupations because they provided access to transportation routes, sources of fresh water, 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.

A review of the soils within the project area is presented below. The project area is characterized by the presence of Hinckley, Merrimac, and Raypol soils (Figure 3). Data regarding them was collected from the National Resources Conservation Service (<https://soilseries.sc.egov.usda.gov>).

Raypol (Soil Code 12):

The Raypol series consists of very deep, poorly drained soils formed in loamy over sandy and gravelly outwash. They are found on nearly level to gently area and in shallow drainageways and low-lying positions of terraces and plains with slopes ranging from 0 to 5 percent. Typical sequence, depth, and composition of this soil is as follows: **Ap**--0 to 8 inches; very dark brown (10YR 2/2) silt loam, pale brown (10YR 6/3) dry; weak medium granular structure; friable; common very fine, fine and medium roots; strongly acid; clear smooth boundary; **Bg1** grayish brown (10YR 5/2) very fine sandy loam; weak medium subangular blocky structure; friable; common very fine, fine and medium roots; common medium prominent yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) masses of iron accumulation; strongly acid; clear wavy boundary; **Bg2**--grayish brown (10YR 5/2) silt loam; weak medium subangular blocky structure; friable; common fine and medium roots; common medium prominent yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) masses of iron accumulation; strongly acid; clear wavy boundary; **Bw1**--dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) silt loam; weak medium subangular blocky structure; friable; few fine roots; common medium prominent yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) and common medium distinct light brownish gray (10YR 6/2) masses of iron accumulation; strongly acid; gradual wavy boundary; **Bw2**--olive brown (2.5Y 4/4) very fine sandy loam; massive; friable; 5 percent gravel; common medium prominent yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) masses of iron accumulation and common medium distinct light brownish gray (10YR 6/2) iron depletions; strongly acid; clear wavy boundary; **2C1**--light olive brown (2.5Y 5/4) gravelly sand; single grain; loose; 25 percent gravel; few medium prominent yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) masses of iron accumulation; strongly acid; and **2C2**--dark grayish brown (2.5Y 4/2) very gravelly sand; single grain; loose; 35 percent gravel and 5 percent cobbles; few medium prominent yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) masses of iron accumulation; strongly acid.

Merrimac (Soil Code 234B):

The Merrimac series consists of very deep, somewhat excessively drained soils formed in outwash. They are found on nearly level through very steep areas on outwash terraces and plains, as well as other glaciofluvial landforms, with slopes ranging from 0 through 35 percent. Typical sequence, depth, and composition of this soil is as follows: **Ap** -- 0 to 10 inches (0 to 25 centimeters); very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) fine sandy loam, light brownish gray (10YR 6/2) dry; weak fine and medium granular structure; very friable; many fine roots; 10 percent fine gravel; strongly acid; abrupt smooth boundary; **Bw1** -- 10 to

15 inches (25 to 38 centimeters); brown (7.5YR 4/4) fine sandy loam; weak fine and medium granular structure; very friable; common fine roots; 10 percent fine gravel; strongly acid; clear wavy boundary; **Bw2** -- 15 to 22 inches (38 to 56 centimeters); dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) gravelly sandy loam; weak fine and medium granular structure; very friable; few fine roots; 15 percent gravel; strongly acid; clear wavy boundary; **Bw3** -- 22 to 26 inches (56 to 66 centimeters); dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) gravelly loamy sand; very weak fine granular structure; very friable; few fine roots; 25 percent gravel; moderately acid; clear wavy boundary; and **2C** -- 26 to 65 inches; 80 percent yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) and 20 percent dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) very gravelly sand; single grain; loose; stratified; few fine roots in upper 4 inches; 40 percent gravel, 10 percent cobbles; moderately acid.

Hinckley (Soil Code 38 C):

The Hinckley series consists of very deep, excessively drained soils that have formed in glaciofluvial materials. They are found on nearly level through very portions of outwash terraces, outwash plains, outwash deltas, kames, kame terraces, and eskers. Typical sequence, depth, and composition of this soil is as follows: **Oe** -- 0 to 3 cm; moderately decomposed plant material derived from red pine needles and twigs; **Ap** -- 3 to 20 cm; very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) loamy sand; weak fine and medium granular structure; very friable; many fine and medium roots; 5 percent fine gravel; very strongly acid; abrupt smooth boundary; **Bw1** -- 20 to 28 cm; strong brown (7.5YR 5/6) gravelly loamy sand; weak fine and medium granular structure; very friable; common fine and medium roots; 20 percent gravel; very strongly acid; clear smooth boundary; **Bw2** -- 28 to 41 cm; yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) gravelly loamy sand; weak fine and medium granular structure; very friable; common fine and medium roots; 25 percent gravel; very strongly acid; clear irregular boundary; **BC** -- 41 to 48 cm; yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) very gravelly sand; single grain; loose; common fine and medium roots; 40 percent gravel; strongly acid; clear smooth boundary; and **C** -- 48 to 165 cm; light olive brown (2.5Y 5/4) extremely gravelly sand consisting of stratified sand, gravel and cobbles; single grain; loose; common fine and medium roots in the upper 20 cm and very few below; 60 percent gravel and cobbles; moderately acid.

Summary

The natural setting of the area containing the proposed Sunjet Energy Solar Facility is common in the Northwest Hills ecoregion section of Connecticut and is characterized by narrow river valleys and low hills. The Northwest Hills ecoregion stretches up and down the western Connecticut boundary line, following the Housatonic River. The project area is located just slightly over 2,442 meters (8,012 ft) to the east of the Pequabuck River, approximately 1,248 meters (4,094 ft) to the southwest of Birge Pond, and Old Marsh Pond is 2,396 m (7,860 ft) to the northwest of the project area. The region demonstrates that there is substantial natural diversity remaining even though the area has undergone modifications and adaptations since the retreat of the glaciers. The types of Native American sites that may be contained in these areas include task specific, temporary, or seasonal base camps, which may include areas of lithic tool manufacturing, hearths, post-molds, and storage pits.

CHAPTER III PREHISTORIC SETTING

Introduction

Prior to the late 1970s and early 1980s, few systematic archaeological surveys of large portions of the state of Connecticut had been undertaken. Rather, the prehistory of the region was studied at the site level. Sites chosen for excavation were highly visible and located in the coastal zone, e.g., shell middens, and Connecticut River Valley. As a result, a skewed interpretation of the prehistory 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 prehistoric Native Americans, while the coastal zone, i.e., the eastern and western coastal and the southeastern and southwestern hills ecoregions, were the focus of settlements and exploitation in the prehistoric era. 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 prehistory of Connecticut. The remainder of this chapter provides an overview of the prehistoric setting of the region encompassing the project area.

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., 12,000 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 numerous surface finds of Paleo-Indian projectile points throughout the State of Connecticut, only two sites, the Templeton Site (6-LF-21) in Washington, Connecticut and the Hidden Creek Site (72-163) in Ledyard, Connecticut, have been studied in detail and dated using the radiocarbon method (Jones 1997; Moeller 1980). The Templeton Site (6-LF-21) is in Washington, Connecticut and 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.

The only other Paleo-Indian site studied in detail in Connecticut is the Hidden Creek Site (72-163) (Jones 1997). The Hidden Creek Site is situated on the southeastern margin of the Great Cedar Swamp on the Mashantucket Pequot Reservation in Ledyard, Connecticut. 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.

While archaeological evidence for Paleo-Indian occupation is scarce in Connecticut, it, combined with data from the West Athens Road and King's Road Site in the Hudson drainage and the Davis and Potts Sites in northern New York, supports the hypothesis that there was human occupation of the area not long after ca. 12,000 B.P. (Snow 1980). Further, site types currently known suggest that the Paleo-Indian settlement pattern was characterized by a high degree of mobility, with groups moving from region to region in search of seasonally abundant food resources, as well as for the procurement of high-quality raw materials from which to fashion stone tools.

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, 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 small and produce few artifacts, most of which are not temporally diagnostic. While Early Archaic sites in other portions 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 recognized 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, and 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.

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

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

7,015±160 B.P. (Dincauze 1976).

In addition to Neville points, Dincauze (1976) described two other projectile point 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 m² (5,383 ft²). 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).

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

The Terminal Archaic Period, 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 prehistory. 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 the use of 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 still was 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 has 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.

Careful archaeological investigations of Early Woodland sites in southern New England have 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 indicative of the Middle Woodland Period includes 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 diverse stylistically than their predecessors, with incision, shell stamping, punctuation, single point, linear dentate, rocker dentate stamping, and stamp and drag impressions common (Lizee 1994a:216).

Summary of Connecticut Prehistory

The prehistory of Connecticut spans from ca., 12,000 to 350 B.P., and it is characterized by numerous

changes in tool types, subsistence patterns, and land use strategies. Much of the prehistoric era is characterized by local Native American groups who practiced a subsistence pattern based on a mixed economy of hunting and gathering wild 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 prehistoric era 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 containing the proposed project area, a variety of prehistoric site types may be expected. These range from seasonal camps utilized by Archaic populations to temporary and task-specific sites of the Woodland era.

CHAPTER IV HISTORIC OVERVIEW

Introduction

As stated in Chapter 1, the project area associated with the proposed Sunjet Solar Facility will occupy approximately 5.9 acres of land within a larger 11.8-acre parcel situated in the town of Bristol, which is in Hartford County, Connecticut. The project area is positioned on the south side of Matthews Street, between Roberts Orchards to the east and West Bristol School to the west. This chapter presents an overview of the history of the larger region, as well as historical data specific to the project area.

History of the Town of Bristol

Hartford County was one of two of the earliest colonial settlements in Connecticut, with three of its towns dating from the 1630s. The county extends south from the Massachusetts border and flanks the Connecticut River. The earliest development of the region depended on agriculture and transportation advantages of the river and its adjacent arable land. Areas further away from the Connecticut River Valley were colonized later and usually grew more slowly through the early nineteenth century. The main differences in the development of towns in Hartford County was, first, whether the town had a significant level of industrialization, and second, whether the town had a significant level of suburbanization. Bristol, which was located at the western edge of the county was slower to develop than other neighboring towns due to its more isolated location. During the nineteenth century, however, the Pequabuck River provided waterpower that allowed the development of a steadily growing amount of industry in the town, especially in the later part of the century and the early part of early twentieth century. After the 1930s, suburbanization caused a population boom. The following discussion outline the history of Bristol in more detail and discusses the presence and absence of historical resources in the vicinity of the project area.

Colonial Era (to 1790)

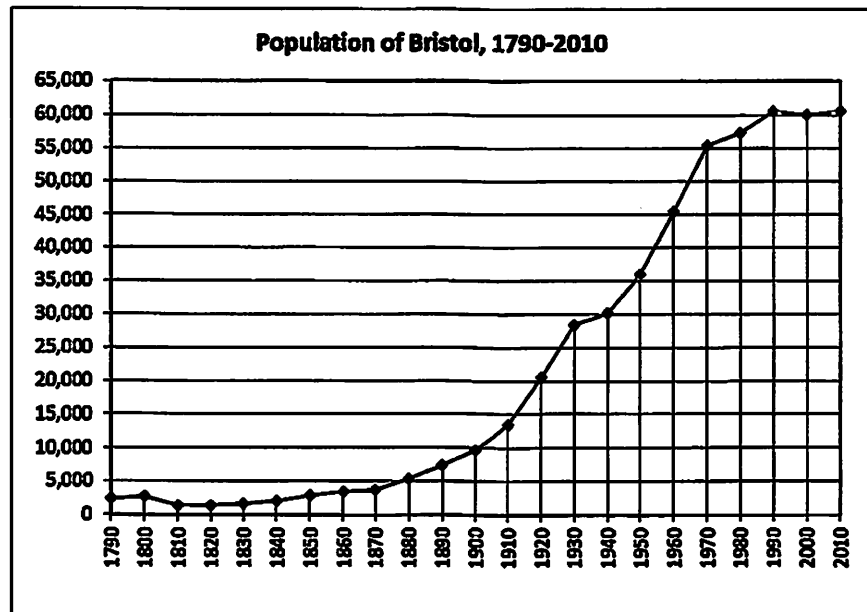
The town of Bristol was created out of the town of Farmington in 1785. Farmington is considered the first daughter town of Hartford and it was established by Hartford colonists in 1645. Both legal and historical tradition holds that when the Hartford colonists purchased the land from an Indian sachem known as Sequassen in 1636, they bought a large area extending west to the Mohawk territory (Bickford 1982). The description of the purchase was so vague that it could be, and sometimes was, argued to extend to the Housatonic River, although it doubtful that whatever authority Sequassen had really extended so far. As with many other early purchases from Native Americans, the Sequassen document imagined, quite unrealistically, that Native American leaders had the same kind of ownership of their territory as the British monarchs did. Notwithstanding such assertions of sovereignty by or on behalf of Sequassen, once the newly constituted General Court decided in 1640 to permit a new settlement at "Tunxis Sepus," the governor secured an additional deed from the Tunxis Native American community there. This deed was confirmed by another deed in 1650, in which it was claimed that the land had already been purchased from Sequassen; however, it once again included a new agreement with the actual Native American residents of the region. A group of Native Americans remained on a reservation in Farmington for many years, but over time most departed for regions less subject to encroachments by the colonists, leaving only a few holdouts who eventually left the area (Bickford 1982).

The new colonial settlement at Tunxis received the official name of Farmington in 1645. In addition to the initial purchases, the town was granted additional land by the legislature between 1645 and 1677, so that its final size measured approximately 15 miles (24 km) from north to south and 11 miles (18 km) from east

to west. The future site of Bristol was situated in the middle-western part of this large area. It was not until 1721 that the Farmington-based colonial owners of the area that would become Bristol and Burlington divided it into five tiers of lots to be distributed among themselves. These lots were considered part of the New Cambridge Society, an ecclesiastical subdivision of Farmington, until Bristol was incorporated and named in 1785. The northern part had developed a further ecclesiastical subdivision, known as West Britain, in 1774. It became known as Burlington when that town separated from Bristol in 1806 (Crofut 1937). During the Revolutionary War, some 92 men from Bristol (then known as New Cambridge) saw military service. The town also produced the noted Loyalist Moses Dunbar, who became a captain in British service and who was executed in Hartford in 1777 for treason (Clouette and Roth 1984).

Early National and Industrializing Eras (1790-1930)

In the first federal census, which was recorded in 1790, Bristol reported 2,642 residents (see the population chart below; Keegan 2012). A gazetteer of the state published in 1819 reported that it was "uneven and hilly," the soil was good for growing grain, grass, and fruit. More notably, many of its residents were "engaged in manufacturing employments and pursuits," especially tinware and clocks. The town already had five tinware factories, one firm making brass clocks, and several making wooden clocks, along with two button factories, two textile mills, eight cider distilleries, and six tanneries, in addition to the usual grist mills and sawmills. The town's cultural needs were met by one Congregational and one Baptist church, common schools, "one small Academy for Misses," and three public membership libraries (Pease and Niles 1819:58-59). In 1837, Bristol received only a short description from John Warner Barber, who repeated the agricultural information from the earlier source. By the 1830s, however, Bristol had 16 clock factories and button manufacturing, and had added a Methodist church (Barber 1837:69).



Bristol's first clockmaking boom lasted from 1820 to 1837 and was due to the efforts of local merchants who convinced Chauncey Jerome, a clockmaker trained by Eli Terry of Plymouth, to move there. Jerome was far from the only clockmaker in Bristol, but he was more famous than most of the rest (Clouette and Roth 1984). The population figures shown in the population chart above, however, do not indicate any precipitous change over the first 40 years of the century, but rather a slow and steady growth from a low

point of 1,362 residents in 1820. The decline between 1800 and 1810 was due to the loss of territory to the new town of Burlington (Keegan 2012). These numbers indicate that the town's industrial firms remained small during this period. The Panic of 1837 brought the enterprises of Bristol, as well as many other places, to a temporary halt. Jerome switched production from wooden to brass clocks, and by 1850 Bristol factories were producing large numbers of clocks. Jerome moved his works to New Haven in 1843, but the town's industries included other clockmakers, as well as foundries, textile mills, saws, and machinery, so the town was more than ready to take advantage of the arrival of the railroad in 1850 (Clouette and Roth 1984). At that time, the town's population had been growing steadily for decades and reached 2,884 residents (see the population chart above; Keegan 2012). In towns that, unlike Bristol, did not have an industrial base, the population trend across the nineteenth century was often stagnation or decline.

The railroad was only one of several efforts to improve transportation in Bristol and the region. In 1803, the East Middle-West Middle turnpike was chartered by the state, and eventually extended along an east-west course across the center of Bristol. It remained in operation, with some changes, through the 1840s (Wood 1919). Prominent men of Bristol also were involved in the chartering and construction of the Farmington Canal, which opened in 1828 and gave Bristol manufacturers and merchants relatively easy access to a more efficient means of transporting goods, until the railroads displaced the canal (Clouette and Roth 1984). The initial railroad company that served Bristol was chartered in 1845, after which they merged with a pre-existing firm to create the Hartford, Providence, & Fishkill Railroad, whose goal was to complete a line between Providence, Rhode Island and Fishkill, New York through Hartford. In 1850 service began between Hartford and Bristol, and after various vicissitudes the road did reach New York (Turner and Jacobus 1989). The 1850 census of manufactures reported 11 clock manufacturers in Bristol, all but two of which had fewer than 50 employees; in fact, the largest employer in Bristol was the Bristol Mining Co., which was engaged in mining copper in the northeastern part of town and employed 100 men. In total, there were approximately 600 people employed in manufacturing (U.S. Census 1850c).

During the Civil War, loss of southern markets caused a slowdown in Bristol's clock industry. However, the local economy recovered in the postwar years, and various other industries arrived and flourished. These included the making of toys, musical instruments, steel tools, springs, and brass products. As for the war itself, many Bristol men saw service in the Sixteenth Regiment, and their Company K was captured at Plymouth, North Carolina in 1864. The troops were sent to prison camps, including the infamous Andersonville, Georgia camp (Clouette and Roth 1984). The increase in business is reflected in the steadily increasing population after 1870; by 1900, it was approaching 10,000, which made Bristol the nineteenth largest town in the state at that time (although the four largest municipalities each held over 50,000 people) (see population chart above; Keegan 2012).

According to nineteenth-century maps, the project area was well outside the developing industrial centers. In 1852, a map of the town showed the "Centre" and the "South Village" areas as more densely settled, with the railroad looping through them and extending eastward to the smaller village of Forestville (Figure 4). Another village, Polkville, was in the northeastern part of town. The project area and its vicinity were sparsely settled at the time, indicating that the local economy was agricultural in nature. This map, unlike most others of the period, sought to depict all the buildings of each farmstead. Thus, it showed the house of D. Hills on the east side of Hill Road, opposite the project area parcel, and a cluster of farm buildings on the west side of Hill Road, within the larger parcel. The project area proper, being set back from Hill Road, does not incorporate these buildings, although they were within 152 m (500 ft) of it. The other nearby farmsteads were those of S. H. Carrington, to the north and on the east side of the road (note, however, that the same name was attached to two other farmsteads to the south of this area), and

C. L. Tuttle, to the south and on the west side of the road (Figure 5; Woodford 1852). The 1869 map of the town did not portray the farms' outbuildings, and the names of the nearby farmers had changed to Bill Gaylord, M. Minor, and Calvin Blanchard (Figure 6; Baker & Tilden 1869).

Although it is not certain which, if any, of these neighbors owned the larger parcel during the nineteenth century, information concerning them provides information about the neighborhood and its economic activities. According to the 1850 federal census, Daniel Hill, Silas H. Carrington, and Constant L. Tuttle were all farmers; it is possible that the farmstead to the north of Hill's was occupied by Julius Carrington, who may have been a brother to Silas. Hill and Tuttle were both older men, aged 64 and 75, and each claimed a farm worth \$5,000.00. Their wives were both younger (Betsey Hill was 50 years old, and Hymenia Tuttle was 64). The Tuttle had an unmarried adult daughter living with them, and the Hills had an unmarried adult son, and each had a young, probably unrelated teenager in the household (a 13-year-old-boy for the Tuttle and an 11-year-old Irish girl for the Hills). In contrast, neither Carrington Family gave a value for their farm, and both households were younger couples; Julius and Betsey had young children, while Silas H. and Jane C. had his probable mother and sister, as well as an unrelated teenaged boy, in their household. Compared to most other farms in the area, those of Hills and the Tuttle were more valuable than usual for the neighborhood. Most of the heads of household were middle-aged or older, and all but a few were born in Connecticut (United States Census 1850a). Only the Tuttle and Hill farms' details were reported in the agricultural census for that year. There were few variations in the farming activities listed on the entire page of this agricultural census, however. The Tuttle had 110 improved acres and 40 unimproved, while the Hills had 135 improved acres and 15 unimproved; these numbers seem to have been above the median. Like their neighbors, these farmers had one horse, fewer than 10 milk cows (for butter and cheese production), one or two yokes of oxen, a handful of other cattle, and a few swine. Some farmers had up to 30 sheep, though not these two. For crops, they grew rye, corn, oats, potatoes, and buckwheat. The Hills and Tuttle, like some others, also produced tree fruit (United States Census 1850b).

The 1870 federal census recorded Calvin and Anna Blanchard (whose house was shown to the south of the project area in the 1869 map) as a couple in their twenties with no children; their farm was worth \$6,000.00 and they had \$1,175.00 in personal property as well. Calvin had been born in Massachusetts. Marcus Miner, located across Hill Road from the project area, was a 78-year-old farmer who owned \$9,000.00 in real estate and \$3,500.00 in personal estate; he shared his house with Edson and Josephine L. Downes, their small daughter, what are presumed to be Edson's teenaged siblings (the boy worked on the farm like his brother), and an older woman named Marcia Mills. Next door to them, possibly the household to the north of the project area, were Ira (not Billy) and Chloe M. Gaylord, whose farm was valued at \$5,000.00 and who owned \$1,000.00 in personal estate. They were in their 30s and had two young children, and a schoolteacher boarded with them (United States Census 1870a). There was more variety in the agricultural efforts of the farmers in the 1870 census than in 1850. This began with the size of the farms; the Blanchards had 64 improved acres and 10 acres of woodland, the Miner/Downes farm had 140 acres of improved land and 40 acres of woodland, and the Gaylords had 75 acres of improved land. Other farms in the area ranged from eight acres to 415 acres of improved land. Some farmers in the area were clearly specializing in dairy production, though not these three. As in 1850, most farms had one or two horses, fewer than 10 milk cows, some oxen, some other cattle, and some swine. The Miner/Downes farm was among the few who kept sheep (14 of them). The Blanchards grew no grains, while the other two, and most other farms, grew rye and corn; far fewer grew oats and buckwheat. At least two farms in the town were growing tobacco. The three families near the project area also grew potatoes and orchard products – the Blanchards seemed to be specializing in that, with a much larger dollar value (\$265.00) than other farms. A few farmers were apparently engaged in market gardening

(United States Census 1870b). The presence of young farm families in this area in 1870 suggests that at least in parts of Bristol, farming was still considered a viable way to make a living, even as industrial employment in the town and elsewhere continued to increase.

Modern Era (1930-Present)

At the beginning of the twentieth century, Bristol's industry continued to be a strong component of the economy, adding products such as bicycles and (briefly) the original "yellow cabs." World War I produced another industrial boom for the town, and unlike in many textile-dependent manufacturing towns in Connecticut, most of these industries did not decline due to southern competition (Clouette and Roth 1984). According to a 1932 description of the towns' vital statistics, businesses in Bristol manufactured 31 different types of articles, ranging from clocks and related items (especially brass) to grain elevators, wood boxes, fishing rods, and knit underwear; agriculture was also mentioned, and there were tramway cars running every 20 minutes (Connecticut 1932). The 1934 aerial photography shows that the project area and its vicinity were, as expected, in an agricultural area with large expanses of cleared fields, as well as nearby areas that appear to have been in the process of reforestation. A cluster of connected barns stood within the larger project area parcel, at the corner of Hill Road and Minor Road, as was suggested by the 1852 map. More houses than just the old farmsteads were present along both sides of Hill Road. The project area proper included areas that might have been pasture, and a section with regular dots suggesting an orchard (Figure 7; Fairchild 1934). The Great Depression affected Bristol's industries and finances as severely as it did every other town. World War II brought recovery, but it was short-lived in Bristol, as it was throughout the Northeast region. Industrial activity in town was reduced, though not eliminated, while suburbanization slowly took root as elsewhere in the state (Clouette and Roth 1984). As the population chart above shows, the number of residents in Bristol rose steeply during the twentieth century to nearly 30,000 people in 1930, then leveled off during the Depression before beginning an even steeper climb to nearly 55,000 people by 1970. Growth was slower after that, so that by 1990 the increase had only just passed 60,000 residents and essentially stopped there through 2010 (Keegan 2012). The 1952 aerial photograph shows that the population increases had not yet had major effects on the area, although another house had been built in a piece cut out from the larger project area parcel, on the south side of Minor Road. There were still large areas of cleared fields and large areas of forest in the vicinity. Part of the project area proper was taken up by a large orchard, while another part was a cleared field (Figure 8; USDA 1952).

The late-twentieth-century population figures reflect both a combination of Bristol's continuing business activity, and an influx of commuting householders who left the urban centers of Hartford and New Britain for suburban life. According to a 2015 economic survey of the city, 13 percent of the 22,307 jobs in Bristol were provided by 135 manufacturing firms, although the modern economy was also represented in the 19 percent of jobs in 17 firms in the category "Information," with a similar number in health care and social assistance; retail, interestingly, offered a smaller proportion of jobs than any of these three. In 2014, the three largest employers were ESPN (an "Information" firm), the local hospital, and the city itself (CERC 2017). The city's plan of conservation and development, adopted in 2015, stressed preservation of open space and enhancement of the community's character; the latter included farms, open space, historic resources, and sustainability (Bristol 2018). The 2019 aerial photograph shows that the project area was still partly a cleared field, although the western end of the area had begun to reforest, and that several barns still stood inside the northeastern corner of the larger parcel. The project area was surrounded by a mix of the land uses that was representative of Bristol's economy: other surviving cleared fields in most directions, housing developments representing several periods of suburban housing styles to the east and south, and industrial or commercial buildings to the north and west (Figure 11; CT ECO 2019).

History of the Project Parcel

According to the 1852 historic map, the project area is located on the former homestead of Nathaniel Matthewson of Bristol (Figure 4). According to the 1850 United States federal census for the town of Bristol, Nathaniel Matthewson, then age 49, was a farmer with a valued real estate of \$4,000.00. Living with Matthewson in 1850 was his wife Eunice age 46 and their children William B. age 21, Eugene M. age 17, Sarah A. age 14, Mary T. age 11 and one domestic servant Charlotte S. Cope who was born in Scotland (1850 Census).

According to the 1855 historic map in Figure 5, Nathaniel Matthewson was still on the property, and by the 1860 United States federal census for the town of Bristol, Nathaniel, then age 58, continued to make a living as a farmer with a valued real estate of \$4,500.00 and a personal estate value of 2,000.00. Living with Matthewson in 1860 was once again his wife Eunice age 56 and their child Sarah A. (Married to Burritt Darrow in 1858), as well as domestic servants named Julia McCurley, William Willham, and Edward I Ives, who were born in Ireland, England, and Connecticut, respectively. Nathaniel Matthews had died by 1863 and was survived by his wife Eunice and children, Eugene, Sarah, and Mary. As seen in Figure 6, a map dating from 1869, the Matthewson Family had sold the property and a new family, the Scott's, lived there. According to the 1870 United States federal census, Eric Scott, then age 65, was a farmer with a valued real estate of \$5,000.00 and a personal estate of \$500.00. He lived on the subject property with his 63 year old wife and two farm laborers, Charles Hann (age 26) and Frederick Beecher (age 16).

As seen in the 1934 aerial image in Figure 7, there is a tributary stream of the Pequabuck River running through the western portion of the project parcel. As of that time, it appears that the land was still being used for farmland (Figure 7). By 1952, increased residential development was occurring in the area surrounding the project parcel (Figure 8). By the time of the 2004 aerial, land north of the project area appears to be a residential subdivision of previously farmed lands (Figure 9). The 2016 and 2019 aerial photographs show that the project area was still partly a cleared field, although surrounded by a mix of the land uses that are representative of Bristol's economy: other surviving cleared fields in most directions, housing developments representing several periods of suburban housing styles to the east and south, and industrial or commercial buildings to the north and west (Figures 10 and 11).

Conclusions

The historical record indicates that it is unlikely that the proposed development will impact any inventoried historical resources. The project area was farmed at least as far back as 1934, and no doubt for many years before that, but there is no indication that farm buildings were located anywhere but near the road to the east and outside the project area. Other evidence of historic farming activity, such as stone walls and fences, may be present, but such remains are not considered to be historically significant

CHAPTER V PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

Introduction

This chapter presents an overview of previous cultural resources research completed within the vicinity of the project area in Bristol, 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, National/State Register of Historic Places properties, and inventoried historic standing structures over 50 years old 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. 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 and National/State Register of Historic Places Properties

A review of data currently on file at the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office, as well as the electronic site files maintained by Heritage resulted in the identification of two National/State Register of Historic Places Properties and nine historic standing structures located within 1.6 km (1 mi) of the project area. However, this review failed to identify any previously documented prehistoric or historic archaeological and historic sites within 1.6 km (1 mi) of the project area. The nine historic standing structures, the Endee Manor Historic District, and the Rockwell Park Historic District are discussed below.

150 Battle Street

The building located at 150 Battle Street is part of the Brier Hill Estate in Bristol, Connecticut. It was recorded in 1979 on a Connecticut Historical Commission (CHC) Historic Resources Inventories form (HRI) by Michael Wambolt of the Office of Community Development in Bristol. Mr. Wambolt reported that the house was built in 1940 by Mr. Charles T. Treadway. The single-family residence was described by Mr. Wambolt as a contemporary style wood frame with clapboard siding and gambrel roofs made of asphalt shingles. This building has not been assessed applying the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). It will not be directly impacted by the proposed solar facility. There also will be no impacts to the viewshed of this residence due to the presence of tall intervening vegetation between it and the proposed solar center.

59 Hill Street

The residence situated at 59 Hill Street, which is also known as the Josephson Home, was recorded in 1979 on a Connecticut Historical Commission (CHC) Historic Resources Inventories form (HRI) completed by Michael Wambolt of the Office of Community Development in Bristol. Mr. Wambolt noted on the submitted inventory form, that the structure consists of a Greek Revival Style home featuring a porch with Greek Doric columns supporting a pediment. Plain pilasters flanked the doorway and benches were built into the entrance. The original 12-over-12 windows and rectangular window in the front of the unbroken pediment were well-maintained. Mr. Wambolt reported that it appeared that several early additions to the rear and side of the house were made, but they were all compatible with the original architectural style. He noted that the Josephson Home was one of the oldest in the neighborhood. It was constructed

in 1787, which indicated that the original house was of Federal Style and later updated to the Greek Revival Style. The single-family residence was described as a wood frame post and beam with clapboard siding and a gable roof of asphalt shingles. This building has not been assessed applying the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]), and it will not be directly impacted by the proposed solar facility. There also will be no impacts to the viewshed of this residence due to the presence of tall intervening vegetation between it and the proposed solar center.

220 Hill Street

The residence at 220 Hill Street is described as a single-family house and was recorded in 1979 on a Connecticut Historical Commission (CHC) Historic Resources Inventories form (HRI) by Michael Wambolt of the Office of Community Development in Bristol. Mr. Wambolt described the structure as a simple Greek Revival farmhouse with shutters around the windows and a centrally located chimney. The submitted inventory form notes that the house was covered with clapboard and had a gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. The house was constructed in 1876 and an outbuilding described as a barn is associated with it. The latter dates from 1776. An addition was made to the north side of the house unknown date. This building has not been assessed applying the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]), and it will not be directly impacted by the proposed solar facility. There also will be no impacts to the viewshed of this residence due to the presence of numerous other buildings between it and the proposed solar center.

390 Hill Street

The residence situated at 390 Hill Street, which is known as the Minor Home, was included in a 1979 Connecticut Historical Commission (CHC) Historic Resources Inventories form (HRI) by Michael Wambolt of the Office of Community Development in Bristol. Mr. Wambolt described the structure as a single-family residence resembling a Georgian Revival farmhouse. The building was constructed in 1920 and was clad in aluminum siding; a dormer and a porch were added at a later unknown date. The original structure consisted of a wood frame with gable roof covered with wooden shingles. The submitted inventory form noted that the home has a front entrance with sidelights and pilasters, and there are several bay projections. This building has not been assessed applying the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]), and it will not be directly impacted by the proposed solar facility. There also will be no impacts to the viewshed of this residence due to the presence numerous other buildings between it and the proposed solar center.

436 Hill Street

The house located at 436 Hill Street, which is also known as the Minor Home, was recorded by Michael Wambolt of the Office of Community Development in Bristol in 1979 on a Connecticut Historical Commission (CHC) Historic Resources Inventories form (HRI). Mr. Wambolt described the structure as a single-family residence/apartment Georgian Revival style farmhouse. The building was constructed in 1925 and aluminum siding and side porch on the south side were added at a later unknown date. The original structure consisted of a wood frame with gable roof covered in wood shingles. Mr. Wambolt describes the structure as having a fieldstone foundation and a porch entrance with Greek influence in the pediment and the sidelights. This building has not been assessed applying the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]), and it will not be directly impacted by the proposed solar facility. There also will be no impacts to the viewshed of this residence due to the presence numerous other buildings between it and the proposed solar center.

440 Hill Street

The residence located at 440 Hill Street, which is also known as the Roberts Home, was recorded in 1979 on a Connecticut Historical Commission (CHC) Historic Resources Inventories form (HRI) that was completed by Michael Wambolt of the Office of Community Development in Bristol. Mr. Wambolt described the structure as a Federal style single-family residence. The building was constructed in 1840, and Mr. Wambolt reported that it as a wood frame construction with clapboard siding and gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. The submitted inventory form noted that an addition to the east side of the structure and a garage were built at a later unknown date. Mr. Wambolt describes the structures as a well-maintained home with a fine entrance with sidelights and fluted pilasters supporting the entablature with also has a wooden keystone. This building has not been assessed applying the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]), and it will not be directly impacted by the proposed solar facility. There also will be no impacts to the viewshed of this residence due to the presence numerous other buildings between it and the proposed solar center.

747-749 Matthew Street

The building located at 747-749 Matthew Street was recorded in 1979 on a Connecticut Historical Commission (CHC) Historic Resources Inventories form (HRI) that was completed by Ms. Barbara Greene of the Office of Community Development in Bristol. At the time of recording, Ms. Greene described the structure as an historic single-family residence that was being used as a two-family residence. The Victorian style home was constructed circa 1890 and consisted of a wood balloon type frame with clapboard siding and a gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. Ms. Greene noted that the also contained had a steeply pitched roof and a wrap-around porch. She noted a sunburst pattern in the triangular projection over the doorway. This building has not been assessed applying the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]), and it will not be directly impacted by the proposed solar facility. There also will be no impacts to the viewshed of this residence due to the presence numerous other buildings between it and the proposed solar center.

415 Perkins Street

The home located at 415 Perkins Street consists of a Greek Revival residence that has been surrounded by modern additions. The building sits atop a fieldstone foundation and has vinyl siding and an asphalt shingled roof. The Greek Revival block of this residence measures two stories in height, with two bays facing Perkins Street under its gable end. There is a thick, but undecorated, vinyl cornice in the gable end. Windows are one-over-one sash types and have decorative shutters. Two eyebrow windows can be seen on the south side of the buildings, which has a one-story enclosed porch and another one-story ell attached to it. The south has a full-length, shed-roofed porch along its south side, supported by columns with Doric capitols. Almost all original features of this residence have been modified and updated with synthetic materials. This building has not been assessed applying the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]), and it will not be directly impacted by the proposed solar facility. There also will be no impacts to the viewshed of this residence due to the presence numerous other buildings between it and the proposed solar center.

68 Pinehurst Street

The buildings at 68 Pinehurst Street consists of two Colonial residences that were connected in ca. 1860 to form a multi-family home. Colonial features can be seen in the steep gable roof and the wide center-chimney of the western half. When the homes were connected, Greek Revival features were added, including a molded cornice across the entire roofline, with cornice returns in the gable ends. Cornice molding matches the molding of the pedimented porticos above the two entrances that face Pinehurst Street. The porticos have simple, squared cased columns. This building has not been assessed applying

the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]), and it will not be directly impacted by the proposed solar facility. There also will be no impacts to the viewshed of this residence due to the presence numerous other buildings between it and the proposed solar center.

Endee Manor Historic District

The Endee Manor Historic District was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1996. The 12-acre parcel of land contains single-family and multiple-family residences with garages that date between the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century. Endee Manor was the largest workers' housing development built in Bristol in the mid-1910s. It consists of 102 framed houses of one to two stories in height, set on small lots on three adjacent streets. At the time the houses were built, streets, curbs, and sidewalks were also constructed. Streetlamps were provided and trees were planted between the sidewalks and the streets. More than 10 different house types were constructed at Endee Manor. The structures have cobblestone foundations with wood frame construction, and clapboard siding with asphalt shingle roofs. Built in the northwest corner of Bristol, the development was close to the New Departure shops and is bounded by West Cemetery, Rockwell Park, the New York and New Haven Railroad line, and Terryville Avenue. Few of the residences had significant additions, although most had installed new siding. Free-standing garages were added at the rear of most lots and most appeared to have been built within ten years of the completion of the development. The neighborhood was constructed in a pocket formed by West Cemetery, Rockwell Park, the railroad line, and Terryville Avenue. These surrounding features were already established by 1916. Because all the houses were built within four months of each other and none of the developable lots were left empty, Endee Manor presents an extremely cohesive appearance. The Endee Manor Historic District will not be impacted directly or indirectly by the proposed solar center.

Rockwell Park Historic District

The Rockwell Park Historic District was added to the National Register of Historic Places in April 1987. The National Register of Historic Places nomination form notes that Rockwell Park is located at the western edge of the downtown area of Bristol, Connecticut in a residential neighborhood with both single and multi-family houses dating from the late nineteenth century through the mid-twentieth century. The park is bordered by Dutton Avenue and Park Hill Place on the south, Brightwood Road on the east, a railroad right-of-way on the north, and municipally owned land on the west. The park encompasses approximately 104 acres of land and extends on both sides off the Pequabuck River, which flows through the park. There are four distinct areas delineated by the river including a scenic drive and a large artificial lake in the park's center. The first and northernmost area is a dense, mixed hardwood and pine forest undeveloped except for a system of hiking trails. The second area is situated between Rockwell Drive and the river. This area is mostly level and it consists of two ponds and associated retaining walls and paths, a large lawn between the ponds, a sandy beach, and several distinctive cobblestone structures. The third area directly borders the river and is largely wooded, with gravel paths leading through plantings in which hemlock and mountain laurel predominate. The fourth area consists of specialized recreational facilities, including basketball and tennis courts, a pool, two baseball fields, swing sets, and other playground equipment.

The park was designed by Sheffield Arnold, a Providence resident with a landscape-architecture practice in Boston. The nomination form notes that Rockwell Park is a well-preserved and important example of the early twentieth century park movement, which was a trend in landscape architecture at the time. Rockwell Park was Bristol's first public park, which was built in 1914, during a period of intense growth and conflict. The progressive idea of a park as a natural oasis offering relief from urban congestion is evident in both the extensive undeveloped woodland north of Rockwell Drive and in the walking paths along the river. Rockwell Park's large swimming lagoon and playground area are important functional

parts of the park, yet their visual impact on the scenic area is limited by separate entrances, roadways, or foliage screens. Rockwell Park remained the only public park in Bristol until 1933 and was a focus of community activities. The nomination form notes that children from all over the city came to swim, play, and take part in special programs and activities. The city's principal celebrations of holidays such as May Day and Fourth of July also took place at Rockwell Park. Rockwell Park was one of Bristol's chief subjects for public-relief efforts in the 1930s. New picnic areas, the completion of Rockwell Drive, general refurbishment of paths and facilities, and a better water supply for the swimming lagoon were some of the projects undertaken during the Depression. The historical significance of the park is heightened by the retention of much of its historical integrity. The only substantial losses are the fountains, water slides, stone-arch bridge, and original bandstand that was once part of the lagoon. These amenities disappeared in the 1960s as the city had trouble maintaining the water level. All the original landscape ideas are evident, most of the historic buildings are still standing, modern construction is minimal and unobtrusive, and the park continues to function as both a scenic retreat and a popular recreational facility. Rockwell park will not be impacted, either directly or indirectly, by the proposed solar project.

Summary and Interpretations

A review of data currently on file at the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office (CT-SHPO), as well as electronic site files maintained by Heritage failed to detect any previously identified archaeological sites in the vicinity of the proposed project area. Though no archaeological sites have been previously identified in the area, the natural setting discussed in Chapter II suggests Native Americans may have once inhabited the area, and prehistoric sites may yet be discovered. Historic occupation began in the mid-seventeenth century and is represented by numerous standing historic structures.

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 area in Bristol, Connecticut. The following tasks were completed during this investigation: 1) study of the region's prehistory, history, and natural setting, as presented in Chapters II through IV; 2) a literature search to identify and discuss previously recorded cultural resources in project region; 3) a review of historic maps, topographic quadrangles, and aerial imagery depicting the project area in order to identify potential historic resources and/or areas of past disturbance; and 4) pedestrian survey and photo-documentation of the project area 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 project items 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 with 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 field work portion of this undertaking entailed pedestrian survey, photo-documentation, and mapping (see below).

Archival Research and Literature Review

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

Field Methods and Data Synthesis

Heritage performed fieldwork for the Phase IA cultural resources assessment survey of the Sunjet Energy Solar Facility project area in Bristol, Connecticut. This included pedestrian survey, photo-documentation, and mapping of the proposed development area. All potential areas of impact in the project area were photo-documented by Heritage using digital media.

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

**Connecticut State Archaeologist
Office of Connecticut State Archaeology
Box U-1023
University of Connecticut
Storrs, Connecticut 06269**

CHAPTER VII

RESULTS & MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Introduction

This chapter presents the results of the Phase IA cultural resources assessment survey of the project area in Bristol, Connecticut, as well as management recommendations for treatment of the proposed impacted area associated with the Sunjet Solar Center project. As stated in the introductory section of this report, the investigation involved the following tasks: 1) a contextual overview of the region's prehistory, history, and natural setting (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 historic maps and aerial imagery depicting the project area in order to identify potential historic resources and/or areas of past disturbance; 4) pedestrian survey and photo-documentation of the project area to determine its archaeological sensitivity; and 5) preparation of the current Phase IA cultural resources assessment survey report.

Results of Phase IA Survey

The proposed project area is situated in the northwest quarter of Bristol, on the south side of Matthews Street and situated between Roberts Orchards to the east and West Bristol School to the west. The project area will occupy approximately 5.9 ac of land within a larger 11.8 ac parcel of land. The solar array will include the installation of 66 rows of solar panels and the project area will be accessed from Matthews Street along the northern boundary of the property (Figure 2). At the time of survey, the project area consisted of a large meadow with minor amounts of trees and ranged in elevation from approximately 195 to 205 m (639.7 to 672.5 ft) NGVD, with the highest elevation in the northeast sloping down to the west and southwest. Soils noted throughout the area are generally characterized as very deep poorly drained soils to very deep excessively drained soils with stratified sand, gravel, silt, and some clay.

Heritage personnel conducted a pedestrian survey of the project area on May 8, 2020 (Figure 14 and Photos 1 through 12). At the time of the survey, the landowner relayed to Heritage personnel that the uppermost 1.2 to 1.8 m (4 to 6 ft) of soil had been removed from the project area and sold to a developer. The results of the survey determined that, due to this extensive modern disturbance, the project area retains no/low sensitivity for intact archaeological deposits.

The pedestrian survey completed by Heritage also resulted in the identification of two historic houses and two historic barns located adjacent to and near the project area (Figure 14 and Photos 13 through 19). The first house is situated on a parcel of land at 125 Hill Street and abuts the eastern edge of the proposed solar project. It contains a two-story Georgian style house built that was in 1816 and was occupied by the Matthewson and Scott Families discussed in Chapter V (Photo 14). The house sits on a stone foundation, but most other exterior materials have been modernized. Siding is now aluminum, all trim is vinyl, and the gable roof is covered in asphalt shingles. The house has five bays, with a central entrance above stone steps. The entrance contains a modern door with sidelights at each side and vinyl entablature with denticulated molding that mimics nineteenth-century design. Original windows have been replaced by modern double-hung windows with a six-over-six sash and vinyl casings. The second story, with five dispersed windows, slightly overhangs the first story. The cornice contains vinyl dentil molding below the roofline. Two brick chimneys protrude from the peak of the roof. A two-door garage is connected to the main house by a hallway extending from the south side. Besides a cement foundation, the materials of the garage and hallway match the main house. The house at 125 Hill Street is part of Roberts Orchard,

and a dirt driveway south of the garage leads to a red barn (which also contains the orchard's store) situated to the west of the house.

The above-referenced barn was built in the 1930s or 1940s. It was constructed on a cement foundation, has wooden siding, and asphalt shingles on its saltbox style roof. One door on the east facade of the barn remains wooden, while two modern swinging doors have been added. Furthermore, windows have been added with one-over-one sash. An additional barn associated with the 125 Hill Street property is located across Hill Street from the main house. The building is "U" shaped and contained of wood siding, gable roofs, and multiple doors sheds (Photo 16). The northern ell has large sliding doors on its west side and stands on a stone foundation, while the southern ell has sliding doors along its entire north side and a cement block foundation.

As described in Chapter IV, the Matthewson and Scott Families farmed this property historically. The barn across the street and the house at 125 Hill Street are remnants of this agricultural history. Though the house at 125 Hill Street maintains its historical agricultural location and setting, complimented by barns and orchard, it lacks integrity of design, materials, and workmanship and, therefore, is not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Nevertheless, the property should be screened from construction activities to remove the potential of negatively impacting the orchard and buildings.

As second historic home is located to the south of 125 Hill Street at 91 Hill Street. It is a two-story Dutch Colonial Revival house that was built in ca. 1921 (Photo 19). This house has three bays facing Hill Street with a central entrance. A gabled portico supported by columns covers the main entrance. Below the roof of the portico there is decorative fan transom, and the door is surrounded by full-length sidelights. Windows are eight-over-eight sash with vinyl casing and mock shutters. The exterior walls are clad in vinyl and the gambrel roof has asphalt shingles. A long-shed roof dormer extends from the roof in the upper story and contains four windows. One narrow brick chimney protrudes from the peak, slightly off-center. There is an enclosed porch with hip roof on the south side of the house. There is also a one-story hip-roofed ell on the north side which contains a bay window. This home has not been assessed applying the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]) and due to the presence of a tree line surrounding the property, its viewshed will not be impacted by the proposed solar center construction.

Management Recommendations

The combined review of historic maps, aerial images, land deeds, and pedestrian survey, determined that project area retains no/low archaeological sensitivity, as it has been impacted negatively by the removal of 1.2 to 1.8 m (4 to 6 ft) of soil. No additional archaeological examination of the project area is recommended. However, there are two historic barns and houses, that are located within the vicinity of the project area. The Matthewson/Scott House has been altered over the years and is not eligible for listing on the NRHP applying the criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]); however, the associated barns may be eligible. It is recommended that vegetative screening be installed between the solar array and these three historic standing structures. Finally, the home at 91 Hill Street is also historic in origin but has not been assessed applying the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). The viewshed of this building will not be impacted due to vegetation situated between it and the solar center.

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