

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051 Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950 E-Mail: siting.council@ct.gov Web Site: portal.ct.gov/csc

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

August 8, 2023

Deborah Denfeld
Team Lead – Transmission Siting
Eversource Energy
P.O. Box 270
Hartford, CT 06141
deborah.denfeld@eversource.com

RE: **PETITION NO. 1565** – The Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed East of Hurd State Park to East Haddam Junction Line Rebuild Project consisting of the replacement of electric transmission line structures along its existing 6.2-mile electric transmission line right-of-way shared by its existing 115-kilovolt (kV) No. 1772 and 345-kV Nos. 362, 376 and 364 Lines between Structure Nos. 12053 and 19099 east of Hurd State Park in East Hampton, Haddam Neck Switching Station in Haddam, and East Haddam Junction in East Haddam, Connecticut traversing the municipalities of East Hampton, Haddam and East Haddam, and related electric transmission line and substation improvements. **Compliance with Conditions Nos. 5 and 7.**

Dear Deborah Denfeld:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of your correspondence dated August 7, 2023, regarding compliance with Condition Nos. 5 and 7 of the Council's Declaratory Ruling issued on July 21, 2023 for the above-referenced facility. The correspondence includes a determination from SHPO indicating the Project will not impact cultural resources, in accordance with Condition No. 5 and the final design of the Succor Brook bridge, consistent with DEEP Inland Fisheries Division Stream Crossing Guidelines, in accordance with Condition No. 7.

Therefore, the Council acknowledges that Condition Nos. 5 and 7 have been satisfied. This acknowledgment applies only to the conditions satisfied by the August 7, 2023 correspondence.

Please be advised that deviations from the standards established by the Council in the Declaratory Ruling are enforceable under the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes §16-50u.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Melanie A. Bachman Executive Director

c: Kathleen Shanley, Eversource Energy (Kathleen.shanley@eversource.com)

MB/RDM/laf



56 Prospect Street P.O. Box 270 Hartford, CT 06103

Deborah Denfeld

Team Lead—Transmission Siting Tel: (860) 728-4654

August 7, 2023

Melanie Bachman, Esq Executive Director Connecticut Siting Council Ten Franklin Square New Britain, CT 06051

Re: Petition No. 1565: East of Hurd State Park to East Haddam Junction 1772, 362, 376, and 364 Lines Rebuild Project – Provision of Information in Response to Condition Nos. 5 and 7 of the Connecticut Siting Council's Jully 20, 2023 Ruling

Dear Ms. Bachman:

The Connecticut Light and Power Company doing business as Eversource Energy submits the enclosed original and 15 copies of the following information pursuant to Condition Nos. 5 and 7:

- Per Condition No. 5: Copies of correspondence from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) indicating that no recommended cultural resource protection measures are required for the project. (Refer to Attachment A)
- Per Condition No. 7: Copies of the final design plans for the Succor Brook bridge. (Refer to Attachment B)

Sincerely,

Deborah Denfeld

Deborah Denfeld

Team Lead – Transmission Siting Deobrah.denfeld@eversource.com

Encl

ATTACHMENT A SHPO CORRESPONDENCE (PER CONDITION NO. 5)



July 13, 2023

Mr. David George
Heritage Consultants, LLC
830 Berlin Turnpike
Berlin, CT 06037
(sent via email only to dgeorge@heritage-consultants.com)

Subject: Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey

Eversource Energy Line 362 Structure Replacement and OPGW Project

East Hampton and Haddam, Connecticut

Dear Mr. George:

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has reviewed the report titled, *Phase IB Cultural Resources Reconnaissance Survey of Eversource Energy Line 362 in East Hampton and Haddam, Connecticut* prepared by Heritage Consultants, LLC (Heritage) and dated June 2023. The submitted report is comprehensive and meets the standards set forth in the *Environmental Review Primer for Connecticut's Archaeological Resources*. The project will require permitting from the United States Army Corps of Engineers permitting requirements; therefore, it is subject to review by this office pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

The archaeological reconnaissance survey examined the work areas associated with 12 proposed structure replacement locations identified as retaining moderate/high archaeological sensitivity during a previously completed archaeological assessment survey. The examined project items included Structures 19099 through 19102, 19104 through 19106, 19110, through 19113, and 19115. Background research determined that no previously recorded archaeological sites or properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) were located within 500 feet of proposed project items. During the reconnaissance survey, Heritage completed 29 of 32 planned shovel tests. The three planned but unexcavated shovel tests fell within areas of standing water or previous disturbance. Subsurface testing failed to identify any cultural material. A single quartz bifacial reduction flake was identified on the surface of a disturbed area in the vicinity of Structure 19115. However, subsurface testing of the area failed to produce evidence of additional cultural material. In addition, a stone wall, mortared stone foundation, and brick pile were documented during the survey. Heritage determined that the foundation and associated brick pile were not eligible for the NRHP and recommended no further investigation. The identified stone wall will not be impacted by the proposed project. Based on the information provided to our office, it is the opinion of SHPO that no historic properties will be affected by the proposed project and no additional archaeological examination of the 12 project items is warranted. Comments are conditional upon the submission of two bound copies of the final report to our office for permanent curation and public accessibility.



SHPO appreciates the cooperation of all interested parties in the professional management of Connecticut's archeological resources. Do not hesitate to contact Cory Atkinson, Staff Archaeologist and Environmental Reviewer, for additional information at (860) 500-2458 or cory.atkinson@ct.gov.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Kinney

State Historic Preservation Officer



July 13, 2023

Mr. David George
Heritage Consultants, LLC
830 Berlin Turnpike
Berlin, CT 06037
(sent via email only to dgeorge@heritage-consultants.com)

Subject: Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey

Eversource Energy Line 376 East of Hurd to East Haddam Junction Project

East Hampton and Haddam, Connecticut

Dear Mr. George:

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has reviewed the report titled, *Phase IB Cultural Resources Reconnaissance Survey of Eversource Energy Line 376 in East Hampton and Haddam, Connecticut* prepared by Heritage Consultants, LLC (Heritage) and dated June 2023. The submitted report is comprehensive and meets the standards set forth in the *Environmental Review Primer for Connecticut's Archaeological Resources*. The project will require permitting from the United States Army Corps of Engineers permitting requirements; therefore, it is subject to review by this office pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

The archaeological reconnaissance survey examined the work areas associated with nine proposed structure replacement locations identified as retaining moderate/high archaeological sensitivity during a previously completed archaeological assessment survey. The examined project items included Structures 12037, 12039, 12040, 12046 through 12048, and 12051 through 12053. Background research determined that no previously recorded archaeological sites or properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) were located within 500 feet of proposed project items. During the reconnaissance survey, Heritage completed 20 of 29 planned shovel tests. The nine planned but unexcavated shovel tests fell within areas of significant slope or previous disturbance. Subsurface testing failed to identify any evidence of cultural material. A single quartz bifacial reduction flake was identified on the surface of a disturbed area in the vicinity of Structure 12037. However, subsurface testing of the area failed to produce evidence of additional cultural material. In addition, a stone wall, mortared stone foundation, and brick pile were documented during the survey. Heritage determined that the foundation and associated brick pile were not eligible for the NRHP and recommended no further investigation. The identified stone wall will not be impacted by the proposed project. Based on the information provided to our office, it is the opinion of SHPO that no historic properties will be affected by the proposed project and no additional archaeological examination of the 12 project items is warranted. Comments are conditional upon the submission of two bound copies of the final report to our office for permanent curation and public accessibility.



SHPO appreciates the cooperation of all interested parties in the professional management of Connecticut's archeological resources. Do not hesitate to contact Cory Atkinson, Staff Archaeologist and Environmental Reviewer, for additional information at (860) 500-2458 or cory.atkinson@ct.gov.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Kinney

State Historic Preservation Officer



July 13, 2023

Mr. David George
Heritage Consultants, LLC
830 Berlin Turnpike
Berlin, CT 06037
(sent via email only to dgeorge@heritage-consultants.com)

Subject: Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey of Lines 364 and 1772 Project Items

Eversource East of Hurd to East Haddam Junction Structure Rebuild Project

East Hampton, Haddam, and East Haddam Connecticut

Dear Mr. George:

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has reviewed the letter report titled, *Phase IB Cultural Resources Reconnaissance Survey of Eversource Energy Lines 364 and 1772 in East Hampton, Haddam, and East Haddam, Connecticut* prepared by Heritage Consultants, LLC (Heritage) and dated June 2023. SHPO understands that the proposed project entails the replacement of electrical transmission structures within the Eversource Energy Lines 364 and 1772 corridor between Structure 15141 and East Hampton Junction. The undertaking will also include the construction of several access roads. The project will require permitting from the United States Army Corps of Engineers. As a result, it is subject to review by this office pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The submitted report is comprehensive and meets the standards set forth in the *Environmental Review Primer for Connecticut's Archaeological Resources*.

The archaeological reconnaissance survey examined the work areas associated with 16 project items located in areas of moderate/high archaeological sensitivity identified during a previously completed archaeological assessment survey. Six of the project items were subsequently determined to have been subjected to significant prior disturbances (Structures 3738, 3742, 5407, 5409, 5426 and Pull Pad PP-3743-W). As a result, no further archaeological investigation of these items was completed. During the reconnaissance survey, Heritage completed 37 of 40 planned shovel tests. The three planned but unexcavated shovel tests fell within areas of significant slope, bedrock exposures, or saturated soils. The field effort resulted in the recovery of a single Pre-Contact period artifact from the work area associated with Structure 5406 and two Post-Contact period artifacts from proposed access road AR-15141. The Pre-Contact period artifact consisted of a single quartz flake and was determined to be associated with a nearby previously recorded, potentially National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligible, archaeological site (Site 61-120). Heritage concluded that Site 61-120 was located primarily outside of the Structure 5406 work area and would not be adversely impacted by the proposed structure replacement project. Identified Post-Contact period artifacts consisted of a brick fragment and glass insulator fragment. The report concluded that these materials were not eligible for the NRHP. As a result, Heritage recommended no additional archaeological investigation of the 16 examined project items prior to construction. Based on the information



provided to our office, it is the opinion of SHPO that there will be <u>no adverse effect</u> by the proposed project to Site 61-120.

This office appreciates the opportunity to review and comment upon this project. Do not hesitate to contact Cory Atkinson, Staff Archaeologist and Environmental Reviewer, for additional information at (860) 500-2458 or cory.atkinson@ct.gov.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Kinney

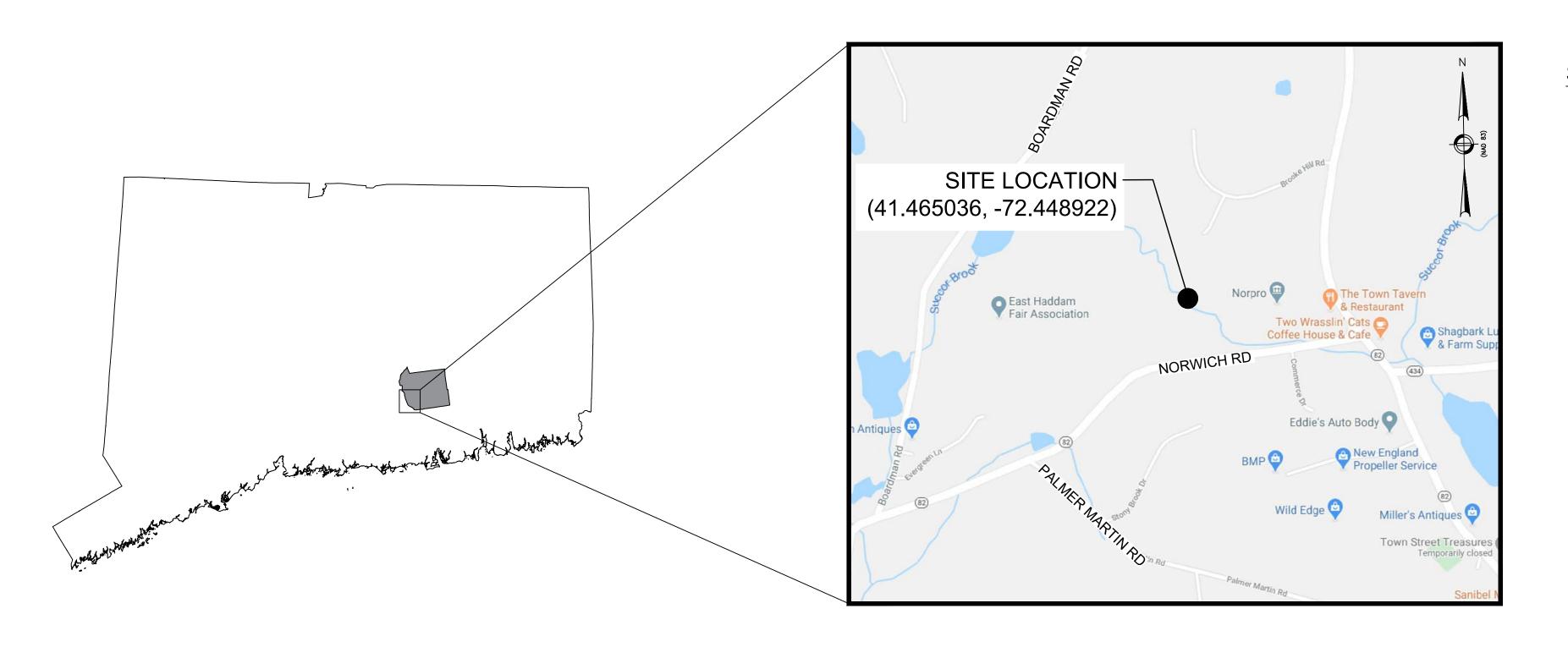
State Historic Preservation Officer

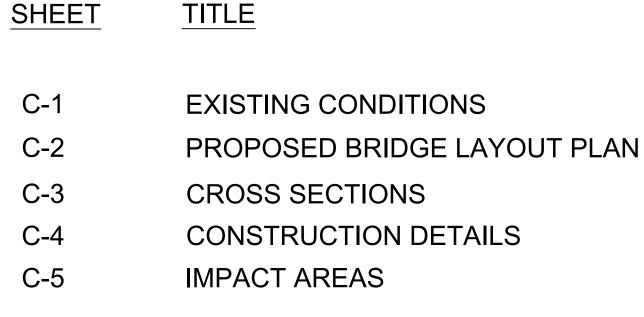
ATTACHMENT B SUCCOR BROOK FINAL DESIGN PLANS (PER CONDITION NO. 7)

EVERSOURCE

PROPOSED BRIDGE OVER SUCCOR BROOK AT EAST HADDAM JUNCTION EAST HADDAM, CT

JULY 2023

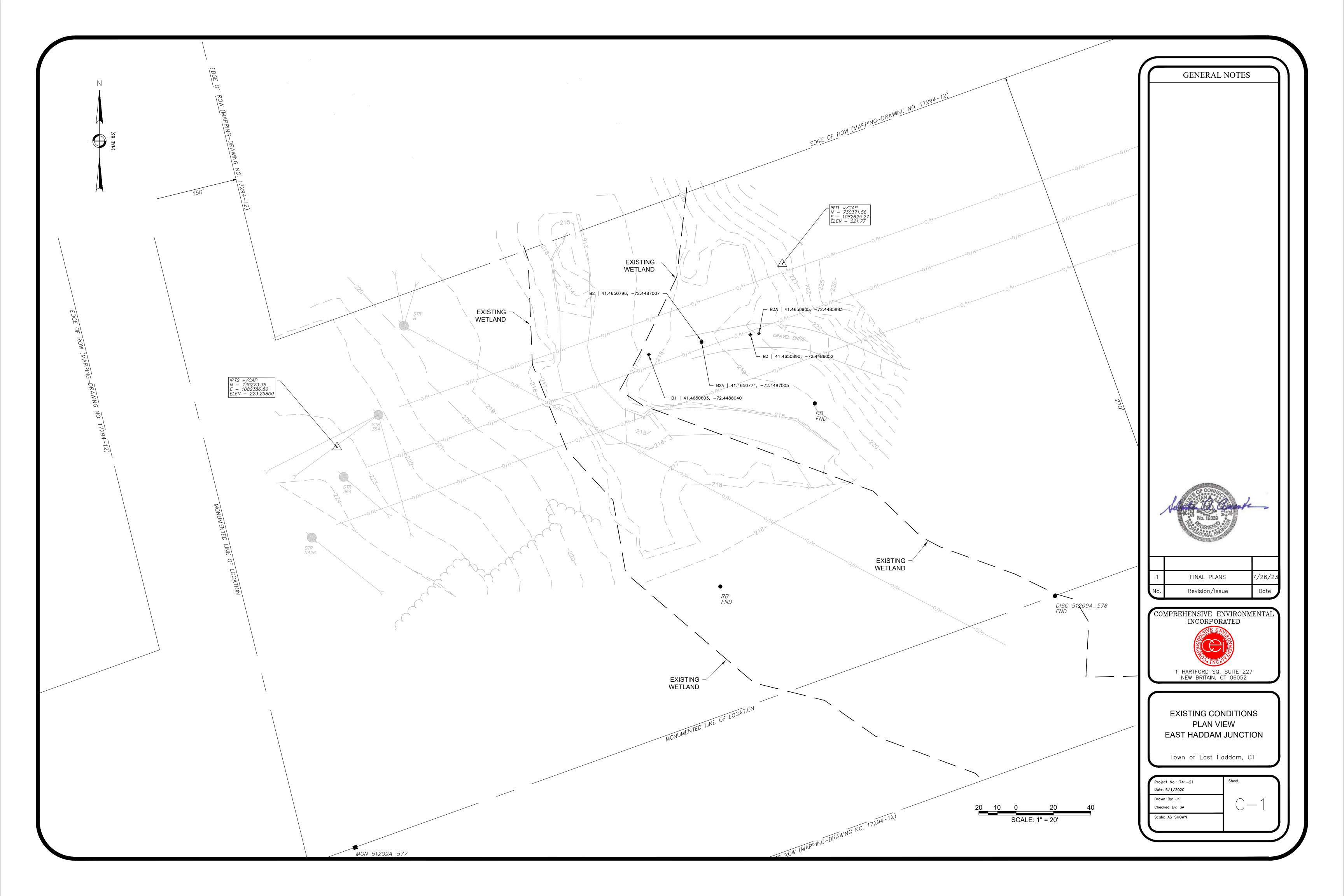


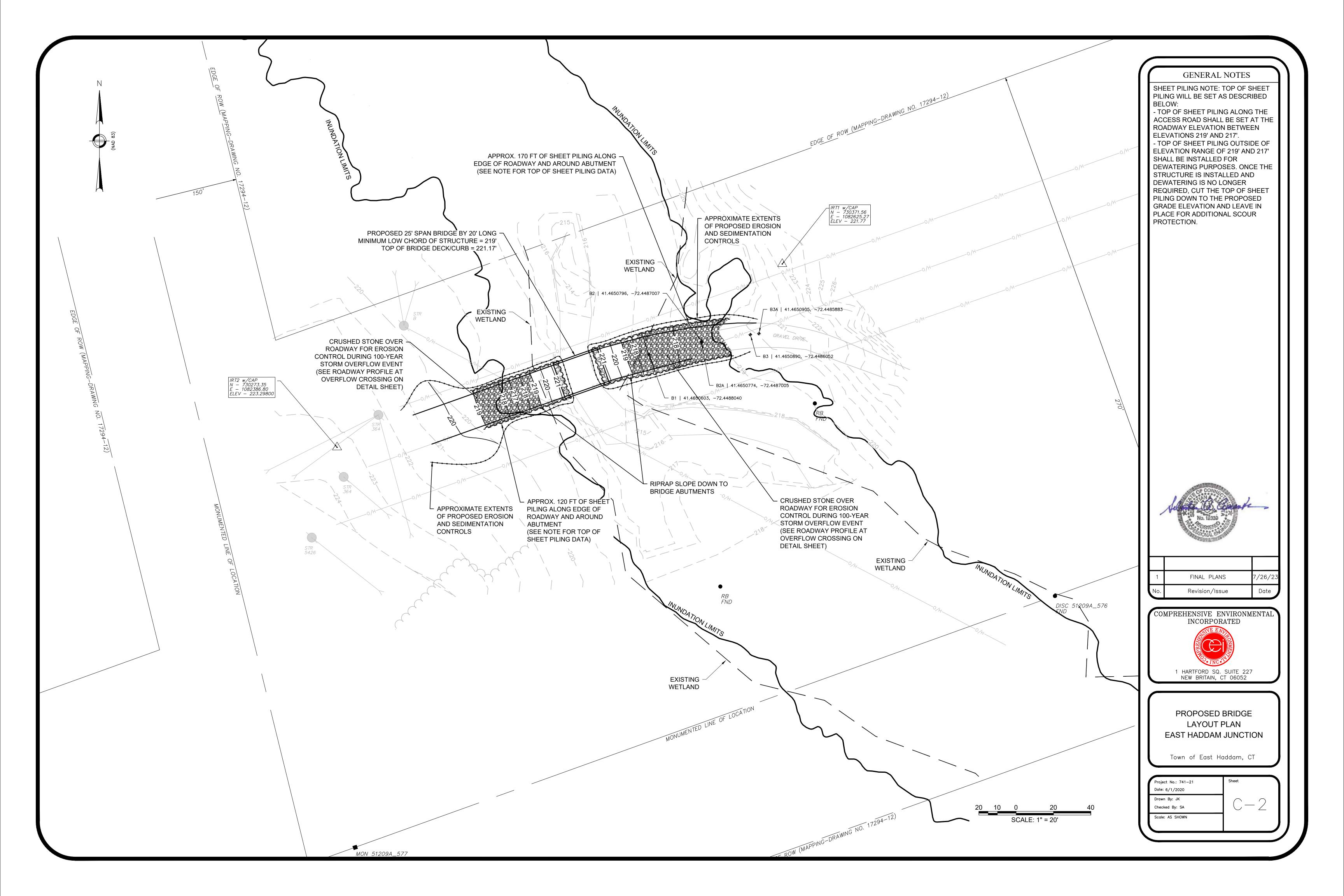


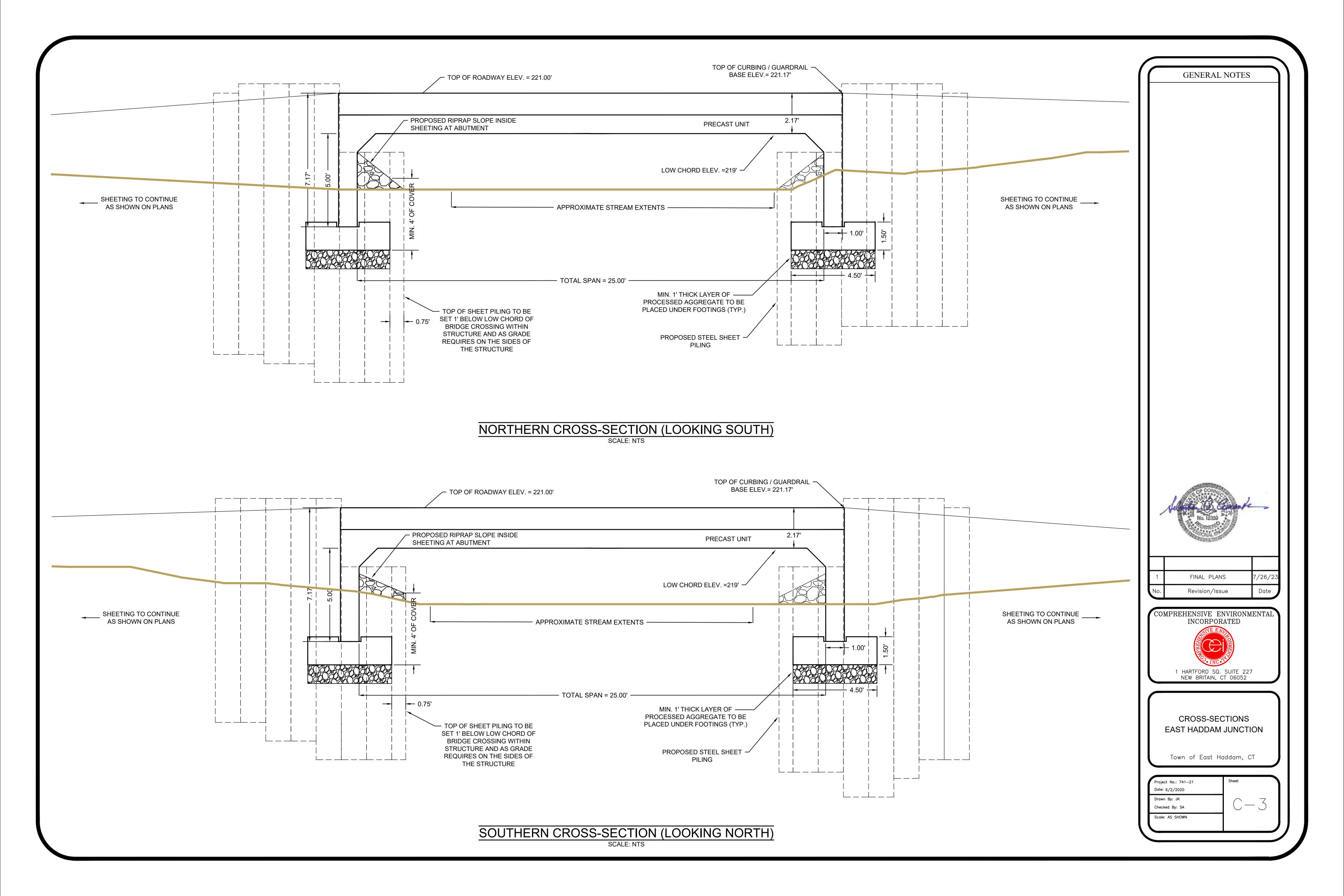


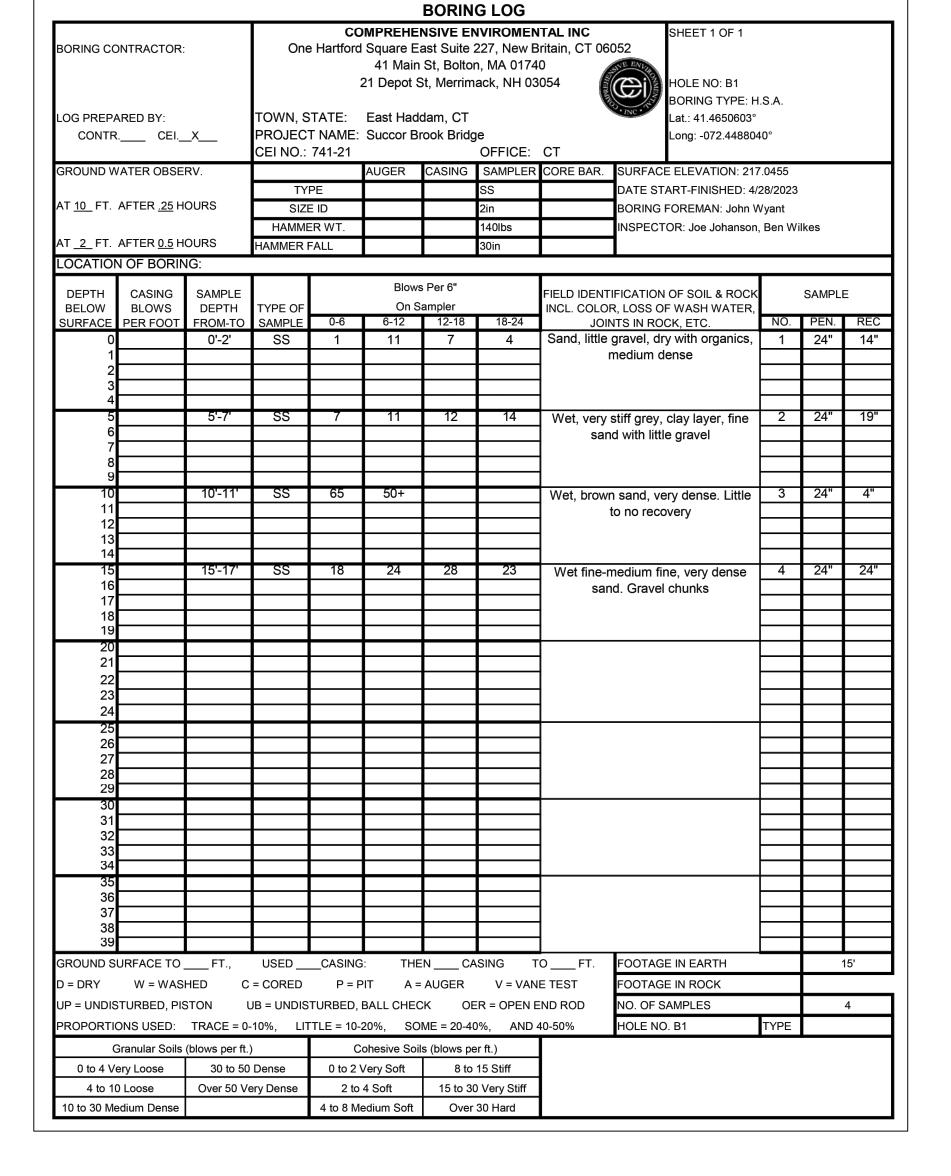


Comprehensive Environmental Incorporated • New Britain, Connecticut





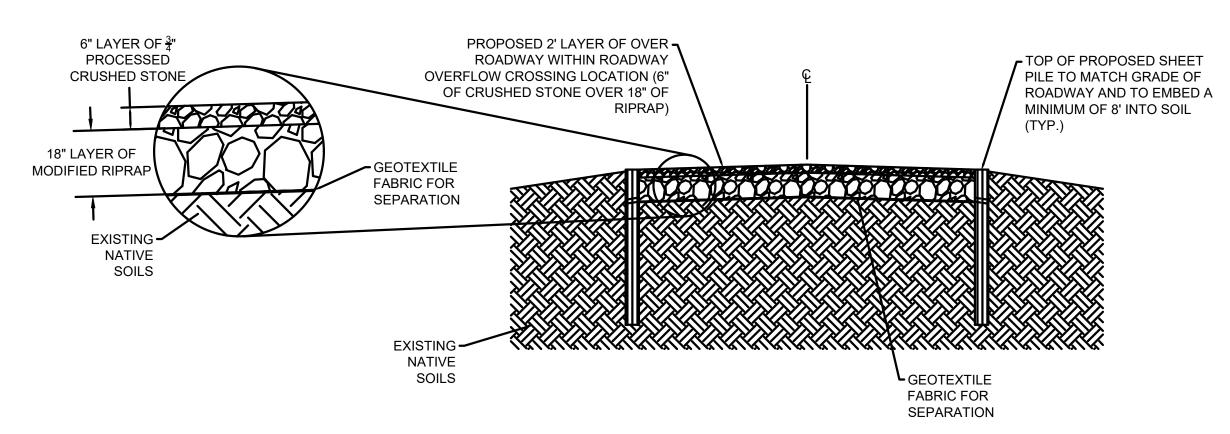




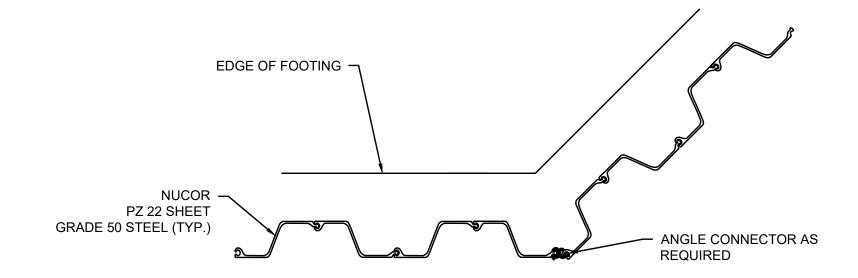
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STEEL SHEETING DETAIL
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