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PHASE IA CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT
FOR THE PROPOSED WINDSOR SOLAR ONE CENTER
AT 445 RIVER STREET IN WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT

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ABSTRACT

This report presents the results of a Phase IA cultural resources assessment survey for a proposed solar center facility to be built at 445 River Street in Windsor, Connecticut. The project area associated with the facility will occupy approximately 18.2 acres of land located off of River Street. The current investigation consisted of: 1) preparation of an overview of the region's precontact era, post-European Contact period, and natural settings; 2) a literature search to identify and discuss previously recorded cultural resources in the region; 3) a review of readily available maps and aerial imagery depicting the facility to identify potential post-European Contact period resources and/or areas of past disturbance; and 4) pedestrian survey and photo-documentation of the project area to determine its archaeological sensitivity. The results of the pedestrian survey indicate that the entirety of the project parcel contains low slopes, well-drained soils, and is in close proximity to the Farmington River, which is located to the west. In addition, there are 20 previously identified archaeological sites nearby. Site 164-79, which is a precontact era site, is situated within 75 meters (250 feet) of the project area and has been determined to be potentially eligible for listing to the National Register of Historic Places. Thus, the project area is deemed to possess a moderate/high archaeological sensitivity. It is recommended that it be subjected to Phase IB cultural resources survey prior to the construction of the proposed solar center.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of a Phase IA cultural resources assessment survey of the proposed Windsor Solar One Center (the Facility), which will be located at 445 River Street in Windsor, Connecticut (Figure 1). Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc., (VHB) requested that Heritage Consultants, LLC (Heritage) complete the Phase IA assessment survey as part of the planning process for the proposed Facility. Heritage completed this investigation in July of 2023. All work associated with this project was performed in accordance with the *Environmental Review Primer for Connecticut's Archaeological Resources* (Poirier 1987) promulgated by the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office (CT-SHPO).

Project Description and Methods Overview

The parcel of land that will contain the facility is located at 445 River Street in Windsor, which, according to Preservation Connecticut, is the site of the River Street Farm (Preservation Connecticut 2023). It is situated at elevations ranging from approximately 22 to 26 m (72.2 to 85 ft) NGVD and will be the location of a solar array, a proposed access drive and interconnection route, security fence, and equipment and associated infrastructure (Figure 2). At the time of the pedestrian survey, the Facility area was accessed via River Street, and vegetation consisted of a cultivated tobacco fields.

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

Project Results and Management Recommendations Overview

The review of maps and aerial images depicting the Facility area, as well as files maintained by the CT-SHPO resulted in the identification of 20 previously recorded archaeological sites (164-a, 164-4, 164-6, 164-11, 164-13, 164-14, 164-15, 164-16, 164-17, 164-18, 164-19, 164-40.1, 164-40.2, 164-42, 164-48, 164-52, 164-61, 164-79, 165-2, 165-4, and 165-6), two Connecticut State Register of Historic Places properties (Phineas Griswold House and a ca., 1860 Italianate residence), and a National Register of Historic places property (Eli Phelps House) situated within 1.6 km (1 mi) of the project parcel. These are discussed in detail in Chapter V and the provided context for assessing the cultural resources sensitivity of the project parcel. Finally, Heritage also combined data from map and aerial image analyses, as well as subsequent pedestrian survey, to stratify the project area into zones of no/low and/or moderate/high archaeological sensitivity.

Pedestrian survey completed as part of the Phase IA assessment survey revealed that the entirety of the project parcel contains low slopes and well-drained soils located in close proximity to the Farmington River to the west. In addition, as described above, there are 20 previously identified archaeological sites nearby. One of these archaeological sites (Site 164-79) represents a precontact era Native American occupation; it situated within 75 meters (250 feet) of the project parcel. Site 164-79 has been assessed as potentially eligible for listing to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and it may extend into

the project parcel. Thus, the project parcel retains a moderate/high archaeological sensitivity. It is recommended that it be subjected to Phase IB cultural resources survey prior to the construction of the proposed solar center.

Project Personnel

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

CHAPTER II

NATURAL SETTING

Introduction

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

Ecoregions of Connecticut

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

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

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

North-Central Lowlands Ecoregion

The North-Central Lowlands ecoregion consists of a broad valley located between 40.2 and 80.5 km (25 and 50 mi) to the north of Long Island Sound (Dowhan and Craig 1976). It is characterized by extensive floodplains, backwater swamps, and lowland areas situated near large rivers and tributaries. Physiography in this region is composed of a series of north-trending ridge systems, the easternmost of which is referred to as the Bolton Range (Bell 1985:45). These ridge systems comprise portions of the terraces that overlook the larger rivers such as the Connecticut and Farmington Rivers. The bedrock of the region is composed of Triassic sandstone, interspersed with very durable basalt or “traprock” (Bell 1985). Soils found in the upland portion of this ecoregion are developed on red, sandy to clayey glacial till, while those soils situated nearest to the rivers are situated on widespread deposits of stratified sand, gravel, silt, and alluvium resulting from the impoundment of glacial Lake Hitchcock.

Hydrology in the Vicinity of the Project Area

The proposed project parcel is situated within close proximity to several sources of freshwater, including the Farmington River and the Connecticut River. Small, unnamed bodies of water are also nearby.

Previously completed archaeological investigations in Connecticut have demonstrated that streams, rivers, and wetlands were focal points for precontact period occupations because they provided access to transportation routes, sources of freshwater, and abundant faunal and floral resources.

Soils Comprising the Project Area

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

The project parcel is characterized by the presence of Windsor soils, which are characterized as very deep excessively drain soils (Figure 3). Windsor soil is generally well correlated with both post-European Contact period and precontact era archaeological site locations. A descriptive profile for Windsor soils is presented below; it was gathered from the National Resources Conservation Service.

Windsor Soils (Soil Codes 36B)

The Windsor series consists of very deep, excessively drained soils formed in sandy outwash or eolian deposits. They are nearly level through very steep soils on glaciofluvial landforms. Slope ranges from 0 to 60 percent. A typical profile associated with Windsor soils is as follows: **Oe**--0 to 3 cm; black (10YR 2/1) moderately decomposed forest plant material; many very fine and fine roots; very strongly acid; abrupt smooth boundary; **A**--3 to 8 cm; very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) loamy sand; weak medium granular structure; very friable; many very fine and fine roots; strongly acid; abrupt wavy boundary; **Bw1**--8 to 23 cm; strong brown (7.5YR 5/6) loamy sand; very weak fine granular structure; very friable; many fine and medium roots; strongly acid; gradual wavy boundary; **Bw2**--23 to 53 cm; yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) loamy sand; very weak fine granular structure; very friable; common fine and medium roots; strongly acid; gradual wavy boundary; **Bw3**--53 to 64 cm; light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) sand; single grain; loose; few coarse roots; strongly acid; clear wavy boundary; and **C**--64 to 165 cm; pale brown (10YR 6/3) and light brownish gray (10YR 6/2) sand; single grain; loose; few coarse roots; strongly acid.

Summary

A review of mapping, geological data, ecological conditions, soils, slopes, and proximity to freshwater suggests that the Project parcel appears to be amenable to both precontact era and post-European Contact period occupations. This includes areas of low to moderate slopes with well drained soils located near freshwater sources. 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 pit.

CHAPTER III

PRECONTACT ERA SETTING

Introduction

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

In terms of settlement and subsistence patterns, archaeological evidence in southern New England suggests that Laurentian Tradition populations consisted of groups of mobile hunter-gatherers. While a few large Laurentian Tradition occupations have been studied, sites of this age generally encompass less than 500 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).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Summary of Connecticut's Precontact Era

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

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

CHAPTER IV

POST EUROPEAN

CONTACT PERIOD OVERVIEW

Introduction

The proposed Facility will be located at 445 River Street in the Town of Windsor, which is located in Hartford County, Connecticut. This chapter provides an overview of Hartford County followed by a brief history of the Town of Windsor with a focus on the project parcel. Most Connecticut towns, including Windsor, began as Native American settlements and later became English colonial villages. The Town of Windsor was founded in 1633 and was one of the three original English river towns (Van Dusen 1961). Windsor began as an agricultural settlement, became an important tobacco producing area through the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and grew into a residential suburb in the twenty-first century. Although commercial and industrial development has varied, much of the town retains its rural character.

Hartford County

Hartford was one of the four original counties established in 1666 following the merger of Connecticut Colony and Hartford Colony (Van Dusen 1961). Located in central-northern Connecticut, Hartford Colony is bounded to the north by the State of Massachusetts, to the east by Tolland County, to the south by Windham, Middlesex, and New Haven Counties and to the west by New Haven and Litchfield Counties. Bisected by the Connecticut River, the county is also the location of the City of Hartford, the capital of Connecticut. Although Hartford has the highest population in the county (an estimated 126,443 as of 2020), Glastonbury has the largest land area (52.3 sq. mi.) (Connecticut 2021). Hartford County is in the lower central Connecticut River Valley and the land rises in the western portion of the county on a low mountain range known as the Metacomet Range (Bell 1985). The landscape varies from densely populated urban areas in most of the county to rich farmland regions in its northern bounds and includes a long stretch of the Connecticut River as well as other significant freshwater rivers. Important waterways associated with Hartford County include the Connecticut, Farmington, Hockanum, Podunk, and Scantic Rivers (Trumbull 1886). The county's three largest cities are Hartford, New Britain, and West Hartford while other important population centers are located at Bristol, Manchester, East Hartford, and Glastonbury (Connecticut 2021). The proposed project parcel is situated approximately 500 meters (1,640 feet) to the east of the Farmington River and approximately 3.5 kilometers (2.17 miles) to the west of the Connecticut River.

Woodland Period to Seventeenth Century

During the Woodland Period of northeastern North American history (ca., 3000 to 500 years ago) the Indigenous people who inhabited the Connecticut River Valley in central and northern Connecticut were part of the Eastern Algonkian civilization. It consisted of various groups, including the Podunk, Wangunk, Poquonock, and Suckiaug tribes. They spoke local variations of Southern New England Algonquian languages and resided in extended kinship groups on lands they maintained for a variety of horticultural and resource extraction purposes (Goddard 1978). Indigenous people in the region practiced subsistence activities including hunting, fowling, and fishing, along with the cultivation of various crops, the most important of which were maize, squash, and beans. They supplemented these foods seasonally by collecting shellfish, fruits, and plants during warmer periods, and gathering nuts, roots, and tubers during colder times (Lavin 2013). In addition, these communities came together in large groups to hunt deer in the fall and winter. Indigenous peoples lived with their immediate or extended families in large

settlements often concentrated along rivers and/or wetlands. Some villages were fortified by wooden palisades. Their habitations, known as a *weetu* or *wigwam*, were generally constructed of a tree sapling frame and covered in reed matting during warm months and tree bark throughout the winter. These varied in size from a small, individual dwelling to an expansive “long house” which could accommodate several families. Native communities commonly traded among both their immediate neighbors and often maintained long-distance networks as well (Lavin 2013). At the time of the arrival of Europeans some of the prominent Native nations in the region, from the present-day Massachusetts-Connecticut border to present day Hartford included the Agawam, Poquonock, Tunxis, Podunk, and Suckiaug people (DeForest 1852; Lavin 2013). The Native people who resided at present-day East Windsor in the years prior to the arrival of the Europeans were known as the Poquonock.

Seventeenth Century Through Eighteenth Century

As Native communities maintained oral tradition rather than a written record, most surviving information of the Indigenous people of present-day Hartford County was recorded by European observers (Lavin 2013). The earliest Europeans known to have sailed to Long Island Sound and up the Connecticut River were the Dutch in 1614 under Captain Adrian Block. Block created a figurative map that depicted the Connecticut River, which he named the *Versche Rivier* (Fresh River). They sailed as far north as the site of present-day East Windsor and the “Enfield Falls” where they traded with the Indigenous people there (DeForest 1852; Stiles 1891). The Dutch learned the significance of *wampum*, polished tubular shell beads created from the white *whelk* shell and the purple *quahog* shell, which they exchanged for furs from Native peoples from the interior (Hauptman & Wherry 2009; McBride 2013). The Dutch developed trade relationships with Native communities in valley including the Wangunk, Podunk, and Poquonock. By the 1620’s the Dutch and Pequot of present-day southeastern Connecticut traded wampum and furs for European goods. In 1624 the Dutch established New Netherland Colony centered around Manhattan (Jacobs 2009). The Pequot extended their dominance over the Connecticut shoreline, eastern Long Island, and the lower Connecticut River Valley bringing Native communities there into a tributary relationship under their leadership, including the Poquonock (Hauptman & Wherry 2009; McBride 2013). In 1633, the Pequot allowed the Dutch to build a trading post, the *Huys de Hoop*, at present-day Hartford to dominate the flow of wampum and fur.

To break from the Pequot, several Connecticut River sachems invited the English to settle near them. The Dutch opposed this but were unable to remove them. Windsor was founded in 1633 followed by Wethersfield (1634), Hartford (1635) and Saybrook Colony (1635) at the mouth of the river (Trumbull 1886; Barry 1985). More Europeans in the region meant exposure to diseases indigenous people had not encountered before and therefore had no natural immunity to which devastated Native communities. In 1633, there were reports of a “plague” that had wiped out 90 percent of the Podunk community in present-day Windsor. Tensions between Native and European groups resulted in the death of several English traders which were blamed on the Pequot. As a result, English forces from Massachusetts Bay destroyed Pequot villages on the Pequot (Thames) River which began the Pequot War. The Pequot laid siege to Saybrook Fort during the winter of 1636-1637 and attacked Wethersfield in April 1637. Connecticut Colony declared war on the Pequot, joined by Connecticut River Native allies, including the Poquonock and the Mohegan under the Sachem Uncas (Oberg 2006). In May of 1637 English allied forces destroyed the fortified Pequot village at Mistick and in July they pursued refugees west where they defeated the Pequot in present-day Fairfield and soon after the war ended (Stiles 1891; Cave 1996). Pequot territory was considered conquered land claimed by Connecticut Colony and in January of 1639 the Connecticut River towns adopted the “fundamental orders” which outlined the framework for Connecticut Colony, a self-governed colony separate from Massachusetts Bay or Plimoth (Trumbull 1886).

The General Assembly began issuing land distributions by 1640 and Windsor received a large grant that became the northeastern bounds of town in an area known as Pine Meadow. By 1656, the “Old County Road” was laid out from Pine Meadow north along the river valley to Northampton, Massachusetts (Stiles 1891). In 1662, Governor John Winthrop, Jr., obtained a royal charter from King Charles II to legitimize the existence of Connecticut Colony in the English Empire. Windsor developed as an agricultural town with strong maritime ties due to the Connecticut River. The original bounds of the Town of Windsor included the present towns of Windsor Locks, East Windsor, South Windsor, and Ellington (Stiles 1891; Barry 1985). Early settlers in the Connecticut River Valley were primarily farmers who raised various types of grain as well as tobacco. During the eighteenth century, some farmers turned to grazing and raised livestock. Other forms of industry also appeared as gristmills, sawmills, and fulling mills became common (Van Dusen 1961). Due to its river location, Windsor served as an important port from which merchants shipped various products, including timber, bricks, livestock, and tobacco. Ships transported these items south to the West Indies and, once there, picked up sugar, salt, British-made textiles, and ceramics, among other things, importing them back to the colonies. Another significant industry fueled by the Connecticut River was shipbuilding, which took place in what are now South Windsor and East Windsor. Shipbuilding was also common on the Farmington River in northern Windsor (Stiles 1891).

Throughout the eighteenth century, Windsor’s population steadily increased and the town became an important agricultural hub that produced a variety of food stores. Residents were primarily farmers who grew crops such as corn, rye, oats, and barley while others turned to raising livestock including cattle, sheep, and pigs. Although parts of Windsor excelled in tobacco production, the northeastern section of town, which would later become Windsor Locks, did not. Windsor farmers sold their products to nearby cities, supplied maritime provisions, and found markets in the southern colonies and Caribbean (Stiles 1891). Slavery existed in Windsor since the seventeenth century and by the eighteenth century it was primarily practiced by wealthy families, merchants, and ministers but there is little evidence that slavery existed in present-day Windsor Locks. By the time of the first census in Connecticut in 1756, the population of Windsor had reached 4,220 residents (Connecticut 2023a). The population fell dramatically after 1768 due to the separation of East Windsor, which at the time encompassed all of Windsor’s territory on the eastern side of the Connecticut River, including modern-day South Windsor and Ellington. The 1774 Connecticut colonial census recorded a “White” population of 2,082, a “Negro” population of 37, and six “Indians” in Windsor (Hoadly 1887).

During the American Revolution (1775-1783), the state of Connecticut played an important role in the process of recruiting soldiers, supplying food stores, and providing a variety of military goods for the war effort. Throughout the war, Connecticut was a leader in sourcing provisions for American forces, due to a rationing system set up by individual towns, including in Windsor (Van Dusen 1961). Following the war, the State passed a gradual manumission law in 1784, but slavery was not fully abolished until 1848 (Normen 2013). On January 9, 1788, Connecticut ratified the U.S. Constitution to become the fifth state (Van Dusen 1961). As post-war development in industry and transportation continued, it was in the late 1790s and early 1800s that steam powered ships began to replace sail power along the Connecticut River. John Fitch, a Windsor native, is credited with designing an experimental steam powered ship in 1788 (Griswold 2012). Steam power and canals would grow in popularity and usefulness in the upcoming years. By 1790, Windsor’s population had risen slightly to 2,714 residents (Connecticut 2023a; Table 1).

Nineteenth Century Through Twenty-First Century

At the start of the nineteenth century, Windsor was still a small agricultural town, but by the 1830s it had developed some manufacturing facilities and experienced further advancements in transportation. At that time Windsor had four paper mills and several factories that produced Kentucky jean cloth, cotton batting, wire, and satin. The town also had a canal that extended north to Enfield. Operated by the Connecticut River Company, the canal opened in 1829 and allowed passengers to travel by steamboat between Hartford and Springfield, which was a popular mode of travel until it was superseded by the railroad (Stiles 1891). Throughout the nineteenth century, the local population fluctuated mainly due to the formation of new towns from Windsor's territory. In 1830, Windsor had 3,220 residents, but following the separation of the Town of Bloomfield in 1835, the population fell to 2,283 by 1840 (Connecticut 2022b; Table 1).

By 1844, the Hartford & Springfield Railroad had built tracks through Windsor. Since the rail line linked with the Hartford & New Haven line in Hartford, Windsor had a reliable connection to the state's rail system thereafter. Windsor was not a heavily industrialized town but in 1853 the Sequasson Woolen Company was incorporated, which successfully ran a steam powered textile operation for many decades (Stiles 1891). In 1854 the Pine Meadow section of Windsor separated to become the Town of Windsor Locks although the 1860 census counted their residents jointly with Windsor, enumerating 3,865 residents in town (Connecticut 2022b; Table 1). During the Civil War (1861-1865) the Town of Windsor contributed 187 recruits to the Union Army and lost 17 men during the conflict and another 24 were wounded (Hines 2002). Following the war, the town continued to develop as an important agricultural and industrial hub, home to several paper mills as well as a significant tobacco producer. The 1870 census provided separate counts and noted the population of Windsor Locks as 2,154 residents and Windsor as 2,783 (Connecticut 2022b; Table 1). The Connecticut Western Railroad opened in 1871 and it connected Hartford with New York State along a northerly route that extended through Windsor. The railroads, however, did little to encourage the development of large-scale industry in the town (Turner and Jacobus 1989). As of 1890, the principal industry in Windsor was still agriculture (Connecticut 1890). At the end of the century, the number of residents in Windsor had risen to 2,954 (Connecticut 2023b).

As of the early twentieth century, Windsor's population was still under 5,000 residents and its main industries were general manufacturing and agriculture (Connecticut 2022c; Table 1). One of Windsor's most important agricultural crops at that time was tobacco. In 1896, a method was developed for growing "shade tobacco," which consisted of building light cloth tents on poles over the plants, enabling the tobacco leaves to take on a more pleasant color (McDonald 1936). The town of Windsor was at the forefront of this development, cultivating the first shade-grown tobacco in 1900. Although the Connecticut Tobacco Experiment Station had been established in the Poquonock district of Windsor 10 years earlier, a second "Tobacco Experiment Station" was established in 1921. The work of these initially private operations "made Windsor the center of the industry, with more acres under cultivation than any other town in the valley" (Cunningham 1995). While in 1907 only 70 acres throughout New England were planted under shade, by 1919 there were 3,900 acres planted in Connecticut alone. At that time the Connecticut crop was valued at \$4,830,000. Between 1923 and 1936, the tobacco crop comprised over 33 percent of the total value of Connecticut agricultural products (McDonald 1936). By mid-century, Connecticut had experienced growth reflecting the postwar adoption of the automobile and the subsequent suburban residential development trend, as well as the construction of highways, including Interstate 91 completed in Windsor in 1956. Because of this suburbanization trend, as of 1960, Windsor's population had risen to 19,467 residents (Connecticut 2022c; Table 1). At this time, Windsor's manufacturing sector had expanded and included the production of bricks, iron castings, machine tools, and atomic energy (Connecticut 1960). While tobacco production had begun to decline, by 1990 the value

of the town’s annual crop was worth more than it was in 1950 due to the dramatic increase of the market price of tobacco (Cunningham 1995).

At the beginning of the twenty-first century, Windsor’s population continued to increase and reached 29,044 residents in 2010 (Connecticut 2023d). At that time, the largest employment sector in town was insurance, followed by transportation and warehousing, as is evidenced by two of the major employers in town, The Hartford and Amazon (AdvanceCT and CTData Collaborative 2021). Tobacco production was still a notable part of the economy. Other principal industries were power generation, aerospace, medical technology, adhesives, and automotive parts (Connecticut 2021). Despite these diverse manufacturing ventures and the ongoing presence of farming, the town of Windsor retains a suburban residential character.

Table 1: Population of Windsor, Connecticut, Hartford County 1890-2020 (Connecticut 2022b-d; AdvanceCT and CTData Collaborative 2021a)

Town	1890	1900	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950
Town of Windsor, Hartford County, Connecticut	2,954	3,614	4,178	5,620	8,290	10,068	11,833
	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020
	19,467	22,504	25,204	27,817	28,237	29,044	29,492

History of the Project Area

During the nineteenth century, the project parcel was located in what were rural, agricultural lands. Woodford’s 1855 Hartford County map shows the proposed Project area is in the northeastern portion of Windsor near the border with the Town of Windsor Locks. The 1855 map of the region reveals that there was little development in the immediate vicinity of the project parcel with the two closest structures located around 300 meters (984 feet) south of the project area owned by a “Esther Owen” and another by an “O. J. Phelps” on north side of River Street. Significant development is evident to the west of the project area and the Farmington River along Pequonnock Avenue (Figure 4; 1855 map). According to the subsequent 1869 Baker Hartford County map, little had changed to the project parcel and the general vicinity. The area east of the Farmington River and around River Road appear largely undeveloped. There are two dwelling houses south of the project area remained owned by “Owen” and “O. J. Phelps” while the project area appears undeveloped and likely under agricultural cultivation (Figure 5; 1869 map).

Photographs taken in 1934 during the Fairchild Aerial Surveys indicates that the proposed project parcel was under active agricultural cultivation, likely growing tobacco as evident by at least two long structures toward the south of the property that are likely tobacco barns. The surrounding landscape appears to be evenly divided between forested land and cleared agricultural fields with tobacco barns visible (Figure 6; 1934 Aerial). An aerial image taken in 1970 by the Natural Resources Conservation Service indicates that few changes occurred on the landscape since 1934, with the project area being under agricultural cultivation with several tobacco barns visible. The surrounding landscape also appears to be a mixture of extensive tobacco fields interspersed with forested land (Figure 7 and 8; 1951 and 1970 Aerials). In contrast, the environment around the project area changed substantially according to a 1990 aerial image. A new road with intermittent suburban residential housing was constructed directly west of the project area with the new road named River Road while the old road route became known as Old River Street. The section of the road to the south of the project parcel underwent significant residential development as well. The project parcel itself remained under agricultural cultivation and lands further east remain a mixture of forested land and tobacco fields (Figure 9; 1990 Aerial). In the

early twenty first century the landscape remained the same as indicated by a 2019 dated aerial image by Connecticut Environmental Conditions. The western and southern bounds of the project area along River Road remain heavily developed with residential housing. The project parcel remained under agricultural cultivation as did large tracts of land to the east mixed with some forested land (Figure 10; 2019 Aerial). In 2023, those agricultural and wooded properties abutting the project parcel to the northwest were developed into a large Amazon Fulfillment Center while the project parcel remained cleared and under agricultural cultivation (Hartford Courant 2023).

Conclusions

The documentary review indicates that the Project parcel has been consistently used as agricultural fields. Thus, there is the possibility of encountering remains of post European Contact era outbuildings, stonewalls, or other evidence of farming. However, archaeological deposits associated with these uses would not necessarily be considered culturally significant.

CHAPTER V

PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

Introduction

This chapter presents an overview of previous cultural resources research completed within the vicinity of the project parcel in Windsor, 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 parcel are taken into consideration. Specifically, this chapter reviews previously identified archaeological sites, National/State Register of Historic Places properties, and inventoried standing structures over 50 years old in the project region (Figures 11 and 12). The discussions presented below are based on information currently on file at the CT-SHPO in Hartford, Connecticut. In addition, the electronic site files maintained by Heritage were examined during this investigation. Both the quantity and quality of the information contained in the original cultural resources survey reports and State of Connecticut archaeological site forms are reflected below.

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

A review of data currently on file at the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office, as well as the electronic site files maintained by Heritage resulted in the identification of 20 previously recorded archaeological sites within 1.6 km (1 mi) of the project area (Table 2 and Figure 11). A total of 17 sites are in located Windsor and three are situated in Windsor Locks. Only two of the 20 sites, the Atkinson Site (164-79) and the Hayden Station Road Site (164-a), have been determined to be potentially eligible for listing to the NRHP. In addition, two Connecticut State Register of Historic Places properties (Phineas Griswold House and a c. 1860 Italianate residence) and one National Register of Historic places property also (Eli Phelps House) are located within 1.6 km (1 mi) of the project area (Figure 12).

Table 2. Previously Identified Archaeological Sites within 1.6 km (1 mi) of the project area.

Town	Site Number	Recorder	Date Recorded	Cultural Affiliation	Site Name
Windsor	164-a	E. Correia (Heritage Consultants, LLC)	6/30/2021	Precontact	Hayden Station Road Site
Windsor	164-4	Warner (CAS)	3/1979	Precontact	Schwartz
Windsor	164-6	Unknown	-	Precontact	Phelps
Windsor	164-11	B. Calogero (PAST, Inc)	12/21/1991	Precontact	Oxbow (Mother's Meadow)
Windsor	164-13	B. Calogero (PAST, Inc)	12/21/1991	Precontact	Office Site
Windsor	164-14	B. Calogero (PAST, Inc)	12/21/1991	Precontact	Barn #10
Windsor	164-15	B. Calogero (PAST, Inc)	12/21/1991	Precontact	Barn #27
Windsor	164-16	B. Calogero (PAST, Inc)	12/21/1991	Precontact	Barn #33
Windsor	164-17	B. Calogero (PAST, Inc)	12/21/1991	Precontact	Barn #36
Windsor	164-18	B. Calogero (PAST, Inc)	12/21/1991	Precontact	Shed #50
Windsor	164-19	J. Lizee (PAST, Inc)	1/30/1992	Precontact	Area 1

Table 2. Previously Identified Archaeological Sites within 1.6 km (1 mi) of the project area, cont'd.

Town	Site Number	Recorder	Date Recorded	Cultural Affiliation	Site Name
Windsor	164-40.1	D. George (Heritage Consultants, LLC)	02/2007	Post European Contact	Settler Circle Historic Site (W1-5)
Windsor	164-40.2	D. George (Heritage Consultants, LLC)	02/2007	Precontact	Settler Circle Prehistoric Site (W1-5)
Windsor	164-42	D. George (Heritage Consultants, LLC)	02/2007	Precontact	Sawka Drive Prehistoric Site (W1-11)
Windsor	164-48	D. George (Heritage Consultants, LLC)	02/2007	Precontact	Route 20 Prehistoric Site (W1-34)
Windsor	164-52	D. George (Heritage Consultants, LLC)	02/2007	Precontact	Thrall #2 Prehistoric Site (W1-46)
Windsor	164-61	D. George (Heritage Consultants, LLC)	02/2007	Precontact	River Farms Prehistoric Site (W2-21)
Windsor	164-79	C. Atkinson (Heritage Consultants, LLC)	02/07/2020	Precontact	The Atkinson Site (Locus 1)
Windsor Locks	165-2	B. Calogero (PAST, Inc)	12/21/1991	Precontact	OT3
Windsor Locks	165-4	B. Calogero (PAST, Inc)	12/21/1991	Precontact	Honda
Windsor Locks	165-6	D. George (Heritage Consultants, LLC)	09/01/2005	Precontact	Site 165-6

Site 164-a

Site 164-a is also known as the Hayden Station Road Site. It is located on private land within a tobacco field at 1190 Kennedy Road in Windsor, Connecticut (Figure 11). It was recorded in June of 2021 by Elizabeth Correia of Heritage Consultants, LLC. The Hayden Station Road Site represents a precontact era camp site occupied during the Late Archaic Period. Despite disturbance in the plowzone from previous tobacco cultivation, underlying stratigraphy remained intact. The site was determined to be potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and D. The post European contact component was not considered significant. The site was also subjected to mechanical stripping and hand excavation of all cultural features prior to development of the project parcel. The site has been destroyed.

Site 164-4

Site 164-4, also known as the Schwartz Site, is located in an agricultural field at the intersection of Hayden Station Road and Kennedy Road in Windsor, Connecticut (Figure 11). The site was recorded by a member of the Archaeological Society of Connecticut in 1975 and examined by Dr. Douglas Jordan and Central Connecticut State University in 1976. It was determined that Site 164-4 contained 18 human cremation burials. Associated artifacts included quartz debitage, a small grooved axe, Mansion Inn blades, flint debitage, and fire cracked rock with charcoal. These finds indicated an occupation dating from the Late/Terminal Archaic Period. Altogether, Site 164-4 is approximately the acres in size and had fair integrity in 1979 when it was reported. However, it has been destroyed since then and was not assessed applying the qualities of significance as defined by the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]).

Site 164-6

Site 164-6 is located on two small knolls to the south of Marshall Phelps Road and west of Phelps Brook in Windsor Locks, Connecticut (Figure 11). It was recorded in 1975 as the Phelps Site. Precontact era artifacts

collected from the site area are of an unknown material/type; they were collected by a local artifact collector, though not enough information was documented to determine the use or age of the Phelps Site. Site 164-6 has not been assessed applying the qualities of significance as defined by the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). It is located well enough away from the project parcel and will not be impacted by the proposed construction.

Site 164-11

Site 164-11, which is also known as the Oxbow (Mother's Meadow) Site, is located on a floodplain and knoll to the north of the Farmington River and to the west of Interstate I-91 (Figure 11). The site was recorded after it had been surface collected by Walter Rapp, LaRose, Kowalski, and Cook. Artifacts collected from the site included a "Neville projectile point, Brewerton-eared point, quartz narrow stemmed points, fish tailed points, small triangular point, a symmetric pentangle, and steatite bowl fragments." The Oxbow (Mother's Meadow) Site has not been assessed applying the qualities of significance as defined by the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). It is located well enough away from the project parcel and will not be impacted by the proposed construction.

Site 164-13

Site 164-13, which is also known as the Office Site, was recorded in 1991 by Barbara Calogero of the Public Archaeology Survey Team (PAST) (Figure 11). Lithic artifacts collected from the site area included a broad blade, projectile points of the Susquehanna Tradition, and steatite bowl fragments collected from the surface by Richard LaRoge in the 1980s. The recorded artifacts suggest a Terminal Archaic Period occupation; however, very little information was recorded on the site form. The boundaries of Site 164-13 are unknown, and it is located on privately owned industrial property located at the corner of River Street and Kennedy Road in Windsor, Connecticut. The Office Site was recorded as "destroyed" in 1991. Site 164-13 has not been assessed applying the qualities of significance as defined by the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). It is located well enough away from the project parcel and will not be impacted by the proposed construction.

Site 164-14

Site 164-14, which is also known as the Barn #10 Site, was recorded in 1991 by Barbara Calogero of the Public Archaeology Survey Team (PAST) (Figure 11). The single artifact recovered from the site area was described as a Brewerton eared-notched projectile point, which was collected from the surface by Walter Rapp in 1990. The projectile point indicates the Late Archaic Period occupation of the area; however, very little other information was recorded on the site form. The boundaries of Site 164-14 are unknown other than it was located in a cleared agricultural field on the west side of Kennedy Road Windsor, Connecticut. The site was recorded as "destroyed" in 1991. Site 164-14 has not been assessed applying the qualities of significance as defined by the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). It is located well enough away from the project parcel and will not be impacted by the proposed construction.

Site 164-15

Site 164-15 was recorded in 1991 as the Barn #27 Site by Barbara Calogero of the Public Archaeology Survey Team (PAST) (Figure 11). Lithic artifacts recovered from this site included a Brewerton side-notched projectile point and a Neville projectile point, both of which were collected from the surface by Walter Rapp in 1990. The recovered projectile points indicate Middle and Late Archaic Period occupations. The boundaries of Site 164-15 are listed unknown and it is located in a cleared agricultural field on the west side of Kennedy Road Windsor, Connecticut. This site was also recorded as "destroyed" in 1991. Site 164-

15 has not been assessed applying the qualities of significance as defined by the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). It is located well enough away from the project parcel and will not be impacted by the proposed construction.

Site 164-16

Site 164-16, which is also known as the Barn #33 Site, was recorded in December of 1991 by Barbara Calogero of the Public Archaeology Survey Team (PAST) (Figure 11). The site was recorded after Walter Rapp collected a broad blade point from the surface of the site in 1990. Rapp was a worker for the Thrall tobacco farmers and the blade was within one of their fields off Kennedy Road. No other information related to the precontact period use of the Site 164-16 area is recorded on the site form. It has not been assessed applying the qualities of significance as defined by the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). It is located well enough away from the project parcel and will not be impacted by the proposed construction.

Site 164-17

Site 164-17 was recorded as the Barn #36 Site by Barbara Calogero of the Public Archaeology Survey Team (PAST) in 1991 (Figure 11). This occupation produced narrow stemmed projectile points as well as projectile points of the Susquehanna Tradition, all of which were collected from the surface by Walter Rapp in the 1990. The recorded artifacts date to the Late Archaic Period. The boundaries and integrity of Site 164-17 are unknown; however, the site is in a cleared agricultural field on the west side of Kennedy Road Windsor, Connecticut. Site 164-17 has not been assessed applying the qualities of significance as defined by the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). It is located well enough away from the project parcel and will not be impacted by the proposed construction.

Site 164-18

Site 164-18 was recorded as the Shed #50 Site by Barbara Calogero of the Public Archaeology Survey Team (PAST) in 1991 (Figure 11). Lithic artifacts recovered from the site area included Levanna projectile points that were collected from the surface by Walter Rapp in the 1990. The recorded artifacts suggest a Late Woodland Period occupation for this site. The boundaries and integrity of Site 164-18 are unknown and it is located in a forested area on the west side of Kennedy Road Windsor, Connecticut. Site 164-18 has not been assessed applying the qualities of significance as defined by the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). It is located well enough away from the project parcel and will not be impacted by the proposed construction.

Site 164-19

Site 164-19, also known as the Area I Site, is a precontact era encampment situated at the location of the Exit 39 entrance ramp (southbound) on Interstate-91 in Windsor, Connecticut (Figure 11). Site 164-19 was recorded by Jonathan Lizee of the Public Archaeology Survey Team (Past) in March of 1994. PAST determined that Area I dated from the Terminal Archaic Period based on the recovery Orient projectile points, pottery sherds, and steatite fragments collected during excavation. Additional cultural material recovered from Area I included lithic debitage, faunal remains, and groundstone tools. Further, several post molds were also identified. At the time of excavation, the site measured approximately 2,000 square meters (6,562 square feet) in size. Site 164-19 is now partially destroyed by completed improvements to the Exit 39 entrance ramp (southbound) on Interstate-91. It was assessed as eligible for inclusion when applying the qualities of significance as defined by the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). The site is located approximately 1.6 km (1 m) to the southeast of the project parcel and will not be impacted by the proposed construction.

Site 164-40.1

Site 164-40.1 is also known as the Settler Circle Historic Site (W1-5). The nineteenth to twentieth century site is located on private land at 30 Settler Circle in Windsor, Connecticut (Figure 11). It was recorded in February of 2007 by Heritage Consultants, LLC in Newington, Connecticut. This site was identified during testing of a town-wide GIS predictive model of archaeologically sensitive areas. Each test area was examined through the excavation of six shovel tests in an effort to identify unknown archaeological sites. Recovered cultural material from Site 164-40.1 included glass, nails, porcelain, and whiteware sherds. This area was designated as a high probability area in the GIS predictive model. Heritage recommended that additional testing of this area be completed to determine whether or not this site is significant applying the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). It is located well enough away that the site will not be impacted by the proposed construction.

Site 164-40.2

Site 164-40.2 is also known as the Settler Circle Prehistoric Site (W1-5). The precontact era camp site is located on private land at 30 Settler Circle in Windsor, Connecticut (Figure 11). It was recorded in February of 2007 by Heritage Consultants, LLC in Newington, Connecticut. This site was identified during testing of a town-wide GIS predictive model of archaeologically sensitive areas. Each test area was examined through the excavation of six shovel tests in an effort to identify unknown archaeological sites. Recovered cultural material from Site 164-40.2 included a single slate flake and numerous flint flakes. This area was designated as a high probability area in the GIS predictive model. Heritage recommended that additional testing of this area be completed to determine whether or not this site is significant applying the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). It is located well enough away that the site will not be impacted by the proposed construction.

Site 164-42

Site 164-42, which is also known as the Sawka Drive Prehistoric Site (W1-11), is located on Sawka Drive in Windsor, Connecticut (Figure 11). This site was identified and recorded by Heritage Consultants, LLC during testing of a town-wide GIS predictive model of archaeologically sensitive areas. Each test area was examined through the excavation of six shovel tests in an effort to identify unknown archaeological sites. Recovered cultural material from Site 164-42 included flint and quartz flakes. This area was designated as a high probability area in the GIS predictive model. Heritage recommended that additional testing of this area be completed to determine whether or not this site is significant applying the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). It is located well enough away that the site will not be impacted by the proposed construction.

Site 164-48

Site 164-48, which is also known as the Route 20 Prehistoric Site (W1-34), is located along Route 20 in Windsor, Connecticut (Figure 11). This site was identified and recorded by Heritage Consultants, LLC during testing of a town-wide GIS predictive model of archaeologically sensitive areas. Each test area was examined through the excavation of six shovel tests in an effort to identify unknown archaeological sites. Recovered cultural material from Site 164-48 included felsite, flint, and quartzite flakes. This area was designated as a high probability area in the GIS predictive model. Heritage recommended that additional testing of this area be completed to determine whether or not this site is significant applying the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). It is located well enough away that the site will not be impacted by the proposed construction.

Site 164-52

Site 164-52, which is also known as the Thrall #2 Prehistoric Site (W1-46), is located within a tobacco field (Thrall #2) in Windsor, Connecticut (Figure 11). This site was identified and recorded by Heritage Consultants, LLC during testing of a town-wide GIS predictive model of archaeologically sensitive areas. Each test area was examined through the excavation of six shovel tests in an effort to identify unknown archaeological sites. Recovered cultural material from Site 164-52 included flint and quartz flakes. This area was designated as a high probability area in the GIS predictive model. Heritage recommended that additional testing of this area be completed to determine whether or not this site is significant applying the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). It is located well enough away that the site will not be impacted by the proposed construction.

Site 164-61

Site 164-61, which is also known as the River Farms Prehistoric Site (W2-21), is located on private land at the River Farms in Windsor, Connecticut (Figure 11). This precontact era camp site was identified and recorded by Heritage Consultants, LLC during testing of a town-wide GIS predictive model of archaeologically sensitive areas. Each test area was examined through the excavation of six shovel tests in an effort to identify unknown archaeological sites. Recovered cultural material from Site 164-61 included numerous flint flakes. This area was designated as a high probability area in the GIS predictive model. Heritage recommended that additional testing of this area be completed to determine whether or not this site is significant applying the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). It is located well enough away that the site will not be impacted by the proposed construction.

Site 164-79

Site 164-79, which is also known as the Atkinson Site (Locus 1), is located on private land owned by O. J. Thrall and west of Kennedy Road in Windsor, Connecticut (Figure 11). This precontact era camp site was identified and recorded in February of 2020 by Heritage Consultants, LLC during Phase IB Cultural Resources Reconnaissance Survey of a proposed Distribution Facility along Kennedy Road in Windsor, Connecticut and Phase II National Register Testing and Evaluation of Loci 1 and 2 associated with the Distribution Facility. Phase IB cultural resources survey resulted in the collection of 43 prehistoric artifacts, including 1 chert Atlantic projectile point, 1 rhyolite secondary flake, 1 basalt secondary flake, 3 chert secondary flakes, 1 quartz primary reduction flake, and 4 quartz secondary flakes from the Ap; and 12 chert secondary flakes, 1 piece of fire-cracked rock (FCR), 1 chert retouched flake, 8 quartz secondary flakes, 4 pieces of quartz shatter, and 1 chert Wayland projectile point from the subsoil. Phase II National Register testing and evaluation produced 265 precontact era artifacts: 1 basalt secondary flake, 22 chert secondary flakes, 1 chert projectile point tip, 10 quartz secondary flakes, 1 quartz primary flake, 11 FCR from the plow zone; and 3 calcined bone fragments, 21 chert secondary flakes, 25 quartz secondary flakes, 9 pieces of quartz shatter, 1 untyped quartz narrow stemmed projectile point, 1- FCR from the subsoil. Unit excavations produced 22 chert secondary flakes, 1 calcined bone fragment, 10 FCR from the plow zone; and 1 ground stone hoe, 16 chert secondary flakes, 1 burned secondary chert flake, 3 rhyolite secondary flakes, 1 quartz secondary flake, 1 utilized quartz flake, 64 FCR, and 2 calcined bone fragments from the subsoil. The recovered lithic assemblage consisted of a wide variety of material types, although the dominant lithic varieties are of quartz and chert. Given the wide variety of materials and artifacts, as well as the overall integrity of the site, Locus 1 possesses research potential and is eligible for listing to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D of the criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). Site 164-79 is located approximately 75 meters (246 feet) to the east of the project area. While it has been recorded outside of the project area, it is possible that the site boundary could extend into the project parcel.

Site 165-2

Site 165-2, which is also known as the OT 3 Site, is a precontact era site located at the junction of Connecticut Route 20 and Old County Road in Windsor Locks, Connecticut (Figure 11). It is situated on nearly level ground in an agricultural field. Cultural material recovered from the OT 3 Site suggested a Middle to Late Archaic Period occupation. Site 165-2 has not been assessed applying the qualities of significance as defined by the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). It is located well enough away from the project parcel and will not be impacted by the proposed construction.

Site 165-4

Site 165-4, also known as the Honda Site, is a precontact site located just north of the junction of Connecticut Route 20 and Old County Road in Windsor Locks, Connecticut (Figure 11). It is situated on nearly level ground in forested area. Cultural material recovered from the Honda Site suggested a Late Archaic Period occupation. Site 165-4 has not been assessed applying the qualities of significance as defined by the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). It is located well enough away from the project parcel and will not be impacted by the proposed construction.

Site 165-6

Site 165-6 is a precontact era site located on the eastern side of Old County Road in Windsor Locks, Connecticut just north of Connecticut Route 20 (Figure 11). Site 165-6 measures approximately 130 x 200 m (426 x 820 ft) in size. It was recorded in May of 2005 by David George of the Heritage Consultants, LLC. During Phase I and Phase II excavation, Heritage Consultants, LLC recovered 278 artifacts including chert quartz and argillite flakes as well as broken projectile points. Recovered broad blade projectile points indicate a Late Archaic to Terminal Archaic Period occupation. Given the low density of artifacts and lack of soil integrity, Heritage assessed Site 156-6 as not eligible for inclusion when applying the qualities of significance as defined by the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). It is located well enough away that the site will not be impacted by the proposed construction.

Eli Phelps House

The Eli Phelps House is located in a residential area at 18 Marshall Phelps Road in Windsor, Connecticut (Figure 12). It is situated approximately 1.6 km (1 mi) to the southwest of the proposed project parcel. The Italianate style structure, which was constructed in ca., 1860 was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on September 15, 1988. The Eli Phelps House is the largest and most elaborate Italianate style structure remaining in town. It is a two-story masonry structure with a flat roof that has deep eaves supported by paired Italianate brackets. The roof supports a square cupola, also with a deep bracketed roof, with groups of round-arch windows on each side. The northern and southern sides of the building each have a projecting polygonal window bay that measure two stories in height. The Eli Phelps House is situated well enough away from the project area that it will not be impacted by the proposed construction.

Phineas Griswold House

The Phineas Griswold House is located at 1319 Poquonock Avenue in Windsor, Connecticut (Figure 12). It is situated approximately 1.6 km (1 mi) to the southwest of the proposed project parcel. This Colonial style structure was constructed in ca., 1789 and listed on the State Register of Historic Places on August 5, 1966. At the time of its listing, the house was described as appearing “relatively plain (sic) but has recently been restored in good taste.” It is a large house with a central chimney with nine front windows. The Phineas Griswold House is well enough away from the project area that it will not be impacted by the proposed construction.

ca., 1860 Italianate Residence

The ca., 1860 Italianate Residence is located on the northern side of Marshall Phelps Road and 100 yards to the west of Pequannock Avenue in Windsor, Connecticut (Figure 12). It is situated approximately 1.6 km (1 m) to the southwest of the proposed project parcel. The residence was listed on the State Register of Historic Places on August 5, 1966. At the time of its listing, the house was described as a two-story brick structure with a strong Italian Vill influence with a deep cornice supported by wooden brackets. The hipped roof has a cupola on it. The ca., 1860 Italianate Residence is well enough away from the project area that it will not be directly impacted by the proposed construction.

Summary and Interpretations

The review of previously completed research in the vicinity of the project area and the analysis of cultural resources recorded nearby, indicates that the larger project region contains precontact Native American deposits. Archaeological sites occupied within the study region date from as early as the Late Archaic Period (ca., 4,500 years ago), suggesting that additional archaeological sites may be situated within the project parcel. In addition, residences from the Colonial Period and later also exist in the project region. Therefore, additional post-European Contact period cultural resources may be located in the project parcel.

CHAPTER VI

METHODS

Introduction

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

Research Framework

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

Archival Research & Literature Review

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

Field Methodology and Data Synthesis

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

CHAPTER VII

RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION & MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Introduction

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

Overall Sensitivity of the Proposed Facility

The field data associated with soils, slopes, aspect, distance to water, and previous disturbance collected during the pedestrian survey and presented above was used in conjunction with the analysis of historical maps, aerial images, and data regarding previously identified archaeological sites and National and State Register of Historic Places properties, and inventoried standing structures over 50 years in age to stratify the Facility area into zones of no/low, moderate, and/or high archaeological sensitivity. In general, post-European Contact period archaeological sites are relatively easy to identify on the current landscape because the features associated with them tend to be relatively permanent constructions that extend above the ground surface (i.e., stone foundations, pens, wells, privies, etc.). Archaeological sites dating from the precontact era, on the other hand, are less often identified during pedestrian survey because they are buried, and predicting their locations relies more on the analysis and interpretation of environmental factors that would have informed Native American site choices.

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

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

Results of Phase IA Survey and Management Recommendations

Heritage personnel conducted a pedestrian survey of the proposed Facility and project parcel in July of 2023. The pedestrian survey was supplemented by mapping and photo-documentation (Figure 13 and Photos 1 through 12). As seen in the attached photos, the project parcel is mostly characterized by relatively even topography and low slopes and well drained soils that are typically correlated with precontact era and post-European Contact period use and occupation. Elevations in the area range from 22 to 26 m (72.2 to 85 ft) NGVD. The predominant soil types located noted throughout the project parcel Windsor soils, which are well-drained loamy soils. The project parcel currently consists of cultivated tobacco farms.

Pedestrian survey of the project area revealed that the entirety of the project parcel contains low slopes, well-drained soils, and is in close proximity to the Farmington River to the west. In addition, there are 20 previously identified archaeological sites nearby. These include 19 precontact Native American sites and a single site dating from the nineteenth to twentieth century. Site 164-79, which is a precontact era site, is situated within 250 feet (75 meters) of the project area and may extend into the project parcel. This site has been assessed eligible for listing to the NRHP. Based on the above-referenced factors, the project parcel has been deemed to possess a moderate/high archaeological sensitivity. It is recommended that it be subjected to Phase IB cultural resources survey prior to the construction of the proposed Facility.

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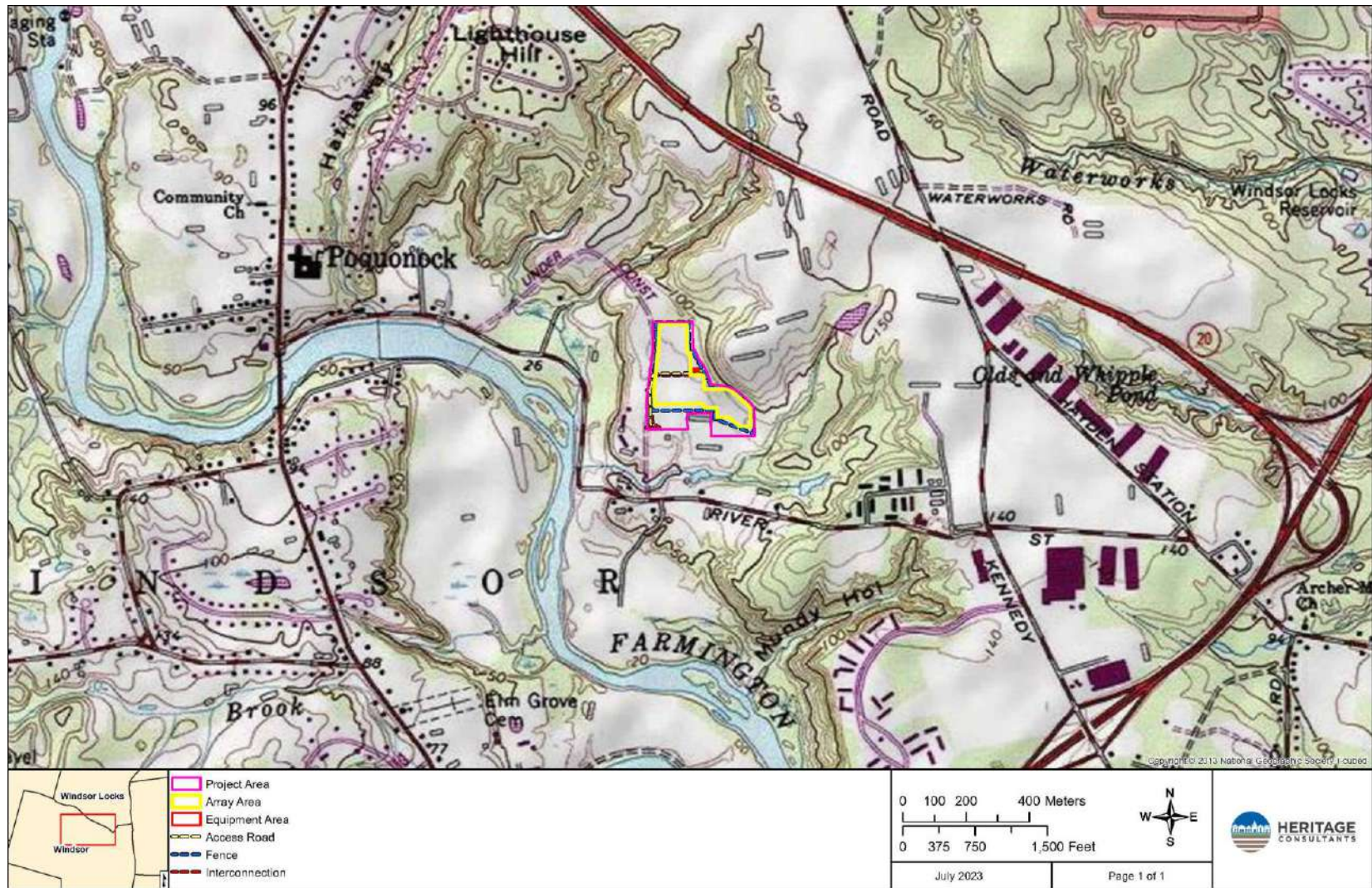


Figure 1. Excerpt from a USGS 7.5' series topographic quadrangle image showing the location of the project parcel in Windsor, Connecticut.



Figure 2. Proposed project plans for the solar Facility at 445 River Street in Windsor, Connecticut.

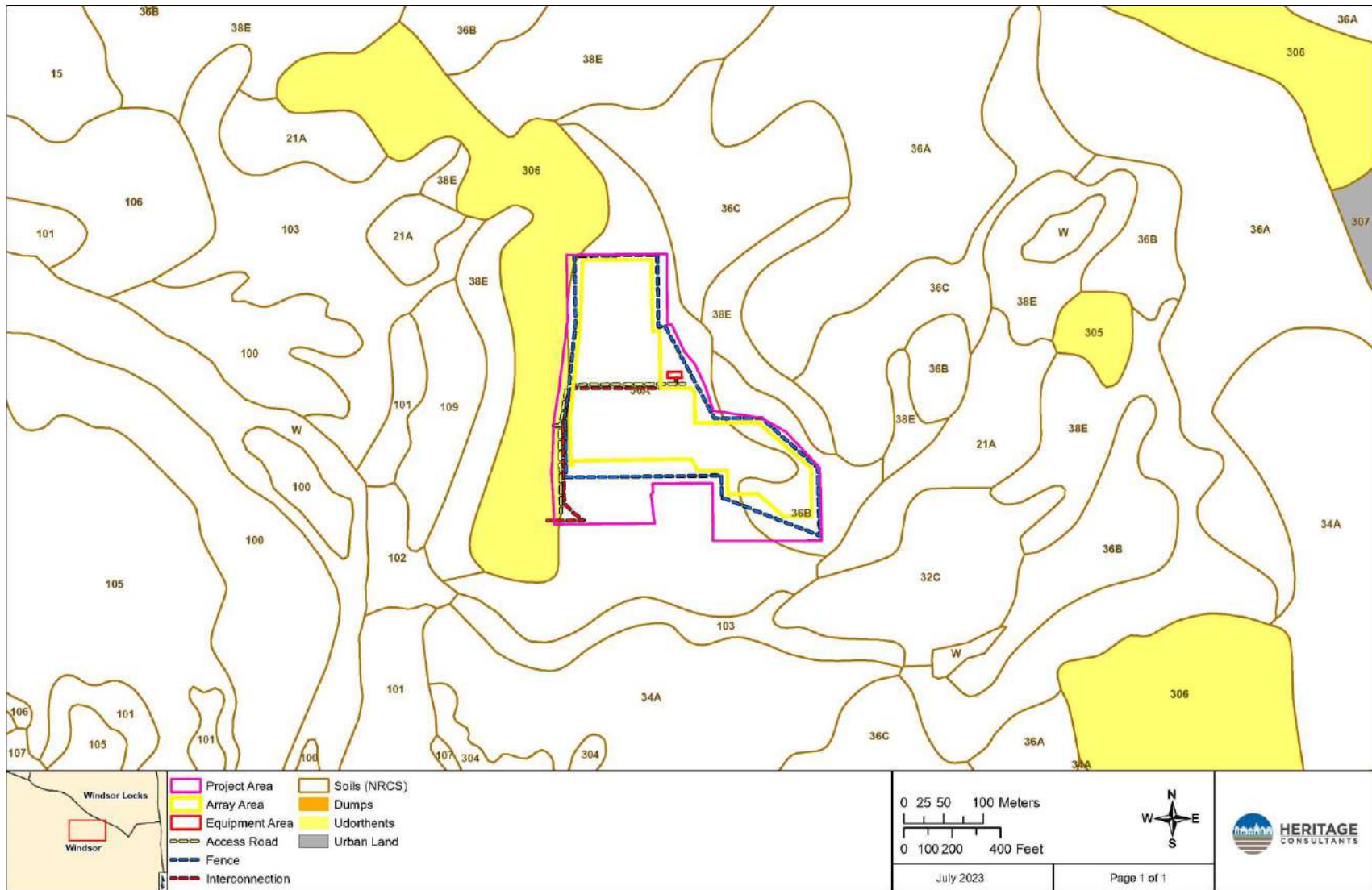


Figure 3. Digital map depicting the soil types present in the vicinity of the project parcel in Windsor, Connecticut.

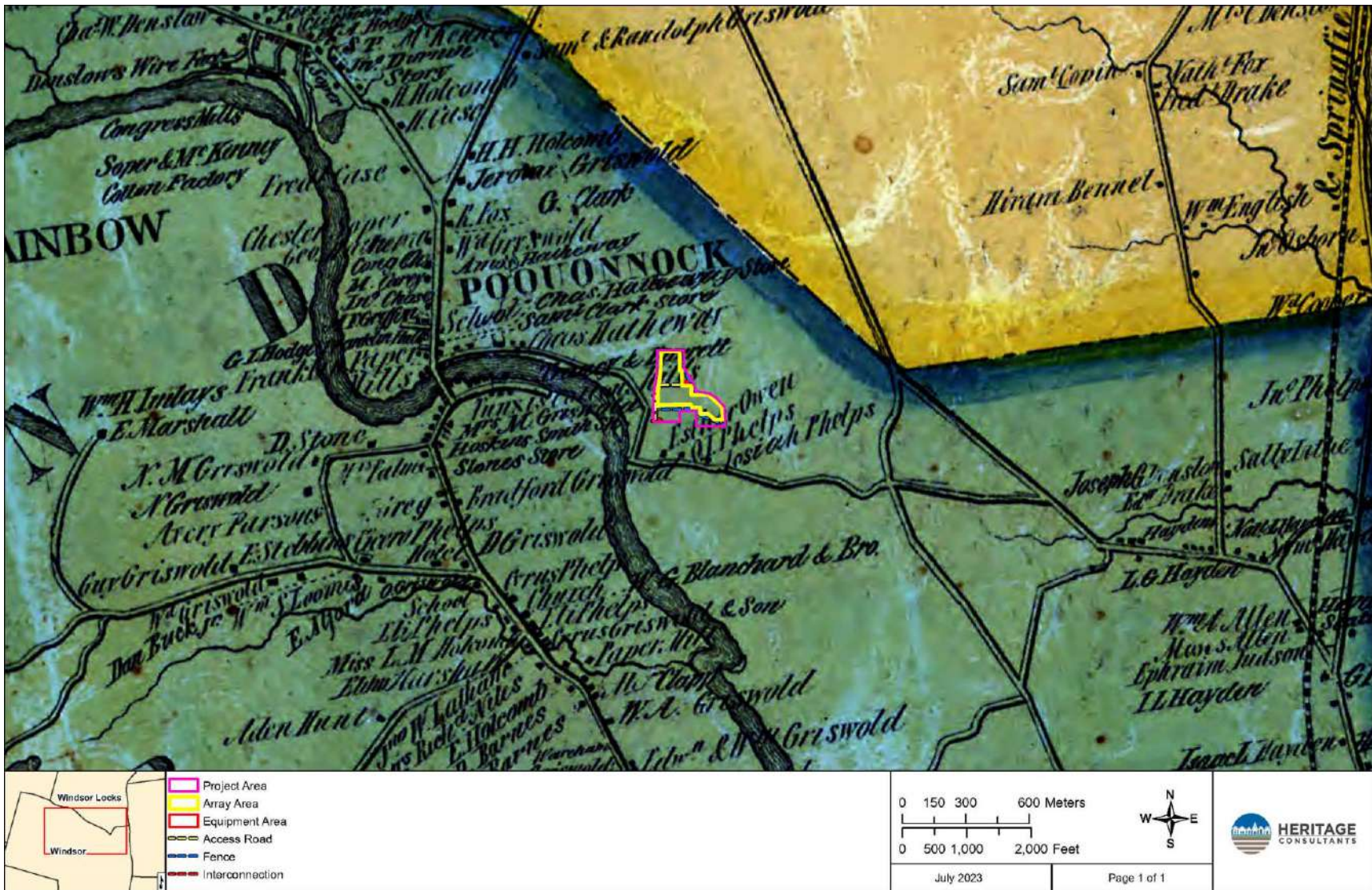


Figure 4. Excerpt from an 1855 map showing the location of the project parcel in Windsor, Connecticut.

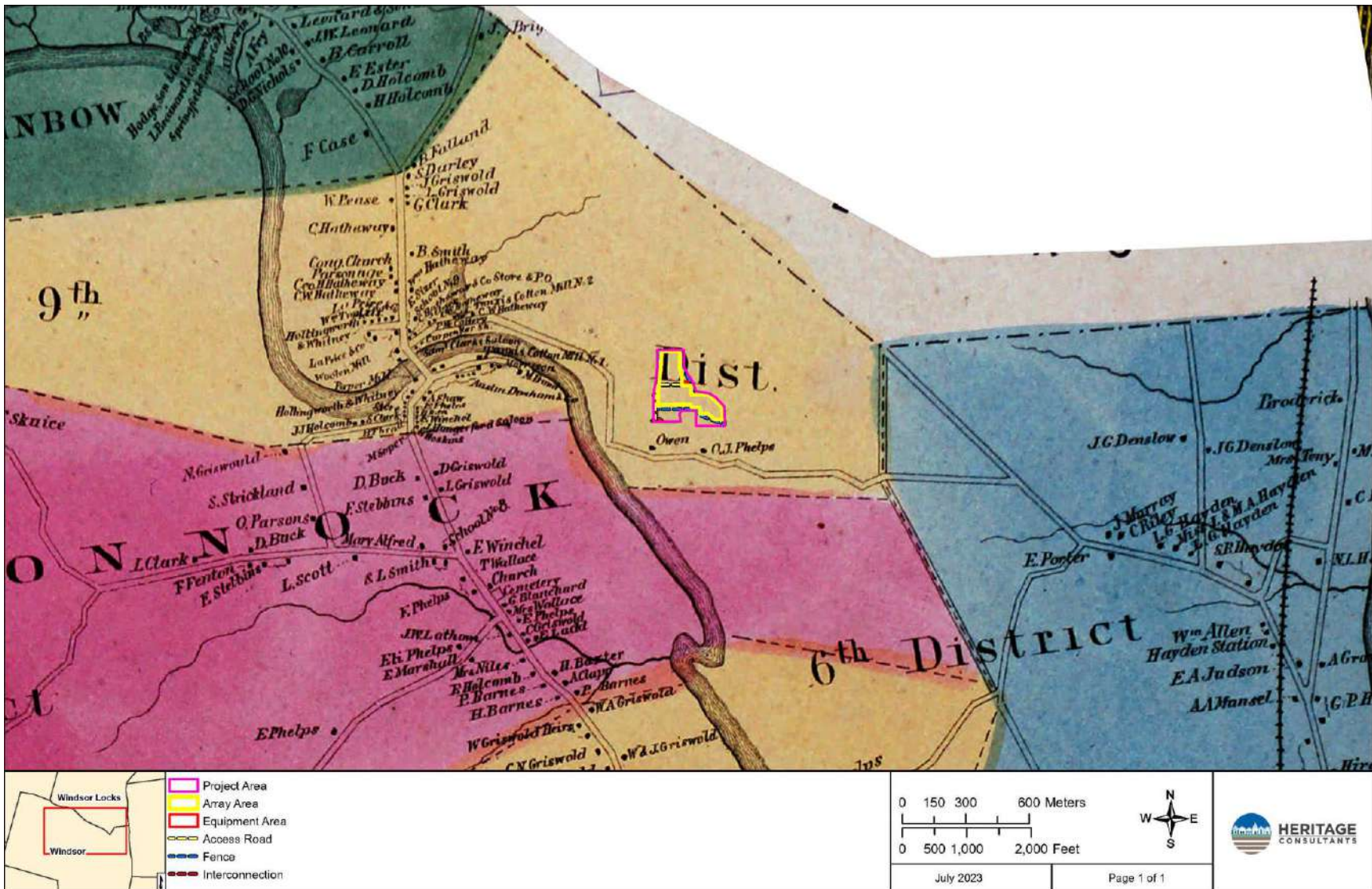


Figure 5. Excerpt from an 1869 map showing the location of the project parcel in Windsor, Connecticut.

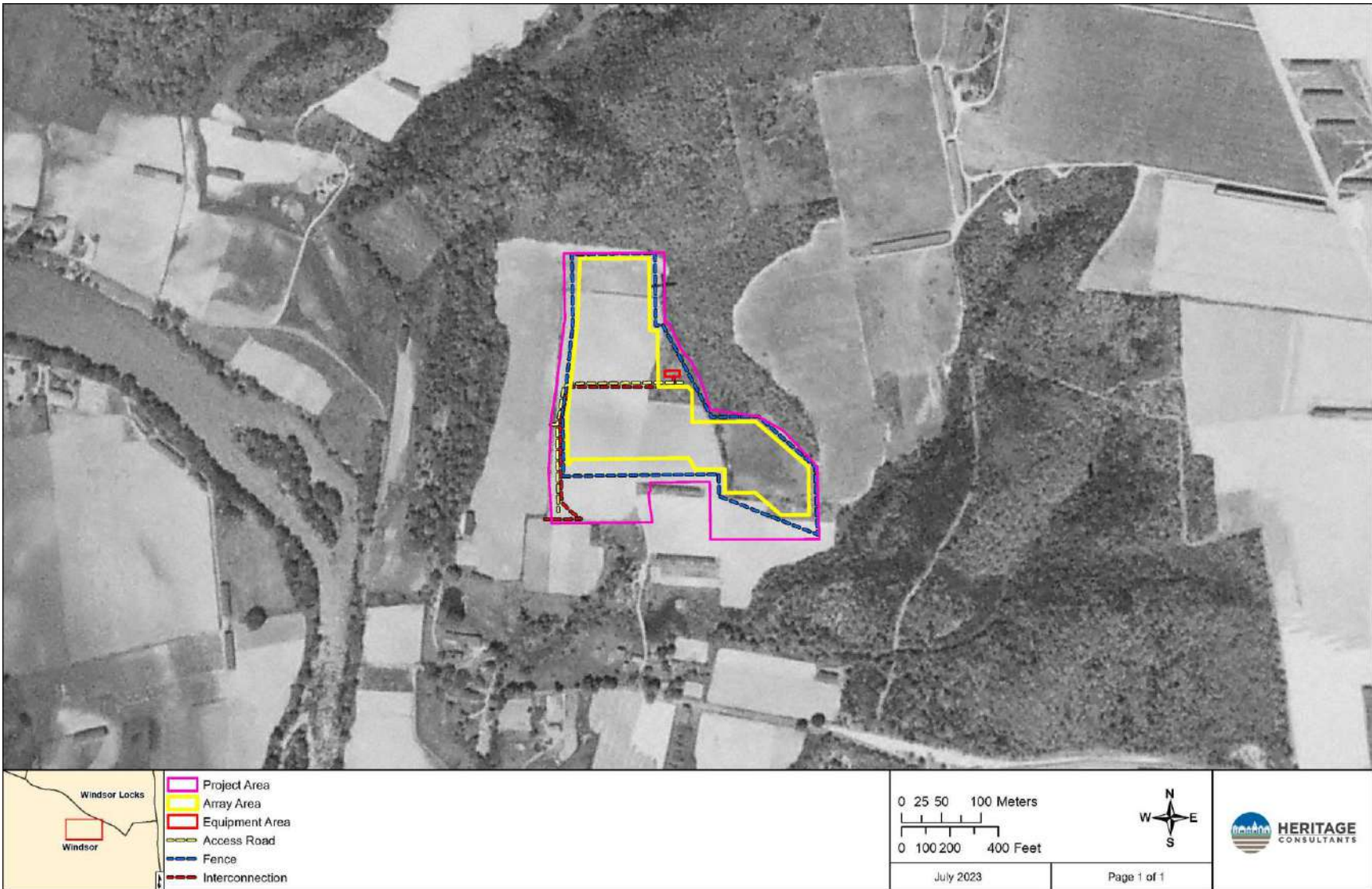


Figure 6. Excerpt from a 1934 aerial photograph showing the location of the project parcel in Windsor, Connecticut.

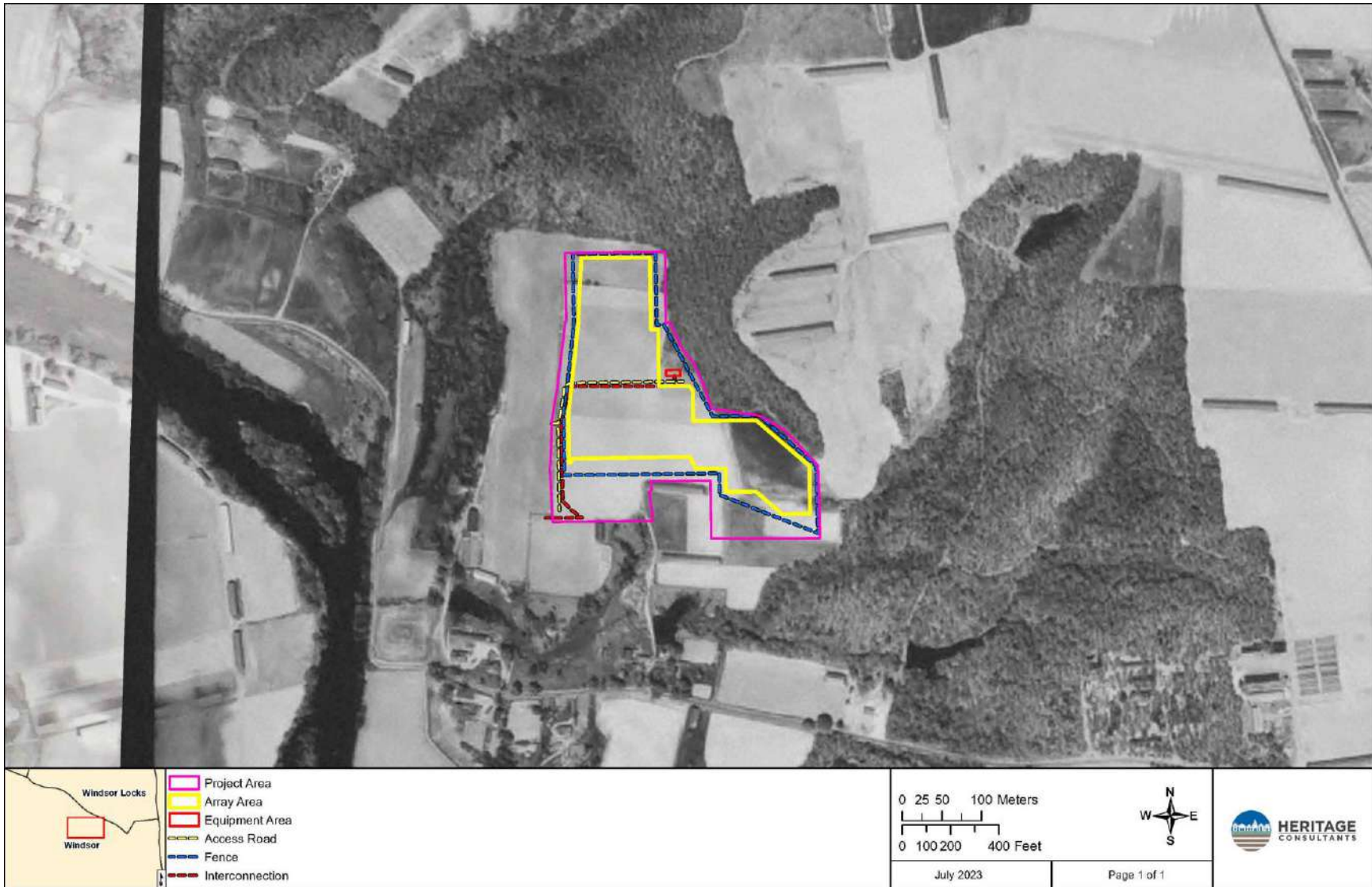


Figure 7. Excerpt from a 1951 aerial photograph showing the location of the project parcel in Windsor, Connecticut.

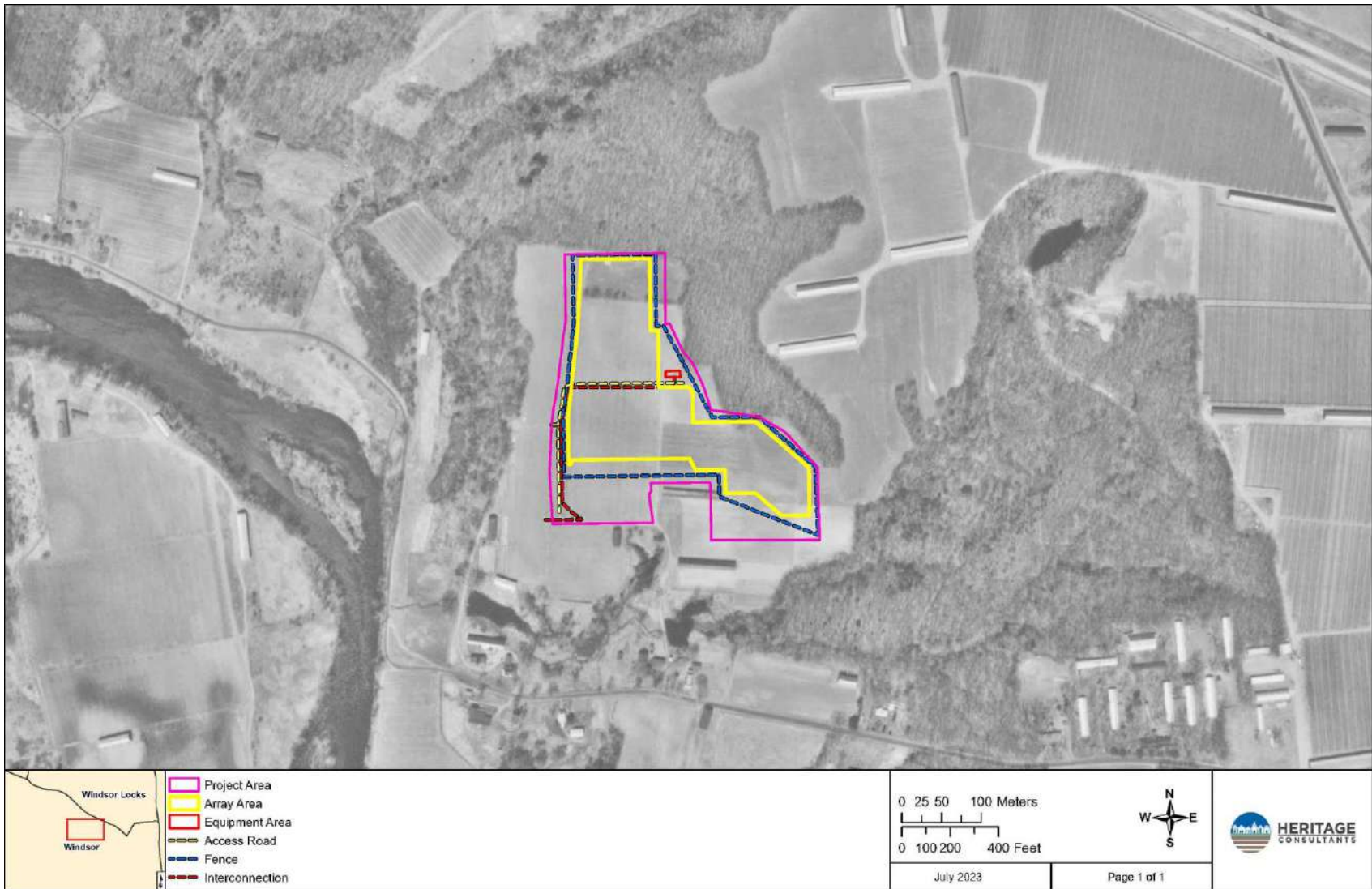


Figure 8. Excerpt of a 1970 aerial photograph showing the location of the project parcel in Windsor, Connecticut.

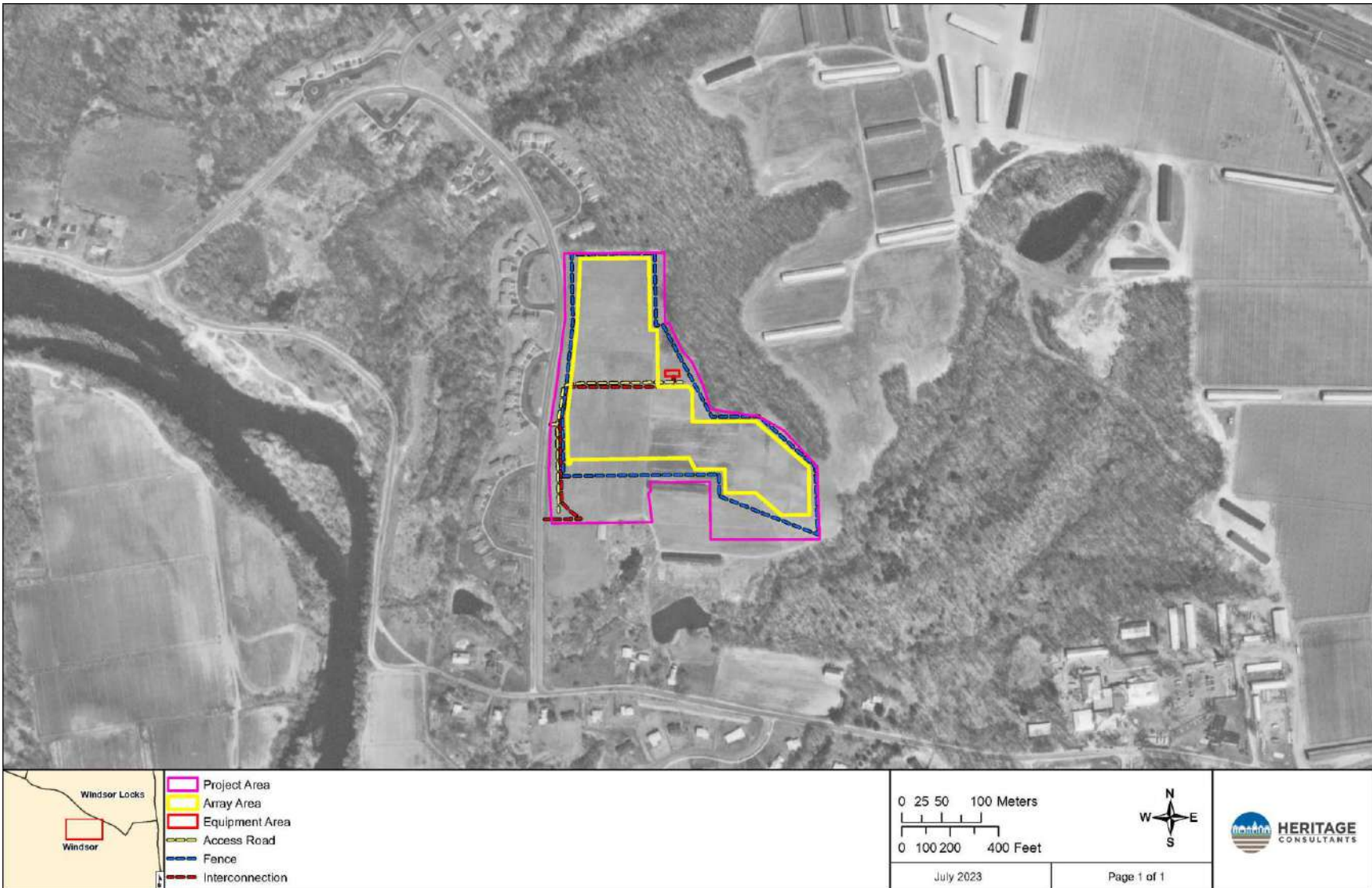


Figure 9. Excerpt of a 1990 aerial photograph showing the location of the project parcel in Windsor, Connecticut.

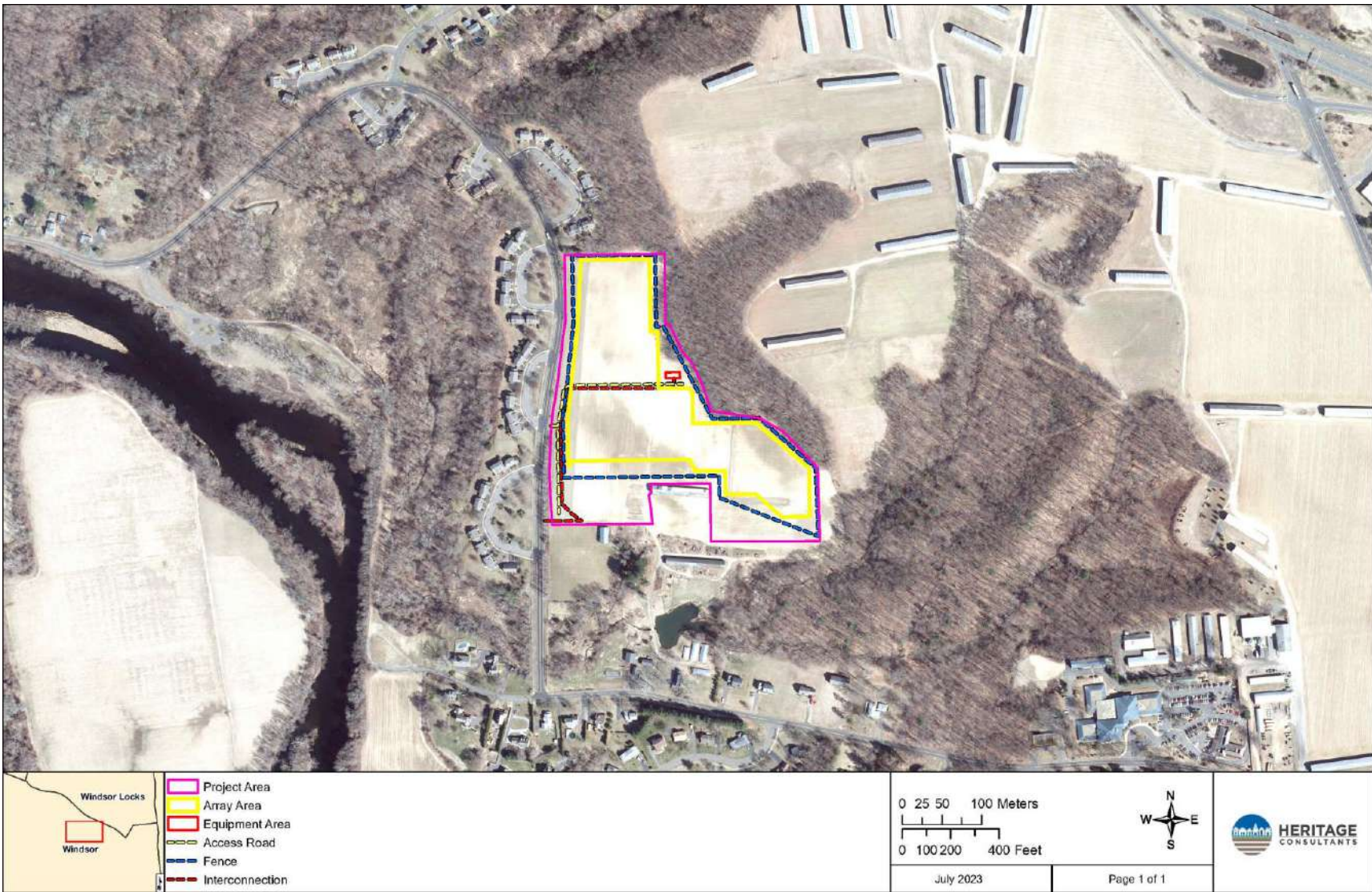


Figure 10. Excerpt of a 2019 aerial photograph showing the location of the project parcel in Windsor, Connecticut.

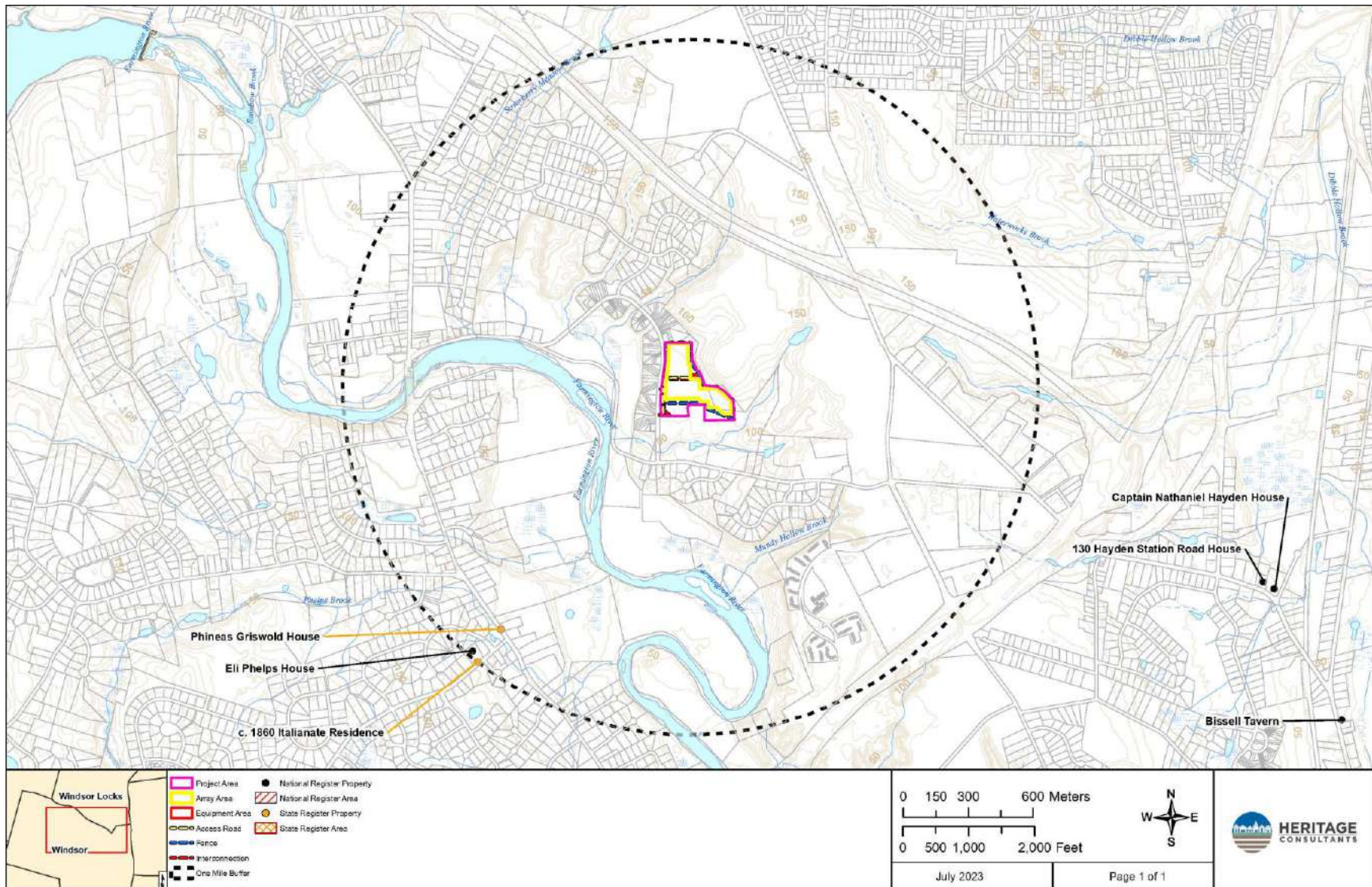


Figure 12. Digital map depicting the locations of the previously identified National Register of Historic Places and State Register of Historic Places properties in the vicinity of the project parcel in Windsor, Connecticut.

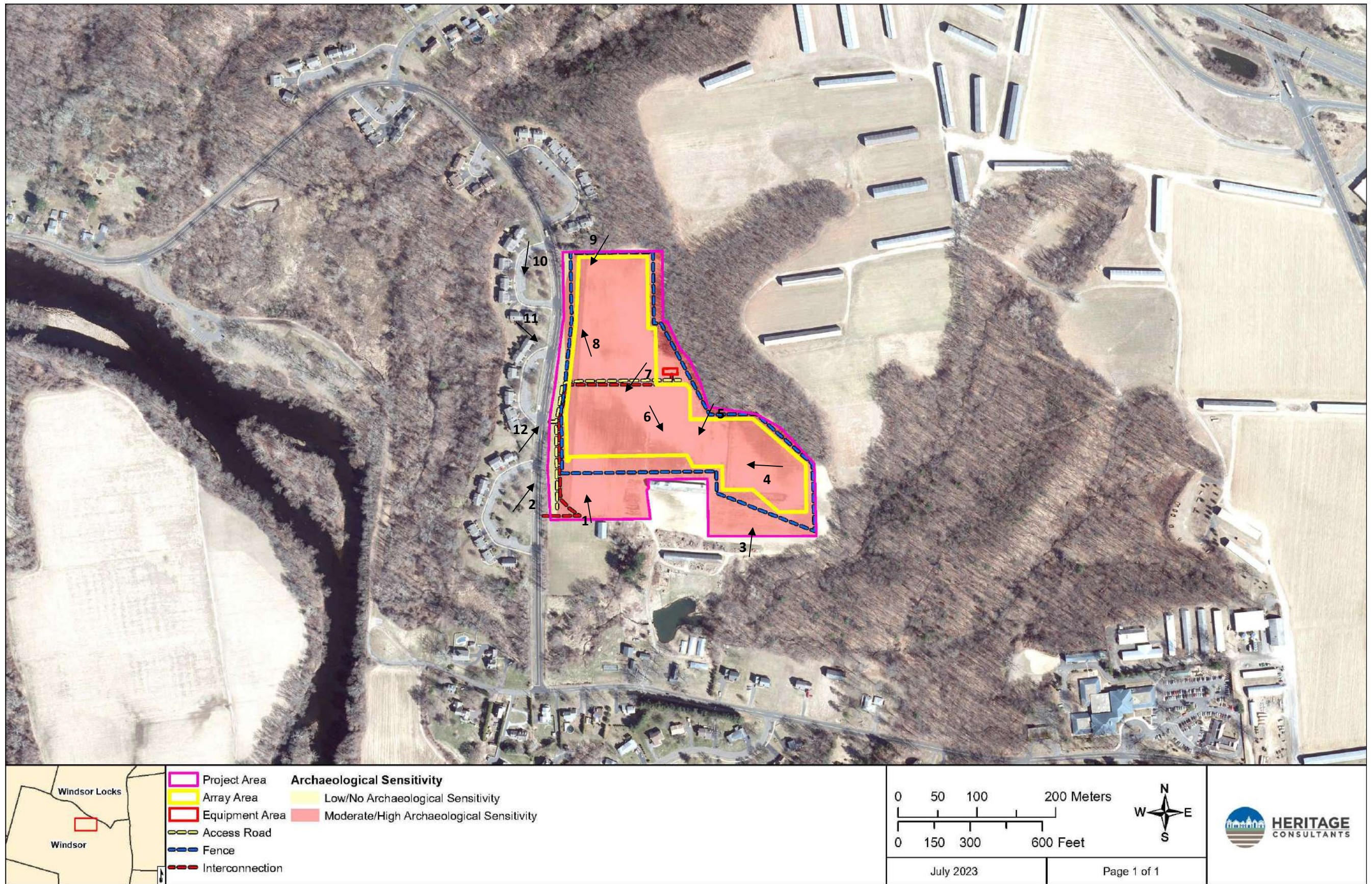
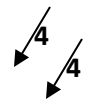


Figure 13. Digital map showing areas of Moderate/High and No/Low Archaeological Sensitivity with directional arrows of photos taken for the proposed Windsor Solar One Center located at 445 River Street in Windsor, Connecticut.



Photo 1. Overview photo from southern portion of project parcel. Photo taken facing north.



Photo 2. Overview photo from southwest corner of project parcel. Photo taken facing northeast.



Photo 3. Overview photo from southeast corner of project parcel. Photo taken facing north.



Photo 4. Overview photo from eastern boundary of project parcel. Photo taken facing west.



Photo 5. Overview photo from eastern boundary of project parcel. Photo taken facing southwest.



Photo 6. Overview photo from eastern boundary of project parcel. Photo taken facing southeast.



Photo 7. Overview photo from eastern boundary of project parcel. Photo taken facing southwest.



Photo 8. Overview photo from eastern boundary of project parcel. Photo taken facing northwest.



Photo 9. Overview photo from northeastern corner of project parcel. Photo taken facing southwest.



Photo 10. Overview photo from northwestern corner of project parcel. Photo taken facing south.



Photo 11. Overview photo from western boundary of project parcel. Photo taken facing southeast.



Photo 12. Overview photo from western boundary of project parcel. Photo taken facing northeast.