



# Phase 1 Archaeological Survey

## University at Albany Emerging Technologies and Entrepreneurship Complex

City of Albany, Albany County, New York

**Prepared for:**

State University Construction Fund  
353 Broadway  
Albany, New York 12246  
P. 518.320.3200  
<https://www.sucf.suny.edu>



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January 2016

## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

SHPO Project Review Number:

Involved State/Federal Agencies: State University Construction Fund (lead agency under SEQRA)  
New York State Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation (Section 14.09)

Phase of Survey: Phase 1 Archaeological Survey

Location Information: City of Albany, Albany County

Survey Area:

Project Description: 12-acre parcel proposed for development (~4.5 acres previously surveyed; ~7.5 acres previously un-surveyed)

USGS 7.5-Minute Quadrangle: *Albany, NY*

Archaeological Survey Overview:

Shovel tests: 101 shovel tests at 50-foot intervals (grid pattern)  
8 radial shovel tests at 1 and 3 meter intervals

Excavation units: n/a

Surface survey: n/a

Results of Archaeological Survey:

Pre-contact sites: University Prehistoric Find 1 (1 chert flake, isolated find)

Historic sites: None

Report Authors: Nicholas P. Freeland, RPA

Date of Report: January 2016

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Purpose of the Investigation**

On behalf of the State University Construction Fund (SUCF), Environmental Design & Research, Landscape Architecture, Engineering, & Environmental Services, D.P.C. (EDR) conducted a Phase 1 Archaeological Survey for the proposed University at Albany Emerging Technologies and Entrepreneurship Complex (ETEC; the Project) located in the City of Albany, Albany County, New York (Figure 1). The purpose of the Phase 1 survey is to determine whether archaeological sites are located in the areas that may be affected by the proposed Project. Approximately 4.5-acres of the current 12-acre Project site were previously investigated for archaeological resources by the Louis Berger Group, Inc. (Berger) in 2008 during the Phase 1 survey for the Harriman State Office Campus (Berger, 2008) (Figure 2). The current Phase 1 Archaeological Survey accounts for the remaining 7.5 acres within the current Project site. This 7.5-acre portion of the 12-acre Project Site is referred to herein as the Phase 1 Survey area (Figures 2 and 3).

The proposed Project is being reviewed by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (NYSOPRHP) under Section 14.09 of the New York State Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation Law and under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), with SUCF acting as the lead agency. The Phase 1 Archaeological Survey was conducted under the supervision of a Registered Professional Archaeologist (RPA) in a manner consistent with the New York Archaeological Council's (NYAC's) 1994 *Standards for Cultural Resources Investigations and the Curation of Archaeological Collections in New York State* (the *NYAC Standards*; NYAC, 1994). This report was prepared in accordance with NYSOPRHP's *Phase 1 Archaeological Report Format Requirements* (NYSOPRHP, 2005).

### **1.2 Project Location and Description**

The ETEC will be constructed by SUCF on land currently owned by the New York State Office of General Services (NYSOGS) as part of the Harriman Campus. The ETEC will be owned and operated by the University at Albany. A Draft Generic Environmental Impacts Statement (DGEIS) (C.T. Male Associated, P.C. [Male], 2002a) and a Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement (FGEIS) (Male, 2002b) were prepared in 2002 for the Harriman Office Campus. The documents evaluated the potential environmental impacts of redevelopment of the Harriman campus over a 10 to 20 year period (Male, 2002a; 2002b). These documents laid out the process for dealing with future actions associated with the redevelopment of the Harriman Campus. The current Phase 1 archaeological survey was conducted in support of the ongoing SEQRA review of the ETEC Project in its currently proposed location on the Harriman Campus.

The proposed Project currently consists of the construction of a single academic building and associated infrastructure (access road, parking lot, utilities, etc.). This construction will necessitate significant vegetation clearing, grading and recontouring of the Project site. The entire 12-acre Project site has the potential to be disturbed during the construction process. The degree to which the Project site has already been disturbed is discussed below in Section 2.4. The following terms are used throughout the document to describe the proposed action:

- **The Project:** The ETEC Project, which includes the proposed construction of an academic building and associated infrastructure (access road, parking lot, utilities, etc.) on a 12-acre parcel currently owned by the NYSOGS.
- **The Project Site and/or Area of Potential Effect (APE):** The approximately 12-acre parcel of land indicated in Figures 2 and 3. This parcel is currently owned by the NYSOGS but will be transferred to the University at Albany as the Project proceeds. Approximately 4.5 acres of this parcel has been previously surveyed for cultural resources at the Phase 1B level (Berger, 2008).
- **Phase 1 Survey Area:** An approximately 7.5-acre portion of the Project site that has not been previously surveyed for cultural resources at the Phase 1B level (see Figures 2 and 3). The methods and results of Phase 1B archaeological survey testing of this area are described in this report.

## 2.0 BACKGROUND RESEARCH

### 2.1 Geology and Soils

The Project site is located within the Hudson-Mohawk Lowlands physiographic region (USDA, 1992), within what was formerly part of the Albany Pine Bush Pine Barrens ecosystem. The topography of the Project site is depicted in Figure 3 and described in detail by Berger (2008:3). As summarized in Berger (2008:3) and Table 1 of this report, and depicted in Figure 4 of this report, soils within the Project site consist of Colonie loamy fine sand, Elnora loamy fine sand, and Udipsamments smoothed sand (ArcGIS, 2015). The Udipsamments soil unit is of note because it consists of soils that have been smoothed or filled (ArcGIS, 2015; USDA, 1992), and is therefore, indicative of previous disturbance. Udipsamments soils make up 51% of the Phase 1 survey area. Vegetation within the Project site consists of mature second-growth forest and landscaped lawns. The forest is dominated by white pine and mixed deciduous trees including black cherry, locust, and cottonwood. The understory of the forested areas is dominated by weedy forbs and woody shrubs. The lawns contain planted grasses and occasional forbs, as well as scattered deciduous and coniferous trees.

**Table 1. Soils within the Project Site**

Map Unit Name	% of Project Site (% of Phase 1 Survey Area)	Description (USDA, 1992)	Comments
Colonie loamy fine sand	33% (51%)	Very deep, well drained to somewhat excessively well drained soils on lake plains, deltas, and dunes. Formed in lacustrine and windblown deposits.	--
Elnora loamy fine sand	41% (15%)	Very deep, moderately well drained soils on glacial lake plains and deltas. Formed in wind- or lacustrine-deposited sands.	--
Udipsamments smoothed sand	26% (34%)	Deep well drained to somewhat excessively well drained soils on lake plains, deltas, flood plains, and dunes that have been smoothed or filled. Formed through smoothing and filling activities such as dredging rivers and lakes.	Indicative of previous disturbance

### 2.2 Previously Identified Archaeological Sites

As noted in Section 1.1, approximately 4.5-acres of the current 12-acre Project site were previously investigated for archaeological resources by the Louis Berger Group, Inc. (Berger) in 2008 during the Phase 1 survey for the Harriman State Office Campus (Berger, 2008) (Figure 5). The current Phase 1 Archaeological Survey accounts for the remaining 7.5 acres within the current Project site. This 7.5-acre portion of the 12-acre Project Site is referred to herein as the Phase 1 Survey area (see Figures 2 and 3). The Berger (2008) report and its findings are summarized below.



Berger (2008:12) summarizes the previously recorded archaeological sites within 2 miles (3.2 km) of the Project site. They note three sites with NYSOPRHP numbers and three sites with New York State Museum (NYSM) numbers. The three NYSOPRHP sites are: A00140.00325/Mohawk and Hudson Railroad Berm, a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century railroad embankment; A00104.001794/Sand Dunes, a prehistoric campsite; and A00140.002093/the Water Conduit, a 19<sup>th</sup> century water conduit. The NYSM sites are: Site 319/Sand Dunes, a prehistoric campsite; Site 5308, which has no associated information; and Site 7121, which is described as a camp. Berger (2008) notes that the two sites described as “Sand Dunes” likely represent the same site given numbers under both systems. All these sites are a minimum of 2,500 ft (762 m) away from the Project site.

EDR reviewed NYSOPRHP’s online Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS) files during background research for the Phase 1 archaeological survey and identified three previously recorded archaeological sites within 1 mile (1.6 km) of the Project site. The sites consist of one prehistoric site and two historic sites. The prehistoric site is the Parker #27, ALB 31-2 Sand Dunes Site (USN 00140.001794) which is described as a prehistoric site with human remains. It corresponds to the two sites labeled as “Sand Dunes” in Berger’s (2008) report. The two historic sites were also discussed in Berger’s (2008) background research. They are: the Hudson Mohawk Railroad Bed (USN 00140.004836) and the 1851 Water Conduit (00140.002093). As in 2008, none of these sites are closer than 2,500 ft (762 m) from the Project site.

Additionally, Berger (2008) discovered one site (Berger Temporary Site 1) which is not currently included in the CRIS database. The site consists of 2 prehistoric Native American chert flakes within a 3-m (10-ft) area. Radial shovel tests were excavated around the finds with no further prehistoric material identified (Berger, 2008:21, 25). Based on the context of these finds, and the presence of modern material within shovel tests in the vicinity, Berger (2008:25) determined the two flakes to have been displaced from their original context by historic or modern grading and filling. Berger Temporary site 1 is located approximately 225 ft (69 m) outside the Project site. Berger (2008:25) also excavated one shovel test which contained a moderate density of 19<sup>th</sup> century historic debris; however they interpreted these finds as resulting from a single dumping episode and, therefore, not indicative of a significant historic archaeological site.

Berger (2008:8, 12) also summarized six cultural resources management surveys which had been conducted within 1 mile (1.6 km) of the Project site. They note that none of the surveys encountered any significant archaeological remains. EDR’s review of the CRIS database identified five additional Phase 1 cultural resources surveys conducted within 1 mile (1.6 km) of the Project Site since Berger’s 2008 Phase 1 survey. These more recent surveys are summarized in Table 2. None of these surveys overlap with the current Project site, and none of them identified significant archaeological resources.

**Table 2. Recent (post-2008) Cultural Resource Surveys within 1 Mile (1.6 km) of the Project Site**

Survey Number	Survey Name	Results	Reference
08SR58463	Phase 1 Archaeological Survey, Harriman State Office Campus, Albany, New York.	2 precontact artifacts (chert flakes) found in disturbed contexts	Berger, 2008
13SR62586	Cultural Resource Survey, 2013-2014 Highway Program: PIN 1808.01.101, NY Route 20 (Western Avenue), Town of Guilderland, Albany County, New York.	No sites identified.	Public Archaeology Facility, 2013.
14SR62881	Phase 1 Archaeological Investigation, State Employees' Federal Credit Union Parking Lot, W. Averill Harriman New York State Office Campus, Patroon Creek Boulevard, City of Albany, Albany County, New York.	No sites identified.	Hartgen Archaeological Associates, Inc., 2014
15SR00090	Results of Phase 1A Cultural Resource Assessment, Uptown Parking Structure Site Location Study, State University of New York at Albany, 1400 Washington Avenue, City of Albany, Albany County, New York 12222.	No sites identified.	VHB Engineering, Surveying and Landscape Architecture, PC, 2015
15SR00099	Phase 1B Cultural Resources Investigation for the Proposed State University of New York at Albany ETEC 2020 Parking Lot.	No sites identified.	Panamerican Consultants, Inc., 2015.
15SR00519	Phase 1 Archaeological Investigation, Proposed Residential Halls, Loughlin Street, City of Albany, Albany County, New York.	No sites identified.	Hartgen Archaeological Associates, Inc., 2015

### 2.3 History of the Project Site

Archives and repositories consulted during EDR's research for the Project included on-line history resources and EDR's in-house collection of reference materials. Sources reviewed for the Project included the *Bicentennial History of Albany: History of the County of Albany, NY From 1609 to 1886* (Howell and Tenney, 1886) and *Landmarks of Albany County, New York* (Parker, 1897). Historic maps reproduced in the report include the 1895, 1927, and 1950 United States Geological Survey (USGS) topographic maps of Albany (USGS, 1895; 1927; 1950) (Figures 6-8). Relevant information from these maps is reviewed herein.

At the time of European contact and colonization in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the Project site was located within the territory of the Mohican, an Algonquian-speaking people. Clashes with the Mohawk nation in the 1620s led the Mohican to relocate to western Massachusetts, and sell off much of their land to settlers that began to arrive following Henry Hudson's initial exploration of the area in 1609. The area that would become Albany County grew slowly throughout the seventeenth century, with the Dutch, English, and German settlers populating the region in the decades leading up to the Revolutionary War. Albany County was initially created in 1683, and confirmed in 1691 as one of the original twelve counties of New York. The county originally encompassed the entirety of the state north of Ulster and Dutchess Counties, as well as the state of Vermont. Over the next century the formation of several other counties from its territory caused Albany County to shrink significantly in size. However, the importance of the City of Albany as a hub of transportation and commerce due to the prominence of its port on the Hudson River brought many people to the region, and the county grew significantly in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries (Christoph, 2005a).

The area comprising Albany County has a rich history of Dutch habitation beginning in the early seventeenth century. The first Dutch settlement made in the area that would become the Town of Bethlehem occurred in 1614 at the mouth of Normans Kill. In 1629, Kiliaen Van Rensselaer was granted the title of patroon by the Dutch West India Company, and he purchased land from Mohicans along the Hudson River the following year. The borders of this patroonship, known as Rensselaerswijck were not well defined initially, but grew with additional purchases to include land that would become Albany, Columbia, and Rensselaer Counties. More permanent settlement occurred throughout the 1630s as the Van Rensselaer family leased out farms along the Hudson River and Normanskill, and sawmills were built along the waterways (Christoph, 2005b).

The Dutch West India Company established the first permanent European settlement, Ft. Orange, in the vicinity of the modern day city of Albany in 1624. An earlier fort, Ft. Nasseau, established in 1614, had failed at a similar location (Bielinski, 2005; Huey, 1991). In 1652, a small town, Beverwijck, was laid out north of the Fort. Both the town and the Fort were completely surrounded by the patroonship of Rensselaerswijck. Additionally in 1639, a small village was established as part of Rensselaerswijck across the Hudson River from the Fort at Greenbush. These three somewhat related settlements constitute the earliest phase of European settlement in the Albany area. In 1664 Beverwijck was renamed Albany following its acquisition by Great Britain (Bielinski, 2005).

Throughout the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, the Albany area was settled first by English, Dutch, and German immigrants, then later by New Englanders. Settlement was driven by agriculture as well as commercial opportunities associated with the many wars of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Development during the 19<sup>th</sup> century was driven by Albany's position as a transportation hub and center of commerce for central and western New York, and the city experienced substantial population growth from German and Irish immigrants. Local industry, primarily focused along the Hudson River, and agriculture, driven by small farms, were also significant to the development of the City and the region (Christoph, 2005a). The Project Site was likely farmed to some extent throughout the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, although the sandy soils may have limited its usefulness for agriculture.

Regional population growth continued throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century, although the City of Albany reached its peak population in 1950. Following that date, population began to shift out of the city and into the surrounding suburbs (Bielinski, 2005). Historic maps show considerable growth in the project vicinity since the nineteenth century, but minimal change to the Project site. One map-documented structure (MDS) is depicted within the Project site on a single map, and several maps show roads passing through the Project site:

- The 1866 Topographic Atlas of Albany and Schenectady Counties (Beers and Beers, 1866) does not show the Project area, as it was not part of the City of Albany in 1866.
- The 1895 United States Geological Survey (USGS) *Albany, NY* Topographic Map shows a road trending northeast/southwest through the northwestern portion of the Project site (USGS, 1895), but does not depict any structures within the Project site (Figure 6).
- The 1927 USGS *Albany, NY* Topographic map shows what may be the same road trending northeast/southwest through the Project site, as well as another road trending northwest/southeast and forming a four-way intersection within the Project site (USGS, 1927). The map also depicts a building on the east side of the four-way intersection (Figure 7).
- The 1950 USGS *Albany, NY* Topographic map shows the same four-way intersection depicted on the 1927 map but there is no longer a building on the east side of the intersection (USGS, 1950) (Figure 8).

The current uptown University at Albany campus was formerly the Albany Country Club beginning in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century until 1962, and the former golf course may have extended into the Project site (Dorgan, 2015). If this is the case, the construction of the golf course likely caused some amount of earth moving within the Project site. Prior to the development of the country club, the location was likely in use as agricultural fields or pastures. The current uptown University at Albany Campus was established in the 1960s due to the rapid growth of the University which had, until that point, been located solely at the downtown campus (Williams, 2005).

## 2.4 Existing Conditions

Existing conditions within the Project site were observed and photographed during the Phase 1 archaeological survey fieldwork on December 2-4, 2015. Existing conditions within the Project site are shown on Figures 2 and 9 and in photographs included in Appendix A (see Photographs 1-13):

- The Project site is located within a gently to steeply south- to southeast-sloping area of what Berger (2008:10) described as remnant stabilized sand dunes whose formation likely dates to the terminal Pleistocene/early Holocene (see Appendix A: Photographs 1-7).
- This dunal landscape has been disturbed and re-contoured (i.e., graded) to an unknown extent throughout the historic period due to its historic use as the Albany Country Club and its current use as the uptown campus of the University at Albany and the OGS Harriman campus (see Appendix A: Photographs 1-7).
- Approximately one-third of the Project Site is covered by landscaped lawn and the remaining two-thirds are covered by mature second-growth forest (see Appendix A: Photographs 1-7).
- Approximately three acres of the forested portion of the Project site is taken up with a construction yard used by the NYSOGS to store wood chips, concrete debris, fill, and other construction/grounds maintenance

materials. This area appears to have been disturbed by these activities and the topsoil has obviously been stripped off in some areas. The construction yard was not tested during the current survey (Appendix A: Photograph 2).

- The northernmost portion of the Project site contains a steep-sided ridge or remnant dune feature with steep slopes facing northwest overlooking campus loop road and southeast overlooking the construction yard and University campus. It is not clear if these slopes are natural or the result of cutting associated with the construction of the Campus Loop Road and University campus. The slope was not tested during the current survey (see Appendix A: Photographs 6-7).

## **3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY ASSESSMENT**

### **3.1 Prehistoric Native-American Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment**

The combination of well-drained soils and proximity to previously recorded prehistoric archaeological materials (i.e., Berger's [2008] prehistoric finds and the Sand Dunes Site [USN 00140.001794]) makes the Project site moderately to highly sensitive for prehistoric archaeological resources. However, the level of previous ground disturbance within the Project site appears to be at least moderate, which reduces the likelihood of identifying significant intact buried prehistoric archaeological material.

### **3.2 Historic Period Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment**

The Project site occurs within the City of Albany, but the vicinity did not see significant development until the 1960s. However, the 1927 USGS *Albany, NY* Topographic map (USGS, 1927) shows one unidentified structure within the Project site (see Figure 7). Prior to its acquisition by the NYSOGS, the Project site was likely farmland and some or all of it may have been a golf course at the Albany Country Club beginning in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century (Dorgan, 2015). Given this low intensity of historic use, coupled with the moderate potential for significant historic and modern ground disturbance, the Project site is moderately sensitive for historic archaeological resources.

### **3.3 Ground Slope & Disturbance**

The *NYAC Standards* indicate that Phase 1 archaeological survey is not necessary in wetland areas, previously disturbed areas, and areas where slopes exceed 12-15% (NYAC, 1994). The northernmost portion of the Project site includes a steep slope that may have been created when the construction for Campus Loop Road cut into a stabilized sand dune (Figures 3 and 9; Photographs 6 and 7). The steeply sloped area was excluded from the Phase 1 archaeological survey. Additionally, the previously described construction yard, which occupies approximately 3 acres in the northeastern portion of the Project site, was not tested extensively due to its level of previous disturbance. The remaining portions of the Project site were not clearly disturbed and, therefore, those areas not previously surveyed by Berger (2008) were fully tested at the Phase 1B level during the current survey (i.e., the Phase 1 Archaeological Survey Area). There are numerous existing buried utilities with the Project site, including water lines, sewers, natural gas, distribution lines, and fiber-optic/communication lines (see Figures 2 and 9). These utility right-of-ways (ROWs) were avoided during the current survey but this did not significantly reduce the number of shovel tests excavated within the Phase 1 Archaeological Survey Area.

## 4.0 PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY FIELDWORK

### 4.1 Phase 1 Archaeological Survey Fieldwork Methods

EDR conducted a Phase 1 archaeological field survey of the Phase 1 Archaeological Survey Area in accordance with the *NYAC Standards*. The archaeological survey included the excavation of 101 shovel tests at 50-foot (approximately 15-meter) intervals in a grid pattern across the Project site (see Figure 9). EDR also excavated an additional four shovel tests as 1-m radials and four shovel tests as 3-m radials at the location of the University Prehistoric Find 1, which is discussed further in Section 4.2. Shovel tests were approximately 12-20 inches (30-50 cm) in diameter and excavated to a depth of at least 4 inches (10 cm) into the “B” horizon subsoil stratum or to the limits of practical hand excavation. Each shovel test was identified with standard provenience information consisting of a transect letter followed by a period and sequential shovel test number within each transect (e.g. shovel tests A.01, A.02, B.01, B.02, etc...). The locations of all shovel tests were recorded with professional-grade GPS equipment and noted on field maps. Stratigraphic profiles, including depth, soil color, and texture, for all shovel tests were recorded on standardized field record sheets (see Appendix B).

Where prehistoric Native American artifacts were recovered from a shovel test, EDR archaeologists excavated additional “radial” shovel tests per the NYSOPRHP’s Phase 1 *Archaeological Report Format Requirements* (NYSOPRHP, 2005). The NYSOPRHP guidance indicates when prehistoric Native American artifacts are recovered from an isolated shovel test, then up to 8 additional shovel tests should be excavated around the original positive shovel test to determine whether the artifacts present represent an isolated find or may indicate the presence of an archaeological site. The additional shovel tests should be excavated at 1-meter and 3-meter intervals around the original shovel test.

All soils excavated from shovel tests were screened through 0.25-inch hardware cloth. The presence of clearly modern materials, such as plastic fragments, modern bottle glass fragments, or twentieth-century architectural materials, in shovel tests was noted on field forms but these materials were not collected for subsequent analysis. Per standard archaeological field protocol, artifacts recovered from shovel tests were placed in plastic bags labeled with standard Project, location, and provenience information.

Following completion of the archaeological fieldwork, all materials recovered by EDR were washed, identified, inventoried and re-bagged in labeled clean 4-mil archival quality plastic bags. Recovered artifacts were then identified and described based on material type and standard descriptive characteristics.

## **4.2 Phase 1 Archaeological Survey Fieldwork Results**

EDR conducted the Phase 1 archaeological survey fieldwork for the Project on December 2-4, 2015. Field conditions ranged from overcast and raining on December 2 to partly sunny on December 3 and 4. The fieldwork was supervised by Nicholas Freeland, RPA (Project Archaeologist), assisted by Heather Little and Emilia Stanfill (Archaeological Field Assistants).

EDR personnel excavated 101 shovel tests at 50-foot intervals plus an additional 8 shovel tests at reduced intervals within the Project site (see Figures 9 and 10). Shovel tests were excavated to depths ranging between 18 and 103 cm (7-41 in) bgs. As previously discussed, areas of steep slopes or significant and obvious previous disturbance were not shovel tested.

Soils observed in shovel tests varied throughout the Project site but typically included brown or dark yellowish brown to yellowish brown sandy loam or silty loam to depths between 9 and 43 cm (4-14 in) bgs underlain by various hues of yellowish brown sandy loam to silty sand with occasional silt loam or loamy clay. Initially, EDR personnel interpreted this deeper sandy level to be subsoil; however upon further analysis, it was determined that no true subsoil was encountered during the survey, even at depths approaching 1-meter bgs. Following this realization, shovel tests were excavated to the practical limits of hand excavation (usually between approximately 75 and 100 cm bgs).

In total, 21 artifacts were recovered during the Phase 1 archaeological survey (see Photographs 14-19). Shovel test B.01 contained a single prehistoric Native American chert flake, recovered from within the first stratum (Table 3). Eight radial shovel tests were excavated at 1 meter (3.3 feet) and 3 meter (10 feet) intervals around shovel tests B.01, but no other materials were observed. A total of 19 historic artifacts were recovered from shovel tests, and 1 historic artifact was recovered from the ground surface at a shovel test. These artifacts were collected for further analysis; however, they occurred at very low densities and are not considered indicative of a significant buried historic archaeological component. Rather, they likely indicate informal discard of household refuse from an unknown (possibly off-site) context during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

EDR personnel also encountered a low density of modern and late historic period debris such as plastic, coal, asphalt, and oyster shell. These materials were noted on field paperwork but not collected for further analysis.



**Table 3. Artifacts Recovered during the Phase 1 Archaeological Survey**

Shovel Test	Depth (cmbs)	Count	Description	Comments	Production Date Range	Source
A.10	0-15	1	Red stoneware	Clear glazed on exterior and white glazed on interior. See Photograph 14.	Unknown historic	
A.11	0-20	2	Opaque white glass	Two fragments refit with each other; unground unthreaded wide-mouth finish, likely some type of canning jar. See Photograph 15.	Probably post-1910	BLM/SHA, 2015
B.01	0-20	1	Chert flake	Brownish gray chert, no cortex, 11 mm long. See Photograph 16.	Unknown prehistoric	--
B.12	0	1	White earthenware	White-glazed, plate or saucer rim sherd	Unknown historic	--
C.11	27-43	1	White porcelain	White-glazed, body sherd from an unknown vessel	Unknown historic	--
E.03	17-39	3	Clear vessel glass	1 fragment truly colorless; 2 fragments with faint aqua tinting.	Unknown historic	--
E.03	17-39	1	Amber vessel glass	Fragment of a small-mouth external-thread finish	Probably 20 <sup>th</sup> century	BLM/SHA, 2015
E.05	18-34	1	Iron nail	Cut nail. See Photograph 17.	19 <sup>th</sup> and early 20 <sup>th</sup> centuries	University of Vermont, 2015
E.05	18-34	2	White earthenware	White-glazed, body sherds from an unknown vessel(s). See Photograph 17.	Unknown historic	--
E.05	18-34	1	Clear vessel glass	"—190" embossed. See Photograph 17.	Unknown historic	--
E.05	18-34	1	Green vessel glass	See Photograph 17.	Unknown historic	--
K.05	22-36	1	Opaque white glass	Possible refit with two fragments from A.11; unground unthreaded wide-mouth finish, likely some type of canning jar. See Photograph 18.	Probably post-1910	BLM/SHA, 2015
K.06	37-75	1	White stoneware	White-glazed with some possible sponge-applied gray decoration	Unknown historic	--
K.10	13-33	1	Clear vessel glass	--	Unknown historic	--
K.10	13-33	1	White earthenware	White-glazed, no decoration	Unknown historic	--
L.04	0-75	3	Amber vessel glass	Thick; 2 fragments refit to form part of base and side with "31 oz" embossed near base. See Photograph 19.	Unknown historic	--

In summary, no potentially significant prehistoric or historic archaeological artifacts, features or sites were identified as the Phase 1 Survey Area:

- The single chert flake recovered from shovel test A.01 indicates use of the area by Native Americans during the prehistoric period. This find is designated herein as the University Prehistoric Find 1. However,

additional testing in the vicinity of this find did not identify additional materials. The single chert flake represents an isolated find and is not considered potentially significant nor worthy of additional investigation. It is located approximately 1,250 ft (381 m) southwest of Berger's (2008) Temporary Site 4192-01 which consisted of two prehistoric chert flakes (see Figure 10). The two prehistoric artifacts at Temporary Site 4192-01 were found between 35 and 110 cmbs, and one of the flakes was found within 5 cm of a fragment of modern glass. Berger (2008:25) concluded that the site had been disturbed by grading and the two prehistoric chert flakes represented displaced remnant resources. There is no obvious relationship between University Prehistoric Find 1 and Temporary Site 4192-01. Furthermore, the area between the two sites has been tested extensively by EDR and Berger with no additional prehistoric cultural material identified (see Figure 5).

- The 20 historic-period artifacts recovered from the Project site likely represent informal disposal of household refuse and are not considered archaeologically significant. No clusters of artifacts, indications of features, or other finds suggesting the presence of a more substantial historic-period archaeological site were observed within the Phase 1 Survey Area.

## 5.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

### 5.1 Summary of Phase 1 Archaeological Survey

The results of the Phase 1 archaeological survey can be summarized as follows:

- Approximately 4.5-acres of the current 12-acre Project site was previously inventoried for archaeological resources by Berger in 2008 during the Phase 1 survey for the Harriman State Office Campus on behalf of Chazen Companies, Inc. (Berger, 2008).
- Berger (2008) identified one prehistoric archaeological site, Berger Temporary Site 1, which is located outside the Project Site, and no historic archaeological sites (see Figures 5 and 10). No previously reported archaeological sites are located within the Project site. Berger Temporary Site 1 constitutes the nearest recorded Native American archaeological site to the Project site. It is located approximately 225 ft (69 m) from the Project site in a similar physiographic setting.
- The nearest recorded historic-period archaeological site is located approximately 2,600 ft (793 m) from the Project site. No National Register of Historic Places-listed or eligible sites are located within or adjacent to the Project site. One MDS was identified within the Project site on the 1927 USGS *Albany, NY* topographic map; however, no evidence of this structure was identified during Berger's 2008 Phase 1 archaeological survey or the current Phase 1 archaeological survey.
- The Project site consists of a mix of open landscaped lawn and mature second-growth forest.
- Phase 1 archaeological survey fieldwork (shovel testing and pedestrian survey) was conducted within the 7.5-acre Phase 1 Archaeological Survey area.
- The northernmost portion of the Project site was not tested due to a steep slope. Additionally, approximately 3 acres in the northeastern portion of the Project site has been disturbed through its use as a construction yard. No archaeological survey was conducted in these previously disturbed or steeply sloped areas.
- The Project site is crossed by multiple buried utility ROWs. No testing was conducted in utility ROWs, however, this avoidance did not significantly reduce the number of shovel tests excavated for the current survey.
- EDR archaeologists excavated a total of 109 shovel tests, including 101 shovel tests at 50-foot (approximately 15-meter) intervals in a grid pattern within the 7.5-acre Phase 1 Archaeological Survey Area, and an additional 8 radial shovel tests at 1 and 3 meter intervals from positive shovel test B.01 (see Figure 9).
- One prehistoric Native American artifact (a chert flake) and 21 historic-period artifacts were recovered from shovel tests or the ground surface within the Phase 1 Archaeological Survey Area during the current Phase

1B survey. The historic artifacts appear to be a diffuse scatter with no associated archaeological features or sites and therefore are not considered historically or archaeologically significant.

- The single chert flake recovered from shovel test A.01 (i.e., University Prehistoric Find 1; see Figure 10) indicates use of the area by Native Americans during the prehistoric period. However, additional testing in the vicinity of this find did not identify additional materials. The single chert flake represents an isolated find and is not considered potentially significant nor worthy of additional investigation. It is located approximately 1,250 ft (381 m) southwest of Berger's (2008) Temporary Site 4192-01, which consisted of two prehistoric chert flakes (see Figure 10). The two prehistoric artifacts at Temporary Site 4192-01 were found between 35 and 110 cmbs, and one of the flakes was found within 5 cm of a fragment of modern glass. Berger (2008:25) concluded that the site had been disturbed by grading and the two prehistoric chert flakes represented displaced remnant resources. There is no obvious relationship between University Prehistoric Find 1 and Temporary Site 4192-01. Furthermore, the area between the two sites has been tested extensively by EDR and Berger with no additional prehistoric cultural material identified (see Figure 5). Therefore, it is the opinion of EDR that University Prehistoric Find 1 is not indicative of the presence of a potentially significant archaeological site, and no further archaeological investigation is recommended.

## **5.2 Conclusions and Recommendations**

Based on the results of the current Phase 1 archaeological survey, and one previous Phase 1 archaeological survey (Berger, 2008), no potentially significant archaeological sites are located within the Project site. Construction of the Project will not affect any potentially significant cultural resources. In the opinion of EDR, no additional archaeological investigations should be required for the proposed Project.

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