

Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

ANDREW M. CUOMO Governor ERIK KULLESEID Commissioner

ARCHAEOLOGY COMMENTS

Phase IA/IB Archaeological Survey Recommendation Project: Subdivision of Property for NMC 3, LLC PR#: 20PR08014 Date: 22 February 2021

Thank you for requesting the comments of the Divisions for Historic Preservation of the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) as part of your SEQRA process. These comments are those of OPRHP and relate only to Historic/Cultural resources. They do not include potential environmental impacts to New York State Parkland that may be involved in or near your project. Such impacts must be considered as part of the environmental review of the project pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (New York Environmental Conservation Law Article 8) and its implementing regulations (6 NYCRR Part 617).

If this project will involve state or federal permitting, funding or licensing, it may require additional review for potential impacts to architectural and archaeological resources, in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act or Section 14.09 of NYS Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation Law.

Your project is in an archaeologically sensitive location. Therefore, OPRHP recommends a Phase IA/IB archaeological survey for components of the project that will involve ground disturbance, unless substantial prior ground disturbance can be documented. A Phase IA/IB survey is designed to determine the presence or absence of archaeological sites or other cultural resources in the project's Area of Potential Effects (APE).

If you consider the entire project area to be disturbed, documentation of the disturbance will need to be reviewed by OPRHP. Examples of disturbance include mining activities and multiple episodes of building construction and demolition. Documentation of ground disturbance typically consists of soil bore logs, photos, or previous project plans. Agricultural activity is not considered to be substantial ground disturbance.

Please note that in areas with alluvial soils or fill archaeological deposits may exist below the depth of superficial disturbances such as pavement or even deeper disturbances, depending on the thickness of the alluvium or fill. Evaluation of the possible impact of prior disturbance on archaeological sites must consider the depth of potentially culture-bearing deposits and the depth of planned disturbance by the proposed project.

Our office does not conduct archaeological surveys. A 36 CFR 61 qualified archaeologist should be retained to conduct the Phase IA/IB survey.

Please also be aware that a Section 233 permit from the New York State Education Department (SED) may be necessary before archaeological fieldwork is conducted on State-owned land. If any portion of the project includes the lands of New York State, you should contact the SED before initiating survey activities. The SED contact is Christina Rieth and she can be reached at <u>christina.rieth@nysed.gov</u>. Section 233 permits are not required for projects on private land.

If you have any questions concerning archaeology, please contact Philip Perazio at philip.perazio@parks.ny.gov.