

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

COLONIE COUNTRY CLUB ESTATES

TOWN OF NEW SCOTLAND

ALBANY COUNTY

NEW YORK

Prepared by:



Hershberg & Hershberg

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January 21, 2008

INTRODUCTION:

Hershberg & Hershberg, Consulting Engineers, were retained by Amedore Homes, Inc., the developer of the proposed Colonie Country Club Estates, to undertake civil engineering design of the subdivision. This narrative report is provided in connection with a proposed cluster subdivision for review by the Town of New Scotland Planning Board.

DESCRIPTION OF EXISTING SITE:

The site is currently vacant. The site is located on 141 Maple Road (Route 85A) in the Town of New Scotland across from Douglas Lane. A portion was occupied by a former gravel bank which has become forested with secondary growth of trees, saplings and shrubs. The balance of the site is forested with a stand of primarily hardwoods with a few coniferous trees. The site has frontage on Route 85A at two points. The site consists of 48.17 acres. The site is located at No. 141 Maple Road, Tax Map No. 73.0-4-27, lands N/F of Colonie Country Club, Inc. The site is bounded by Colonie Country Club to the east by agricultural use to south and residential use to the west and to the north. This parcel includes the entrance roadway to Colonie Country Club. A Site Location Map superimposed over the Voorheesville, N.Y. Quadrangle Map is included as Appendix 1.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT:

The Applicant proposes the following:

- Install a new town road (Road A) from New Salem to a cul-de-sac at the end of this road. Road approximately 2,800 feet long.
- Install a new town road (Road B) from Route 85A Across from Douglas Lane to an intersection with Road A. Road approximately 2,531 feet long.
- Develop the land into +/-35 lots plus two areas to be dedicated as a Storm Water Management Area.
- Install a new public water main to serve these dwellings requiring approximately 5,460 lineal feet of new 8-inch water main and dedicate this to the Town of New Scotland once completed, inspected and accepted.
- Install a new public storm sewer system to serve these dwellings. This will consist of new collection storm sewer with catch basins and structures and Stormwater pollution Prevention (SWPP). This will be dedicated to the Town of New Scotland once completed, inspected and accepted.

PARCEL ZONING

Existing Site Zoning: "R-A" DISTRICT - RESIDENT AGRICULTURAL.

WATERCOURSES

There are no protected watercourse areas which impact the site.

EXISTING WETLANDS

There are no Waters of the United States of America (Federal wetlands) or NYS Freshwater Wetlands which impact his site. A copy of a Wetland Assessment is included in Appendix 2.

RARE, THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

A response from the New York Natural Heritage Program indicated that a threatened plant species had been noted in the "Voorheesville" area in 1930. To determine that this plant species did not exist within the project area, Dr. Richard Futyma of the LA Group was retained to inspect the site. His examination found none of the identified plant species or any other rare, endangered or threatened species on the site. Copies of the letter from the New York Natural Heritage Program and Dr. Futyma's report are attached as Appendix 3. Because this information is considered "sensitive" and "should not be released to the public", the name of the plant has been redacted from the copies in this narrative report.

FLOOD PLAIN

The portion of the site to be developed lies entirely within Zone C (Area of Minimal Flooding) as shown on Community Panel Numbers 360013 0008-B Flood Insurance Rate Maps. Effective Date of this map is December 1, 1982.

HISTORIC OR ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

No sites or buildings currently on the New York State or National Register of Historic Places are within site limits. A copy of the Phase 1A/1B Cultural Resources Survey has been delivered to Robert Stapf, PLS, Chairman of the Town of New Scotland Planning Board. A copy of the "Part III: Summary and Recommendations" from the Phase 1A/1B Cultural Resources Survey is included in Appendix 4.

EXISTING USAGE

The site is unimproved and consists mainly of secondary deciduous forest and brush lands. The overstory includes oaks, maples, birch and poplar with sizes from 8" to 18". The understory includes saplings of the same species. A number of areas contain smaller diameter trees and ground cover vegetation.

EXISTING SOILS

The existing soils are deep glacial clays over glacial till. The Albany County Soil Survey indicates the following soils within the limits of the project:

Chenango gravelly silt loam

Riverbed fine sandy loam

Gravel quarry

EXISTING DRAINAGE

Existing drainage runs from the west of the property easterly towards the Volman Kill onto into the Hudson River

EXISTING WATER SYSTEM

An existing village of Voorheesville water main is located at the corner of Route 85A and Scotch Pine Drive.

EXISTING SEWER SYSTEM

There is no public sanitary sewer system.

DESCRIPTION OF INTENDED SITE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

The Applicant proposes to clear portions of the site avoiding grading in buffer areas. Clearing will be limited to areas where roads, buildings, detention basins or lot grading and installation of sewage disposal systems require removal of trees and shrubs. The Applicant proposes to develop +/- 35 single-family residential lots in a cluster subdivision. This includes four units to be built as duplexes in two buildings on Lots No. 2, 3, 4 & 5 with division line to be through a party wall between the duplex units.

Two areas have been set aside for Storm Water Pollution Prevention and Storm Water Management Systems. The Applicant will construct two storm water management systems in compliance with SPDES #GP-02-01 (and GP #08-003).

IMPACTS OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

DEMOGRAPHICS

Many purchasers will be retired or above the age of 50. Although it is difficult to estimate the impact on the Voorheesville Central School District enrollment, we believe that this development will result in the enrollment of less than 15 students in Voorheesville Central School District with the enrollment weighted towards the upper grades, between Grades 7 and 12. As such it might represent an approximate 1.2% increase in enrollment from the 2007-2008 enrollment of 1252 students.

TRAFFIC

This access to the site is located along Route 85 A and will be split between two entrance/exit roads. Sight distance evaluations have been submitted to NYSDOT. Some work within the NYS ROW will be required to improve sight distances.

The trip generation during the peak AM and PM hour of the adjacent street traffic may be estimated using the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) Trip Generation, Sixth Edition. This provides an estimated trip rate based upon the number of dwelling units in a Single Family Detached Housing Development (Land Use Code 210). It also provides an estimate of the entering and exiting trips. The following figures are generated based upon the full construction of 35 dwelling units:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Entering</u>	<u>Exiting</u>	<u>Total</u>
Single Family Detached Housing (LUC 210) – 35 units	8	25	33

Summary of Trip Generation – AM Peak Hour

<u>Description</u>	<u>Entering</u>	<u>Exiting</u>	<u>Total</u>
Single Family Detached Housing (LUC 210) – 35 units	26	15	41

Summary of Trip Generation – PM Peak Hour

This traffic volume will be at full buildout so that during the construction period (estimated as 3 years) the impact will be less. The new intersections will function at an adequate level of service.

VISUAL

The Applicant intends to maintain the 50 foot buffer along the Village of Voorheesville line. The Applicant will also maintain green areas with existing foliage and will clear dead trees from these areas. The Applicant also proposes additional clearing limits and infill planting along the borders of this site.

COMMUNICATIONS

If available, state of the art communication facilities will be provided to new dwellings. All utilities will be placed underground.

GAS & ELECTRIC

Electric lines and natural gas mains exist in the area and will be extended where needed upon agreement with utility owner. All electric utilities extension within this subdivision will be placed underground.

SANITARY SEWER

The Applicant proposes to construct individual sub surface sewage disposal systems for the new homes. The systems will conform to the requirements of the Albany County Department of health.

WATER

Extension of the Village of Voorheesville water district to serve the subdivision has been approved. Public water will be extended to serve the individual homes. .

DRAINAGE

A new stormwater collection system will be provided. The system will consist of combination of detention and groundwater recharge for the main system. A second system which will use a surface sand filter is proposed. Attention will also be paid to sedimentation, erosion control and the quality of storm water. A Storm Water Pollution Protection Plan (SWPPP) required under SPDES Permit #GP-02-01 and/or GP#08-003 will be prepared. The standards in *Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines for New Development* promulgated by New York State Department of Environmental Conservation will be met. Storage provided will exceed the Water Quality Storage Volume (WQ_v). Areas have been selected for proposed main detention basins and treatment system. The disturbance of ground will be phased to limit disturbances to less than 5 acres. The plan has been based upon HydroCad computations and is detailed on the plans. A SWPPP report and NOI will be completed prior to completion of Final Plans.

NOISE

During construction, noise will be generated by construction equipment. All contracts will require that all work be accomplished at times and hours conducive to good neighborhood relationships. The existing noise levels are influenced by occasional loud noises from train traffic.

DUST

During construction, dust will be limited utilizing dust suppression methods. All contracts will require that all work be accomplished in a manner to significantly limit fugitive dust. Once completed these buildings or facilities will not result in the generation of any dust.

HAZARDOUS BUILDING MATERIALS

No known hazardous building materials exist on the site.

APPROVALS

The proposed project will require review and approval by local, county and state agencies. A list of required approvals identified to date follows:

Town of New Scotland Town Board
Cluster Subdivision Approval

Town of New Scotland Board of Zoning Appeals
Variance for length of cul-de-sac (Granted)

Town of New Scotland Planning Board
SEQRA Review
Subdivision Approval

Town of New Scotland Building Department
Building Permit

Albany Country Planning Board
239-m Submittal

Albany Country Health Department
Public Water Extension
Individual sub surface sewage disposal systems

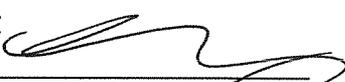
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
SPDES GP #08-003 (Successor to GP #02-01)
Water Supply Application

New York State Department of Transportation
Highway Work Permit for two Town Road Connections and associated work
Non-Highway Work Permit – Water Extension

CONCLUSION:

The proposed project will be designed to minimize the impact of items addressed herein. It is the engineer's conclusion that this project can be completed with minimum impact on the environment or on surrounding properties. This project will require a review pursuant to State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA).



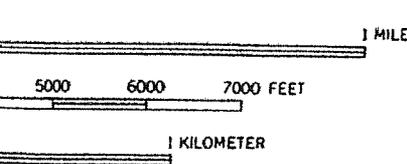
Prepared by: 

HERSHBERG & HERSHBERG
Daniel R. Hershberg, P.E. & L.S.

DRH/dan/NarrReport20060137REVISED.doc

APPENDIX 1

SITE LOCATION MAP



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	—————	Light-duty	-----
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
○ Interstate Route	□ U.S. Route	○ State Route	

VOORHEESVILLE, N. Y.
 NW/4 ALBANY 15' QUADRANGLE
 N4237.5—W7352.5/7.5

URACY STANDARDS
 SURVEY
 VIRGINIA 22092
 S IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

1954
 PHOTOREVISED 1980
 DMA 6269 III NW—SERIES V821

APPENDIX 2

WETLAND ASSESSMENT

COPY

MEMORANDUM

To: Walter Kubow
From: Auggie Ruggiero
cc: Joe Lanaro, Barbara Beall
Date: September 16, 2005
Re: Preliminary Wetland Assessment at the Colonie Country Club in the
Town of New Scotland, Albany County, New York.
Job #: 303AQ.00

On August 23, 2005, I conducted a preliminary wetland assessment of the area of undeveloped land located west of the existing Colonie Country Club in the Town of New Scotland, Albany County, New York. (herein referenced as the "Study Area"). The extent of the Study Area is illustrated on a conceptual layout of a development plan entitled "Colonie Country Club Estates, Conceptual Subdivision Plan" dated November 8, 2003 prepared by The Chazen Companies (TCC). A copy of this drawing is provided as an attachment to this memo. The weather conditions were mostly sunny and warm (85 °F). The purpose of the field investigation was to determine the presence or absence of any areas considered "waters of the U.S." or "waters of the State of New York," which include wetlands and streams. A brief summary of the background resource review and subsequent field investigation is provided below.

Background Resources

*United States Geological Survey 7.5' Topographic Quadrangle of Vorheesville,
NY (1954, Photorevised 1980)*

According to the United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute Topographic Quadrangle of Vorheesville, NY (1954, Photorevised 1908) the Study Area gently slopes from approximately 350 feet above Mean Sea Level (MSL) in the northern portion of the Study Area to approximately 330 above MSL in the southern portion of the Study Area. No streams, ponds, or other wet areas are depicted within the boundaries of the Study Area.

New York Department of Environmental Conservation Wetland Mapping

According to the 1991 New York Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) wetland mapping for the Vorheesville quadrangle, no mapped wetlands are located within the boundaries of the Study Area.

National Wetlands Inventory

According to the 1995 National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) mapping for the Vorheesville, NY Quadrangle, no wetlands are mapped on or adjacent to the Study Area.

1992 Soil Survey for Albany County

According to the *1992 Soil Survey for Albany County*¹, the Study Area is underlain by seven soil mapping units. A brief description of each of these soil types is provided below.

Chenango gravelly silt loam, loamy substratum, 0 to 3 percent slopes (ChA), 3 to 8 percent slopes (ChB), and rolling (ChC). ChA, ChB, and ChC are nearly level, gently sloping, and rolling soils, respectively. All of these soil types are very deep and well drained or somewhat excessively drained found on either glacial outwash terraces or glacial outwash plains. Included with these soils are moderately well drained Castile soils. Permeability in these soils is moderate or moderately rapid in the subsoil and moderately rapid in the substratum. Where Chenango soils are mapped, the seasonal high water table is greater than 6.0 feet below the surface between January and May. This soil is not listed as a hydric soil (i.e., wetland soil) in New York State.

Pits, gravel (Pm). This soil consists of areas where sand and gravel have been excavated for use in construction. Permeability in this soil type is variable but is generally moderately rapid to very rapid. The seasonal high water table where Pits, gravel is mapped is not determined due to the variability of this soil type. This soil is not listed as a hydric soil (i.e., wetland soil) in New York State.

¹ USDA. 1992. Soil Survey for Albany County.

Riverhead fine sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes (RkA), 3 to 8 percent slopes (RkB), and 8 to 15 percent slopes (RkC). RkA, RkB, and RkC are nearly level, gently sloping, and sloping, respectively. RkA and RkB are very deep and well drained found on low terraces. RkC is also very deep and well drained and is found on the edges of low terraces or on slight ridges near the 300 foot contour on the lake plain near major streams and rivers. Included with these soils are sandier Colonie soils. Permeability in these soils is moderately rapid in the subsoil and rapid in the substratum. Where Riverhead soils are mapped, the seasonal high water table is greater than 6.0 feet below the surface between January and May. This soil is not listed as a hydric soil (i.e., wetland soil) in New York State.

Field Investigation

The purpose of the field investigation was to assess the Study Area for the presence of wetlands and streams. Currently, the Study Area is undeveloped with the exception of an apparent borrow pit located in the central portion of the Study Area and an overhead utility easement oriented north to south located in the eastern portion of the Study Area. The surrounding land includes residential properties and Route 85A to the north, residential property to the west, an open field to the south, and an existing golf course to the east. The Study Area was examined for the presence of wetlands through observations of hydrophytic (wetland) vegetation and wetland hydrology. A photographic log documenting the field investigation is provided as an attachment to this memo. A detailed description of each area and the dominant vegetation are provided below.

The northern and southern portions of the Study Area consist of a successional northern hardwood forest. The canopy layer of this area consists of red maple (*Acer rubrum*), American beech (*Fagus grandifolia*), eastern white pine (*Pinus strobus*), quaking aspen (*Populus tremuloides*), and gray birch (*Betula populifolia*). The shrub layer consists of witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*), tatarian honeysuckle (*Lonicera tatarica*), black raspberry (*Rubus occidentalis*), and black cherry saplings (*Prunus serotina*). The ground layer consists of poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*), Virginia creeper (*Parthenocissius quinquefolia*), and Canada goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*). A relatively small portion of the northeastern portion of the Study Area is a herbaceous field habitat consisting of various unidentified grasses. No dominant stands of hydrophytic vegetation were observed in the northern or southern portions of the Study Area.

As mentioned above, an apparent borrow pit was observed in the central portion of the Study Area. The location of this area corresponds to the Pits, gravel soil type on the *Soil Survey*. The topography of this area consists of a depression with pilings of



Photo #6

Description: View facing north showing the upland woodland vegetation located in the northern portion of the Study Area.



Photo #7

Description: View facing south showing the upland woodland vegetation located in the southern portion of the Study Area.

APPENDIX 3

**COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING RARE,
THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES**

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Division of Fish, Wildlife & Marine Resources

New York Natural Heritage Program

625 Broadway, Albany, New York 12233-4757

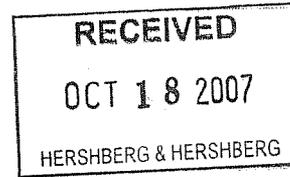
Phone: (518) 402-8935 • FAX: (518) 402-8925

www.dec.state.ny.us



Alexander B. Grannis
Commissioner

October 17, 2007



Daniel R Hershberg
Hershberg & Hershberg
18 Locust Street
Albany, NY 12203

Dear Mr. Hershberg:

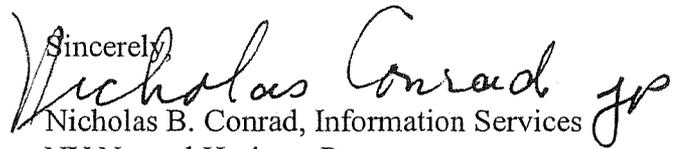
In response to your recent request, we have reviewed the New York Natural Heritage Program database with respect to an Environmental Assessment for the proposed Subdivision of the Colonie Country Club Estates, site as indicated on the map you provided, located in the Town of New Scotland, Albany County.

Enclosed is a report of rare or state-listed animals and plants, significant natural communities, and other significant habitats, which our databases indicate occur, or may occur, on your site or in the immediate vicinity of your site. The information contained in this report is considered sensitive and should not be released to the public without permission from the New York Natural Heritage Program.

The presence of the plants and animals identified in the enclosed report may result in this project requiring additional review or permit conditions. For further guidance, and for information regarding other permits that may be required under state law for regulated areas or activities (e.g., regulated wetlands), please contact the appropriate NYS DEC Regional Office, Division of Environmental Permits, at the enclosed address.

For most sites, comprehensive field surveys have not been conducted; the enclosed report only includes records from our databases. We cannot provide a definitive statement on the presence or absence of all rare or state-listed species or significant natural communities. This information should not be substituted for on-site surveys that may be required for environment impact assessment.

Our databases are continually growing as records are added and updated. If this proposed project is still under development one year from now, we recommend that you contact us again so that we may update this response with the most current information.

Sincerely,

Nicholas B. Conrad, Information Services
NY Natural Heritage Program

Encs.

cc: Reg. 4, Wildlife Mgr.

Natural Heritage Report on Rare Species and Ecological Communities



NY Natural Heritage Program, NYS DEC, 625 Broadway, 5th Floor,
Albany, NY 12233-4757
(518) 402-8935

HISTORICAL RECORDS

The following plants and animals were documented in the vicinity of the project site at one time, but have not been documented there since 1979 or earlier.

There is no recent information on these plants and animals in the vicinity of the project site and their current status there is unknown. In most cases the precise location of the plant or animal in this vicinity at the time it was last documented is also unknown and therefore location maps are generally not provided.

If appropriate habitat for these plants or animals is present in the vicinity of the project site, it is possible that they may still occur there.

Natural Heritage Report on Rare Species and Ecological Communities



VASCULAR PLANTS

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NY Legal Status: Threatened

NYS Rank: S1S2 - Critically imperiled

Office Use
9125

Federal Listing:

Global Rank: G4 - Apparently secure

Last Report: 1930-08-19

EO Rank: Historical, no recent information

County: Albany

Town: New Scotland

Location: Voorheesville

Directions: The location was reported as "Voorheesville".

**General
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More detailed information about many of the rare and listed animals and plants in New York, including biology, identification, habitat, conservation, and management, are available online in Natural Heritage's Conservation Guides at www.acris.nynhp.org, from NatureServe Explorer at <http://www.natureserve.org/explorer>, from NYSDEC at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7494.html> (for animals), and from USDA's Plants Database at <http://plants.usda.gov/index.html> (for plants).



October 26, 2007

John M. Bossalini
Amedore Homes
1900 Western Avenue
Albany NY 12203

Re: Survey for rare, threatened and endangered species on the proposed Colonie Country Club Estates housing subdivision site, Town of New Scotland, Albany County, NY

Dear Mr. Bossalini:

As you recently requested, yesterday I visited the Colonie Country Club Estates site to search for rare, threatened, and endangered plant species. Your request was prompted by a letter sent October 17, 2007, to Daniel R. Hershberg, engineer for the project, by the New York Natural Heritage Program. That letter stated that [REDACTED], which is listed as a threatened species in New York State, is known to have occurred in the vicinity of the Village of Voorheesville. The project site lies just outside of Voorheesville, bordering it on the east.

According to a publication on plants of the Buckwheat Family in New York State¹, [REDACTED] is a herbaceous annual that grows on "moist ground, meadows, thickets, riverbeds and other disturbed soils;" it blooms from July to October. Given that there had not been any hard frost prior to my visit, it was likely that the plants could still be found in good condition. The habitat of [REDACTED] is similar to that of most other members of the genus *Persicaria*, in that it prefers moist to wet ground in places dominated by herbaceous plants, with little shading by trees and shrubs. Therefore, I concentrated my survey efforts on open areas occupied by herbaceous plants. I found only two such areas on the site.

The first area is in the northeastern arm of the project site, along the existing driveway to the Colonie Country Club. In this location, there are several acres of open ground, most of which is relatively dry, as indicated by the dominance of little bluestem grass (*Schizachyrium scoparium*) in places that are not regularly mowed. Only a small part of this area does have somewhat moist soil. I searched all of this area thoroughly, but did not find any plants of [REDACTED].

The second open area lies near the center of the project site, where there is what appears to be an old gravel pit. Being lower than the surrounding ground, parts of its irregular bottom are somewhat moist, but none of it appears to be occupied by wetland vegetation. The soils are highly disturbed and a large part of this area has been used as a disposal site

¹ Richard S. Mitchell and J. Kenneth Dean. 1978. Polygonaceae (Buckwheat Family) of New York State. New York State Museum Bulletin no. 431, p. 50.

John M. Bossalini
October 26, 2007
Page 2 of 2

for stumps, wood, and other plant waste. In places, there are moderately large trees and dense shrub thickets. I searched the open, herb-dominated parts of this gravel pit as thoroughly as possible, given the unstable footing in places where plant waste had been deposited. Again, I did not find any evidence of [REDACTED]

The major part of the 48-acre project site is covered with relatively mature forest. The dominant trees, especially in the area north of the old gravel pit, are red maple, quaking aspen, and bigtooth aspen. Other trees that are more locally abundant include black oak, white oak, beech, and pitch pine. The forest south of the gravel pit appears somewhat more mature, with red maple, sugar maple, beech, red oak, and white oak as the dominants.

Forested areas such as these, being well shaded, are not good habitats for [REDACTED]. At best, this plant might be found in small, sunny openings within the forest. I walked throughout the forested area, looking for such openings, but found none. I did find a related plant, *Persicaria longiseta*, blooming abundantly in a small patch on the edge of the woods at the point where the northwestern arm of the project site borders NYS Route 85A. *Persicaria longiseta* is a weedy plant that is not protected in New York State; this was the only member of the genus *Persicaria* that I found during my six-hour visit to the site.

In conclusion, I can state with confidence that [REDACTED] does not exist on the Colonie Country Club Estates site. During my survey of the site, I also was vigilant for any other plant that might be listed as a rare, threatened, or endangered species in New York, but did not find any plant fitting those categories.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you should need any additional details on my visit to this site.

Sincerely,



Richard P. Futyma, Ph.D.
environmental scientist
for
The LA Group, P.C.

cc: Daniel R. Hershberg

APPENDIX 4

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS
from
Phase 1A/1B Cultural Resources Survey

Part III: Summary and Recommendations

A Phase IA/IB cultural resource survey has been completed for the proposed Country Club Estates development project located adjacent to the grounds of the Colonie Country Club in the Town of New Scotland, Albany County, New York. The area of potential effects (APE) for the proposed residential development includes all area of proposed ground disturbances including utilities and roadways, and encompasses approximately 40.0 acres of a 48.17 acre parcel. The depth of the proposed ground disturbance will likely exceed 5 ft (1.5 m) in the vicinity of the proposed house lots and utility corridors.

A Phase IA review indicated that while no prehistoric sites have been previously recorded within one mile of the project area, the current project area is situated near several water sources, including a large wetland to the west that drains to form the source of the Vlomankill. Since several prehistoric sites are known along the lower drainages of the Vlomankill, it seems probable the precontact occupation might have extended farther upstream. The relatively level topography and diverse habitat would have been ideally suited for both mobile hunters and foragers and sedentary people. These factors indicate a high probability for prehistoric sensitivity. One historic archaeological site has been identified within one mile of the project area, a historic domestic occupation. A review of historic maps indicated that no map-documented structures occur within the project boundaries. However, given the long history of the surrounding area in addition to the presence of historic agricultural features within the APE boundaries (stone walls and barbed wire fences), the project area is considered highly sensitive for historic remains.

A Phase IB field examination was conducted to test for cultural deposits that may be impacted by the proposed project. A total of approximately 40.0 acres were surveyed using subsurface testing. This entailed the excavation of 798 STPs, which were placed at 15 m (49.2 foot) intervals along transects spaced 15m (49.2ft) apart over all areas of proposed ground disturbance. A total of 12 STPs (1.5%) yielded cultural material, almost exclusively of modern refuse, and included clear and green bottle glass, isolated wire nails, grocery bags and other plastic refuse. Most of this refuse appeared to reflect a light scatter of modern refuse over a wide area, although evidence of dumping was also apparent. No artifacts that would appear to date to the early 20th century were encountered (see Appendix D for a complete listing of material identified). After documenting the presence of the modern refuse, each object was reburied in the STP from which it was recovered. No prehistoric artifacts or cultural features were encountered and no archaeological sites were identified. Excavation of STPs in the testing area suggests that no intact cultural deposits will be disturbed by the proposed construction activities.

Based on these findings, we recommend that the project be allowed to proceed.