

REPORT FOR SUPPLEMENTAL PHASE IB
ARCHAEOLOGICAL TESTING

CIRCLE DRIVE NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT
VILLAGE OF SIDNEY, DELAWARE COUNTY,
NEW YORK

Prepared for:
THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF STORM RECOVERY

Prepared by:
CHRISTINE DAVIS CONSULTANTS, INC.
&
TECTONIC ENGINEERING & SURVEYING CONSULTANTS P. C.

July 2017

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REPORT FOR SUPPLEMENTAL PHASE IB
ARCHAEOLOGICAL TESTING

CIRCLE DRIVE NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT
VILLAGE OF SIDNEY, DELAWARE COUNTY,
NEW YORK

BY:



CHRISTINE E. DAVIS
Principal Investigator

For final submission to:

Lori Shirley, Director; Bureau of Environmental Review and Assessment
Governor's Office of Storm Recovery; New York Homes and Community Renewal
38-40 State Street; Albany, New York 12207

I. INTRODUCTION/PROJECT INFORMATION

The proposed undertaking is known as the Circle Neighborhood Drive Development project located in the Village of Sidney, Delaware County, New York (Figures 1 and 2). The project area is located along Circle Drive within the Village of Sidney in an open area east of St. Luke's Lutheran Church. The project area encompasses approximately 16,462 square (sq) meter (m) (177,198 sq feet (ft) or 4.1 acre (ac). The project is being conducted for the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR).

The project is topographically situated on a gently sloping lower hill slope above a wetland and unnamed tributary stream head that flows into the Susquehanna River approximately one mile northeast of the project boundary. The area is characterized by mixed woodlands and an open field consisting of herb/shrub communities. Soils in the project area are mapped as Mardin channery silt loam (MdB and MdC) on slopes ranging from 3 to 8 percent (MdB) and 8 to 15 percent (MdC). Elevations range from 1,149 to 1,157 ft asl.

Lands within the project area were previously surveyed for archaeological resources as part of the Phase I Cultural Resource Survey for the Sidney Senior Housing Project (PR Number: 06PR6968) conducted in 2007 by the Public Archaeology Facility at Binghamton University (PAF). During that survey, 98 percent of the project area was tested with a total of 52 shovel test probes (STPs) at 15 m intervals. The remaining 2 percent of the project area was not tested due to the presence of slope greater than 15 percent and disturbance caused by the emplacement of buried utility lines.

As a result of the survey for the Sidney Senior Housing Project, one precontact site, Circle Drive (SUBi 2649), was documented. This site included one artifact: a utilized chert debitage/chunk. The utilized chert debitage/chunk was recovered from STP B7. In addition to the site, three small, potential chert flakes were recovered from one STP, STP E1. Eight additional close interval STPs were subsequently conducted around each positive STP, 4 STPs at 1 m intervals and 4 STPs 3 m intervals, for a total of 16 additional STPs. The additional testing did not yield any additional precontact artifacts (Figure 3). PAF determined that the site had limited research potential and should not be considered as eligible for the National Register. No further work was completed at that time; however, the Sidney Senior Housing Project was never constructed.

When plans were developed for the newly proposed undertaking known as the Circle Neighborhood Drive Development, GOSR submitted documentation regarding the new project to the Delaware Tribe of Indians. In a letter dated June 22, 2017, the Delaware Tribe of Indians requested additional Phase IB archaeological testing within the "Church Property" (Appendix I).

II. METHODOLOGY

Supplemental testing will be conducted with two sets of STPs at 7.5 m intervals in all amenable areas around the previously recorded Circle Drive Site (SUBi 2649) originally identified in STP B7. Supplemental testing will be conducted with one set of STPs at 7.5 m intervals in all amenable areas around the location where the three small, potential chert flakes were originally identified in STP E1. Assuming there are no positive STPs, a total of 19 supplemental STPs are proposed. All STPs will be excavated to undisturbed soil levels. Once sterile subsoil is reached, a minimum of 10 cm of additional subsoil will be excavated to confirm the natural stratigraphy of the horizon. If the supplemental Phase IB testing yields a positive test, additional testing will occur at 3 m and 1 m intervals around the positive STP. If the supplemental Phase IB testing does not yield a positive test in any direction, no further testing will be completed.

All subsurface tests will be numbered sequentially and soil profiles will be cleaned and documented by a pedological description. All hand excavated soils will be screened through quarter-inch hardware mesh and returned to original ground surface condition.

III. RESULTS

On August 15 and 16, 2017, supplemental Phase IB subsurface archaeological testing was conducted for the Circle Drive Neighborhood Development project. Soil profiles consisted of 20 to 30 cm of dark brown silt loam over fine orange sand. Some profiles consisted of 20 to 30 cm of dark brown silt loam over 2 to 3 cm of grey silt. The grey silt was underlain by fine orange sand.

In the area of the previously recorded Circle Drive Site (SUBi 2649), a total of 11 STPs were hand excavated at 7.5 m intervals (see Figure 3; Figure 4; Photos 1 to 4). The remaining 4 STPs that were proposed for this area could not be excavated due the presence of slope greater than 15 percent and impenetrable brush. All 11 STPs were negative for culturally modified material; therefore, no further testing was completed.

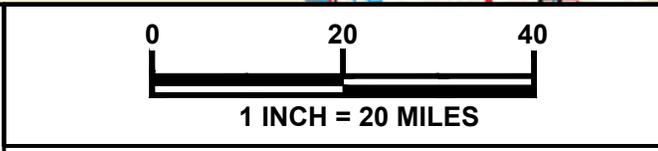
In the area where three small, potential chert flakes were found in STP E1, a total of 4 STPs were hand excavated at 7.5 m intervals (see Figure 3; Photos 5 and 6). All 4 STPs were negative for culturally modified materials; therefore, no further testing was completed.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

During the supplemental Phase IB archaeological testing of the Circle Drive Neighborhood Development project, there were no discoveries of human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony; therefore, no further archaeological survey is recommended.




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REFERENCES: USGS <i>The National Atlas of the United States</i>
PROJECT NO. 17-044
FIGURE 1

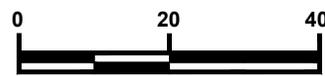
Project Location
CIRCLE DRIVE DEVELOPMENT
 Village of Sidney, Delaware County, New York



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LEGEND

 APE



1 CM = 10 METERS

REFERENCES:

LAMONT ENGINEERS
 Street Layout Plan 1-27-17

PROJECT NO.

17-044

Project Mapping
CIRCLE DRIVE DEVELOPMENT
 Village of Sidney, Delaware County, New York

FIGURE 2



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LEGEND

- APE
- POSITIVE PHI STP 15M
- NEGATIVE PHI STP 15M
- NEGATIVE PHI SHORT INTERVAL STP
- NEGATIVE STP 7.5M



REFERENCES:

USGS EARTHSTAR
 GEOGRAPHICS
 Aerial Imagery - 2017

PROJECT NO.

17-044

Testing
CIRCLE DRIVE DEVELOPMENT
 Village of Sidney, Delaware County, New York

FIGURE 3

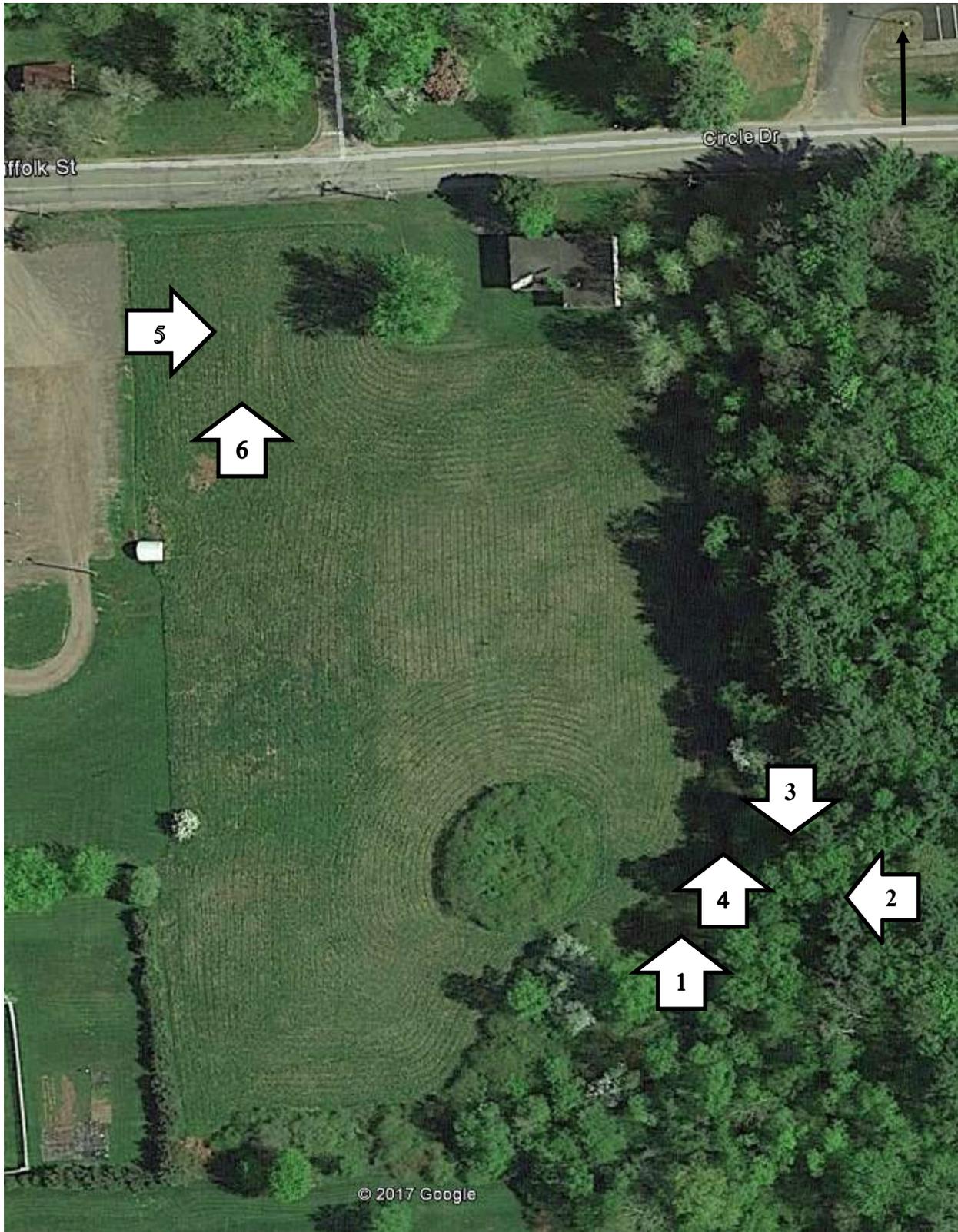


FIGURE 4: PHOTO DIRECTION KEY (GOOGLE 2017)



Photo 1: Location of Circle Drive Site (SUBi 2649), Looking North



Photo 2: Tested Area Near Circle Drive Site (SUBi 2649), Looking West



Photo 3: Tested Area Near Circle Drive Site (SUBi 2649), Looking South



Photo 4: Tested Area Near Circle Drive Site (SUBi 2649), Looking North



Photo 5: Location of Potentially Positive STP E1, Looking East

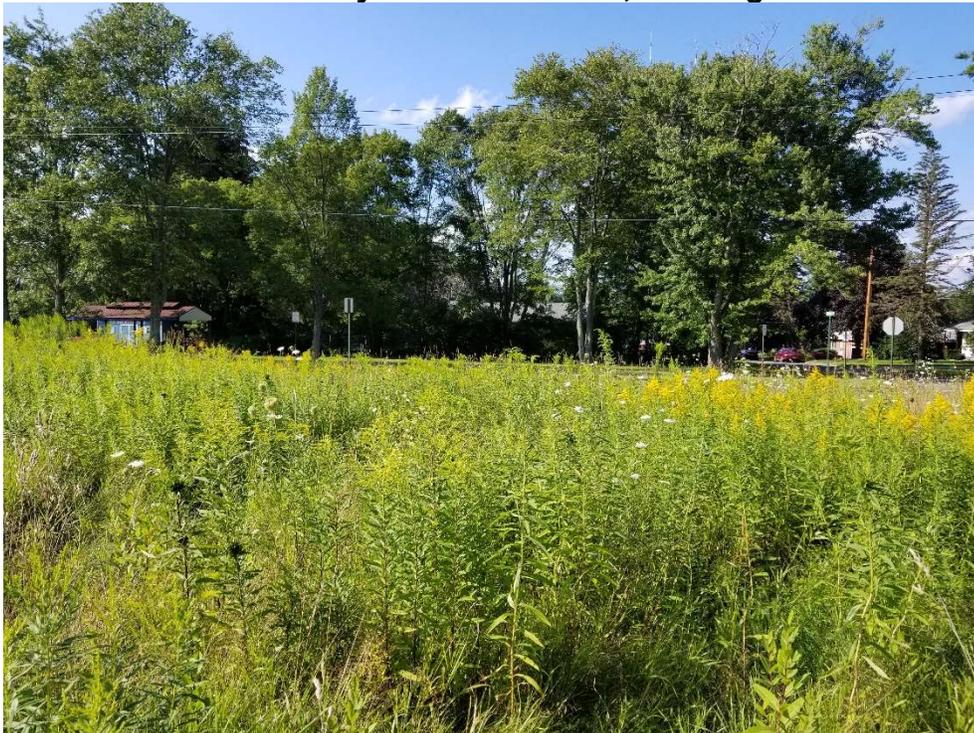


Photo 6: Location of Potentially Positive STP E1, Looking North

APPENDIX I
TRIBAL CORRESPONDENCE



Delaware Tribe Historic Preservation Representatives
P.O. Box 64
Pocono Lake, PA 18347
sbachor@delawaretribe.org

June 1, 2017

Governor's Office of Storm Recovery
New York State Homes & Community Renewal
38-40 State Street, Hampton Plaza
Albany, NY 12207

Re: Update to Section 106 Compliance for Circle Drive Neighborhood Development Project, Village of Sidney, Delaware County, New York

Ms. Shirley,

Thank you for sending the Delaware Tribe additional information regarding the above referenced project. Our review indicates that there are culturally significant areas within the proposed project area. We would like an archaeological assessment that includes subsurface testing within the APE.

In the event a concentration of artifacts and/or in the unlikely event any human remains are accidentally unearthed during the project that all work is halted until the Delaware Tribe of Indians is informed of the inadvertent discovery and a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the find.

We appreciate your cooperation and look forward to working together on our shared interests in preserving Delaware cultural heritage. If you have any questions, feel free to contact this office by phone at (610) 761-7452 or by e-mail at sbachor@delawaretribe.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Bachor", is written over a light-colored rectangular background.

Susan Bachor
Delaware Tribe Historic Preservation Representative



Delaware Tribe Historic Preservation Representatives
P.O. Box 64
Pocono Lake, PA 18347
sbachor@delawaretribe.org

June 22, 2017

Governor's Office of Storm Recovery
New York State Homes & Community Renewal
38-40 State Street, Hampton Plaza
Albany, NY 12207

Re: Update to Section 106 Compliance for Circle Drive Neighborhood Development Project, Village of Sidney, Delaware County, New York

Ms. Shirley,

Thank you for sending the Delaware Tribe additional information regarding the above referenced project. Our review indicates that there are no culturally significant areas within the Private Property along W. Main St. We have no objections to this portion of the project. The Church Property, however, is still of concern and we look forward to reading the Phase Ib of this property.

In the event a concentration of artifacts and/or in the unlikely event any human remains are accidentally unearthed during the project that all work is halted until the Delaware Tribe of Indians is informed of the inadvertent discovery and a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the find.

We appreciate your cooperation and look forward to working together on our shared interests in preserving Delaware cultural heritage. If you have any questions, feel free to contact this office by phone at (610) 761-7452 or by e-mail at sbachor@delawaretribe.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature appears to be "Susan Bachor" written in a cursive style.

Susan Bachor
Delaware Tribe Historic Preservation Representative