

**Village of Esperance Firehouse Rescue Facility  
Environmental Assessment**

**New York Governor's Office of Storm Recovery  
February 10, 2016**



# Village of Esperance Firehouse Rescue Facility Environmental Assessment

February 10, 2016

**Project Name:** Village of Esperance Firehouse Rescue Facility

**Project Location:** 115 Church Street, Esperance NY 12066

**Federal Agency:** US Department of Housing and Urban Development  
**Responsible Entity:** New York State Homes and Community Renewal

**Responsible Agency's  
Certifying Officer:** Thomas J. King, Assistant General Counsel and Certifying Officer

**Project Sponsor:** Town of Esperance

**Primary Contact:** Earl VanWormer, Town Supervisor, 104 Charleston Street, Esperance NY 12066  
 Phone - 518-875-6109; E-mail – ctownofe@biznycap.rr.com

**Project NEPA Classification:** 24 CFR 58.36 (Environmental Assessment)

<b>Environmental Finding:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Finding of No Significant Impact - The project will not result in a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. <input type="checkbox"/> Finding of Significant Impact - The project may significantly affect the quality of the human environment.
<b>Certification</b>	The undersigned hereby certifies that New York State Homes and Community Renewal has conducted an environmental review of the project identified above and prepared the attached environmental review record in compliance with all applicable provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 USC Sec. 4321 et seq.) and its implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 58.
<b>Signature</b>	 Thomas J. King

**Environmental  
Assessment Prepared By:** Consultant #2  
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 34 South Broadway Suite 401  
 White Plains, NY, 10601

Consultant #1  
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### CERTIFICATION OF NEPA CLASSIFICATION

It is the finding of the New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation that the activities proposed in its 2016 NYS CDBG-DR project, Village of Esperance Firehouse Rescue Facility are:

Check the applicable classification.

- Exempt as defined in 24 CFR 58.34 (a).
- Categorically Excluded as defined in 24 CFR 58.35(b).
- Categorically Excluded as defined in 24 CFR 58.35(a) and no activities are affected by federal environmental statutes and executive orders [i.e., exempt under 58.34(a)(12)].
- Categorically Excluded as defined in 24 CFR 58.35(a) and some activities are affected by federal environmental statutes and executive orders.
- "Other" neither exempt (24 CFR 58.34(a)) nor categorically excluded (24 CFR 58.35).
- Part or all of the project is located in an area identified as a floodplain or wetland. For projects located in a floodplain or wetland, evidence of compliance with Executive Orders 11988 and/or 11990 is required.

For activities excluding those classified as "Other", attached is the appropriate Classification Checklist (Exhibit 2-4) that identifies each activity and the corresponding citation.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Certifying Officer

February 10, 2016  
Date

Thomas J. King  
Assistant General Counsel and Certifying Officer

### CERTIFICATION OF SEQRA CLASSIFICATION

It is the finding of the New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation that the activity(ies) proposed in its 2016 NYS CDBG-DR project, the Village of Esperance Firehouse Rescue Facility constitutes an:

Check the applicable classification:

- Type I Action (6NYCRR Section 617.4)
- Type II Action (6NYCRR Section 617.5)
- Unlisted Action (not Type I or Type II Action)

Check if applicable:

- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Prepared
  - Draft EIS
  - Final EIS



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Certifying Officer

February 10, 2016  
Date

Thomas J. King  
Assistant General Counsel and Certifying Officer

**Description of the Proposed Project** [24 CFR 50.12 & 58.32; 40 CFR 1508.25]:

The Proposed Project comprises the construction of a new 5,400 square foot rescue facility (firehouse building), drainage swale, and catch basin; demolition of two truck bays; modification of the Esperance Village Hall; and repairs to the driveway including the addition of asphalt at 115 Church Street, Esperance, NY (see **Figure 1, "Project Location"** and **Figure 2, "Project Site"**). The rescue facility (firehouse building) will be a pole barn built on the same property as the existing Village of Esperance Firehouse/Village Hall and would include: an area for staging equipment and assembling flood pumps; a sufficiently sized area for the firefighters to change; a storage area; a radio room; and office space. The proposed pole barn will be built in addition to (and adjacent to) the existing Firehouse/Village Hall. Office space within the existing Village Hall will be reconfigured to provide better access to the public. The remaining structure will be available for use as an emergency shelter for first responders and storage facility for emergency supplies. The project would include the installation of a propane generator at the existing firehouse, which will serve both the existing and proposed facilities. (See **Figure 3a, "Aerial Site Plan," Figure 3b, "Site Plan," Figure 3c, "Truck Turning Diagram," Figures 4a and 4 b, "Floor Plans,"** and **Figures 5a through 5f, "Building Elevations"**).

This project is identified in the Towns and Villages of Esperance, Schoharie and Middleburgh's NY Rising Community Reconstruction Plan (March 2014). As described in this plan, the experiences of the Village of Esperance residents and response personnel during Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee demonstrated the need for a new firehouse to modernize the operation of this life saving service. The existing firehouse is undersized, and the Village fire department requires a new firehouse large enough to accommodate contemporary fire trucks and equipment to facilitate efficiency of response.

A larger firehouse would reduce the time required to maneuver fire trucks in and out of the firehouse bays, and reduce response time (see **Figure 3c**). In addition, larger work spaces would help to minimize the risk of injury to department volunteers working with equipment in cramped spaces. The project is to construct a new rescue facility for the Village of Esperance to increase the resiliency of the Village and Town, and thereby enable a more effective response effort to future emergency events.

Under the Proposed Project, access to the firehouse would remain from Church Street. The western two bays of the existing firehouse would be demolished to accommodate a new 25 foot wide drive aisle between the existing and proposed buildings. The new firehouse building would have three large pull-in bays with access from Church Street. Drive-thru bays are not proposed, and only pedestrian access would be provided in the rear of the building.

**Statement of Purpose and Need for the Proposal** [40 CFR 1508.9(b)]:

As described above, the Village needs a new firehouse large enough to accommodate contemporary fire trucks, equipment and personnel. The current firehouse is too narrow to accommodate modern fire trucks which are larger than the size of the existing truck bays. Inadequate bay space, staging and changing areas, and command space lengthens response time due to difficulty getting trucks, personnel and equipment in and out of the firehouse. In addition, larger work spaces would help to minimize the risk of injury to department volunteers working with equipment in cramped spaces.

Although the Firehouse Rescue Facility is not located in the 500-year floodplain, the Village of Esperance as a whole was particularly impacted by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee that caused the Schoharie Creek to overtop its banks, flooding roads, houses and business within the Village. The experiences of the Village of Esperance residents and response personnel during these storms highlighted the need for a new modern firehouse that could enable a more effective response effort during future emergency events, thereby directly increasing the resiliency of the Village and Town.

**Existing Conditions and Trends [24 CFR 58.40(a)]:**

The Proposed Project is located in the Village of Esperance, Town of Esperance, Schoharie County, New York. The Village of Esperance is bounded to the east by the Schoharie Creek and is located within the Schoharie Watershed in the Mohawk River Watershed. The Project Site is improved with the existing Village of Esperance Firehouse/Village Hall and has access from Church Street. It is located within a developed area, and the majority of the Project Site has been previously disturbed.

There are no known sensitive environmental or cultural resources on the Project Site. The Project Site is not located within the 500-year floodplain. In addition, there are no NWI or NYSDEC regulated wetlands on the Project Site. (See **Figure 6, "Floodplain," Figure 7, "NWI Wetlands," and Figure 8, "NYSDEC Wetlands"**)

**Funding Information**

**Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount:**        \$789,500

**Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]:**        \$789,500

**Compliance with 24 CFR 58.5, and 58.6 Laws and Authorities**

Record below the compliance or conformance determinations for each statute, executive order, or regulation. Provide credible, traceable, and supportive source documentation for each authority. Where applicable, complete the necessary reviews or consultations and obtain or note applicable permits or approvals. Clearly note citations, dates/names/titles of contacts, and page references. Attach additional documentation as appropriate.

<b>Compliance Factors:</b> Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5 and §58.6	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?	Compliance determinations
<b>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 50.4 and 58.6</b>		
<b>Airport Hazards</b>  24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not applicable. Based on guidance provided by HUD in Fact Sheet #D1, the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems was reviewed for civilian, commercial service airports within the vicinity of the Project Site. No known civil airports are located within 2,500 feet and no known military airports are located within 15,000 feet of the Project Site.
<b>Coastal Barrier Resources</b>  Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not applicable. According to the Coastal Barrier Resource System maps, the Proposed Project is not located in a Coastal Barrier Resource System. Therefore, the Proposed Project would have no impact on any Coastal Barrier Resources.  <a href="http://www.fws.gov/cbra/Maps/index.html">http://www.fws.gov/cbra/Maps/index.html</a>
<b>Flood Insurance</b>  Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Based on the review of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) (Panel 0094E), the Project Site is not located within a Special Flood Hazard Area, and is outside both the 100-year and 500-year floodplain. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not require flood insurance. (See Figure 6) <a href="https://msc.fema.gov/portal">https://msc.fema.gov/portal</a>
<b>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 50.4 &amp; 58.5</b>		

<p><b>Clean Air</b></p> <p>Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) &amp; (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Schoharie County is not within the most recent Nonattainment Areas for Criteria Pollutants as defined by the EPA's Green Book for Nonattainment Areas for Criteria Pollutants.</p> <p>The Proposed Project involves the construction of a new 5,400 square foot rescue facility. Any air quality impacts would be short-term and localized during construction. No significant adverse impacts to air quality would occur.</p> <p><a href="http://www.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/">http://www.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/</a>  <a href="http://www.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/adden.html">http://www.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/adden.html</a></p>
<p><b>Coastal Zone Management</b></p> <p>Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) &amp; (d)</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Not applicable. State agencies must complete a Coastal Assessment Form (CAF) as soon as the agency contemplates an action that may affect the policies for the coastal area or of an approved LWRP. The Project Site is not located within the boundaries of the New York State Coastal Area Boundary. The Project Site is located approximately 1,000 feet from Schoharie Creek, a NYS designated Inland Waterway eligible for the LWRP program. However, there are currently no adopted LWRPs in the Town of Esperance or Schoharie County.</p> <p><a href="http://www.dos.ny.gov/opd/atlas/">http://www.dos.ny.gov/opd/atlas/</a>  <a href="http://appext20.dos.ny.gov/coastal_map_public/map.aspx">http://appext20.dos.ny.gov/coastal_map_public/map.aspx</a>  <a href="http://www.dos.ny.gov/opd/programs/pdfs/Waterways_List_08-14.pdf">http://www.dos.ny.gov/opd/programs/pdfs/Waterways_List_08-14.pdf</a></p>
<p><b>Contamination and Toxic Substances</b></p> <p>24 CFR Part 50.3(i) &amp; 58.5(i)(2)</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The Project Site is not listed on a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Superfund National Priorities or CERCLA List, or equivalent State list, located within 3,000 feet of a toxic or solid waste landfill site, does not have an underground storage tank, and is not known or suspected to be contaminated by toxic chemicals or radioactive materials. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not result in any significant adverse impacts related to toxic, hazardous, or radioactive materials.</p>

<p><b>Endangered Species</b></p> <p>Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>There is one threatened species (Northern Long-Eared bat) known to occur in Schoharie County. The project site, which consists of further development on previously developed land, is not anticipated to include habitat for these species in its footprint. The proposed project is not expected to include the removal of mature trees that would provide roosting habitat for the Northern Long-Eared Bat.</p> <p>A letter requesting informal consultation was sent to USFWS on October 27, 2015. USFWS, in a response letter dated November 9, 2015, determined that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the NLEB. (See Appendix B). Any mature tree removal must occur in the winter months when the NLEB is hibernating (between November 1 and March 31).</p>
<p><b>Explosive and Flammable Hazards</b></p> <p>24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This criterion is applicable to HUD-assisted projects that involve new residential construction, conversion of non-residential buildings to residential use, rehabilitation of residential properties that increase the number of units, or restoration of abandoned properties to habitable condition. As the Proposed Project is limited to the construction of a non-residential 5,400 square foot rescue facility the criterion does not apply.</p>
<p><b>Farmlands Protection</b></p> <p>Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The Proposed Project is not located in any Agricultural District. It would not cause disturbance to Prime, Unique, or Statewide Important Farmland and would not involve the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not violate the Farmland Protection Policy Act.</p> <p><a href="http://www.agriculture.ny.gov/ap/agservices/agricultural-districts.html">http://www.agriculture.ny.gov/ap/agservices/agricultural-districts.html</a></p>
<p><b>Floodplain Management</b></p> <p>Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The Project Site is not located within a Special Flood Hazard Area, and is outside both the 100-year and 500-year floodplain based on the review of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) (Panel 0094E). Therefore, the Proposed Project would not have any impacts on flood</p>

		<p>management. (See Figure 6)  <a href="https://msc.fema.gov/portal">https://msc.fema.gov/portal</a></p>
<p><b>Historic Preservation</b></p> <p>National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800; Tribal notification for new ground disturbance.</p>	<p>Yes    No  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>    <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>There are no historic properties on the Project Site as indicated by the National and State Registers of Historic Places. The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) was consulted and provided the opinion that there will be no historic properties affected by the Proposed Project. OPRHP further states that a Phase I archaeological survey is not necessary in advance of the Proposed Project due to the likelihood of prior soil disturbance within the Area of Potential Effect (APE.). (See letter from OPRHP dated September 10, 2015 in Appendix B).</p> <p>Tribal notification was also conducted. The St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, in a letter dated October 8, 2015, indicated a potential “Negative Effect” in regards to cultural resources due to the presence of four Pre-Contact Sites within 1 mile of the Proposed Project. The St. Regis Mohawk Tribe has requested archeological monitoring of all undisturbed soils that will be affected by the construction of the new firehouse. They further request to be immediately contacted in the event of an inadvertent discoveries of human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and cultural patrimony are made during the scope of this project. (See Appendix B)</p> <p><a href="http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/ny/schoharie/state.html">http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/ny/schoharie/state.html</a>  <a href="http://parks.ny.gov/shpo/online-tools/">http://parks.ny.gov/shpo/online-tools/</a></p>
<p><b>Noise Abatement and Control</b></p> <p>Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B</p>	<p>Yes    No  <input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The Proposed Projects include the construction of a new 5,400 square foot rescue facility (firehouse building), drainage swale, and catch basin; demolition of two truck bays; modification of the village hall; and repairs to the driveway including the addition of asphalt. The Proposed Project will cause temporary increases in noise levels during construction that will be mitigated by complying with local noise ordinances. Therefore, the project would not generate any significant adverse noise</p>

		impacts.
<p><b>Sole Source Aquifers</b></p> <p>Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Not applicable. There are no sole source aquifers in Schoharie County. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not impact any sole source aquifers.</p> <p><a href="http://www.epa.gov/region02/water/aquifer/">http://www.epa.gov/region02/water/aquifer/</a></p>
<p><b>Wetlands Protection</b></p> <p>Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The Proposed Project is greater than 300 feet from a tidal wetland and greater than 100 feet from a freshwater wetland. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not violate Executive Order 11990. (See Figures 7 and 8)</p> <p><a href="http://www.dec.ny.gov/imsmaps/ERM/viewer.htm">http://www.dec.ny.gov/imsmaps/ERM/viewer.htm</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/80921.html">http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/80921.html</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/4940.html">http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/4940.html</a></p>
<p><b>Wild and Scenic Rivers</b></p> <p>Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Not applicable. There are no Wild and Scenic Rivers within Schoharie County, as designated by the U.S. Department of the Interior. There are no National Wild and Scenic Rivers System in Schoharie County as designated by the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The project is not located along a Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers as determined by the NYSDEC. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not violate the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.</p> <p><a href="http://www.nps.gov/nrcr/programs/rtca/nri/states/ny.html">http://www.nps.gov/nrcr/programs/rtca/nri/states/ny.html</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.rivers.gov/new-york.php">http://www.rivers.gov/new-york.php</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/32739.html">http://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/32739.html</a></p>
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE</b>		
<p><b>Environmental Justice</b></p> <p>Executive Order 12898</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The Proposed Project is not located in or adjacent to potential environmental justice areas as indicated by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. The Proposed Project would have no significant adverse environmental justice impacts on the surrounding community.</p> <p><a href="http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/perm">http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/perm</a></p>

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**Environmental Assessment Factors** [24 CFR 58.40; Ref. 40 CFR 1508.8 &1508.27] Recorded below is the qualitative and quantitative significance of the effects of the proposal on the character, features and resources of the project area. Each factor has been evaluated and documented, as appropriate and in proportion to its relevance to the Proposed Project. Verifiable source documentation has been provided and described in support of each determination, as appropriate. Credible, traceable and supportive source documentation for each authority has been provided. Where applicable, the necessary reviews or consultations have been completed and applicable permits or approvals have been obtained or noted. Citations, dates/names/titles of contacts, and page references are clear. Additional documentation is attached, as appropriate. **All conditions, attenuation or mitigation measures have been clearly identified.**

**Impact Codes:** Use an impact code from the following list to make the determination of impact for each factor.

- (1) Minor beneficial impact
- (2) No impact anticipated
- (3) Minor Adverse Impact – May require mitigation
- (4) Significant or potentially significant impact requiring avoidance or modification which may require an Environmental Impact Statement

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>LAND DEVELOPMENT</b>		
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	2	<p>The Proposed Project is consistent with existing zoning regulations, land use types, building height and scale. The project would maintain current land use and would therefore be compatible with existing land use. The Project Site would continue to be zoned "Public".</p> <p>The Proposed Project would also conform to Goal #5 in the Village of Esperance Comprehensive Plan of "continuing to support the Esperance Volunteer Fire Department by maintaining firefighting equipment".</p> <p>The Proposed Project would not result in the creation of new jobs and/or an increase in the number of employees and would therefore not have an urbanizing effect.</p>
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	2	<p>The proposed site was previously developed; unsuitable soils are not anticipated.</p> <p>According to the Village of Esperance Comprehensive Plan, the entire village is flat with 0 to 12% slopes. The proposed activities would not change the slope of the existing site.</p> <p>During construction, best management practices would be used to avoid soil erosion and existing drain inlets would be protected</p>

		<p>from debris, soil and sedimentation. Vegetation would not need to be cleared for the construction of the proposed firehouse.</p> <p>Although in-ground disturbance will occur for the new 5,400 square foot facility, any soil impacts during construction would be considered negligible. Any stormwater runoff would be directed to the existing village storm sewer via new storm drains and a new catch basin on the property.</p>
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	2	<p>The Proposed Project includes the demolition of two truck bays. Impacts such as sidewalk closures and fugitive dust would be addressed under existing regulations governing construction activity in New York State, Schoharie County, and local municipalities.</p> <p>The Proposed Project would only temporarily increase noise levels at nearby residences during construction. These increases would be mitigated by implementing the Construction Impacts Conditions for Approval, including outfitting of equipment with mufflers, and compliance with local noise ordinances including time-of-day work limitations. These temporary renovations and rebuilding activities would not result in any significant increase in ambient noise levels.</p>
Energy Consumption	2	<p>The Project Site is adequately serviced with existing utilities. The Proposed Project would utilize energy consumption, including the use of fossil fuels, for use of construction equipment and the shipment of materials required for repair and reconstruction activities. However, the Proposed Project would not increase long-term energy consumption.</p> <p>In addition, the new Firehouse Rescue Facility will be built using green practices wherever practical. This may lead to incorporation of energy efficient building materials and practices and a more energy-efficient facility.</p>

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>SOCIOECONOMIC</b>		
Employment and Income Patterns	2	<p>The Proposed Project would create temporary construction jobs. However, these jobs would not significantly increase employment opportunities or impact income patterns as construction duration is expected to be 12 months. The Proposed Project would not result in the creation of new permanent jobs and/or result in an increase in the number of employees at the existing Village of Esperance Firehouse Rescue Facility and therefore would not impact employment and income</p>

		patterns.
Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	2	<p>The Proposed Project would not result in the creation of new jobs and/or result in an increase in the number of employees at the Village of Esperance Firehouse and therefore would not alter the demographic characteristics of the surrounding community.</p> <p>The Proposed Project would not directly or indirectly displace people, businesses, institutions, or community facilities as it would occur within an existing developed site owned by Schoharie County.</p>

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES</b>		
Educational and Cultural Facilities	3	<p>The Proposed Project would not result in the creation of new jobs and/or result in an increase in the number of employees at the Village of Esperance Firehouse and therefore would not increase demand on educational facilities.</p> <p>The St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, in a letter dated October 8, 2015, indicated a potential “Negative Effect” in regards to cultural resources due to the presence of four Pre-Contact Sites within 1 mile of the Proposed Project. The St. Regis Mohawk Tribe has requested archeological monitoring of all undisturbed soils that will be affected by the construction of the new firehouse. They further request to be immediately contacted in the event of an inadvertent discoveries of human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and cultural patrimony are made during the scope of this project. (See Appendix B)</p>
Commercial Facilities	2	The Proposed Project would not result in the creation of new jobs and/or result in an increase in the number of employees at the Village of Esperance Firehouse and therefore would not increase demand on commercial facilities.
Health Care and Social Services	2	The Proposed Project would not result in the creation of new jobs and/or result in an increase in the number of employees at the Village of Esperance Firehouse and therefore would not increase demand on health and social services.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	2	Construction of the proposed building would result in the generation of waste, primarily paved asphalt, soil and packed gravel. The amount of solid waste generated from construction and demolition would not significantly increase short-term generation of municipal solid waste as the total acreage would be 0.73 acres. All waste would be hauled off-site by the selected contractor and would be handled in accordance with the State’s

		solid and hazardous waste rules.
Waste Water / Sanitary Sewers	2	The Village of Esperance does not have a municipal water or sewer system. The existing facility is served by a septic system located on the site. There is adequate capacity within this system to accommodate wastewater that would be generated once the building is operational.
Water Supply	2	The Proposed Project would not increase in the number of employees at the Village of Esperance Firehouse and therefore would not increase demand on the water supply.  The Project Site is served by an on-site well. The capacity of the existing system is adequate to serve the Proposed Project.
Public Safety - Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	1	The Proposed Project would not result in the creation of new jobs and/or result in an increase in the number of employees at the Village of Esperance Firehouse and therefore would not increase demand for police protection, fire protection, or emergency medical services. The proposed building and propane fueled generator would be constructed and installed in compliance with local building and fire codes. All extraneous oil, fuel, and diesel storage tanks would be removed from the property, resulting in a decrease in the potential fire hazards on the site.  The project is expected to increase the efficiency of the existing fire service response which is expected to have a beneficial impact on public safety.
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	The Proposed Project of constructing a new firehouse rescue facility at the existing firehouse rescue facility site would not impact open space or recreation.
Transportation and Accessibility	2	The Proposed Project would not impact transportation. There would be a negligible increase in construction traffic.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>NATURAL FEATURES</b>		
Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	2	The NYSDEC lists the Wright Karst Area as a Critical Environmental Area (CEA). There are no known Critical Environmental Areas within the Village of Esperance or within the vicinity of the Project Site.  NYSDEC designates Howe Cave Quarry, Howe Caverns, Manorkill Falls, McFail's Cave Nature Preserve, and Inside McFail's Cave as Unique Geological Features within Schoharie County. None of

		these are located within the vicinity of the Project Site. There are no Sole Source Aquifers in Schoharie County. The Proposed Project would not pose a significant threat to groundwater or other surface water resources.
Vegetation, Wildlife	2	There is one proposed threatened or endangered species (Northern Long-Eared bat) known to occur in Schoharie County. The Project Site, which consists of further development on previously developed land, is not anticipated to include habitat for these species in its footprint. The Proposed Project is not expected to include the removal of mature trees that would provide roosting habitat for the Northern Long-Eared Bat. Should any removal of trees be required, to the extent feasible the tree removal would comply with the Northern Long-Eared Bat Interim 4(d) Rule by: (ii) Activity avoids cutting or destroying known, occupied roost trees during the pup season (June 1–July 31).  A letter requesting informal consultation was sent to USFWS on October 27, 2015. USFWS, in a response letter dated November 9, 2015, determined that the Proposed Project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the NLEB. (See Appendix B).
Other Factors	2	There are no other factors applicable to the Proposed Project.

**Additional Studies Performed:** N/A

**Field Inspection:** N/A

**List of Sources, Agencies and Persons Consulted** [40 CFR 1508.9(b)]:

**Sources:**

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

[http://www.faa.gov/airports/environmental/airport\\_noise/noise\\_exposure\\_maps/](http://www.faa.gov/airports/environmental/airport_noise/noise_exposure_maps/)

and [http://www.faa.gov/airports/runway\\_safety/diagrams/](http://www.faa.gov/airports/runway_safety/diagrams/)

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). FEMA preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map (pFIRM) Panel 0094E and 0177E <http://msc.fema.gov/portal/search>

National Register of Historic Places – Schoharie County, NY.

<http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/ny/schoharie/state.html>

New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets.

<http://www.agriculture.ny.gov/ap/agservices/agricultural-districts.html>

New York State Department of State (NYSDOS). Coastal Boundary Map:

<http://www.dos.ny.gov/opd/atlas/>

NYSDEC Environmental Assessment Mapper. <http://www.dec.ny.gov/eafmapper>

NYSDEC Environmental Resource Mapper. <http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/38801.html>

NYSDEC. Potential Environmental Justice Areas : <http://www.dec.ny.gov/public/899.html>

NYSDEC Wetland Amendments Underway: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/80921.html> and [http://appext20.dos.ny.gov/coastal\\_map\\_public/map.aspx](http://appext20.dos.ny.gov/coastal_map_public/map.aspx)

NYSDEC. Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers. <http://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/32739.html>

NYSDEC. Local Waterfront Revitalization Program. Coastal Waterbodies and Inland Waterways. [http://www.dos.ny.gov/opd/programs/pdfs/Waterways\\_List\\_08-14.pdf](http://www.dos.ny.gov/opd/programs/pdfs/Waterways_List_08-14.pdf)

NYSDEC Environmental Remediation Databases. <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8437.html> and <http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/external/index.cfm?pageid=1>

United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Community Planning and Development. Tribal Directory Assessment Tool (TDAT) V2.0. <http://egis.hud.gov/tdat/Tribal.aspx>

United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) IPaC, accessed March 26, 2015:  
<http://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/>

U.S. Department of Agriculture. Natural Resources Conservation Service. Web Soil Survey. <http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>

U.S. Department of the Interior – National Park Service - National Rivers Inventory:  
<http://www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/rtca/nri/states/ny.html>

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Greenbook.  
<http://www.epa.gov/oaqps001/greenbk/index.html>

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Greenbook – Federal Register Notices.  
<http://www.epa.gov/oaqps001/greenbk/adden.html>

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) NEPAssist.  
<http://nepassisttool.epa.gov/nepassist/entry.aspx>

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Radon Program:  
<http://www.epa.gov/radon/states/newyork.html>

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 2. Sole Source Aquifers.  
<http://www.epa.gov/region02/water/aquifer/>

USFWS John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Island Resources System map:  
<http://www.fws.gov/cbra/Maps/index.html>

USFWS - Threatened and Endangered Species – Schoharie, NY.  
[http://ecos.fws.gov/tess\\_public/countySearch!speciesByCountyReport.action?fips=36059](http://ecos.fws.gov/tess_public/countySearch!speciesByCountyReport.action?fips=36059)

USFWS, Wetlands Online Mapper, National Wetlands Inventory Map.  
<http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Mapper.html>

State Register of Historic Places: Cultural Resources Information Systems (CRIS).  
<http://parks.ny.gov/shpo/online-tools/>

Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, Sections 3 and 5 (16 USC 1274 and 1276).  
<http://www.rivers.gov/rivers/delaware-upper.php>

***Agencies and Persons:***

Larry K Moss, Historic Preservation Technical Specialist, New York State Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation, letter dated September 10, 2015.

Arnold Printup, Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe, Tribal Historic Preservation Office, letter dated October 8, 2015.

David A. Stillwell, Field Supervisor, United States Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service, letter dated November 9, 2015.

**List of Appendices**

- Appendix A Figures
- Appendix B Correspondence
- Appendix C SEQR Documentation

**List of Permits Obtained or Required:**

Town of Esperance Building Permit

**Public Outreach [24 CFR 50.23 & 58.43]:**

On February 10, 2016 a combined Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds (NOIRROF) was published in the Times Journal – The News of Schoharie County. Any individual, group or agency may submit written comments on the Environmental Review Record. Comments should be submitted via email, in the proper format, on or before February 25, 2016 at [NYSCDBG\\_DR\\_ER@nyshcr.org](mailto:NYSCDBG_DR_ER@nyshcr.org). Written comments may also be submitted at the following address, or by mail, in the proper format, to be received on or before February 25, 2016:

Thomas J. King, Certifying Officer

NYS Homes and Community Renewal  
99 Washington Avenue, Suite 1224  
Albany, New York 12260

Comments may be received by telephone at (518) 473-0015. All comments must be received on or before 5pm on February 25, 2016 or they will not be considered.

**Cumulative Impact Analysis [24 CFR 58.32]:**

The Town of Esperance is currently implementing two other community reconstruction projects, (1) the renovation of the existing Town of Esperance Town Hall, located at 104 Charleston Street in the Village of Esperance, to include flood proofing measures (including elevating utilities currently located in the basement) and expand the facility by 780 square feet; and (2) the construction of an approximately 900 square foot "Auxiliary Municipal Building" on the site of the existing transfer station on Route 30A to serve as a secondary location for services and storage of archives and records. These projects, along with the Proposed Project, are intended to improve the community's emergency response capabilities. The Proposed Project is not anticipated to result in cumulative impacts, including adverse impacts to natural resources, socioeconomic resources, human health, recreation, community facilities, and cultural and historic resources. The scale of the Proposed Project, Town Hall improvements, and Auxiliary Town Hall building are not large enough to contribute significantly to cumulative impacts. As such, no significant adverse cumulative impacts from these improvements are anticipated.

**Alternatives [24 CFR 58.40(e); 40 CFR 1508.9]**

The Town of Esperance considered other design alternatives and location. However, the Proposed Project, which would retain the existing firehouse site near the center of Town, is the most viable and reasonable alternative.

***Proposed Project***

As described in this EA, the Proposed Project comprises the construction of a new 5,400 square foot rescue facility (firehouse building), drainage swale, and catch basin; demolition of two truck bays; modification of the Esperance Village Hall; and repairs to the driveway including the addition of asphalt at 115 Church Street, Esperance, NY. The rescue facility (firehouse building) will be a pole barn built on the same property as the existing Village of Esperance Firehouse/Village Hall and would include: an area for staging equipment and assembling flood pumps; a sufficiently sized area for the firefighters to change; a storage area; a radio room; and office space. The proposed pole barn will be built in addition to (and adjacent to) the existing Firehouse/Village Hall. Office space within the existing Village Hall will be reconfigured to provide better access to the public. The remaining structure will be available for use as an emergency shelter for first responders and storage facility for emergency supplies. The project would include the installation of a propane generator at the existing firehouse, which will serve both the existing and proposed facilities.

The Village needs a new firehouse large enough to accommodate contemporary fire trucks, equipment and personnel. The current firehouse is too narrow to accommodate modern fire trucks which are larger than the size of the existing truck bays. Inadequate bay space, staging and changing areas, and command space lengthens response time due to difficulty getting trucks, personnel and equipment in

and out of the firehouse. In addition, larger work spaces would help to minimize the risk of injury to department volunteers working with equipment in cramped spaces.

### ***Alternative Sites Analysis***

Other properties in Esperance would not be suitable for development because they are:

- Not owned by the Village or Town of Esperance
- Too distant from the existing population center of the Village of Esperance.

### ***No Action Alternative [24 CFR 58.40(e)]:***

Without the Proposed Project, the Project Site would remain in its current condition. Under the No-Action alternative, the existing firehouse would remain inadequate to accommodate contemporary fire trucks, equipment and personnel to facilitate efficiency of response. The current firehouse is too old to accommodate modern fire trucks which are larger than the size of the existing truck bays. These inadequacies lengthen response time due to difficulty getting trucks in and out of the firehouse.

### **Summary of Findings and Conclusions:**

The Village needs a new firehouse large enough to accommodate contemporary fire trucks, equipment and personnel in order to facilitate a timely response. The current firehouse is too small to accommodate modern fire trucks which are larger than the size of the existing truck bays. These inadequacies lengthen response time due to difficulty getting trucks in and out of the firehouse. In addition, larger work spaces would help to minimize the risk of injury to department volunteers working with equipment in cramped spaces.

Although the Firehouse Rescue Facility is not located in the 500-year floodplain, the Village of Esperance as a whole was particularly impacted by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee that caused the Schoharie Creek to overtop its banks, flooding roads, houses and business within the Village. The experiences of the Village of Esperance residents and response personnel during these storms highlighted the need for a new modern firehouse that could enable a more effective response effort during future emergency events, thereby directly increasing the resiliency of the Village and Town. No adverse environmental impacts are anticipated.

The proposed Project would not result in a significant impact on the quality of the human environment or result in other direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts. The Project would comply with all relevant regulations listed in 24 CFR Part 58.

### **Mitigation Measures and Conditions [40 CFR 1505.2(c)]**

Summarize below all mitigation measures adopted by the Responsible Entity to reduce, avoid, or eliminate adverse environmental impacts and to avoid non-compliance or non-conformance with the above-listed authorities and factors. These measures/conditions must be incorporated into project contracts, development agreements, and other relevant documents. The staff responsible for implementing and monitoring mitigation measures should be clearly identified in the mitigation plan.

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure
<p><b>Clean Air</b></p> <p>Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) &amp; (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93</p>	<p>All Project activities would comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations regarding construction emissions, including but not limited to NYCRR, NYSDEC Air Quality Management Plan, and the New York SIP. All necessary measures would be used to minimize fugitive dust emissions during activities, such as demolition of existing structures. The preferred method for dust suppression is water sprinkling. To demonstrate compliance, the following specifications will be incorporated into the contract documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Idling Restriction.</i> In addition to adhering to the local law restricting unnecessary idling on roadways, on-site vehicle idle time will also be restricted to five minutes for all equipment and vehicles that are not using their engines to operate a loading, unloading, or processing device (e.g., concrete mixing trucks) or otherwise required for the proper operation of the engine.</li> <li>- <i>Utilization of Newer Equipment.</i> EPA's Tier 1 through 4 standards for nonroad engines regulates the emission of criteria pollutants from new engines, including PM, CO, NOx, and hydrocarbons (HC). All nonroad construction equipment with a power rating of 50 hp or greater would meet at least the Tier 2 emissions standard to the extent practicable.</li> <li>- <i>Best Available Tailpipe Reduction Technologies.</i> Non-road diesel engines with a power rating of 50 horsepower (hp) or greater and controlled truck fleets (i.e., truck fleets under long-term contract with the project) including but not limited to concrete mixing and pumping trucks would utilize the best available tailpipe (BAT) technology for reducing DPM emissions. Diesel particulate filters (DPFs) have been identified as being the tailpipe technology currently proven to have the highest reduction capability. Construction contracts would specify that all diesel nonroad engines rated at 50 hp or greater would utilize DPFs, either installed by the original equipment manufacturer (OEM) or retrofitted. Retrofitted DPFs must be verified by EPA or the California Air Resources Board (CARB). Active DPFs or other technologies proven to achieve an equivalent reduction may also be used.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Endangered Species</b></p> <p>Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402</p>	<p>There is one proposed threatened or endangered species (Northern Long-Eared bat) known to occur in Schoharie County. The Project Site, which consists of further development on previously developed land, is not anticipated to include habitat for these species in its footprint. The Proposed Project is not expected to include the removal of mature trees that would provide roosting habitat for the Northern Long-Eared Bat. Should any removal of trees be required, to the extent feasible the tree removal would comply with the Northern Long-Eared Bat Interim 4(d) Rule by: (ii) Activity avoids cutting or destroying known, occupied roost trees during the pup season (June 1–July 31).</p>

	<p>A letter requesting informal consultation was sent to USFWS on October 27, 2015. USFWS, in a response letter dated November 9, 2015, determined that the Proposed Project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the NLEB. (See Appendix B)</p>
<p><b>Historic Preservation</b> National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800; Tribal notification for new ground disturbance.</p>	<p>The St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, in a letter dated October 8, 2015, indicated a potential “Negative Effect” in regards to cultural resources due to the presence of four Pre-Contact Sites within 1 mile of the Proposed Project. The St. Regis Mohawk Tribe has requested archeological monitoring of all undisturbed soils that will be affected by the construction of the new firehouse. They further request to be immediately contacted in the event of an inadvertent discoveries of human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and cultural patrimony are made during the scope of this project. (See Appendix B)</p> <p>As such, a archaeological monitoring will be conducted during construction activities that involve new ground disturbance. Should excavation result in unanticipated discoveries, project work must immediately halt and GOSR, and SHPO and the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe must be notified before work may resume.</p>
<p>Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff</p>	<p>BMPs, such as silt fence and erosion prevention, would be used, if required by permits or agency discretion. State and local permitting requirements would incorporate BMPs to eliminate erosion impacts during construction.</p>
<p><b>Contamination and Toxic Substances</b> 24 CFR Part 50.3(i) &amp; 58.5(i)(2)</p>	<p>To ensure no adverse effects to human health and the environment, the subsurface disturbance associated with the proposed project will be conducted in accordance with a site-specific Soil Mitigation Plan (SMP). The SMP would specify procedures for identifying and managing any suspected or unforeseen contaminated soil and/or underground storage tanks (including procedures for stockpiling and off-site transportation and disposal), environmental regulatory agency notification and/or reporting, and appropriate health and safety procedures, including the need for dust suppression.</p> <p>All asbestos and lead abatement work shall be performed in accordance with all applicable Federal, State and Local rules and regulations. The abatement project shall be filed with all agencies having jurisdiction over this project, such as USEPA and NYSDOL. A NYS Dept. of Labor licensed inspector must survey any existing buildings or structures for the presence of Asbestos Containing Building Material (ACBM) prior to demolition. If ACBM's are identified, they must be handled in accordance with NYSDOL and USEPA</p>
<p><b>Permit Requirements</b></p>	<p>All permit conditions listed above or otherwise required for activities under the proposed project must be adhered to.</p>

Any change to the approved scope of work will require re-evaluation by the Certifying Officer for compliance with NEPA and other laws and Executive Orders. This review does not address all federal, state and local requirements. Acceptance of federal funding requires recipient to comply with all federal state and local laws. Failure to obtain all appropriate federal, state and local environmental permits and clearances may jeopardize federal funding.

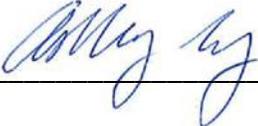
**Determination:**

**Finding of No Significant Impact** [24 CFR 58.40(g)(1); 40 CFR 1508.27]

The project will not result in a significant impact on the quality of the human environment.

**Finding of Significant Impact** [24 CFR 58.40(g)(2); 40 CFR 1508.27]

The project may significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

Preparer Signature:  Date: February 10, 2016

Name/Title/Organization: Ashley Ley, AICP, Technical Director, AKRF, Inc.

Certifying Officer Signature:  Date: February 10, 2016

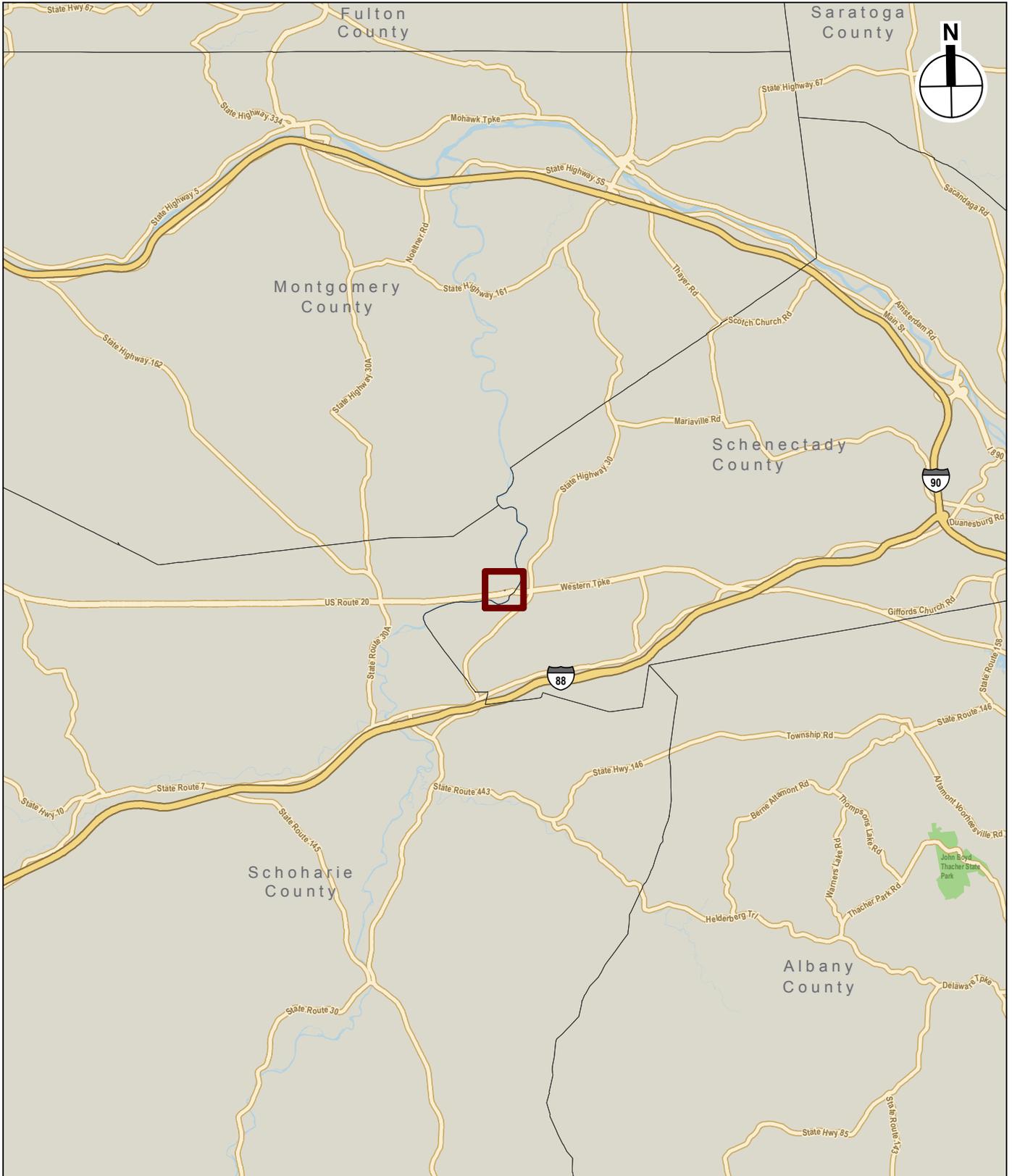
Name/Title: Thomas J. King, Assistant General Counsel and Certifying Officer

This original, signed document and related supporting material must be retained on file by the Responsible Entity in an Environmental Review Record (ERR) for the activity/project (ref: 24 CFR Part 58.38) and in accordance with recordkeeping requirements for the HUD program(s).

**Village of Esperance Firehouse Rescue Facility  
Environmental Assessment**

**Appendix A: Figures**

4/23/2015



 Project Location

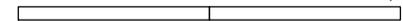
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11/18/2015



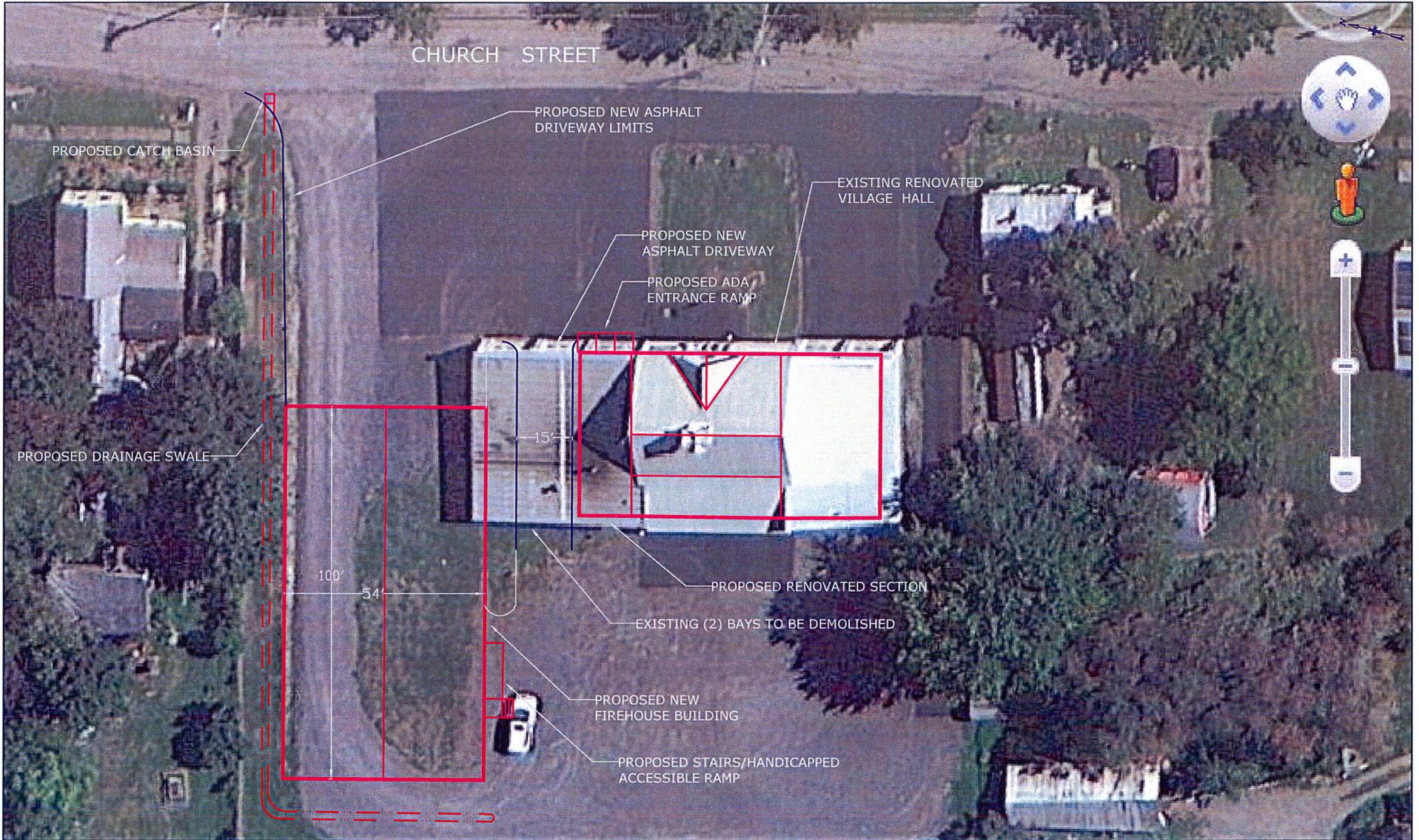
Aerial Source: USGS

 Project Site

0 1,000 FEET  


**ESPERANCE FIREHOUSE RESCUE FACILITY**

Project Site Map  
**Figure 2**



NO.	DATE	REVISION	BY
00	6/16/15	ORIGINAL ISSUE	JDT
01	7/01/15	REVISED ISSUE	JDT

M:\TEMPLATES\JMElogo\_Word.JPG

7 South Church Street Schenectady, New York 12305  
 Ph: 518 382 1774 Fax: 518 382 1776 www.mcdonaldengineers.com

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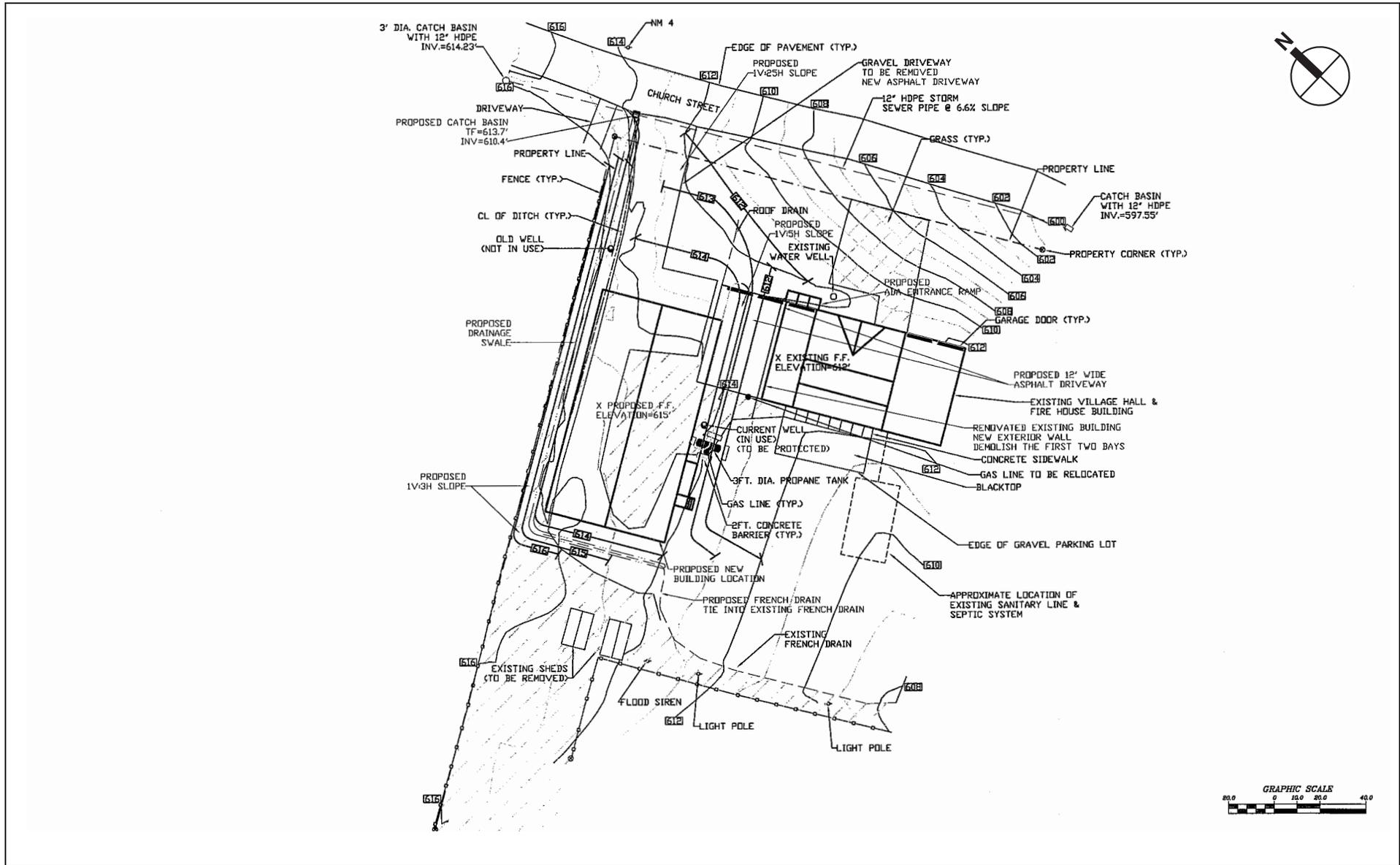
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 SCHOHARIE COUNTY, NY

VILLAGE OF ESPERANCE  
 FIRE DEPARTMENT

SHEET TITLE:  
 AERIAL SITE PLAN

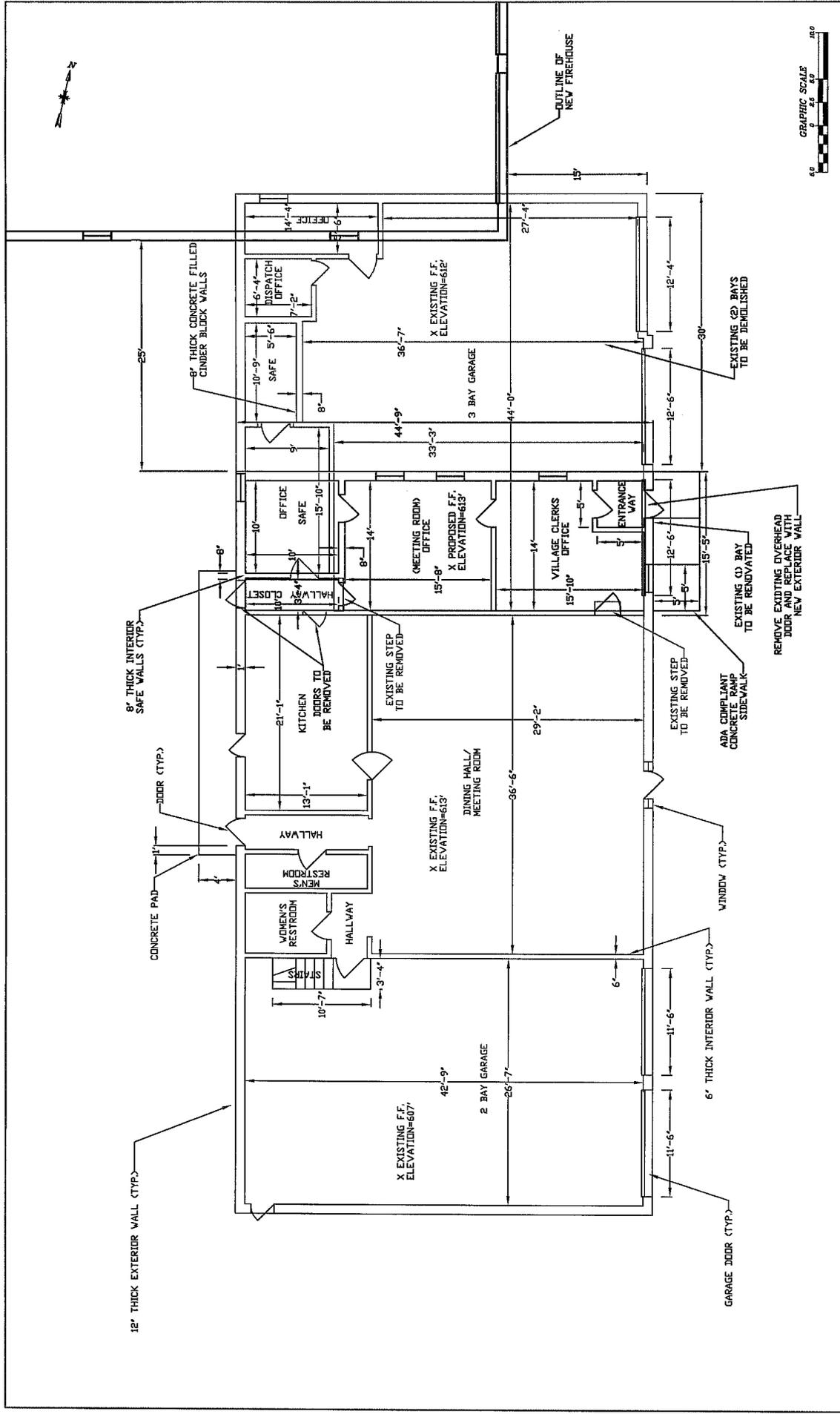
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FILE NO.: 111-1403-000	
DATE: JUNE 2015	



ESPERANCE FIREHOUSE RESCUE FACILITY

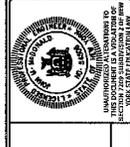
Site Plan  
Figure 3b





NO.	DATE	REVISION
01	2/10/15	ISSUED FOR PERMIT
02	9/11/15	REVISED ISSUE
03	11/20/15	REVISED ISSUE

**JME**  
**JOHN M. McDONALD**  
**ENGINEERING, P.C.**  
 7 South Church Street, Schenectady, New York 12305  
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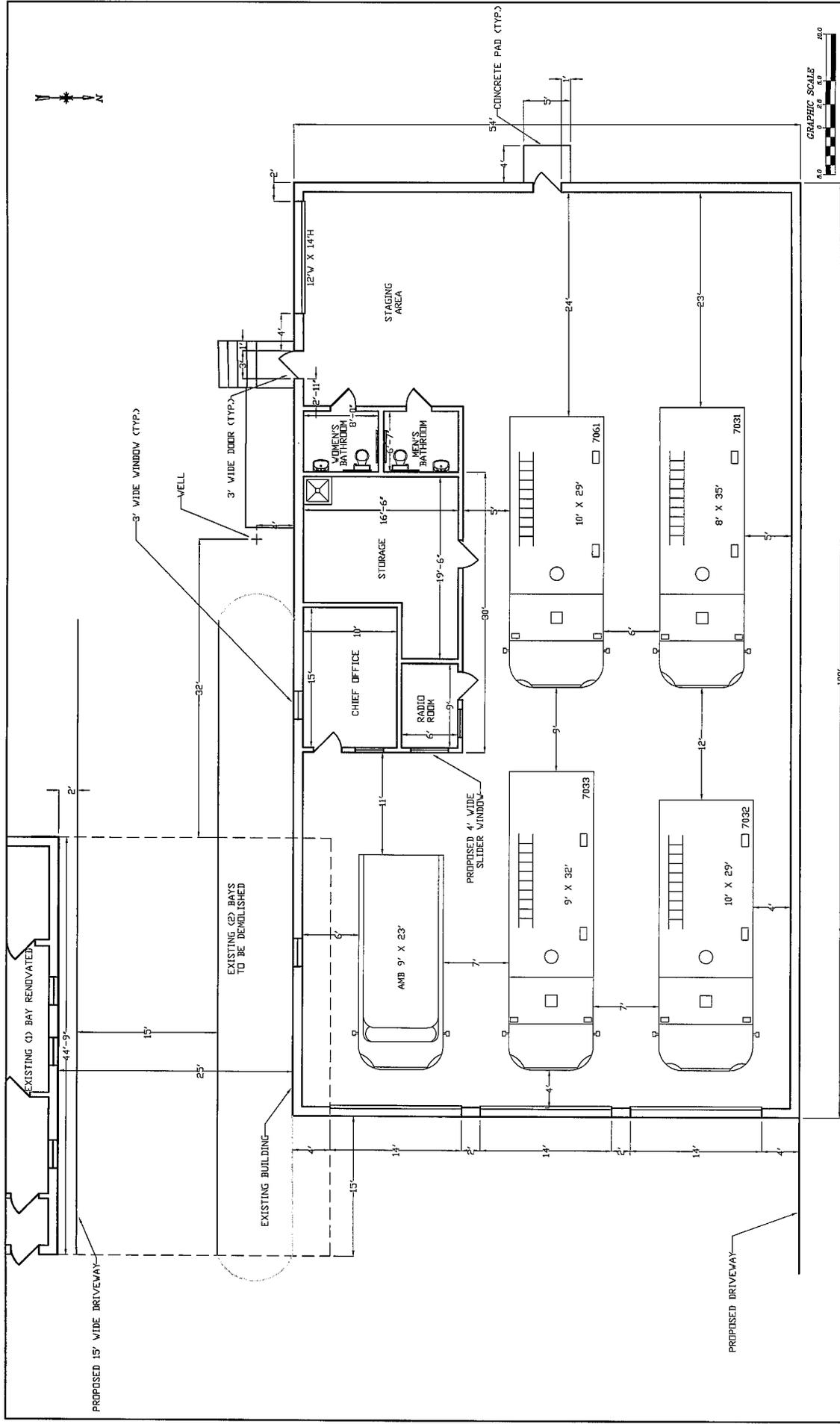
TOWN OF ESPERANCE  
 SCHENECTADY COUNTY, NY  
 VILLAGE OF ESPERANCE  
 FIRE DEPARTMENT

SHEET TITLE:  
**EXISTING BUILDING  
 RENOVATION PLAN**

SCALE: AS SHOWN  
 FILE NO.: 111-1403-020  
 DATE: JUNE 2015  
 SHEET NO.: **A2**

**Floor Plans**  
**Figure 4a**

**ESPERANCE FIREHOUSE RESCUE FACILITY**



NO.	DATE	REVISION	BY
01	6/12/15	CONCEPT ISSUE	JDT
02	7/6/15	REVISED ISSUE	JDT
03	8/31/15	REVISED ISSUE	JDT
04	9/11/15	REVISED ISSUE	JDT

**JME** JOHN M. McDONALD ENGINEERING, P.C.  
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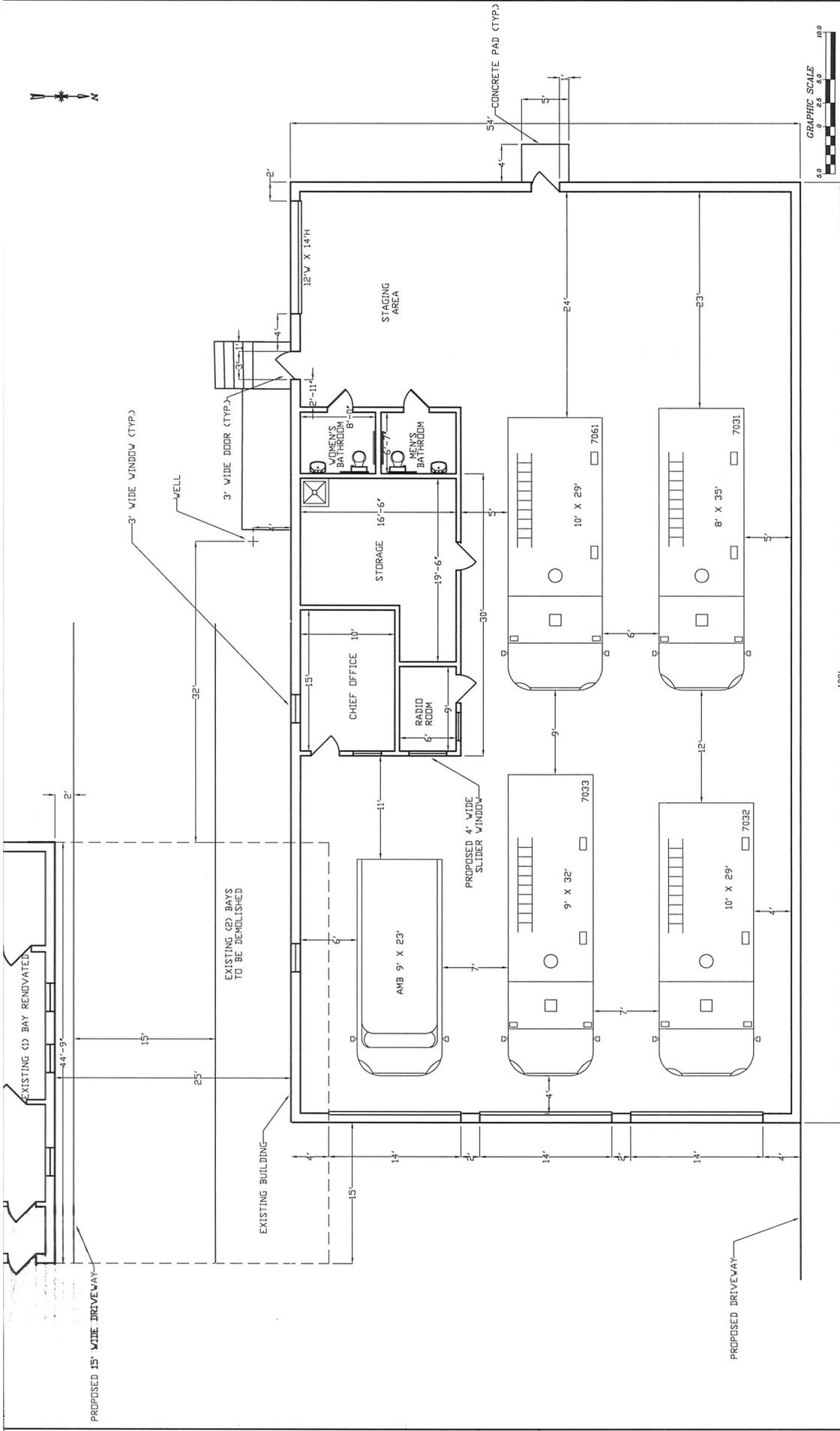
TOWN OF ESPERANCE  
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 VILLAGE OF ESPERANCE  
 FIRE DEPARTMENT

SHEET TITLE:  
 PROPOSED FLOOR PLAN

SCALE: AS SHOWN  
 FILE NO.: 111-1403-030  
 DATE: JUNE 2015

SHEET NO.: A3

2.3.16



NO.	DATE	REVISION	BY
00	6/11/15	ORIGINAL ISSUE	MLL
01	6/12/15	REVISED ISSUE	JDT
02	7/01/15	REVISED ISSUE	JDT
03	8/31/15	REVISED ISSUE	JDT
04	9/11/15	REVISED ISSUE	JDT

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TOWN OF ESPERANCE  
SCHOHARIE COUNTY, NY  
VILLAGE OF ESPERANCE  
FIRE DEPARTMENT

SHEET TITLE:  
PROPOSED  
FLOOR PLAN

SCALE: AS SHOWN  
FILE NO.: 111-1403-030  
DATE: JUNE 2015  
SHEET NO.: A3

Floor Plans  
Figure 4c

ESPERANCE FIREHOUSE RESCUE FACILITY



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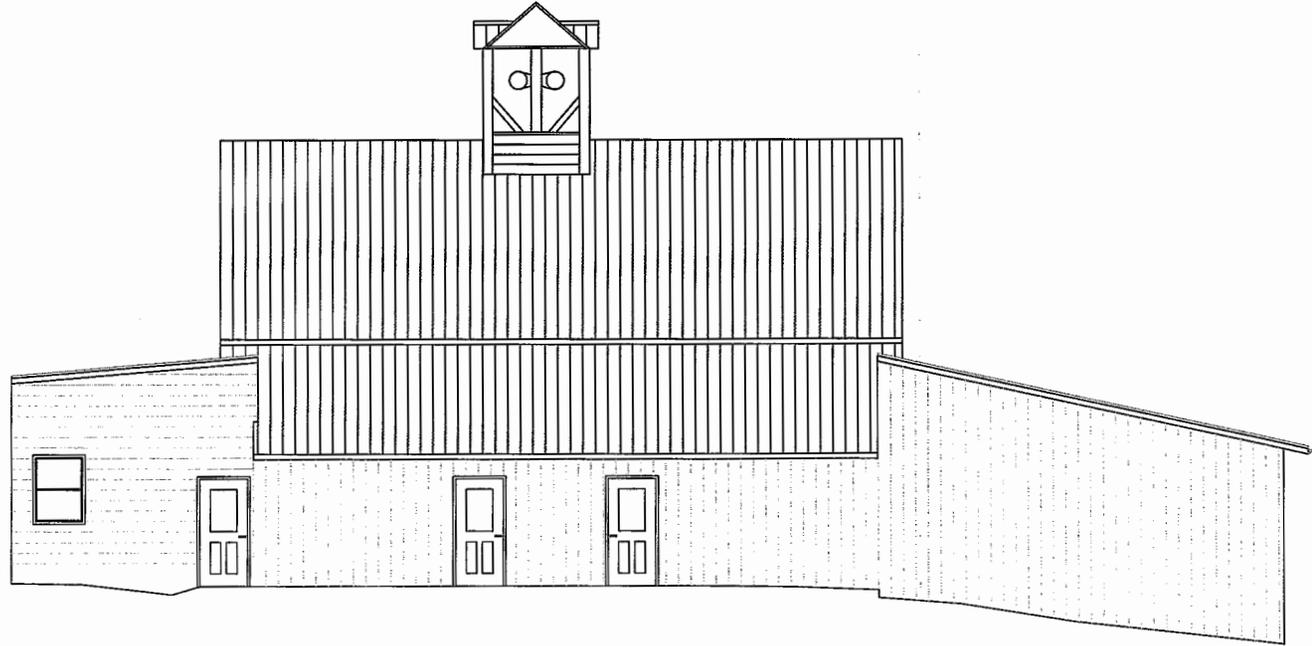
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VILLAGE OF ESPERANCE  
VILLAGE HALL/FIRE DEPARTMENT

SHEET TITLE:  
EAST ELEVATION VIEW

SCALE: AS SHOWN	SHEET NO.: <b>1A</b>
FILE NO.: 111-1403-001A	
DATE: NOVEMBER 2015	



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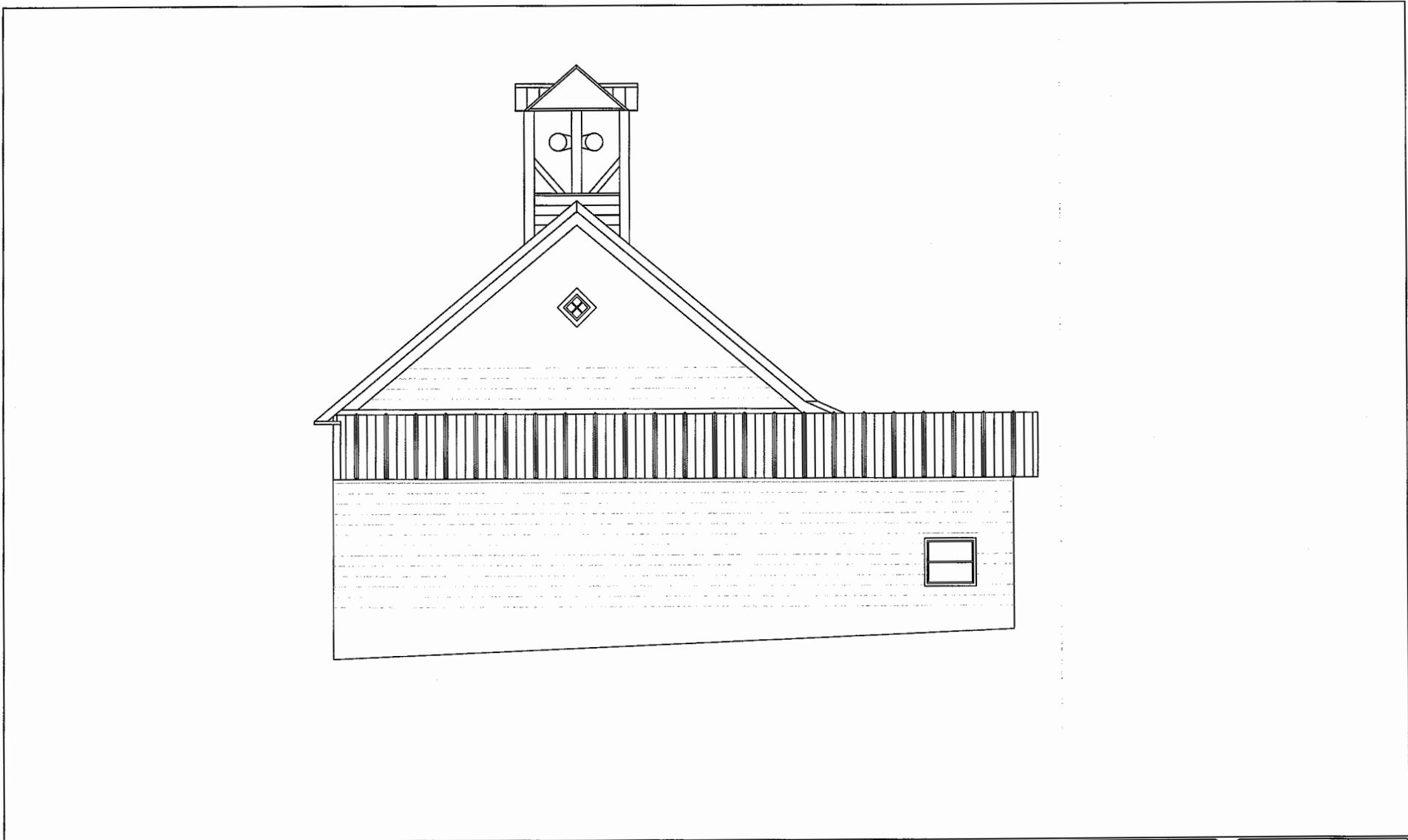
TOWN OF ESPERANCE  
SCHOHARIE COUNTY, NY

VILLAGE OF ESPERANCE  
VILLAGE HALL/FIRE DEPARTMENT

SHEET TITLE:

WEST ELEVATION VIEW

SCALE:	AS SHOWN	SHEET NO.:
FILE NO.:	111-1403-001B	
DATE:	NOVEMBER 2015	
		1B



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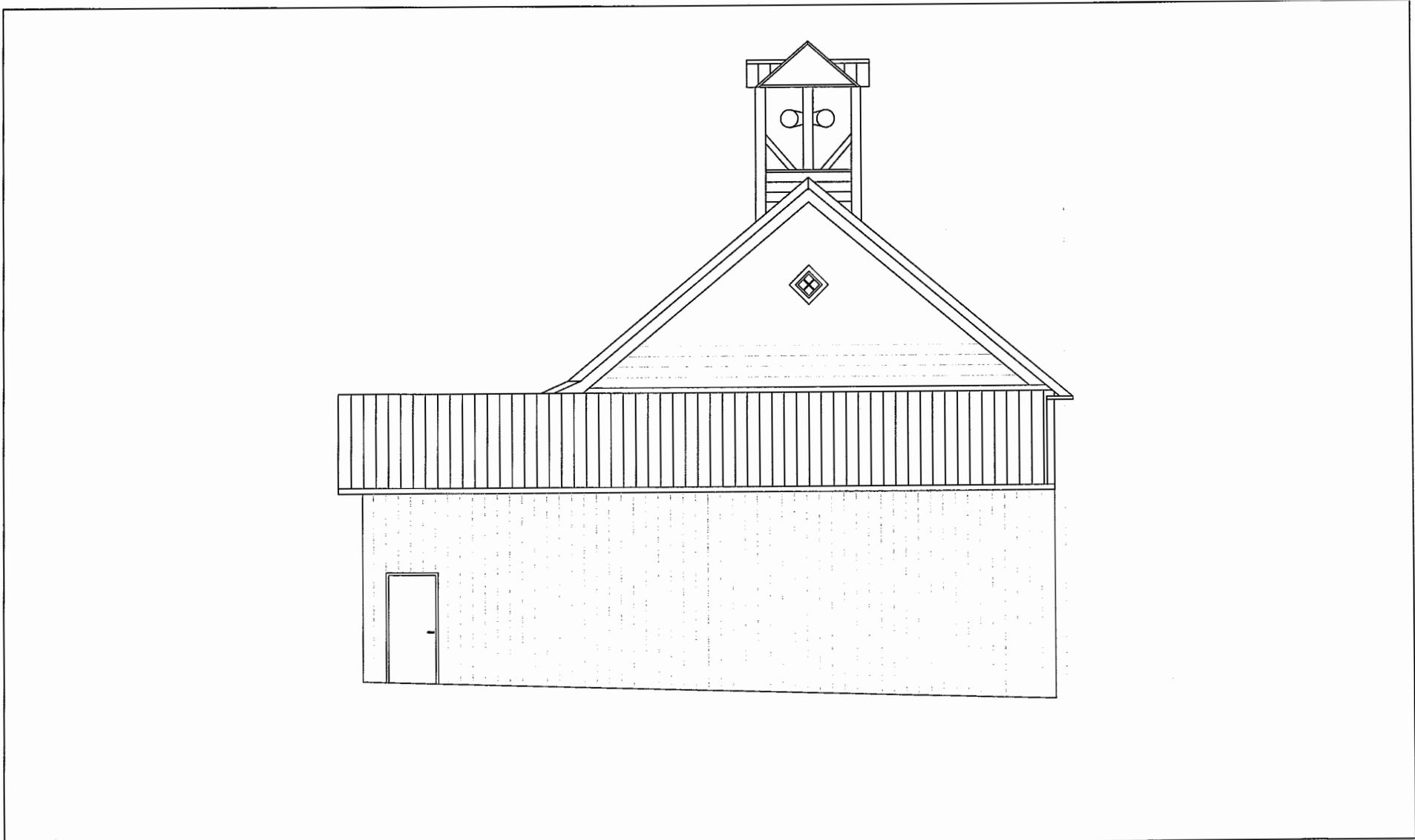
TOWN OF ESPERANCE  
SCHOHARIE COUNTY, NY

VILLAGE OF ESPERANCE  
VILLAGE HALL/FIRE DEPARTMENT

SHEET TITLE:

NORTH ELEVATION VIEW

SCALE:	AS SHOWN	SHEET NO.:
FILE NO.:	111-1403-001C	
DATE:	NOVEMBER 2015	
		1C



NO.	DATE	REVISION	BY
00	11/2015	ORIGINAL ISSUE	JDT

**JME** JOHN M. MCDONALD  
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SCHOHARIE COUNTY, NY

VILLAGE OF ESPERANCE  
VILLAGE HALL/FIRE DEPARTMENT

SHEET TITLE:  
SOUTH ELEVATION VIEW

SCALE: AS SHOWN	SHEET NO.: 1D
FILE NO.: 111-1403-001D	
DATE: NOVEMBER 2015	



EAST ELEVATION VIEW

NO.	DATE	REVISION	BY
00	11/2015	ORIGINAL ISSUE	JDT

**JME** JOHN M. MCDONALD ENGINEERING, P.C.

7 South Church Street, Schoenectady, New York 12305  
 Ph: 518 382 1774 Fax: 518 382 1776 www.mcdonaldengineers.com

PROJ. ENGR.: JDT DRAWN BY: JDT CHECKED BY: JMM

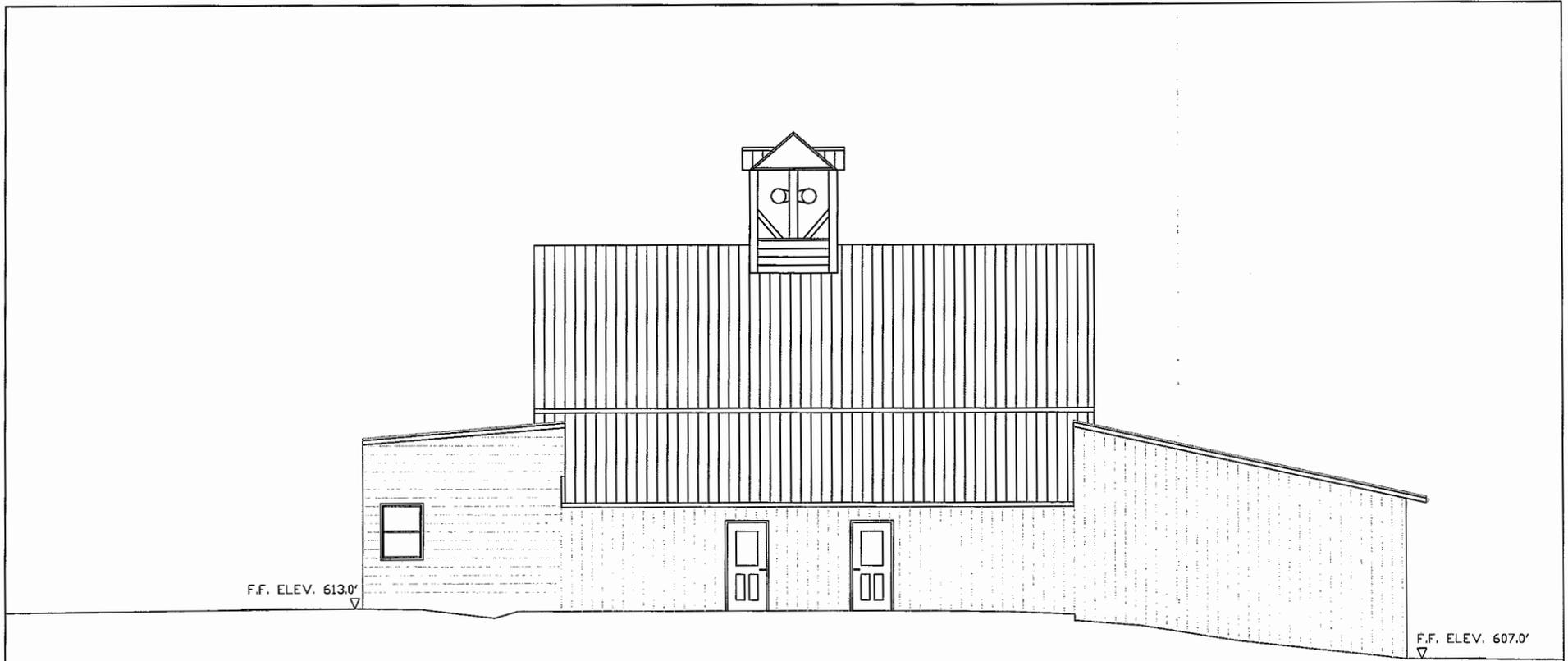
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TOWN OF ESPERANCE  
 SCHOHARIE COUNTY, NY

VILLAGE OF ESPERANCE  
 VILLAGE HALL/FIRE DEPARTMENT

SHEET TITLE:  
 EAST ELEVATION VIEW

SCALE: AS SHOWN	SHEET NO.: <b>1A</b>
FILE NO.: 111-1403-001A	
DATE: NOVEMBER 2015	



WEST ELEVATION VIEW

NO.	DATE	REVISION	BY
00	11/2015	ORIGINAL ISSUE	JDT

**JOHN M. MCDONALD  
ENGINEERING, P.C.**

7 South Church Street, Schoharie, New York 12305  
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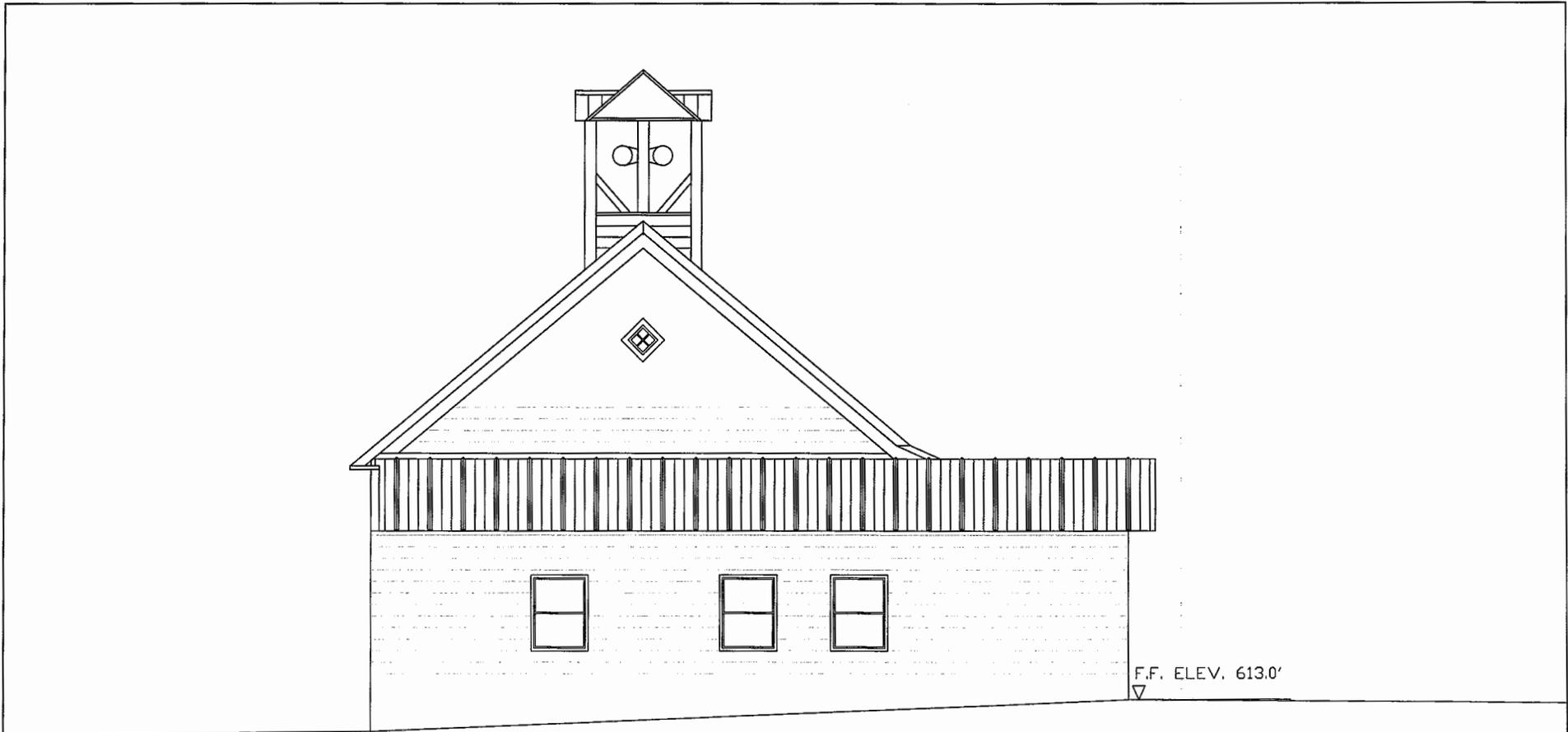
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SCHOHARIE COUNTY, NY

VILLAGE OF ESPERANCE  
VILLAGE HALL/FIRE DEPARTMENT

SHEET TITLE:

WEST ELEVATION VIEW

SCALE: AS SHOWN	SHEET NO.: <b>1B</b>
FILE NO.: 111-1403-001B	
DATE: NOVEMBER 2015	



NORTH ELEVATION VIEW

NO.	DATE	REVISION	BY
00	11/2015	ORIGINAL ISSUE	JDT

**JOHN M. MCDONALD  
ENGINEERING, P.C.**

7 South Church Street, Schenectady, New York 12305  
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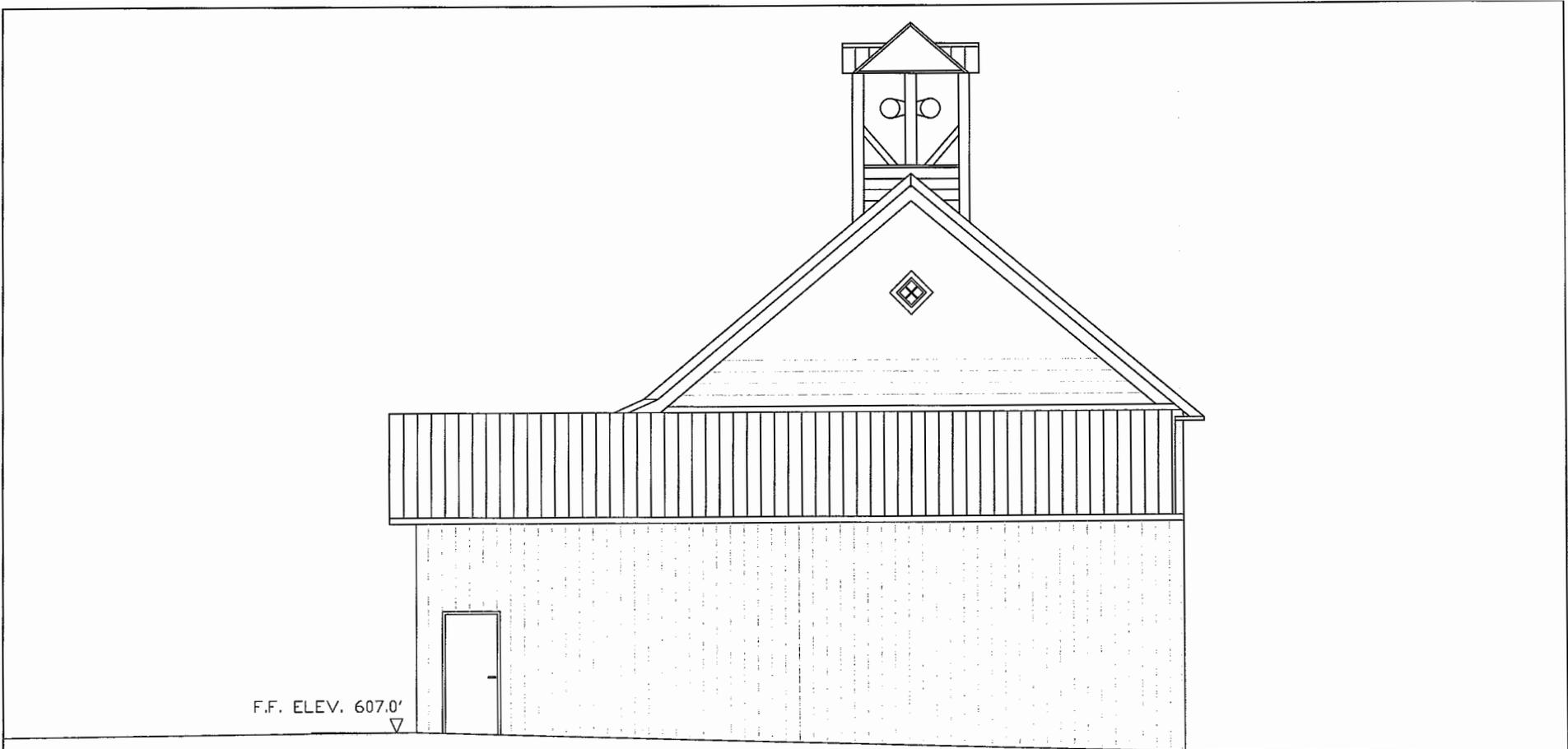
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TOWN OF ESPERANCE  
SCHOHARIE COUNTY, NY

VILLAGE OF ESPERANCE  
VILLAGE HALL/FIRE DEPARTMENT

SHEET TITLE:  
  
NORTH ELEVATION VIEW

SCALE: AS SHOWN	SHEET NO.:  1C
FILE NO.: 111-1403-001C	
DATE: NOVEMBER 2015	



SOUTH ELEVATION VIEW

NO.	DATE	REVISION	BY
00	11/2015	ORIGINAL ISSUE	JDT

**JME** JOHN M. MCDONALD  
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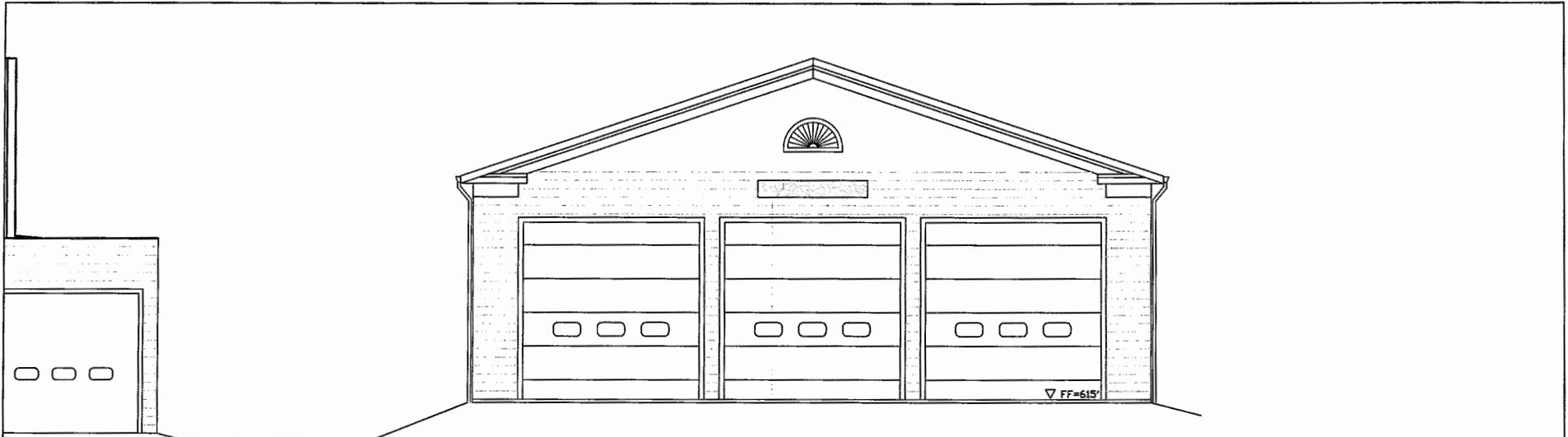
TOWN OF ESPERANCE  
SCHOMARIE COUNTY, NY

VILLAGE OF ESPERANCE  
VILLAGE HALL/FIRE DEPARTMENT

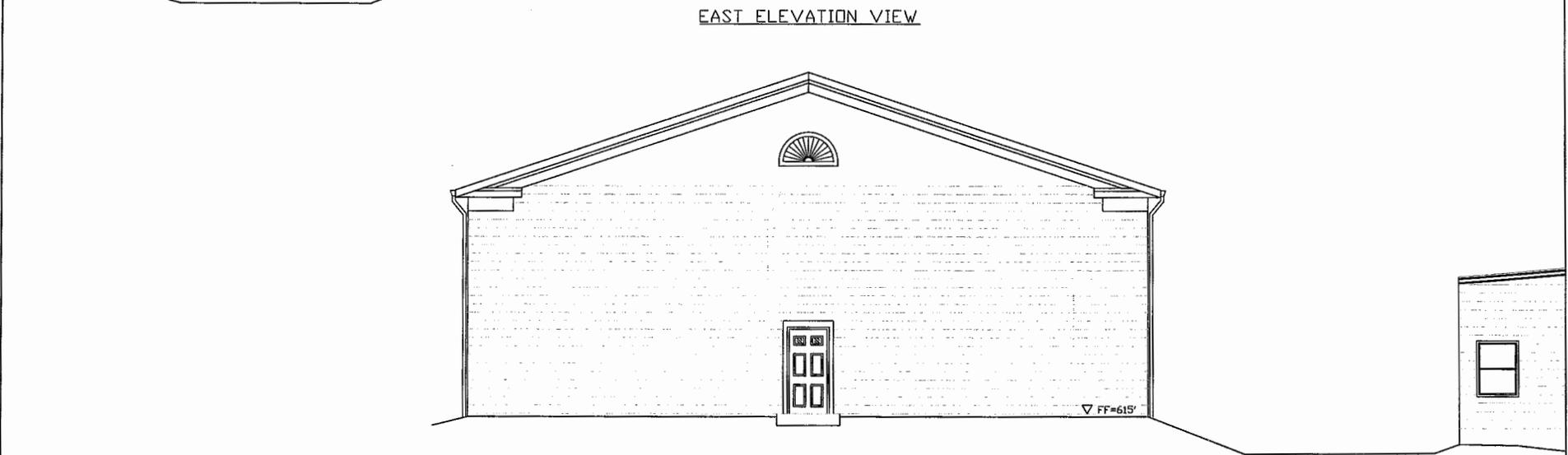
SHEET TITLE:

SOUTH ELEVATION VIEW

SCALE: AS SHOWN	SHEET NO.:  1D
FILE NO.: 111-1403-001D	
DATE: NOVEMBER 2015	



EAST ELEVATION VIEW



WEST ELEVATION VIEW

NO.	DATE	REVISION	BY
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New York Office  
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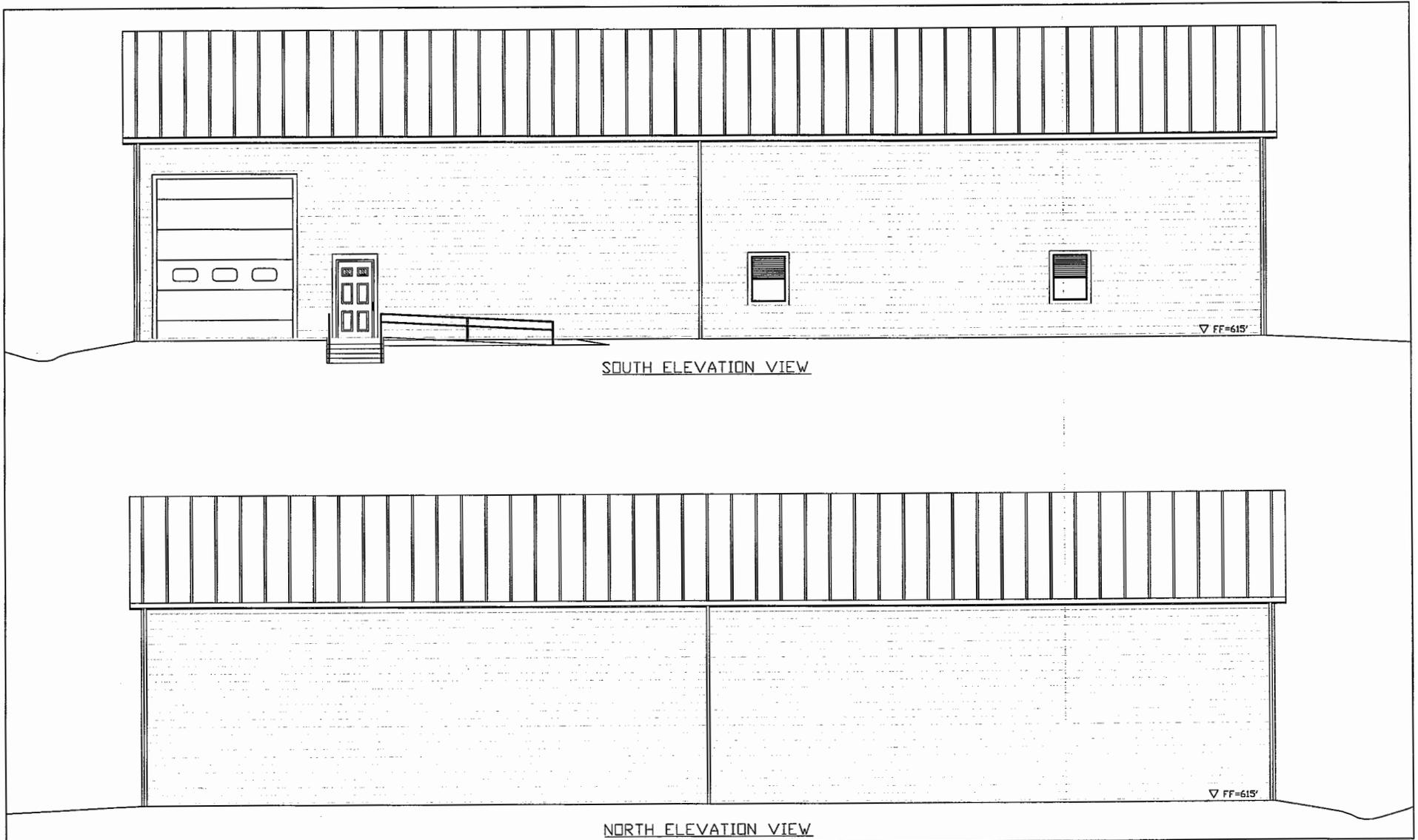
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TOWN OF ESPERANCE  
SCHOHARIE COUNTY

VILLAGE OF ESPERANCE FIREHOUSE  
CONTRACT NO. 1 - GENERAL CONSTRUCTION  
CONTRACT NO. 2 - ELECTRICAL WORK  
CONTRACT NO. 3 - PLUMBING WORK  
CONTRACT NO. 4 - HEATING WORK

SHEET TITLE:  
  
EAST & WEST ELEVATIONS

SCALE: AS SHOWN	SHEET NO.:  <b>A5</b>
FILE NO.: 111-1403-120	
DATE: NOVEMBER 2015	



SOUTH ELEVATION VIEW

NORTH ELEVATION VIEW

NO.	DATE	REVISION	BY
00	11/2015	ORIGINAL ISSUE	JDT

New York Office  
7 South Church Street Schenectady, New York 12305  
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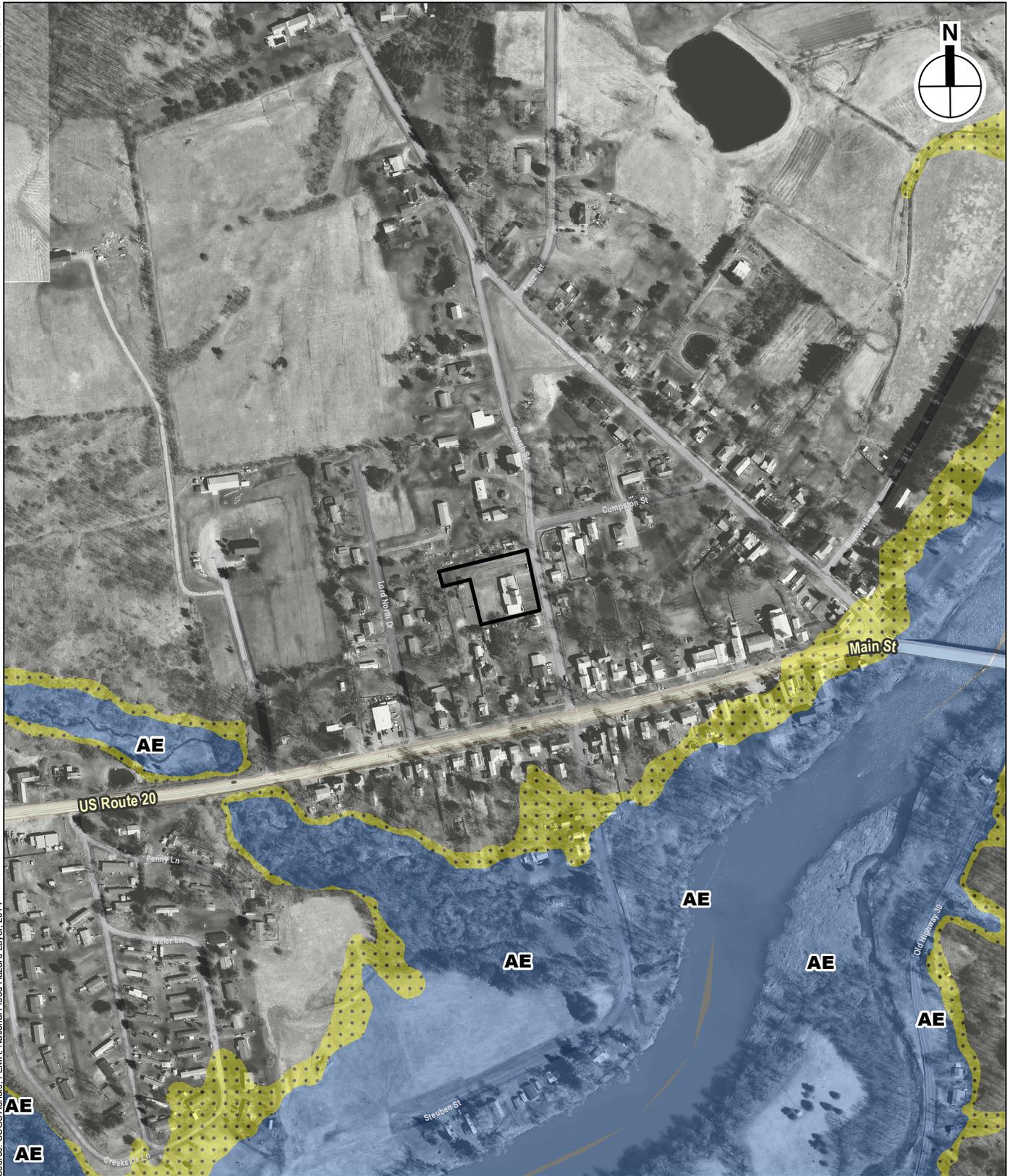
TOWN OF ESPERANCE  
SCHOHARIE COUNTY

VILLAGE OF ESPERANCE FIREHOUSE  
CONTRACT NO. 1 - GENERAL CONSTRUCTION  
CONTRACT NO. 2 - ELECTRICAL WORK  
CONTRACT NO. 3 - PLUMBING WORK  
CONTRACT NO. 4 - HEATING WORK

SHEET TITLE:  
**NORTH & SOUTH ELEVATIONS**

SCALE: AS SHOWN	SHEET NO.:
FILE NO.:	A6
111-1403-122	
DATE: NOVEMBER 2015	

2/3/2016



Source: USGS Aerials; FEMA, National Flood Hazard Layer, 2014

-  Project Site
-  100-Year Floodplain
-  500-Year Floodplain

0 1,000 FEET

**ESPERANCE FIREHOUSE RESCUE FACILITY**

FEMA Floodplain  
**Figure 6**

2/3/2016



Source: USGS Aerials; NWI Mapped Wetlands; USFWS, 2014

 Project Site

0 1,000 FEET  


**ESPERANCE FIREHOUSE RESCUE FACILITY**

NWI Wetlands  
**Figure 7**



Source: USGS Aerials; Etlands, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

 Project Site

0 1,000 FEET  


**Village of Esperance Firehouse Rescue Facility  
Environmental Assessment**

**Appendix B: Correspondence**

**NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**  
**Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources**  
**New York Natural Heritage Program**  
**625 Broadway, 5th Floor, Albany, New York 12233-4757**  
**Phone: (518) 402-8935 • Fax: (518) 402-8925**  
**Website: [www.dec.ny.gov](http://www.dec.ny.gov)**



December 10, 2015

Alicia Shultz  
New York State Homes & Community Renewal  
38-40 State Street, Hampton Plaza  
Albany, NY 12207

Re: Village of Esperance Firehouse Rescue Facility, 115 Church Street  
Town/City: Esperance. County: Schoharie.

Dear Alicia Shultz:

In response to your recent request, we have reviewed the New York Natural Heritage Program database with respect to the above project.

Enclosed is a report of rare or state-listed animals and plants, and significant natural communities that our database indicates occur, or may occur, on your site or in the immediate vicinity of your site.

For most sites, comprehensive field surveys have not been conducted; the enclosed report only includes records from our database. We cannot provide a definitive statement as to the presence or absence of all rare or state-listed species or significant natural communities. Depending on the nature of the project and the conditions at the project site, further information from on-site surveys or other sources may be required to fully assess impacts on biological resources.

Our database is 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.

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, as listed at [www.dec.ny.gov/about/39381.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/about/39381.html).

Sincerely,

Andrea Chaloux  
Environmental Review Specialist  
New York Natural Heritage Program



**The following state-listed animals have been documented in the vicinity of your project site.**

The following list includes animals that are listed by NYS as Endangered, Threatened, or Special Concern; and/or that are federally listed or are candidates for federal listing.

**For information about any permit considerations for your project, contact the Permits staff at the NYSDEC Region 4 Office. For information about potential impacts of your project on these species, and how to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any impacts, contact the Wildlife Manager.**

**A listing of Regional Offices is at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/about/558.html>.**

**The following species have been documented within 4 mi of the project site. Individual animals may travel 5 mi from documented locations. The main impact of concern for bats is the removal of potential roost trees.**

<i>COMMON NAME</i>	<i>SCIENTIFIC NAME</i>	<i>NY STATE LISTING</i>	<i>FEDERAL LISTING</i>	
<b>Mammals</b>				
<b>Northern Long-eared Bat</b> <i>Hibernaculum</i>	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Threatened	Threatened	14127

This report only includes records from the NY Natural Heritage database. For most sites, comprehensive field surveys have not been conducted, and we cannot provide a definitive statement as to the presence or absence of all rare or state-listed species. Depending on the nature of the project and the conditions at the project site, further information from on-site surveys or other sources may be required to fully assess impacts on biological resources.

If any rare plants or animals are documented during site visits, we request that information on the observations be provided to the New York Natural Heritage Program so that we may update our database.

Information about many of the listed animals in New York, including habitat, biology, identification, conservation, and management, are available online in Natural Heritage's Conservation Guides at [www.guides.nynhp.org](http://www.guides.nynhp.org), and from NYSDEC at [www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7494.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7494.html).



**The following rare plants, rare animals, and significant natural communities have been documented in the vicinity of your project site.**

We recommend that potential onsite and offsite impacts of the proposed project on these species or communities be addressed as part of any environmental assessment or review conducted as part of the planning, permitting and approval process, such as reviews conducted under SEQR. Field surveys of the project site may be necessary to determine the status of a species at the site, particularly for sites that are currently undeveloped and may still contain suitable habitat. Final requirements of the project to avoid, minimize, or mitigate potential impacts are determined by the lead permitting agency or the government body approving the project.

**The following animals, while not listed by New York State as Endangered or Threatened, are of conservation concern to the state, and are considered rare by the New York Natural Heritage Program.**

<i>COMMON NAME</i>	<i>SCIENTIFIC NAME</i>	<i>NY STATE LISTING</i>	<i>HERITAGE CONSERVATION STATUS</i>
<b>Freshwater Mussels</b>			
<b>Yellow Lampmussel</b>	<i>Lampsilis cariosa</i>	Unlisted	Vulnerable in NYS

Schoharie Creek Esperance, 1994-09-14: Creekbed.

8282

This report only includes records from the NY Natural Heritage database. For most sites, comprehensive field surveys have not been conducted, and we cannot provide a definitive statement as to the presence or absence of all rare or state-listed species. Depending on the nature of the project and the conditions at the project site, further information from on-site surveys or other sources may be required to fully assess impacts on biological resources.

If any rare plants or animals are documented during site visits, we request that information on the observations be provided to the New York Natural Heritage Program so that we may update our database.

Information about many of the rare animals and plants in New York, including habitat, biology, identification, conservation, and management, are available online in Natural Heritage's Conservation Guides at [www.guides.nynhp.org](http://www.guides.nynhp.org), from NatureServe Explorer at [www.natureserve.org/explorer](http://www.natureserve.org/explorer), and from USDA's Plants Database at <http://plants.usda.gov/index.html> (for plants).

Information about many of the natural community types in New York, including identification, dominant and characteristic vegetation, distribution, conservation, and management, is available online in Natural Heritage's Conservation Guides at [www.guides.nynhp.org](http://www.guides.nynhp.org). For descriptions of all community types, go to [www.dec.ny.gov/animals/97703.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/97703.html) for Ecological Communities of New York State.



## Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation

ANDREW M. CUOMO  
Governor

ROSE HARVEY  
Commissioner

September 10, 2015

Alicia Shultz  
New York State Homes & Community Renewal  
38-40 State Street  
Albany, NY 12207

Re: NYSHCR/ GOSR/ NY Rising Program  
Village of Esperance Firehouse Rescue Facility new building

15PR05020

Dear Ms. Schultz:

Thank you for requesting the comments of the New York State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). We have reviewed the submitted materials in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. These comments are those of the SHPO and relate only to Historic/Cultural resources. They do not include other 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 National Environmental Policy Act and/or the State Environmental Quality Review Act (New York Environmental Conservation Law Article 8).

Based on this review, the opinion of the SHPO is that there will be No Historic Properties Affected by the proposed undertaking.

You indicated that "An Archaeological Assessment Phase IA-IB will be completed in the APE". It is the SHPO's opinion that a Phase I archaeological survey is not necessary in advance of the proposed Firehouse Rescue Facility, due to the likelihood of prior soil disturbance within the APE.

If I can be of further assistance, please contact me at (518) 268-2187.

Sincerely,

Larry K Moss, Historic Preservation Technical Specialist

CC: Tom King, GOSR



# St. Regis Mohawk Tribe

October 8, 2015

Mr. Thomas King  
Governor's Office on Storm Recovery  
99 Washington Avenue, Suite 1224  
Albany NY 12260

Re: Village of Esperance Firehouse Rescue Facility Addition

She:kon Mr. King,

This letter is in response to a request for a Section 106 consultation between your agency and the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe. The following project(s) that you requested my office to consult on is considered to be of possible "Negative Effect" in regards to cultural properties of concern to the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe.

## **Village of Esperance Firehouse Rescue Facility Addition**

Due to there being four documented Pre-Contact Sites within 1 mile of your project APE we are requesting to have archeological monitoring of all undisturbed soils that will effected by the construction of the new firehouse.

The St. Regis Mohawk Tribe requests to be immediately contacted in the event any inadvertent discoveries of human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects and objects of cultural patrimony are made during the scope of this project.

Should you or your office have any further questions in regards to these comments please feel free to contact my office at your earliest convenience.

Nia:wen,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Arnold L. Printup".

Arnold L Printup  
Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe  
Tribal Historic Preservation Office  
1(518)358-2272 Ext. 2163



# United States Department of the Interior

## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

3817 Luker Road  
Cortland, NY 13045



November 9, 2015

Ms. Alicia Shultz  
Community Developer – Environmental Review  
Governor's Office of Storm Recovery  
NYS Homes & Community Renewal  
38-40 State Street, Hampton Plaza  
Albany, NY 12207

Dear Ms. Shultz:

This responds to your October 23, 2015, and October 27, 2015, letters regarding the following proposed actions:

- 1) Construction of a new ambulance building and shelter at 143 Cotton Hill Road in the Town of Middleburgh, Schoharie County, New York;
- 2) Relocation of the Town and Village of Owego's municipal facilities on NYS Route 434 in the Town of Owego, Tioga County, New York; and
- 3) Construction of a new firehouse rescue facility on Church Street in the Town of Esperance, Schoharie County, New York.

We understand that U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) funding may be involved with the proposed projects.

As you are aware, federal agencies have responsibilities under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) regarding projects that may affect federally-listed species or designated critical habitat, and confer with the Service regarding projects that are likely to jeopardize federally-proposed species and/or adversely modify proposed critical habitat. We understand that NYS Homes & Community Renewal (NYSHCR) has been designated HUD's non-federal representative for the purposes of completing informal consultation pursuant to Section 7(a)(2) of the ESA.

On behalf of HUD, the NYSHCR determined the proposed projects may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the federally-listed threatened northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). Given the project locations, small acreage of tree removal, and proposed winter clearing of trees (November 1 - March 31) to avoid any chance of direct effects to this species, we concur with your determination.

No further coordination or consultation under the ESA is required with the Service at this time. Should project plans change, or if additional information on listed or proposed species or critical habitat becomes available, this determination may be reconsidered. The most recent compilation of federally-listed and proposed endangered and threatened species in New York is available for your information. Until the proposed projects are complete, we recommend that you check our website every 90 days from the date of this letter to ensure that listed species presence/absence information for the proposed projects is current.\*

The above comments pertaining to endangered species under our jurisdiction are provided pursuant to the ESA. This response does not preclude additional Service comments under other legislation.

Any additional information regarding the proposed projects and their potential to impact listed species should be coordinated with both this office and with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

Thank you for your time. If you require additional information or assistance please contact Robyn Niver at (607) 753-9334.

Sincerely,



David A. Stilwell  
Field Supervisor

\*Additional information referred to above may be found on our website at:  
<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/nyfo/es/section7.htm>.

cc: NYSDEC, Schenectady, NY (Env. Permits)  
NYSDEC, Kirkwood, NY (Env. Permits)

**Village of Esperance Firehouse Rescue Facility  
Environmental Assessment**

**Appendix C: SEQR Documentation**



# Governor's Office of Storm Recovery



Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor

Lisa Bova-Hiatt  
Executive Director

## STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE (NEGATIVE DECLARATION)

### VILLAGE OF ESPERANCE FIREHOUSE RESCUE FACILITY AND VILLAGE HALL RENOVATION

DATE: January 19, 2016

NAME OF ACTION: Village of Esperance Firehouse Rescue Facility and Village Hall Renovation

LOCATION: 115 Church Street, Esperance, NY 12066

SEQRA CLASSIFICATION:  Type I;  Unlisted

REVIEW TYPE:  Coordinated;  Uncoordinated

DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE:  Negative Declaration;  Positive Declaration

---

#### The Proposed Project:

The proposed actions will be conducted at the existing Village of Esperance Firehouse and Village Hall at 115 Church Street, Esperance, NY. The proposed actions include the construction of a new 5,400 square foot rescue facility (firehouse building), drainage swale, and catch basin; demolition of two truck bays; modification of the village hall; and repairs to the driveway including the addition of asphalt. The rescue facility (firehouse building) will be a pole barn built on the same property as the existing Village of Esperance Firehouse/Village Hall and would include: an area for staging equipment and assembling flood pumps; a sufficiently sized area for the firefighters to change; a storage area; a radio room; and office space. The proposed pole barn will be built in addition to (and adjacent to) the existing Firehouse/Village Hall. Office space within the existing Village Hall will be reconfigured to provide better access to the public. The remaining structure will be available for use as an emergency shelter for first responders and storage facility for emergency supplies. The project would include the installation of a generator at the existing firehouse, which will serve both the existing and proposed facilities. The Village needs a new firehouse large enough to accommodate contemporary fire trucks, equipment and personnel in order to facilitate a timely response.

#### Purpose and Need

The Village needs a new firehouse large enough to better accommodate contemporary fire trucks, equipment and personnel to facilitate efficiency of response. The current firehouse is too old to accommodate modern fire trucks which are larger than the size of the existing truck bays. These inadequacies lengthen response time due to difficulty getting trucks in and out of the firehouse. In addition, larger work spaces would help to minimize the risk of injury to department volunteers working with equipment in cramped spaces.

Although the Firehouse Rescue Facility is not located in the 500-year floodplain, the Village of Esperance as a whole was particularly impacted by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee that caused the Schoharie Creek to overtop its banks, flooding roads, houses and business within the Village. The experiences of the Village of Esperance residents and response personnel during these storms made it abundantly clear that a new modern firehouse is essential to enable a more effective response effort during future emergency events, thereby directly increasing the resiliency of the Village and Town.

**Existing Conditions**

The proposed project is located in the Village of Esperance, Town of Esperance, Schoharie County, New York. The Village of Esperance is bounded to the east by the Schoharie Creek and is located within the Schoharie Watershed in the Mohawk River Watershed. The proposed Village of Esperance Firehouse Rescue Facility is located in a developed area and is not located within the 500-year floodplain.

**Funding:**

The total project cost is estimated at \$789,500. GOSR proposes to allocate funding pursuant to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program as authorized by the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013 (Public Law 113-2, approved January 29, 2013). The NYS Housing Trust Fund Corporation (HTFC), which administers the CDBG-DR program funds on behalf of GOSR, intends to approve funding for the proposed project as described in this notice.

**Environmental Considerations:**

The Village needs a new firehouse large enough to accommodate contemporary fire trucks, equipment and personnel in order to facilitate a timely response. The current firehouse is too small to accommodate modern fire trucks which are larger than the size of the existing truck bays. These inadequacies lengthen response time due to difficulty getting trucks in and out of the firehouse. In addition, larger work spaces would help to minimize the risk of injury to department volunteers working with equipment in cramped spaces.

Although the Firehouse Rescue Facility is not located in the 500-year floodplain, the Village of Esperance as a whole was particularly impacted by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee that caused the Schoharie Creek to overtop its banks, flooding roads, houses and business within the Village. The experiences of the Village of Esperance residents and response personnel during these storms highlighted the need for a new modern firehouse that could enable a more effective response effort during future emergency events, thereby directly increasing the resiliency of the Village and Town.

*Land Use, Zoning, Public Policy and Urban Design* – The proposed project is consistent with existing zoning regulations, land use types, building height and scale. The project would maintain current land use and would therefore be compatible with existing land use. The project site would continue to be zoned “Public”. The proposed project would also conform to Goal #5 in the Village of Esperance Comprehensive Plan of “continuing to support the Esperance Volunteer Fire Department by maintaining firefighting equipment”. The proposed project would not result in the creation of new jobs and/or an increase in the number of employees and would therefore not have an urbanizing effect.

*Soil Suitability, Slope, Erosion, Drainage, and Storm Water Runoff* – The proposed site was previously developed; unsuitable soils are not anticipated. According to the Village of Esperance Comprehensive Plan, the entire village is flat with 0 to 12% slopes. The proposed activities would not change the slope of the existing site. During construction, best management practices would be used to avoid soil erosion and existing drain inlets would be protected from debris, soil and sedimentation. Vegetation would not need to be cleared for the construction of the proposed firehouse. Although in-ground disturbance will occur for the new 5,400 square foot facility, any soil impacts during construction would be considered negligible. Any stormwater runoff would be directed to the existing village storm sewer via new storm drains and a new catch basin on the property.

*Hazards and Nuisances, including Site Safety and Noise* – The proposed project includes the demolition of two truck bays. Impacts such as sidewalk closures and fugitive dust would be addressed under existing regulations governing construction activity in New York State, Schoharie County, and local municipalities. The proposed project would only temporarily increase noise levels at nearby residences during construction. These increases would be mitigated by implementing the Construction Impacts Conditions for Approval, including outfitting of equipment with mufflers, and compliance with local noise ordinances including time-of-day work limitations. These temporary renovations and rebuilding activities would not result in any significant increase in ambient noise levels.

*Energy Consumption* - The project site is adequately serviced with existing utilities. The proposed project would utilize energy consumption, including the use of fossil fuels, for use of construction equipment and the shipment of materials required for repair and reconstruction activities. However, the proposed project would not increase long-term energy consumption.

In addition, the new Firehouse Rescue Facility will be built using green practices wherever practical. This may lead to incorporation of energy efficient building materials and practices and a more energy-efficient facility.

*Socioeconomic Impacts and Community Facilities and Services*- The proposed project would create temporary construction jobs. However, these jobs would not significantly increase employment opportunities or impact income patterns. The proposed project would not result in the creation of new permanent jobs and/or result in an increase in the number of employees at the existing Village of Esperance Firehouse Rescue Facility and therefore would not impact employment and income patterns or alter the demographic characteristics of the surrounding community.

In addition, the project would not increase the demand for educational, health care or social service facilities, nor would it directly or indirectly displace people, businesses, institutions, or community facilities as it would occur within an existing developed site owned by the Town of Esperance.

The proposed project is not located within or adjacent to a cultural facility and would not impact cultural facilities.

Construction of the proposed building would result in the generation of waste, primarily paved asphalt, soil and packed gravel. Demolition and renovation of the existing building would create opportunities for reuse and recycling. The amount of solid waste generated from construction and demolition would not significantly increase short-term generation of municipal solid waste as the total acreage would be 0.73 acres. All waste would be hauled off-site by the selected contractor and would be handled in accordance with the State's solid and hazardous waste rules.

The Village of Esperance does not have a municipal water or sewer system. The existing facility is served by a septic system located on the site. There is adequate capacity within this system to accommodate wastewater that would be generated once the building is operational.

The proposed project would not result in the creation of new jobs and/or result in an increase in the number of employees at the Village of Esperance Firehouse and therefore would not increase demand on the water supply. The Village of Esperance is serviced by a municipal water system and the Firehouse will be connected to the existing individual septic system on the site. The capacity of the existing water system and septic is adequate to serve the proposed project.

The proposed project would not result in the creation of new jobs and/or result in an increase in the number of employees at the Village of Esperance Firehouse and therefore would not increase demand for police protection, fire protection, or emergency medical services. The proposed building would be constructed in compliance with local building codes. The project is expected to increase the efficiency of the existing fire service response which is expected to have a beneficial impact on public safety.

The proposed project of constructing a new firehouse rescue facility at the existing firehouse rescue facility site would not impact open space or recreation.

The proposed project would not impact transportation. There would be a negligible increase in construction traffic.

*Natural Features* – The NYSDEC lists the Wright Karst Area as a Critical Environmental Area (CEA). There are no known Critical Environmental Areas within the Village of Esperance or within the vicinity of the project site. NYSDEC designates Howe Cave Quarry, Howe Caverns, Manorkill Falls, McFail's Cave Nature Preserve, and Inside McFail's Cave as Unique Geological Features within Schoharie County. None of these are located within the vicinity of the project site. There are no Sole Source Aquifers in Schoharie County. The proposed project would not pose a significant threat to groundwater or other surface water resources.

There is one proposed threatened or endangered species (Northern Long-Eared bat) known to occur in Schoharie County. The project site, which consists of further development on previously developed land, is not anticipated to include habitat for these species in its footprint.

The proposed project is not expected to include the removal of mature trees that would provide roosting habitat for the Northern Long-Eared Bat. Should any removal of trees be required, to the extent feasible the tree removal would comply with the Northern Long-Eared Bat Interim 4(d) Rule by: (ii) Activity avoids cutting or destroying known, occupied roost trees during the pup season (June 1–July 31).

A letter requesting informal consultation was sent to USFWS on October 27, 2015. USFWS, in a response letter dated November 9, 2015, determined that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the NLEB.

### **Additional Mitigation Measures**

To the extent practicable, the following mitigation measures recommended by the United States Environmental Protection Agency would be implemented by the Responsible Entity to minimize environmental impacts and create a more sustainable project:

- Construction and demolition – to the maximum extent possible, utilize local and recycled materials in construction process and recycle materials generated onsite.
- Clean diesel – implement diesel controls, cleaner fuel, and cleaner construction practices for on-road and off-road equipment used for transportation, soil movement, or other construction activities, including:
  - Strategies and technologies that reduce unnecessary idling, including auxiliary power units, the use of electric equipment, and strict enforcement of idling limits; and
  - Use of clean diesel through add-on control technologies like diesel particulate filters and diesel oxidation catalysts, repowers, or newer, cleaner equipment.
- Stormwater – utilize low impact development (LID) principles such as minimizing effective imperviousness to create site drainage, and the planting of native and non-invasive vegetation on the project site for stormwater management purposes. Other LID practices can include bioretention facilities, rain gardens, vegetated rooftops, rain barrels, and permeable pavements;
- Cost-efficient, environmentally friendly landscaping – EPA’s GreenScapes program provides cost-efficient and environmentally friendly solutions for landscaping;
- Energy efficiency – energy-efficient technologies should be incorporated into the station house when possible; and
- Water conservation and efficiency – promote water conservation and efficiency through use of water efficient products (toilets, faucets, showerheads) and practices. Consider use of products with the WaterSense label where appropriate.

In addition to the factors considered above, the GOSR considered the following guidance from the State Environmental Quality Review Act and its implementing regulations and determined that the Proposed Action would:

- (i) Not result in “a substantial adverse change in existing air quality, ground or surface water quality or quantity, traffic or noise levels; a substantial increase in solid waste production; a substantial increase in potential for erosion, flooding, leaching or drainage problems;” (§617.7(c)(1)(i))
- (ii) Not result in “the removal or destruction of large quantities of vegetation or fauna; substantial interference with the movement of any resident or migratory fish or wildlife species; impacts on a significant habitat area; substantial adverse impacts on a threatened or endangered species of animal or plant, or the habitat of such a species; or other significant adverse impacts to natural resources;”(§617.7(c)(1)(iii))

- (iii) Not result in “the impairment of the environmental characteristics of a Critical Environmental Area as designated pursuant to subdivision 617.14(g) of this Part;” (§617.7(c)(1)(iii))
- (iv) Not result in “the creation of a material conflict with a community’s current plans or goals as officially approved or adopted;” (§617.7(c)(1)(iv))
- (v) Not result in “the impairment of the character or quality of important historical, archaeological, architectural, or aesthetic resources or of existing community or neighborhood character;” (§617.7(c)(1)(v))
- (vi) Not result in “a major change in the use of either the quantity or type of energy;” (§617.7(c)(1)(vi))
- (vii) Not result in “the creation of a hazard to human health;” (§617.7(c)(1)(vii))
- (viii) Not result in “a substantial change in the use, or intensity of use, of land including agricultural, open space or recreational resources, or in its capacity to support existing uses;” (§617.7(c)(1)(viii))
- (ix) Not result in “the encouraging or attracting of a large number of people to a place or places for more than a few days, compared to the number of people who would come to such place absent the action;” (§617.7(c)(1)(ix))
- (x) Not result in “the creation of a material demand for other actions that would result in one of the above consequences;” (§617.7(c)(1)(x))
- (xi) Not result in “changes in two or more elements of the environment, no one of which has a significant impact on the environment, but when considered together result in a substantial adverse impact on the environment; or (§617.7(c)(1)(xi))

Therefore, GOSR, acting as Lead Agency, and having prepared a Short Environmental Assessment Form (SEAF), has determined that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the environment and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement will not need to be prepared.



Thomas J. King  
Date: January 19, 2016  
Assistant General Counsel  
Deputy Director – Bureau of Environmental Review and Assessment  
Governor’s Office of Storm Recovery  
99 Washington Avenue Suite 1224  
Albany, New York 12260  
Office: (518) 473-0015

Attachments:

Environmental Assessment Form (Parts, 1, 2 and 3)  
Negative Declaration Distribution List

A copy of this Notice is available at the following web address:

<http://www.stormrecovery.ny.gov/environmental-docs>

# Short Environmental Assessment Form

## Part 1 - Project Information

### Instructions for Completing

**Part 1 - Project Information.** The applicant or project sponsor is responsible for the completion of Part 1. Responses become part of the application for approval or funding, are subject to public review, and may be subject to further verification. Complete Part 1 based on information currently available. If additional research or investigation would be needed to fully respond to any item, please answer as thoroughly as possible based on current information.

Complete all items in Part 1. You may also provide any additional information which you believe will be needed by or useful to the lead agency; attach additional pages as necessary to supplement any item.

<b>Part 1 - Project and Sponsor Information</b>			
Name of Action or Project: Village of Esperance Firehouse Rescue Facility			
Project Location (describe, and attach a location map): 115 Church Street, Esperance NY 12066			
Brief Description of Proposed Action: The proposed actions will be conducted at the existing Village of Esperance Firehouse and Village Hall at 115 Church Street, Esperance, NY. The proposed actions include the construction of a new 5,400 square foot rescue facility (firehouse building), drainage swale, and catch basin; demolition of two truck bays; modification of the village hall; and repairs to the driveway including the addition of asphalt. The rescue facility (firehouse building) will be a pole barn built on the same property as the existing Village of Esperance Firehouse/Village Hall and would include: an area for staging equipment and assembling flood pumps; a sufficiently sized area for the firefighters to change; a storage area; a radio room; and office space. The proposed pole barn will be built in addition to (and adjacent to) the existing Firehouse/Village Hall. The project would also include the installation of a generator at the existing firehouse, which will serve both the existing and proposed facilities. The Village needs a new firehouse large enough to accommodate contemporary fire trucks, equipment and personnel in order to facilitate a timely response.			
Name of Applicant or Sponsor: Town of Esperance		Telephone: 518-875-6109	
		E-Mail: ctownofe@biznycap.rr.com	
Address: 104 Charleston Street			
City/PO: Esperance		State: NY	Zip Code: 12066
1. Does the proposed action only involve the legislative adoption of a plan, local law, ordinance, administrative rule, or regulation? If Yes, attach a narrative description of the intent of the proposed action and the environmental resources that may be affected in the municipality and proceed to Part 2. If no, continue to question 2.			NO <input type="checkbox"/>
			YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Does the proposed action require a permit, approval or funding from any other governmental Agency? If Yes, list agency(s) name and permit or approval: Village of Esperance site plan and building permit approval; NYSDOT Highway Work Permit; and Governor's Office of Storm Recovery NEPA EA and funding approval.			NO <input type="checkbox"/>
			YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.a. Total acreage of the site of the proposed action?		0.73 acres	
b. Total acreage to be physically disturbed?		0.73 acres	
c. Total acreage (project site and any contiguous properties) owned or controlled by the applicant or project sponsor?		0.73 acres	
4. Check all land uses that occur on, adjoining and near the proposed action. <input type="checkbox"/> Urban <input type="checkbox"/> Rural (non-agriculture) <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Residential (suburban) <input type="checkbox"/> Forest <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Parkland			



18. Does the proposed action include construction or other activities that result in the impoundment of water or other liquids (e.g. retention pond, waste lagoon, dam)? If Yes, explain purpose and size: _____ _____ _____	<b>NO</b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>YES</b>  <input type="checkbox"/>
19. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the location of an active or closed solid waste management facility? If Yes, describe: _____ _____ _____	<b>NO</b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>YES</b>  <input type="checkbox"/>
20. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the subject of remediation (ongoing or completed) for hazardous waste? If Yes, describe: _____ _____ _____	<b>NO</b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>YES</b>  <input type="checkbox"/>

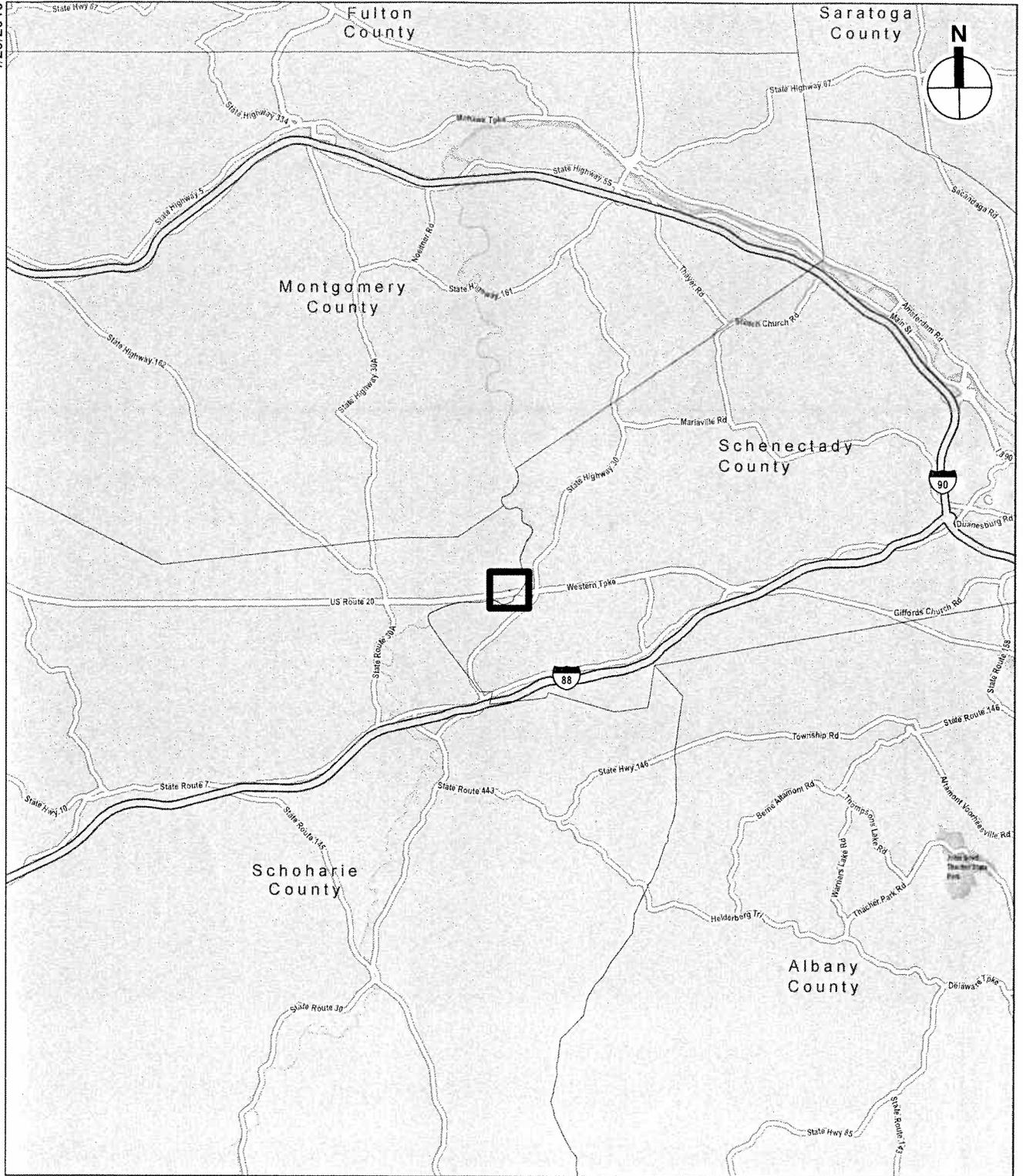
**I AFFIRM THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ABOVE IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE**

Applicant/sponsor name: Town of Esperance

Date: 11/17/15

Signature: Carl Van Wazer

4/23/2015



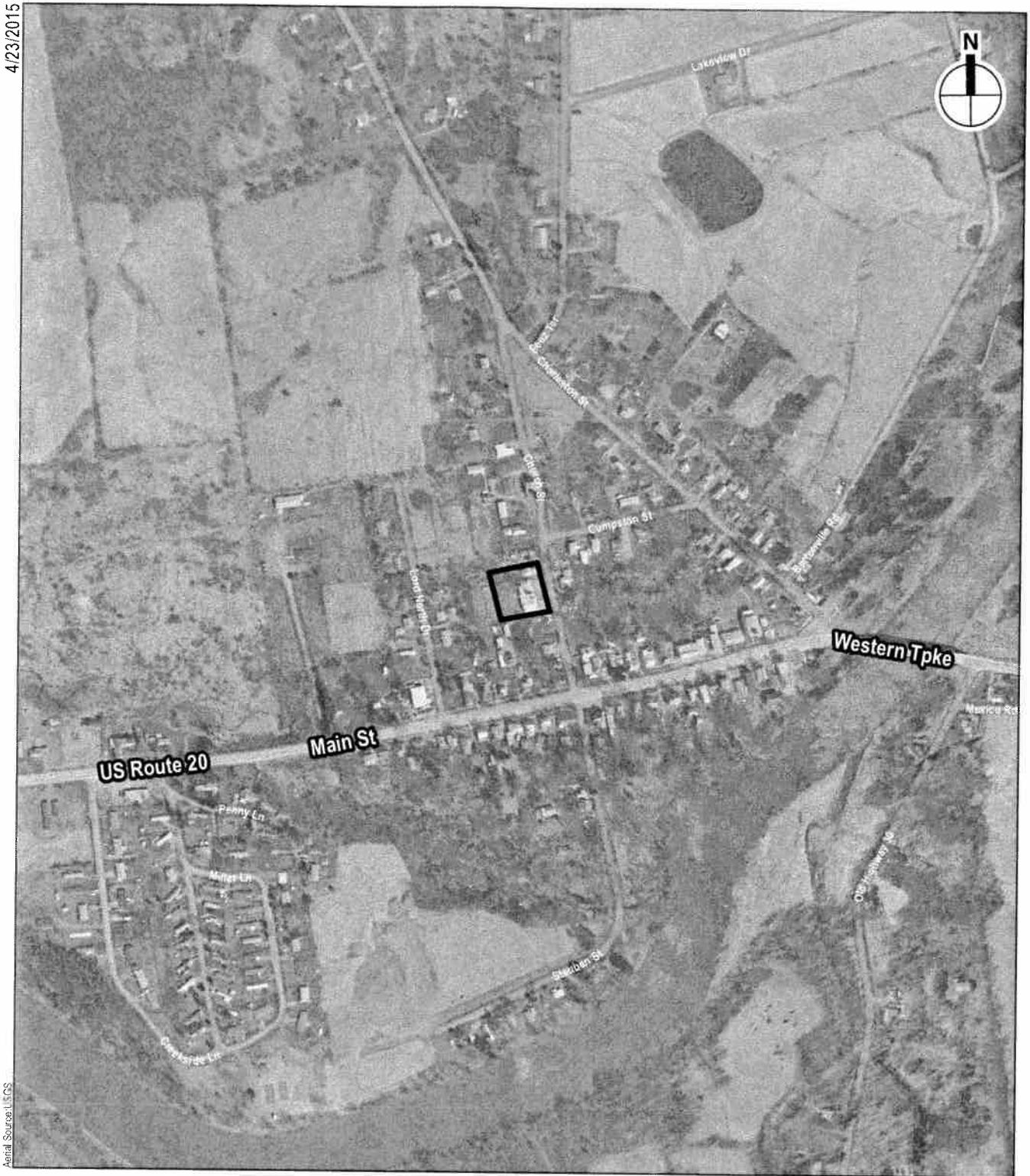
 Project Location

0 10 Miles

**ESPERANCE FIREHOUSE RESCUE FACILITY**

**Project Location Map  
Figure 1**

4/23/2015



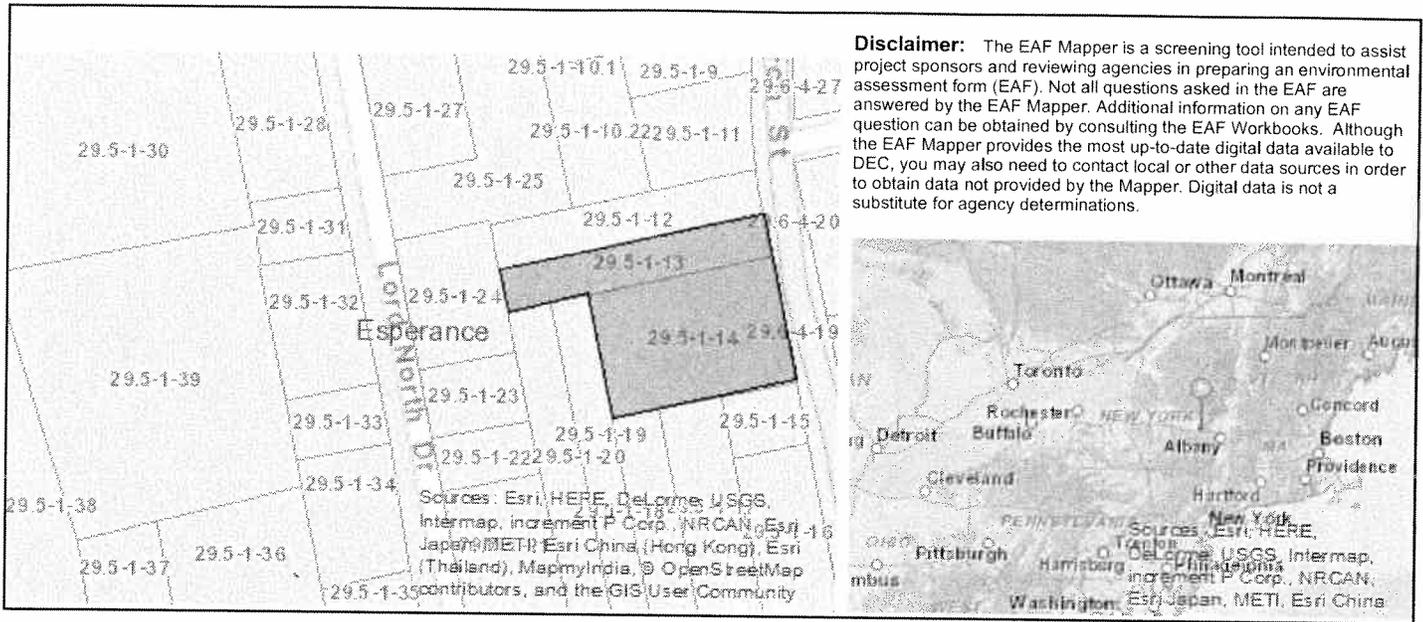
Aerial Source: USGS

 Project Site

0 1,000 FEET  


**ESPERANCE FIREHOUSE RESCUE FACILITY**

Project Site Map  
**Figure 2**



Part 1 / Question 7 [Critical Environmental Area]	No
Part 1 / Question 12a [National Register of Historic Places]	No
Part 1 / Question 12b [Archeological Sites]	Yes
Part 1 / Question 13a [Wetlands or Other Regulated Waterbodies]	No
Part 1 / Question 15 [Threatened or Endangered Animal]	Yes
Part 1 / Question 16 [100 Year Flood Plain]	No
Part 1 / Question 20 [Remediation Site]	No

Project: Village of Esperance - Firehouse

Date: January 19, 2016

**Short Environmental Assessment Form**  
**Part 2 - Impact Assessment**

**Part 2 is to be completed by the Lead Agency.**

Answer all of the following questions in Part 2 using the information contained in Part 1 and other materials submitted by the project sponsor or otherwise available to the reviewer. When answering the questions the reviewer should be guided by the concept "Have my responses been reasonable considering the scale and context of the proposed action?"

	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
1. Will the proposed action create a material conflict with an adopted land use plan or zoning regulations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Will the proposed action result in a change in the use or intensity of use of land?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of the existing community?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Will the proposed action have an impact on the environmental characteristics that caused the establishment of a Critical Environmental Area (CEA)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change in the existing level of traffic or affect existing infrastructure for mass transit, biking or walkway?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Will the proposed action cause an increase in the use of energy and it fails to incorporate reasonably available energy conservation or renewable energy opportunities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Will the proposed action impact existing:		
a. public / private water supplies?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. public / private wastewater treatment utilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of important historic, archaeological, architectural or aesthetic resources?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change to natural resources (e.g., wetlands, waterbodies, groundwater, air quality, flora and fauna)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Will the proposed action result in an increase in the potential for erosion, flooding or drainage problems?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Will the proposed action create a hazard to environmental resources or human health?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Project:

Date:

**Short Environmental Assessment Form  
Part 3 Determination of Significance**

For every question in Part 2 that was answered “moderate to large impact may occur”, or if there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action may or will not result in a significant adverse environmental impact, please complete Part 3. Part 3 should, in sufficient detail, identify the impact, including any measures or design elements that have been included by the project sponsor to avoid or reduce impacts. Part 3 should also explain how the lead agency determined that the impact may or will not be significant. Each potential impact should be assessed considering its setting, probability of occurring, duration, irreversibility, geographic scope and magnitude. Also consider the potential for short-term, long-term and cumulative impacts.

Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action may result in one or more potentially large or significant adverse impacts and an environmental impact statement is required.

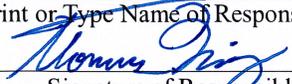
Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts.

Governor's Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR)  
Name of Lead Agency

1/19/2016  
Date

Thomas J. King  
Print or Type Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency

Director – Bureau of Environmental Review and Assessment  
Title of Responsible Officer

  
Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency

Signature of Preparer (if different from Responsible Officer)



# Governor's Office of Storm Recovery



Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor

Lisa Bova-Hiatt  
Executive Director

## **Negative Declaration Distribution List** **Village of Esperance Firehouse Rescue Facility**

In accordance with 6 NYCRR 617.12(b)(1), the Negative Declaration for the above-mentioned project has been sent to the following parties for filing:

### **INVOLVED AGENCIES**

Town of Esperance  
104 Charleston Street  
Esperance, NY 12066

William J. Clarke, Regional Permit Administrator, Region 4  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
1130 North Westcott Rd  
Schenectady, NY 12306-2014

Jack Williams, P.E., Regional Director  
Region 9  
New York State Department of Transportation  
44 Hawley Street  
Binghamton, NY 13901

SEQR Unit  
New York State Department of Transportation  
Traffic Engineering & Safety Division  
4 Burnett Blvd.  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

Ruth L. Pierpont, Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation/ Deputy SHPO  
New York State Historic Preservation Office  
Peebles Island Resource Center  
P.O. Box 189  
Waterford, NY 12188-0189

Mr. Ron Rausch, Director  
Environmental Management Bureau  
Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation  
625 Broadway, 2nd Floor  
Albany, New York 12238

Village of Esperance  
115 Church Street  
P.O. Box 16  
Esperance, NY 12066

Schoharie County Health Department  
284 Main Street  
Schoharie, NY 12157

Esperance Village Planning Board  
PO Box 16  
Esperance, NY 12066

Esperance Village Clerk  
240 Feuz Terrace  
Esperance NY 12066

Town Building Code Inspector  
Jerry Weis  
PO Box 226  
Esperance NY 12066

### **MUNICIPAL EXECUTIVES**

Alicia Terry, Senior Planner  
Schoharie County Planning and Development Agency Office  
276 Main Street- Suite 2, PO Box 396  
Schoharie, NY 12157

Earl Van Wormer III, Supervisor  
Town of Esperance  
1498 State Rte 30A  
Sloansville, NY 12160

Charles Johnston, Mayor  
Village of Esperance  
115 Church Street  
P.O. Box 16  
Esperance, NY 12066