

Phase IA Cultural Resources Survey

Marble River Wind Farm Towns of Clinton and Ellenburg Clinton County, New York



Prepared for
ESS Group, Inc.
East Providence, Rhode Island
and
Marble River, LLC
Albany, New York

By
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PHASE 1A CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY:

MARBLE RIVER WIND FARM

**TOWNS OF CLINTON AND ELLENBURG
CLINTON COUNTY, NEW YORK**

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MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

John Milner Associates, Inc. (JMA) conducted a Phase 1A cultural resources survey for the Marble River Wind Farm located in the Towns of Clinton and Ellenburg, Clinton County, New York. The Phase 1A investigation was conducted on behalf of the ESS Group, Inc and Marble River, LLC. The purpose of the Phase 1A investigation is to identify previously recorded archaeological or historic sites that may be affected by the construction or operation of the proposed Project. The Phase 1A survey also evaluates the potential for there to be previously unrecorded archaeological or historic resources within the area that will be potentially affected by the Project.

Project components will be located on individual leased land parcels totaling approximately 17,000 acres located within a larger approximately 29,765-acre area (the Project Area). Within this larger area, the total area of anticipated ground disturbance for the construction and operation of the Project is approximately 120 acres. The Project will include 109 wind turbines, each of which will include a 90-meter (295-foot) diameter, three-bladed rotor mounted on a 78-meter (256-foot) tall steel pole tower (for a total maximum height not to exceed 125 meters [or 410 feet]). Other Project components include the construction of approximately 41 miles of gravel access road, the installation of 55 miles of underground electric line, and the construction of a 267-foot-by-690-foot substation.

JMA identified only one previously recorded Native American archeological site located within five miles the Project Area. It is the opinion of JMA that Native American settlement in the Project Area would likely have been relatively sparse throughout the prehistoric period. However, the apparent absence of Native American archeological sites in the vicinity is at least in part attributable to the lack of any previous substantive effort to locate and identify sites in the area. Historical atlases identify the locations of nineteenth-century farms and rural industries located throughout the Project Area. The former industrial center and hamlet of Clinton Mills is located within the northeastern portion of the Project Area. Archeological features or artifact deposits associated with Clinton Mills and/or other nineteenth-century sites may be located within the Project Area.

There are no structures listed on, or determined eligible for listing on, the State and/or National register of Historic Places located within five miles of the Project Area. The "blue-line" boundary of the Adirondack Forest Preserve, which is a National Historic Landmark and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is located immediately south of the Project Area and portions of the preserve are located within the viewshed for the Project. Local historians identified the ca. 1888 Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, a former schoolhouse, and town hall in Churubusco as locally significant structures, and suggested that some of the residences and farm structures in the vicinity possess historic characteristics. No architectural survey of the Study Area has been completed.

In the opinion of JMA, a Phase 1B archeological survey will be necessary to determine with certainty whether any archeological sites are present within the Project Area. A historic-architectural survey of the Project viewshed within the limits of the five-mile visual Study Area will be necessary to determine whether any historic or architecturally significant properties could be affected by the Project.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE AND GOALS OF THE INVESTIGATION

John Milner Associates, Inc. (JMA) conducted a Phase 1A cultural resources survey for the Marble River Wind Farm located in the Towns of Clinton and Ellenburg, Clinton County, New York. The Phase 1A investigation was conducted on behalf of the ESS Group, Inc and Marble River, LLC. The information and recommendations contained in this report are intended to assist the Towns of Clinton and Ellenburg in evaluating the potential effects of the project in accordance with their obligations under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA).

The purpose of the Phase 1A investigation is to identify previously recorded archaeological or historic sites that may be affected by the construction or operation of the proposed project. The Phase 1A survey also evaluates the potential for there to be previously unrecorded archaeological or historic resources within the area that will be potentially affected by the project. The information contained in this report is intended to help assess what effects construction of the proposed project would have on archeological or historic resources. All research and report preparation were conducted in accordance with the New York Archaeological Council's *Standards for Cultural Resources Investigations and the Curation of Archaeological Collections* (NYAC 1994), recommended for use by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (OPRHP).

1.2 PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

Marble River, LLC is proposing to construct a wind-powered electric generating facility (the Project) in the Towns of Clinton and Ellenburg in Clinton County, New York. Project components will be located on individual leased land parcels totaling approximately 17,000 acres located within a larger approximately 29,765-acre area (the Project Area) located off of NY State Route 11, NY State Route 189, NY State Route 190, Gagnier Road, Clinton Mills Road, Campbell Road, Patnode Road, Lagree Road, Looby Road, Whalen Road, Merchia Road, Robare Pond Road, Liberty Pole Road, Soucia Road, Rogers Road, Bohon Road, Number 5 Road and Moore Road (Figure 1). Within this larger area, the total area of anticipated ground disturbance for the construction and operation of the Project is approximately 120 acres. The landscape within the Project Area is primarily in forest and agricultural use, but also includes significant wetland acreage (Photographs 1–12; the locations of Photographs are shown on Figure 1). Farms and rural residences occur along the public roads within the Project Area.

The Project will include up to 109 wind turbines, each with a generating capacity of 2.0 megawatts (MW). Eighty-nine of these turbines are proposed to be located in the Town of Clinton and 20 in the Town of Ellenburg. Each wind turbine will include a 90-meter (295-foot) diameter, three-bladed rotor mounted on a 78-meter (256-foot) tall steel pole tower (for a total maximum height of 125 meters [or 410 feet]). Two 80-meter-tall, self-supporting (unguyed) meteorological towers will also be installed. Other Project components include the construction of approximately 41 miles of gravel access road, the installation of 55 miles of underground electric line, and the construction of a Point of Interconnection (POI) substation and two collector stations located off of Patnode Road in the Town of Clinton.

Construction of the proposed Project will include ground-disturbing activities, and the proposed turbines would be visible in the surrounding landscape. The Study Area for identifying previously recorded historic and/or architecturally significant structures was defined as a five-mile radius surrounding the limits of the Project Area (Figure 2). This Study Area should include all of the areas where there is a potential for significant visual effects.

2.0 BACKGROUND RESEARCH

2.1 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

The Project Area is located on the Churubusco plateau, a lobe of the Adirondack massif that extends north to Covey Hill in Quebec. The upland ridge of the Churubusco plateau forms the divide between the waters that flow via the Chateaugay River to the St. Lawrence River and the waters that flow east via the Chazy River to Lake Champlain. The underlying bedrock that forms this ridge is distinctive pink-hued Potsdam sandstone. At the end of the Pleistocene, the Churubusco plateau impounded the waters of Glacial Lake Iroquois to the west. The recession of the ice north of Covey Hill around 11,000 years ago resulted in the abrupt draining of Glacial Lake Iroquois into the Champlain Valley (Isachsen et al. 2000:188; MacClintock and Stewart 1965). Topographic features in the area include kames, spillways, lake beaches, and deltas that formed at the end of the Pleistocene. Relict beach ridges located in the northwestern corner of the Project Area mark the former shoreline of Glacial Lake Iroquois (Figure 3).

The soils in the Project Area are thin deposits of glacial drift with areas of bedrock rubble scattered on the surface and intermittent bedrock ledges and outcrops. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is producing an electronic soil survey for Clinton County, but has not completed this work. However, commonly occurring soil types within the Project Area were identified from the NRCS website (NRCS 2005) and are described in Table 1.

Table 1. Soils within the Project Area.

Name and Description	Slope	Soil Horizons & Depth	Color	Texture	
Chazy series moderately deep, somewhat poorly drained, formed in loamy till	0-8 %	Ap	0-26 cm (0-10 in)	10YR 3/2	loam
		Bw	26-41 cm (10-16 in)	10YR 4/3	fine sandy loam
		Bg	41-71 cm (16-28 in)	10YR 5/2	fine sandy loam
		2R	71+ cm (28+ in)	10YR 7/2	sandstone bedrock
Conic series moderately deep, well drained, formed in till over bedrock	2-35 %	Oa	0-3 cm (0-1 in)	5YR 2/1	decomposed plant material
		E	3-8 cm (1-3 in)	10YR 6/2	gravelly sandy loam
		Bw	8-41 cm (3-16 in)	7.5YR 4/4-10YR 6/4	gravelly sandy loam
		BC	41-79 cm (16-31 in)	10YR 6/4-10YR 5/4	gravelly sandy loam
Irona series shallow, well drained, formed in thin mantle of loamy till over sandstone	0-15 %	2R	79+ cm (31+ in)	-	granite bedrock
		Ap	0-13 cm (0-5 in)	10YR 3/3	fine sandy loam
		Bw	13-33 cm (5-13 in)	10YR 3/4	fine sandy loam
		2C	33-46 cm (13-18 in)	10YR 5/4	sandy loam
Malone series very deep, somewhat poorly drained, formed in loamy till, on uplands	0-15 %	2R	46+ cm (18+ in)	10YR 7/2	sandstone bedrock
		Ap	0-26 cm (0-10 in)	10YR 3/2	loam
		Bw	26-48 cm (10-19 in)	10YR 4/4	gravelly fine sandy loam
		Bg	48-64 cm (19-25 in)	2.5Y 5/2	gravelly sandy loam
Monadnock series very deep, well drained, formed in loamy mantle overlying sandy glacial till on uplands	2-35 %	Cd	64-183 cm (25-72 in)	2.5Y 6/2	gravelly sandy loam
		A	0-3 cm (0-3 in)	10YR 4/3	fine sandy loam
		E	3-8 cm (3-5 in)	10YR 6/2	sandy loam
		Bs	8-41 cm (5-23 in)	5YR 4/4-10YR 5/6	fine sandy loam
Peasleeville series very deep, somewhat poorly drained, formed in loamy till, on uplands	0-8 %	2C	41-79 cm (23-65 in)	5Y 5/3	gravelly loamy sand
		Ap	0-28 cm (0-11 in)	10YR 3/2	gravelly loam
		BE	28-56 cm (11-22 in)	10YR 5/3	gravelly fine sandy loam
		2Bw	56-81 cm (22-32 in)	7.5YR 5/3	gravelly loam
Sunapee series very deep, moderately well drained, formed in till, on glacial uplands	0-60 %	2BCg	81-107 cm (32-42 in)	10YR 4/2	gravelly loam
		2Cg	107-183 cm (42-72 in)	10YR 4/2	gravelly loam
		Oe	0-5 cm (0-2 in)	-	decomposed plant material
		A	5-8 cm (2-3 in)	10YR 2/1	gravelly fine sandy loam
Topknot series shallow, somewhat poorly drained, formed in loamy till	0-8 %	E	8-13 cm (3-5 in)	10YR 6/2	gravelly fine sandy loam
		Bhs/Bh/Bs	13-66 cm (5-26 in)	2.5YR 3/2-10YR 5/6	gravelly fine sandy loam
		C	66-97 cm (26-38 in)	2.5Y 5/2-5Y 6/3	gravelly sandy loam
		A	0-18 cm (0-7 in)	10YR 2/2	cobbly loam
		Bw	18-36 cm (7-14 in)	10YR 5/3	gravelly loam
		2R	36+ cm (14+ in)	10YR 7/2	sandstone bedrock

2.2 PREVIOUSLY RECORDED CULTURAL RESOURCES

JMA reviewed the New York State and National Registers of Historic Places and the consolidated site files of the OPRHP and the New York State Museum (NYSM) to identify previously recorded archeological sites and historic properties located within the Study Area. JMA also contacted appropriate local institutions and individuals for the purpose of identifying additional archeological or historic properties or other issues of concern. Individuals and institutions contacted by JMA included:

Mrs. Addie Shields	Clinton County Historian
Mrs. Diane Lagree	Town of Clinton Historian
Mrs. Hilda Danforth	Town of Ellenburg Historian
Dr. Gordon Pollard	Department of Anthropology, SUNY Plattsburgh
Mr. Roger D. Harwood	President, Clinton County Historical Association

JMA identified six previously recorded archeological sites located within approximately five miles of the Project Area (Table 2; Figure 4). Among these sites, four are foundation remains of residences or farmstead features that were identified during a recent archeological survey conducted on behalf of the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) in association with improvements to NY Route 11 (NYSDOT Project Identification Number (PIN) 7143.07.121; Schafer 1996). The area of the NYSDOT survey is shown on Figures 2 and 4.

Table 2. Archeological sites located in the vicinity of the Project Area.

Site Identifier	Site Name	Time Period	Description	Distance
NYSM 10131	Sweeney Barn Site	ca. 1900	farmstead; foundation remains	w/in Project Area
01909.000001	Old Military Turnpike	ca. 1817-1826	road	w/in Project Area
01907.000061	(Roadside Historic Markers)			
NYSM 10130	Fuller Farm Site	ca. 1850	farmstead; foundation remains	~3.25 miles southeast
NYSM 10129	Brown Farm Structure S3	ca. 1860	farmstead; foundation remains	~1.4 miles west
01907.000059				
NYSM 10132	Barry House Site	ca. 1900	domestic/residence; foundation remains	~1.7 miles west
01907.000060				
NYSM 9087	Traces of Occupation	unknown prehistoric	Native American artifacts reported in vicinity	~5 miles south

Reported sites located in the vicinity of the Project Area include one Native American archeological site (NYSM 9087), described as "traces of occupation" (or reported finds of artifacts), that extend along an approximately one-mile-long area located on the eastern side of the Chateaugay Narrows. These traces of occupation are likely associated with the Native American village site (NYSM 3068; ACP-CLTN-1) reported to be located at the northern outlet of Upper Chateaugay Lake (Parker 1920), approximately six miles south-southwest of the Project Area. There are no previously reported Native American archeological sites located within the Towns of Clinton or Ellenburg.

During the interviews with the local informants identified above, JMA inquired whether there was an active group of amateur archeologists or artifact collectors in the area. All of the informants stated that they were not aware of any currently active group or individuals in the area. None of the local informants were aware of any Native American archeological sites in the Project Area (or immediate vicinity), or knew of any local farmers or landowners that had collections of arrowheads or other artifacts from their properties. Mrs. Lagree (Town of Clinton Historian) stated that she believed there were likely Native American sites in the area, but was not aware of any specific locations.

Both Diane Lagree (Town of Clinton Historian) and Hilda Danforth (Town of Ellenburg Historian) commented on the importance of the former lumbering-mill town at Clinton Mills. According to Mrs. Danforth, the works at Clinton Mills were an important contributing factor to the region's prominent role as the "lumbering capital" of the nation prior to the devastating fires that burned the mills and town in the late-nineteenth century (see Section 2.3). Mrs. Danforth also stated that there were likely ruins of old mills along most of the drainages throughout the area.

The OPRHP site files also include forms for roadside historic markers along the Old Military Turnpike (Sites 01909.000001 and 01907.000061). The ca. 1817–1926 Old Military Turnpike (now NY Route 11) runs through the Project Area and was an important thoroughfare in the early history of the region (see Section 2.3). A New York State Education Department roadside historic site marker located approximately 4 miles northwest of Plattsburgh states that the Old Military Turnpike (NY Route 11) follows the route of a Native American trail (NYSED 2005):

OLD MILITARY TURNPIKE
FORMERLY AN INDIAN TRAIL
IN 1817 MADE A MILITARY TURNPIKE BY
PRESIDENT JAMES MONROE

The Adirondack Forest Preserve is a National Historic Landmark and is the largest property listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The preserve was established by an act of the New York State Legislature in 1885 and now includes approximately 2,500,000 acres of publicly owned land (Greenwood 1976). The northern boundary (or "blue line") of the Adirondack Preserve defines the southern perimeter of the Project Area. A portion of the viewshed Study Area (Figure 2) extends south from the Project Area and south of the blue-line boundary into the Adirondack Preserve.

A previous cultural resources survey associated with proposed improvements to NY Route 11 between Ellenburg and the Franklin County line (NYSDOT PIN 7143.07.121; Schafer 1996) resulted in the identification and documentation of 31 structures that were built prior to approximately 1945. Most of these structures are rural residences or farms that were built during the mid-to-late-nineteenth century. None of these properties have received formal evaluations to determine State/National Register eligibility. The NYSDOT PIN 7143.07.121 survey area traverses the central portion of the Project Area (see Figure 4).

Mrs. Diane Lagree, Historian for the Town of Clinton, and Mrs. Addie Shields, Clinton County Historian, both identified the ca. 1888 Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church (Photograph 13; location shown on Figures 1 and 4) and a schoolhouse (now an apartment building) in the hamlet of Churubusco as interesting and historically noteworthy structures. Mrs. Lagree also indicated that the Town Hall in Churubusco was a historic building, and suggested that many of the older farmhouses and barns in the vicinity exhibited historic characteristics.

JMA did not identify any other properties or structures located within the five-mile Study Area that are listed on, or have been determined eligible for listing on, the State and/or National Registers of Historic Places. The OPRHP Building-Structure Inventory includes 60 previously recorded structures or properties in the Town of Clinton and 31 properties in the Town of Ellenburg. According to the OPRHP on-line inventory the only structure within these two towns that has been determined eligible for listing on the State and/or National Registers of Historic Places is the Merrill Schoolhouse (OPRHP Structure 01909.000024), which is located approximately six miles south of the Project Area. Among the remaining 90 properties located within these two municipalities, six have been determined ineligible for listing on the State/National Register. The remaining 84 properties have not received formal evaluations to determine historic significance and/or State/National Register eligibility.

The five-mile Study Area also includes portions of the Towns of Chateaugay and Belmont in Franklin County. The OPRHP inventory for Chateaugay includes nine previously identified structures or properties. Of these only the Chateaugay Border Station (OPRHP Structure 03308.000011), located on NY Route 374 at the Point of Entry on the Canadian Border (west of and outside the five-mile Study Area), has been determined eligible for listing on the State/National Register. The remaining eight properties include four structures that have been determined ineligible and four structures that have not received formal evaluations to determine eligibility. The OPRHP inventory for the Town of Belmont includes 16 previously identified properties. The First Union Protestant Church of Mountain View (NR Site 03NR05050; OPRHP Structure 03303.000015) is listed on the National Register but is located outside of the five-mile Study Area, approximately 10 miles southwest of the Project Area. The remaining 15 properties in the inventory for the Town of Belmont include three structures that have been determined ineligible and 12 structures that have not received formal evaluations to determine eligibility.

2.3 HISTORY OF THE PROJECT AREA

JMA reviewed both written and cartographic documents relating to past and present environmental conditions and historical settlement of the region. Sources examined for the Project included the Hurd (1880) *History of Clinton & Franklin Counties* and Child (1862) *Gazetteer and Directory of Franklin and Clinton Counties*. JMA personnel conducted historical map research at the New York Public Library and Clinton County Historian's Office. Historic maps examined for the Project included the 1829 Burr atlas (Figure 5), the 1856 Ligowski survey, the 1869 Beers atlas (Figures 6 and 7), and the 1915 USGS topographic survey (Figure 8).

In 1786, the State of New York State surveyed and sub-divided large tracts of land in the northeastern part of the state (including the present towns of Clinton and Ellenburg) into grants pledged to veterans of the Revolutionary War. The Project Area is within townships Nos. 5 and 6 of the Old Military Tract (Figure 5). These parcels were never actually patented to military personnel, but instead sold to land speculators (Hurd 1880:24).

Early settlement in the area was restricted to the areas along the Old Military Turnpike (now NY Route 11), which was constructed ca. 1817–1826 from Plattsburgh to Chateaugay. The road is described as a bridle path used by pioneers as early as 1796 (Hurd 1880:312). Many of the pioneers in the area were veterans of the War of 1812 and/or Yankees from Vermont, with the earliest settlers establishing farms and other enterprises during the late-1810s through 1830s. According to historical accounts, the pioneer settlers encountered a vast forested wilderness:

The early settlers of the town [of Clinton] came into a wild and heavily wooded country. Save where the small clearings were made by them, or the modest bridle-path wended its way through lines of blazed trees, all was an unbroken wilderness, concealing in its shady recesses, or rocky fastnesses, a large number of wild animals. The adventures of the pioneers with these were sometimes quite thrilling (Hurd 1880:301).

During the nineteenth century, the primary economic pursuits in Clinton County included lumbering, raising livestock, dairying, and growing fruits. Iron mining was a vital industry throughout the uplands portions of the county. The small drainages in the area provided only minimal waterpower for the numerous mills that contributed to the regional lumbering industry. According to Mrs. Addie Shields (Clinton County Historian), agriculture in the Project Area was largely subsistence-level production and consisted primarily of dairying. By the 1860s, the area remained only sparsely settled:

More than three fourths of the town [of Clinton] is yet a wilderness, the principal settlements being in the northeast part. The soil is a light sandy loam, capable of bearing but a thin growth of forest trees. A large part of the land is owned by capitalists and speculators (Child 1862:19).

The 1869 Beers atlas (Figures 6 and 7) depicts the locations of farmsteads and small rural centers or hamlets throughout the Towns of Clinton and Ellenburg. The locations and orientations of roads have remained relatively unchanged since the mid-nineteenth century. By 1875, there were only 375 residences within the Town of Clinton (Hurd 1880:302). Important hamlets in the vicinity of the Project Area included Churubusco (or Summit Depot), the Frontiers, Clinton Mills, Ellenburg Depot (or Carter's Mills), Ellenburg Corners (now Ellenburg), and Ellenburg Center (Beers 1869). By 1880 the hamlet of Churubusco (located within the Project Area) included a store, two public houses (or taverns), a town hall, the railroad depot, a Roman Catholic church, and a number of residences (Hurd 1880:302).

Construction of the Ogdensburgh & Lake Champlain Rail Road through the Project Area in 1853 provided for the efficient transportation of local lumber products to distant markets (Hurd 1880:301). Stations on the railroad in or near the Project Area (Figures 6 and 7) included Ellenburg Depot, Clinton Mills, and Churubusco (or the Summit Depot).

R.W. Adams & Co. commenced operations in 1865 at Clinton Mills (Figure 9; Photograph 12) on the south branch of the English River, located in the northeastern portion of the Project Area. R.W. Adams was a New York City capitalist who owned approximately 13,000 acres of timberland in the region and operated lumberyards at the Atlantic Yards in Brooklyn (TCHS 1976). The industrial complex and "company town" established at Clinton Mills included a millpond, steam-powered sawmill, planing mill, blacksmith shop, railroad depot, company store, boarding houses, and a school (Figure 6). Firms that operated the mills included R.W. Adams & Co., Adams, Lee, & Co., and Adams & Sons. The mills processed an estimated 80,000 logs per year resulting in approximately 8,000,000 feet of lumber sent to market each year (TCHS 1976).

In May 1877 the mills and most of the residences in Clinton Mills burned to the ground in a conflagration that resulted from a forest fire. At that time, there were 64 families that lived and worked at Clinton Mills:

Clinton Mills had previous to the fire grown to be a promising village of about 400 inhabitants, mostly in the employ of R.W. Adams & Co. It was nicely laid out. Most of the houses, of which there were nearly 50, were neat frame buildings, many of them owned by their occupants, and well furnished. The signs of general prosperity and thrift were universal... There was a handsome school edifice, used also for a church, with a daily school attendance of 50 pupils. The steam-mills were said to be the largest and best on the line of the Ogdensburgh [sic] road [railroad], and they were run by two 80 horse-power engines. Their store was claimed to be the largest in Clinton County, and was well stocked with all lines of goods. But where all was so prosperous and promising only two frame houses, and a couple of barns remained after the fire. The loss was \$300,000, partially insured (Hurd 1880:303).

According to Diane Lagree (Town of Clinton Historian), the works at Clinton Mills were never fully rebuilt to their pre-1877 extents. Historical sources describe another fire in 1888 at the rebuilt Clinton Mills, which resulted in considerably less damage. Clinton Mills continued as a railroad stop on the Ogdensburgh & Lake Champlain until 1931 (TCHS 1976). The former industrial center is now the site of only a few residences.

2.4 EXISTING CONDITIONS

Photographs 1–12 (locations are shown on Figure 1) depict typical landscapes within the Project Area, which is predominantly rural and sparsely settled. The Project Area includes both actively cultivated areas and numerous wooded and/or idle areas. Numerous wetlands and areas of standing water indicate the extents of poorly drained soils in the area. The topography consists of gradual rises, areas of exposed bedrock, and wet low-lying areas. The hamlet of Churubusco is the only sizable community located within the Project Area. The hamlet consists of a handful of commercial and residential buildings at the intersection of Clinton County Route 189 and Clinton Mills Road. The Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church (Photograph 13) is a noteworthy building within the hamlet.

3.0 ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY ASSESSMENT

3.1 PREHISTORIC-PERIOD ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY

Historical accounts and early archeological reports (e.g., Beauchamp 1900; Hurd 1880; Parker 1920) provide locations and descriptions for the principal Iroquois villages in Clinton County, most of which were located along the shoreline of Lake Champlain, well to the east of the Project Area. There are relatively few sites known from the interior and upland portions of Clinton County. The 1880 *History of Clinton & Franklin Counties* includes a passage that briefly describes Native American archeological remains in the Adirondacks and adjacent uplands. This passage implies that such sites are relatively scarce in these upland areas:

Occasionally a locality is stumbled upon in these wilds marked by flint chippings, fragments of pottery, and stone implements, all of which afford glimpses of a period so far back in pre-historic times that even tradition is silent with regard to it (Hurd 1880:505).

Only one previously recorded Native American archeological site (NYSM Site 9087) is located within five miles of the Project Area (Table 1). This site is described as "traces of occupation" (or reported finds of artifacts), that extend along an approximately one-mile-long area located on the eastern side of the Chateaugay Narrows, approximately five miles south of the Project Area. The ca. 1817 Old Military Turnpike (NY Route 11) reportedly followed the route of an earlier Native American trail, which implies that small camps or other ephemeral types of sites may be located along this route.

There are no known Native American habitation sites located in the Towns of Clinton or Ellenburg. In response to a request for information from JMA personnel, Dr. Gordon Pollard (Department of Anthropology, SUNY Plattsburgh) indicated that Arthur C. Parker's (1920) *The Archaeological History of New York* remains the most definitive inventory of Native American archeological sites for Clinton County. There have been only a few recent archeological surveys conducted in the vicinity of the Project Area (e.g., CAI 2000; Cook 1988; Santangelo 1984a, 1984b; Schafer 1996). The apparent absence of sites in the Towns of Clinton and Ellenburg may thus be partially attributable to the lack of any previous substantive effort to locate and identify sites in the vicinity.

Late Pleistocene glacial landforms located within the Project Area include the paleo-shoreline of Glacial Lake Iroquois and glacial lake beach ridges (in the northwestern portion of the Project Area), and spillways associated with the draining of the glacial lake after the ice retreated north of Covey Hill (Figure 3). Recent archeological work conducted within the Fort Drum Military Reservation in Jefferson County resulted in the identification of Paleo-Indian archeological sites on glacial lake beach and delta landforms located along the former shoreline of Glacial Lake Iroquois (Rush et al. 2003). The types of landforms and paleo-environments located along the Churubusco plateau suggest that similar sites may be located in the vicinity of the Project Area.

Soils within the Project Area are relatively shallow deposits of glacial drift that overlay sandstone bedrock. In the opinion of JMA there is little likelihood that deeply buried archeological sites are located within the Project Area.

3.2 HISTORIC-PERIOD ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY

Potential nineteenth-century archeological resources located in the Project Area include domestic, agricultural, mortuary, and rural industrial sites. The locations of nineteenth-century farms in the Project Area are depicted on the 1869 Beers atlas (Figures 6-7). Archeological resources associated with these farms could include abandoned

farmsteads (wherein the entire residential and farm complex would constitute an archeological site) and nineteenth-century features and/or artifact deposits located within extant/occupied/active farm properties. Other historical sites in the Project Area could include small family cemeteries (Photograph 14).

The former nineteenth-century lumbering works and company town at Clinton Mills is located within the northeastern portion of the Project Area (Photograph 12). The 1869 Beers atlas (Figure 6) depicts the locations of industrial features, commercial structures, and residences within the hamlet. Foundation remains or other archeological features associated with the settlement may be present. The former locations of other rural industrial sites such as sawmills are also indicated on the 1869 atlas. Structural remains, features, and/or artifact deposits associated with these types of sites may be located within the Project Area.

3.3 PRIOR GROUND DISTURBANCE

Many portions of the Project Area are currently cultivated fields. Disturbance associated with previous or current plowing is not considered to be significant disturbance for the purpose of evaluating the integrity of archeological deposits. Isolated previously disturbed areas include sand and gravel quarries within glacial kame features.

4.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 POTENTIAL EFFECTS ON ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

JMA identified only one Native American archeological site (NYSM Site 9087) located within five miles of the Project Area. There have been only a few recent archeological surveys conducted in the vicinity of the Project Area (e.g., CAI 2000; Cook 1988; Santangelo 1984a, 1984b; Schafer 1996). There are no previously recorded Native American archeological sites located in the Towns of Clinton or Ellenburg. The apparent absence of sites in the vicinity is at least in part attributable to the lack of any previous substantive effort to locate and identify sites in the area.

It is the opinion of JMA that Native American settlement in the Project Area would likely have been relatively sparse throughout the prehistoric period. The presence of Late-Pleistocene glacial lake beaches within the northwestern portion of the Project Area suggests there is some possibility for Paleo-Indian occupation in the vicinity. The ca. 1817 Old Military Turnpike (NY Route 11) reportedly followed the route of an earlier Native American trail, which implies that small camps or other ephemeral types of sites may be located along this route.

Historical maps and atlases identify the locations of nineteenth-century farms and rural industries located throughout the Project Area. The former industrial center and hamlet of Clinton Mills, which burned in a catastrophic fire in 1877, is located within the northeastern portion of the Project Area. Local historians indicated the importance of Clinton Mills to the history of the area. Archeological features or artifact deposits associated with Clinton Mills and/or other nineteenth-century sites may be located within the Project Area.

4.2 POTENTIAL EFFECTS ON HISTORIC AND ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES

There are no structures listed on, or determined eligible for listing on, the State and/or National register of Historic Places located within five miles of the Project Area. The boundary of the Adirondack Forest Preserve, which is a National Historic Landmark and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is located immediately south of the Project Area and portions of the preserve are located within the viewshed for the Project (see Figure 2). The Project may be visible from these portions of the Adirondack Preserve, unless screened by vegetation.

A previous cultural resources survey associated with proposed improvements to NY Route 11 (a portion of which traverses the Project Area; see Figure 4) resulted in the identification and documentation of 31 structures that were constructed prior to 1945; however, none of these structures have been formally evaluated by OPRHP to determine State/National Register eligibility. Local historians identified the ca. 1888 Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, a former schoolhouse, and the town hall in Churubusco as significant structures, and suggested that some residences and farm structures in the area possess historic characteristics.

More specific conclusions regarding potential visual impacts to historic or architecturally significant properties that may be located within the Study Area cannot be provided until an architectural survey has been completed for the Project. In general, the nature of visual effects on any historic or architecturally significant properties is dependent on a host of factors including distance, intervening topography, intervening architecture, intervening vegetation, and the types and density of existing intervening modern features (such as overhead electrical transmission lines, cellular towers, and silos). As the nature of visual effects on any particular structure is dependent on site-specific conditions, existing information is insufficient to precisely evaluate if or how such structures would be affected by the Project.

4.3 RECOMMENDATIONS

In the opinion of JMA, a Phase 1B archeological survey will be necessary to determine with certainty whether any archeological sites are present within the Area of Potential Effect (or areas where ground disturbance is proposed) within the Project Area. No architectural survey of the Study Area has been completed. It is possible that additional significant structures (besides those discussed in this report) are located within five miles of the Project Area. In the opinion of JMA, a historic-architectural survey of the Project viewshed within the limits of the five-mile Study Area will be necessary to determine whether any historic or architecturally significant properties could be affected by the Project.

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FIGURES

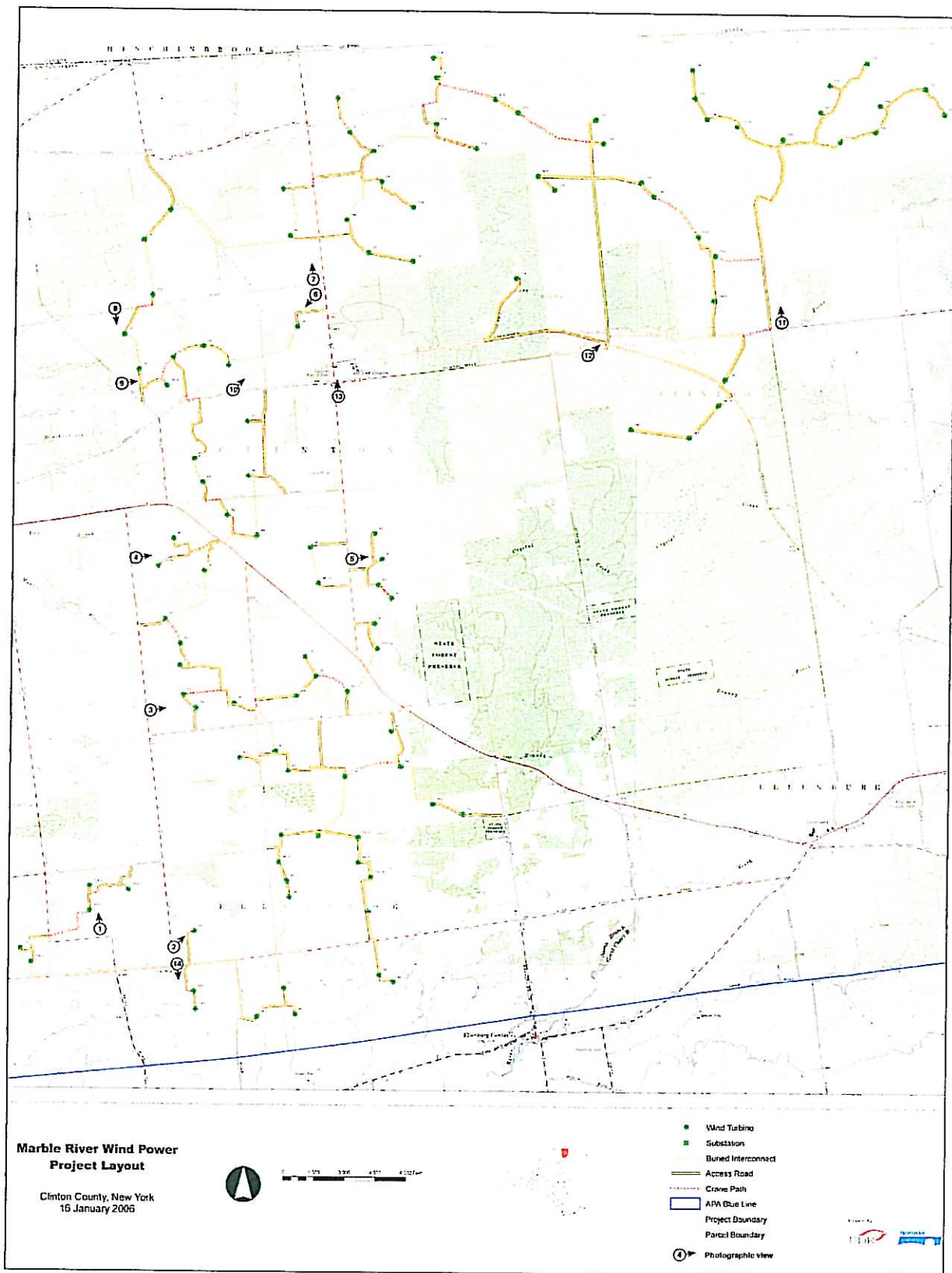


Figure 1. Proposed layout of the Marble River Wind Farm with photographic views.

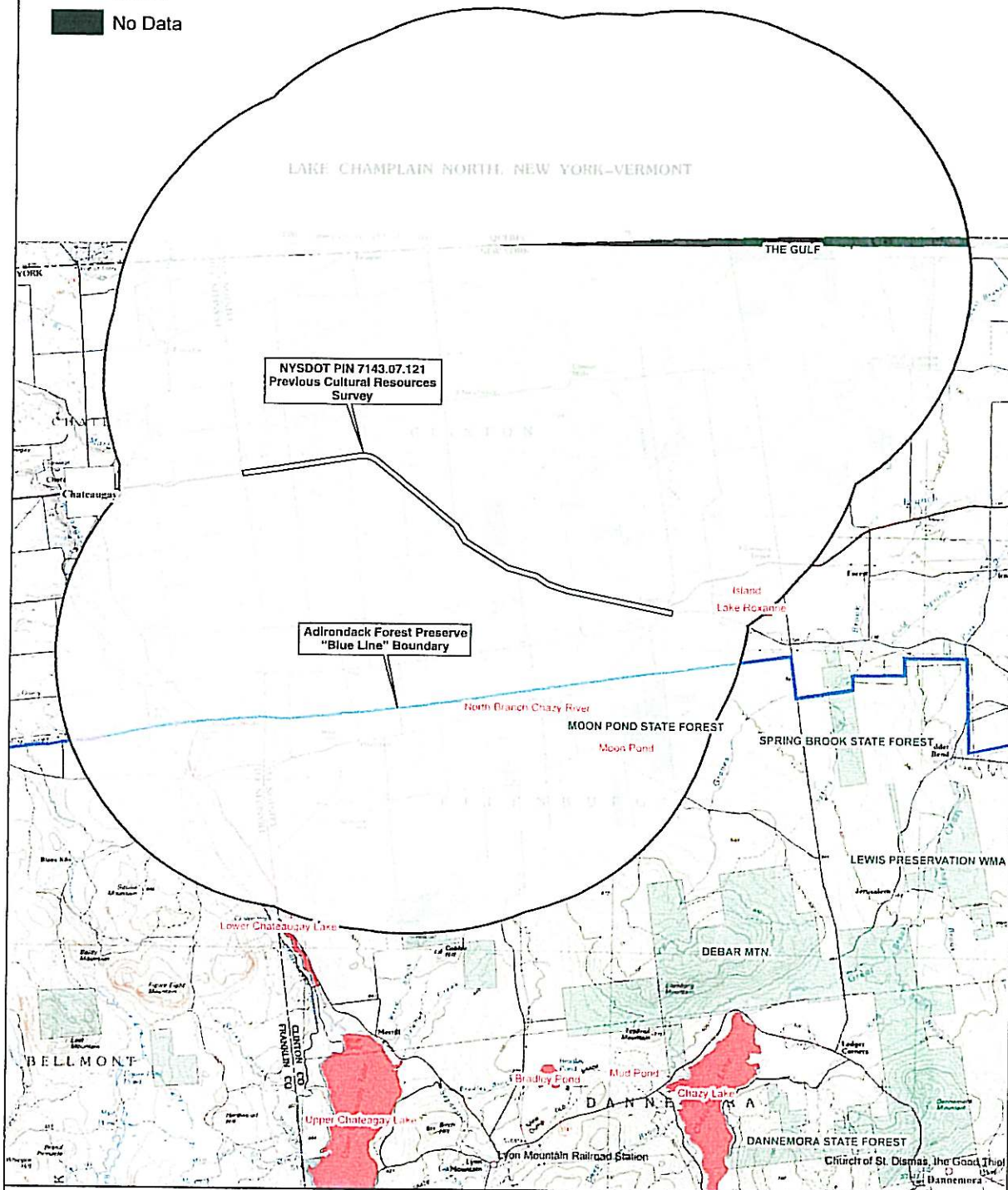
BLADE VIEWSHED

123 meter

Not Visible

Visible

No Data



BLADE VIEWSHED
Marble River Wind



0 0.5 1 2 3 Miles

- 5 Mile Turbine Buffer
- APA Blue Line
- National Park Service Historic Register Point
- NYSDEC Reforestation Area
- Clinton County Census Bureau Landmark
- Towns & Villages

Figure 2. Viewshed simulation within the five-mile Study Area for the Marble River Wind Farm.

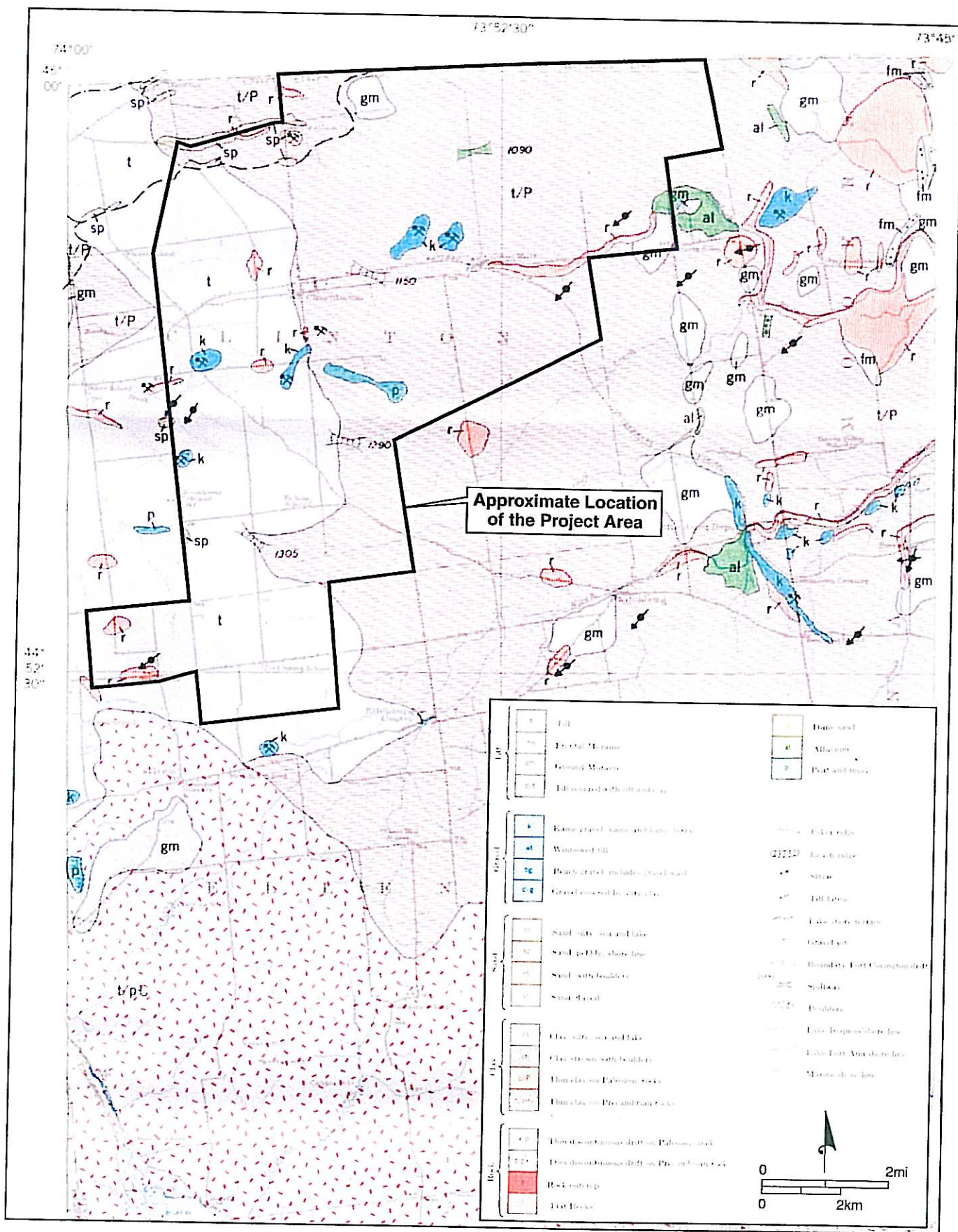


Figure 3. Glacial landforms and soils in the vicinity of the Project Area (MacClintock and Stewart 1965).

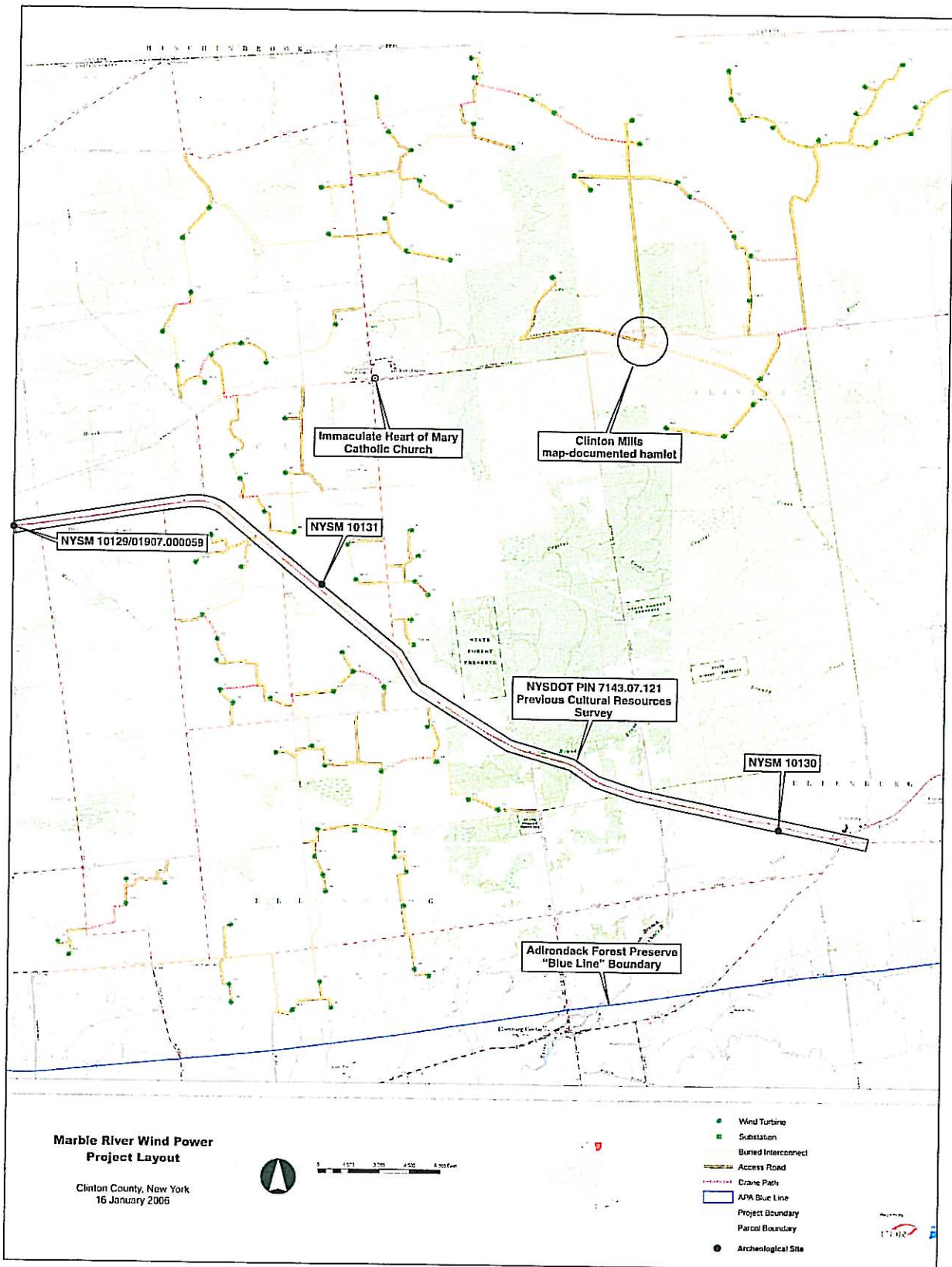


Figure 4. Previously recorded archeological sites, locally identified historic sites, and previous cultural resources surveys located in the vicinity of the Project Area.

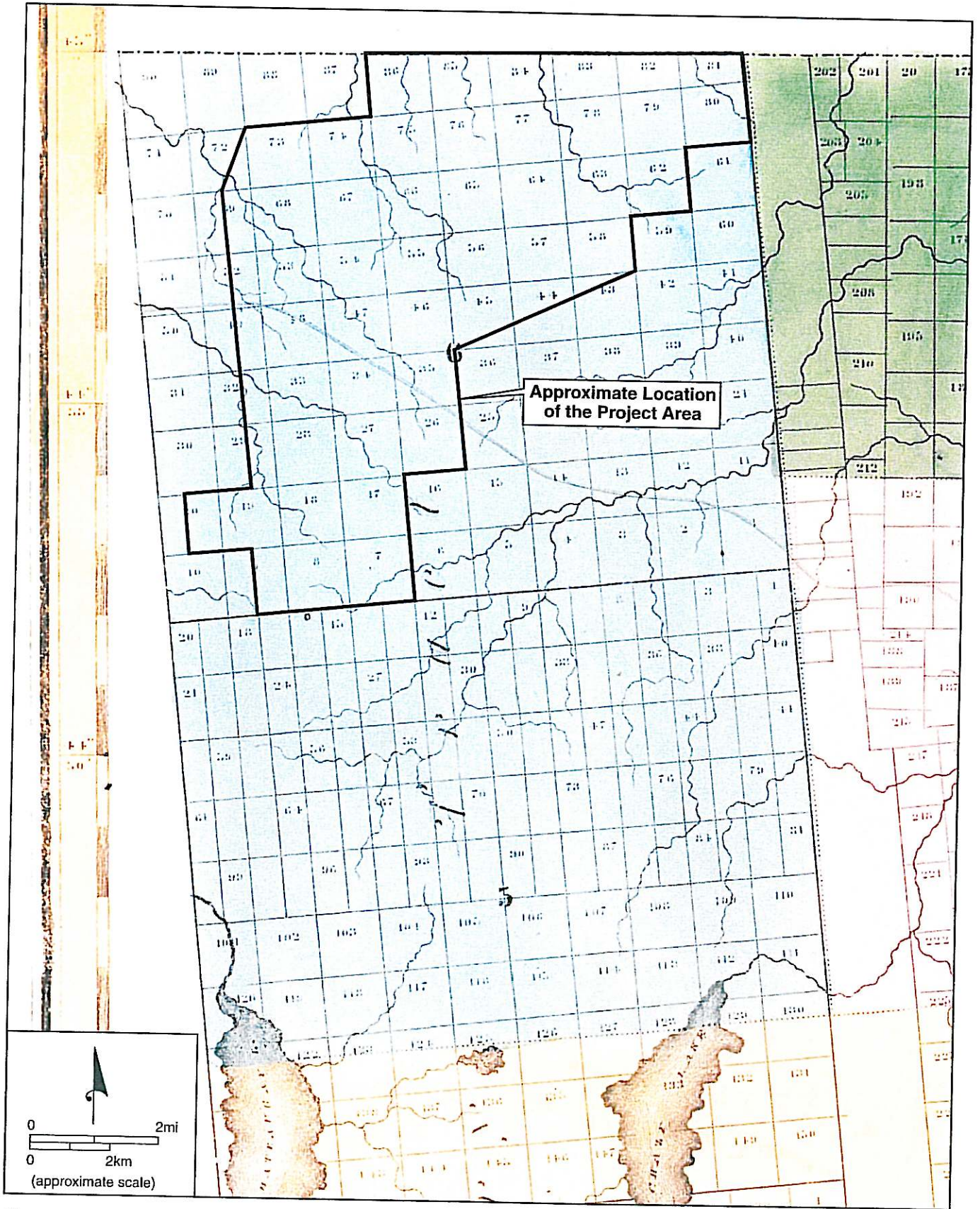


Figure 5. Detail of the 1829 Burr *Atlas of New York State* showing the approximate location of the Project Area.

Ellenburgh
Subscriber's Business Directory.
Merchants & Manufacturers

Carters & Villars. Manufacturers of Lumber, Shaves and Head
 Ing, Potato Starch, and Dealers in Dry Goods and
 Groceries, Ellenburgh Centre.
Carters L. B., Farmer and General Dealer, &c., Carters's
Mills.
Cressy Wm., Farmer, Manufacturer and Restorer Lumber,
Ellenburgh Centre.
French G. T., Retail Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots,
Shoes &c., Ellenburgh Centre.
Haughton John, Dealer in Dry Goods, Yankee Notions,
Provisions, Boots, Shoes, Crockery, Hardware, &c.,
Ellenburgh Centre.
Hall C. L., Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots and
Shoes, also Washstand and Jewellery, Ellenburgh
Centre.
Halt J. M., Manufacturer and Dealer in Lumber, Ellenburgh
Centre.
Harris J. W., Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots,
Shoes, and General Stock of a Grocery Store,
Ellenburgh Centre.
Higgins J., Manufacturer of Saddles in Wagons, Carriages,
also Harnesses, Ellenburgh Centre.
Hind J. P., Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots and
Shoes, Hats, Caps and Ready-made Clothing,
Ellenburgh Centre.
John T., Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries and Manufacturer
and Dealer in the Wines, Ellenburgh Centre.
Kennison C. C., Merchant, also Manufacturer and Dealer in
Lumber and Furniture, Ellenburgh Centre.
McGee W. & F., Dealers and Lumber Dealers, Ellenburgh
Centre.
Webster H. S., Manufacturer and Dealer in Potato Starch
and Lumber, Ellenburgh Centre.

Attorneys

Goodrich C. H., Attorney and Counselor at Law, office in
McLeod Hall, Ellenburgh Centre.

Hotels

McLeod H. S., Proprietor "McLeod's Hotel," Ellenburgh Centre.
Wilson's "Wilson's Hotel," Ellenburgh Centre.

ELLENBURGH

Scale 1 Inch to the Mile

Physicians & Surgeons

Wentworth H. S., Physician and Surgeon, Ellenburgh
Centre.
Westwood D. B., Physician and Surgeon, Ellenburgh
Centre.

Miscellaneous

Dalrymple H., Farmer, Dist No 1
Conroy S. A., Farmer, Dist No 19
Cartwright John, Jr., Ellenburgh Depot
Conroy J., Farmer, Dist No 4
Goodspeed Wm., Farmer, Dist No 4
Goodspeed S., Farmer, Dist No 4
Harwood H. W., Farmer and Ice Agent, Dist No 1
Huntman D. E., Member of the Peace, Farmer and Land
Agent, Ellenburgh Centre
Hutchins R., Carpenter and Joiner, Ellenburgh Centre
Hosmer T. H., Farmer and Dealer, Ellenburgh Centre
Hughes J. H., Farmer, Dist No 2
Madison D. A., and H. D. Webster's Saw Mill, Ellen-
burgh
Holt B. C., Farmer, Dist No 2
Hoff N., Farmer, Ellenburgh Centre
Kennison H. W., Farmer, Dist No 4
Leach J., Farmer, Joint Dist No 2
McKinnon S., Farmer, Dist No 1
McGee W., Farmer, Joint Dist No 2, Ellenburgh
Robertson D. C., Station Agent, Ellenburgh Depot
Roberts D. B., Carpenter, Dist No 1
Shelton A., Farmer, Dist No 1
Shelton L., Farmer, Ellenburgh Depot
Howard D., Farmer, Dist No 2, Ellenburgh
Scott J. E., Ice, Ellenburgh Centre
Webster S. F., Town Clerk, Ice, Ellenburgh Centre

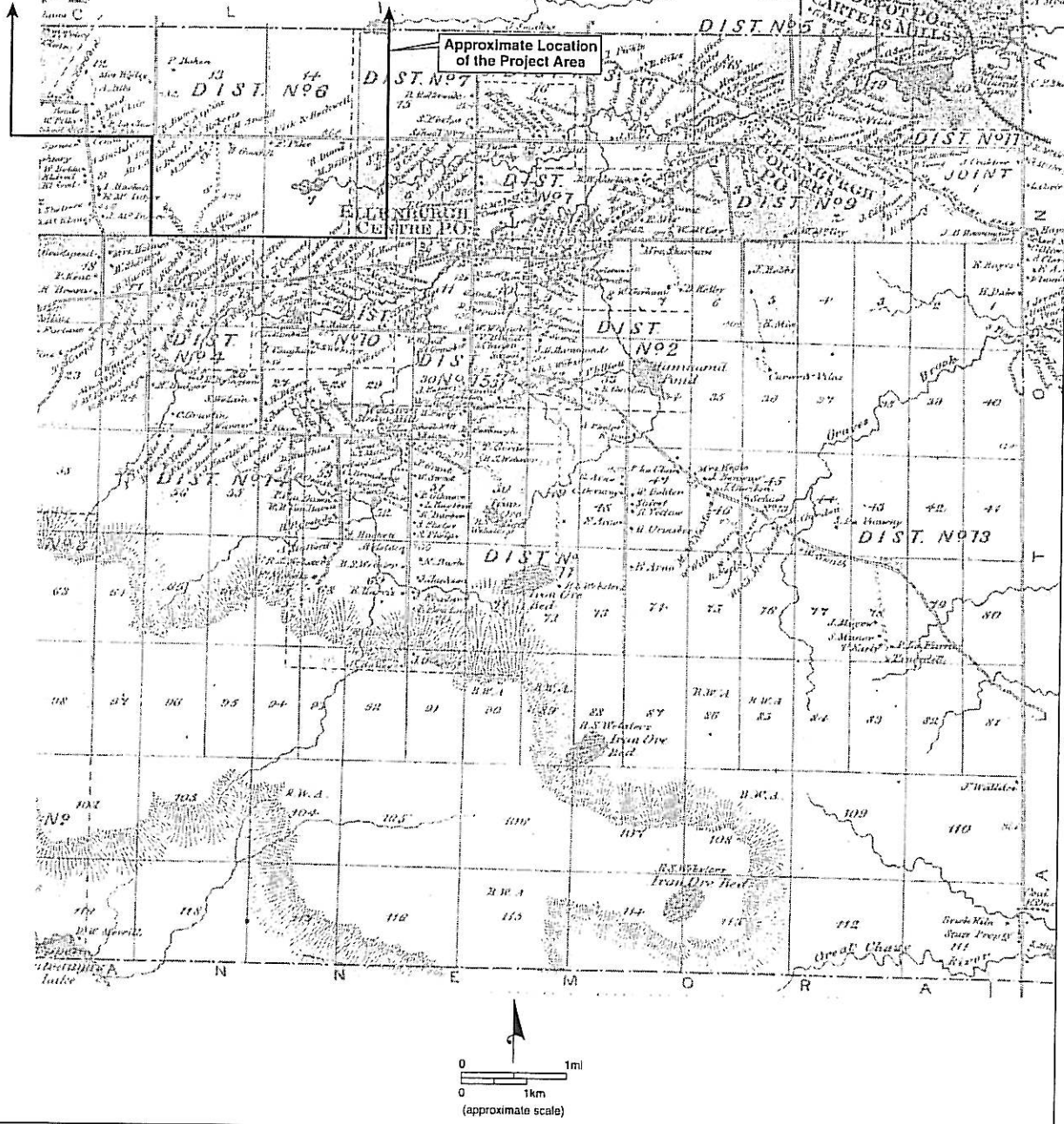


Figure 7. Detail of the Town of Ellenburgh from the 1869 Beers Atlas of Clinton County showing the approximate location of the Project Area.

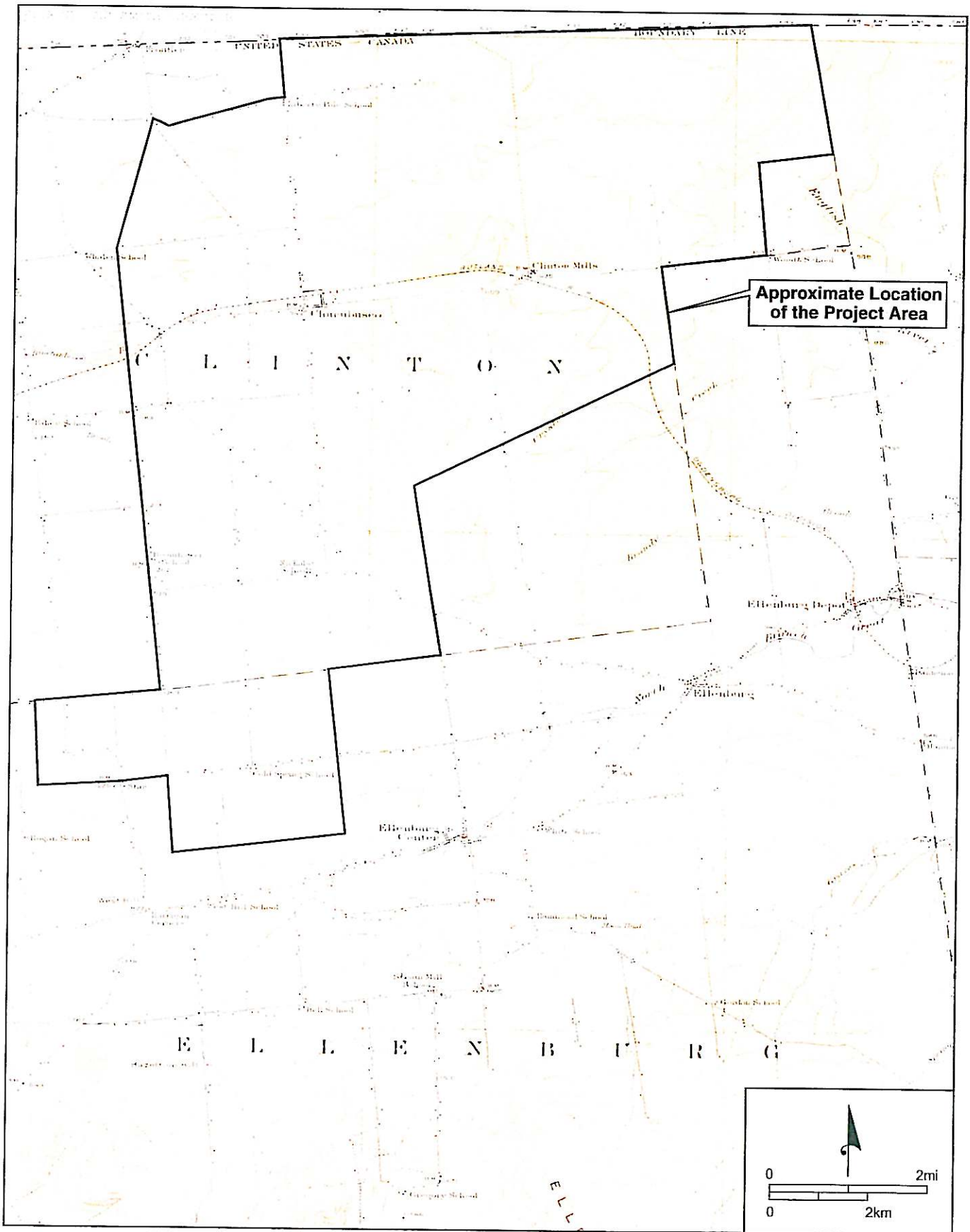


Figure 8. Detail of the 1915 USGS *Churubusco, N.Y.* 15-minute topographic quadrangle showing the location of the Project Area.

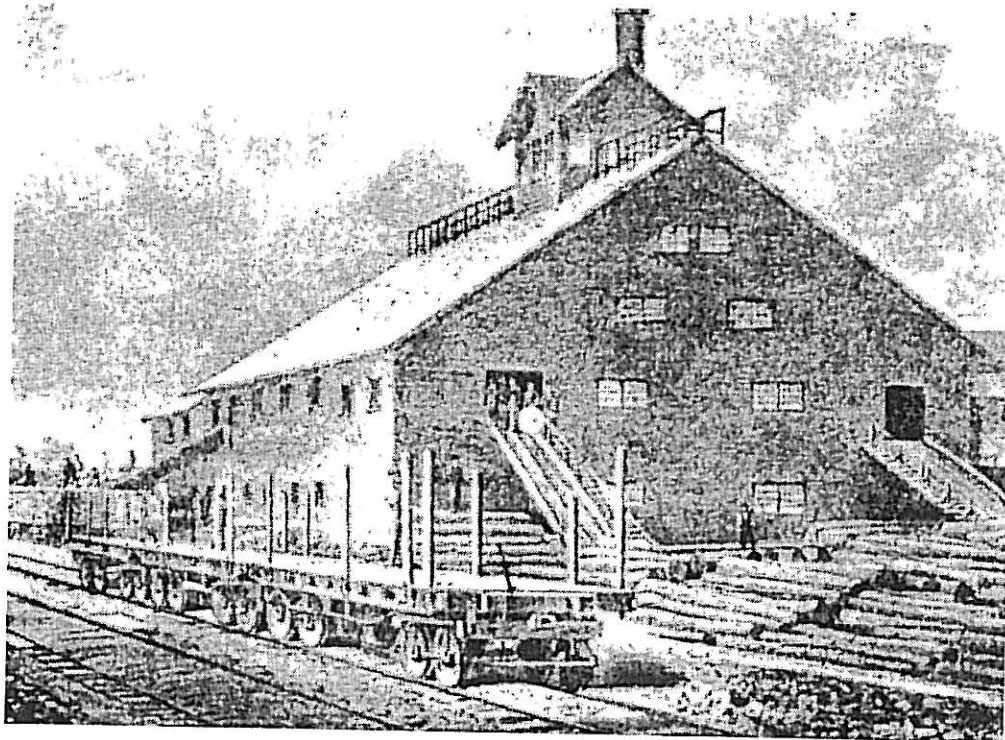


Figure 9. Nineteenth-century drawing (above) of the steam mill and early-twentieth-century photograph (below) of the reconstructed mills and settlement at Clinton Mills (images courtesy of the Town of Clinton Historian).

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photograph 1. Representative landscape within the Project Area from Ryan Road; view north.



Photograph 2. Farm field/pasture within the Project Area from Campbell Road; view northeast.



Photograph 3. Representative landscape within the Project Area from Campbell Road; view east.



Photograph 4. Shallow soils and bedrock outcrop within the Project Area from Campbell Road; view east.



Photograph 5. Representative landscape within the Project Area from County Route 189; view east.



Photograph 6. The Project Area from Morchia Road and County Route 189; view southwest.



Photograph 7. The Project Area from Morchia Road and County Route 189; view north.



Photograph 8. The Project Area from Morchia Road near Whalen Road; view southeast.



Photograph 9. Representative landscape within the Project Area from Whalen Road;
view east.



Photograph 10. Representative landscape within the Project Area from Looby Road;
view northeast.



Photograph 11. Representative landscape within the Project Area from Clinton Mills Road; view north.



Photograph 12. Former millpond and dammed portion of the English River near Clinton Mills; view northeast.



Photograph 13. The Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Churubusco; view north.



Photograph 14. Cemetery on County Route 190 west of Bohon Road; view south.