

### **III.K Cultural Resources**

#### **I. Introduction and Principal Conclusions**

The project will pose no significant adverse impacts to cultural resources.

While documentary research found that the property lies in a region of known precontact use, the extensive survey by Historical Perspectives, Inc. (HPI) of the adjacent Campus at Field Corners Area of Potential Effect (APE) in 2005, including 1189 shovel tests, identified no precontact resources on land with similar characteristics. (An APE is the portion of the site that would experience subsurface impacts as a result of a project.) Therefore, while the APE for the currently proposed project theoretically could be considered to be potentially sensitive for precontact resources, the 2005 Phase IB testing for the Campus at Field Corners shows that the APE for the currently proposed project is unlikely to contain precontact resources. The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP), also known as the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has confirmed that the lack of archeological resources revealed from the prior Phase IB testing obviates the need for further Phase IB testing in the APE for the currently proposed project.

Documentary research also found that the site has only a low potential for historical period cultural resources since structures were not mapped in the APE until the 1960s. Therefore, while there is historic archaeological potential in locations near the former locations of these mapped historic structures, it is considered to be low due to their distances from the APE.

The OPRHP provided a letter of No Effect, stating that the proposed project will have no effect on historic/cultural resources. Therefore, no mitigation measures are required or necessary.

## 2. **Existing Conditions**

A Phase IA Archeological Assessment Report by HPI is contained in Appendix K-1.

A large portion of the project site was previously the subject of Phase IA documentary research and Phase IB archaeological field testing in 2005, for the project known as Campus at Field Corners (HPI 2005; OPRHP #05SR55415 and #05SR55416). The combined Phase I report detailing the results of the documentary study and field survey, including the completion of 1189 shovel tests, was submitted to and accepted by OPRHP (R. Pierpont, OPRHP 5/20/2005). These reports were based on the APE established for the Campus at Field Corners 2004 site plan ("Campus APE").

Portions of the APE for the proposed project overlap with the Campus APE. As such, those locations were previously the subject of Phase IB testing per OPRHP standards (New York Archaeological Council 2004; OPRHP 2005) and thus no further study is required. Therefore, the 2017 Phase IA analysis focuses on the portions of the APE for the proposed project not previously analyzed.

While documentary research found that the property lies in a region of known precontact use, the extensive survey by HPI of the adjacent Campus at Field Corners APE in 2005, including 1189 shovel tests, identified no precontact resources on land with similar characteristics. Therefore, while the APE for the currently proposed project theoretically could be considered to be potentially sensitive for precontact resources, the 2005 Phase IB testing for the Campus at Field Corners shows that the APE for the currently proposed project is unlikely to contain precontact resources. As SHPO has confirmed (Appendix I-2), the lack of archeological resources revealed from the prior Phase IB testing obviates the need for further Phase IB testing in the APE for the currently proposed project.

Documentary research also found that the site has only a low potential for historical period cultural resources since structures were not mapped in the APE until the 1960s. The earliest map showing nearby development (1854) depicted a residential complex to the immediate north of Barrett Road, and a dwelling immediately south of Barrett Road at its intersection with Fields Corner Road, all adjacent to but north and out of the APE. Therefore, while there is historic archaeological potential in locations near the former locations of these mapped historic structures, it is considered to be low due to their distances from the APE.

### **3. Future Without the Proposed Project**

Without the proposed project, the site would remain in its undeveloped state. There would be no impact to cultural resources whether or not the proposed project is developed.

### **4. Anticipated Impacts**

The OPRHP provided a letter of No Effect, dated March 14, 2018 (Appendix I-2), stating that the proposed project will have no effect on historic/cultural resources. Discussions with OPRHP indicate that the extent of the previous cultural resources investigations on the site, described above, were sufficient, and that no further cultural resources investigative work need be conducted for the proposed project. An email dated May 11, 2018 was sent by AKRF to OPRHP requesting confirmation of the No Effect determination. A response letter from OPRHP, dated April 04, 2018, was received by AKRF confirming that no further investigation should be required for this project (Appendix I-2).

### **5. Mitigation Measures**

No cultural resources mitigation measures are required or necessary.