APPENDIX D

HPI Phase IA and IB Reports and Consultation Letter

PHASE IA CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY

PROPOSED FIRE STATION
141 BREWER STREET

TOWN OF EAST HARTFORD
CONNECTICUT

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TOWN OF EAST HARTFORD
CONNECTICUT

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF FIGURES

LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo Key

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Town of East Hartford, in Hartford County, Connecticut is planning to erect a new fire station at 141 Brewer Street just south of Rentschler Field and property belonging to United Technologies Corporation (Figure 1). The proposed construction site for the new station is located on the south side of Brewer Street, between Glenn Road on the west and Graham Road on the east (Figures 2 and 3). The project site is an undeveloped 2.37 acre lot designated as Parcel B, with Parcel A – the site of an extant 20th century commercial building – immediately to the west. Parcel B is lightly wooded and bordered by residential lots to the south (Photographs 1 through 5).

Historical Perspectives, Inc. (HPI) of Westport, Connecticut has been subcontracted by Milone and MacBroom, Inc. (MMI) to complete the initial tasks of a Cultural Resources Survey, often referred to as a Phase IA or a Documentary Study. This study includes both an assessment of the archaeological potential of the project site itself (Figure 2), as well as an assessment of the project's impact on potentially significant historical structures in the viewshed (Figure 3). The Area of Potential Effect (APE) for each of these assessments is slightly different, with the APE for historical structures encompassing land outside of the impact area (compare Figures 2 and 3). The tasks undertaken for both portions of this study, and the resultant technical report, are designed to meet the standards established by the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in the *Environmental Review Primer for Connecticut's Archaeological Resources* (1987).

2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

2.1 Geological and Natural Setting

The Town of East Hartford falls within the Central Valley physiographic and ecoregion. The fertile soils of the Central Valley were formed through a combination of fine-grained glacial lake sediments and loamy or sandy alluvial deposits. A soil study completed for the project site in anticipation of construction concluded that soils are generally fine to medium sands with minor traces of silt, extending to about 25' below existing grade. Below this is a level of varved Clay which extends to about 100' below grade (Weltie 2009:1).

The Central Valley is characterized by upland forests dominated by oak, hickory, white pine, and hemlock (Forrest et al 2006:12). According to the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (CTDEP 2005), Alluvial Forests are mesic forests influenced by seasonal inundation mostly with well-drained, nutrient rich soils. More specifically, Floodplain Forests can be comprised of:

> *Acer saccharum- Carya cordiformis* (Sugar Maple-Bitternut Hickory) temporarily flooded forests
> *Acer saccharum - Fraxinus americana / Carex sprengalli* (Sugar maple-White Ash/Sprengel's Sedge) community
> *Acer saccharinum - Populus deltoides* (Sugar Maple-Eastern Cottonwood) temporarily flooded forests
> *Acer saccharinum / Boehmeria cylindrica* (Sugar Maple/False Nettle) community
> *Acer saccharinum / Onoclea sensibilis* (Sugar Maple/Bead Fern) community
> *Acer saccharinum / Eupatorium rugosum* (Sugar Maple/White Snakeroot) community
> *Quercus palustris - Fraxinus pennsylvanica* (Pin Oak-Green or Red Ash) temporarily flooded forests
> *Platanus occidentalis - Acer negundo* (American Sycamore-Box Elder) temporarily flooded forests (CTDEP 2005 Appendix 2a)

2.2 Current Conditions

The project site lies immediately south of Brewer Street in East Hartford, and ranges in elevation from about 33.5' above sea level (ASL) to 36.5' ASL. The site historically served as farm land, and local residents recall that the general area was previously planted with tobacco and possibly corn (Craig Johnson, president of the East Hartford Historical Society to Faline Schneiderman-Fox, January 22, 2010).

A site inspection was completed on January 29, 2010, at which time photographs of current conditions were taken. The project site is a grassed parcel that is sparsely wooded with trees that appear to be roughly 30 to 40 years old (Photographs 1-5). The site is relatively level, but dips downward along the eastern edge (Photographs 1 and 2). Pewter Pot Brook runs in an east-west direction to the north of the site on the opposite side of Brewer Street, and then veers south, running north-south to the west of Glenn Road (Figure 1). Immediately to the west of the project parcel is a 1.9 acre lot developed with a small commercial building and parking areas utilized by Southern New England Telephone (SNET), (Figure 2; Photographs 2 and 5). To the west of the SNET building is Glenn Road, with multi-family dwellings dating to the late 1960s fronting onto its west side (Photograph 6). To the east of the project site is Graham Road, which also has multi-family dwellings dating to the late 1960s fronting its eastern side (Photographs 7 and 8). Immediately south of the project site are the backyards of similarly aged structures that front onto Leichtner Drive (Figures 2 and 3; Photograph 9).

The project site itself is undeveloped and appears to have been minimally modified throughout the historical period (see Section 3.2 of this report). Observed disturbances related to above and below-grade utility lines that border Brewer Street (Photograph 10).

3.0 CULTURAL OVERVIEW[1]

3.1 Precontact Era

In this report the word prehistory describes the period prior to the use of formal written records. For the western hemisphere, the prehistoric [Precontact] era also refers to the time before European exploration and settlement of the New World. Archaeologists and historians gain their knowledge and understanding of Native Americans in the coastal Connecticut area from three sources: ethnographic reports, Native American artifact collections, and archaeological investigations. Based on data from these sources, a Precontact cultural chronology has been devised for the Northeast. Precontact periods are traditionally divided into the Paleo-Indian, Archaic, Transitional, and Woodland stages, the Archaic and Woodland usually being subdivided into Early, Middle, and Late substages. The stages are defined by changes in artifact types and assemblages, settlement and subsistence patterns, and cultural systems.

Archaeologists in Connecticut have used archaeological data to establish regional models of Precontact subsistence and settlement patterns. These models, while tentative, provide archaeologists with a baseline for understanding potential resources within the region. This contextual understanding enables an interpretation of archaeological resources and an assessment of Precontact land and resource utilization. The outline presented summarizes the prehistory of the region, based on long-term archaeological research. It should be noted that as research in the area continues, theoretical issues become more refined, affecting this regional chronology.

[1] Information taken from reports on file at Historic Perspectives Inc., Westport, Connecticut, with supplemental material coming from sources as cited.

Scholars generally characterize Precontact sites by their close proximity to a water source, fresh game, and exploitable natural resources (i.e., plants, raw materials for stone tools, clay veins, etc.). These sites are often placed into three categories: primary (campsites or villages), secondary (tool manufacturing, food processing), and isolated finds (a single or very few artifacts either lost or discarded). Primary sites are often situated in locales that are easily defended against both nature (weather) and enemies. Secondary sites are often found in the location of exploitable resources (e.g., shell fish, lithic raw materials). Prehistorians currently believe that cultural groups inhabiting the region practiced a settlement and subsistence pattern of seasonal rounds exploiting a diverse array of resources.

Archaeological data strongly indicate that Native Americans arrived in the Northeast following the last glacial period. Conflicting data suggest a Native American presence that pre-dates glaciation; however, post-glacial theory is more widely accepted. During the Wisconsin episode of the Pleistocene in the Northeast, glaciers reached their maximum advance between 18,000 and 16,000 years ago. As glaciers retreated north, gravel deposited along the melting margin formed moraines. Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard, Long Island and Staten Island mark the southern edge of the glacier as it stood about 15,000 years before the present (B.P.). Parts of these islands are formed from moraines left behind as the glaciers retreated north. Most of New York and New England became exposed over the next 2000 years. As the ice melted, glacial lakes formed. Swamps formed as the lakes filled with sediments. By 13,000 B.P. flora and fauna began repopulating southern New England.

3.1.1 Paleoindian Period (~12,000 to 9,500 B.P.)

By 12,000 to 13,000 B.P. people began moving into the Northeast. They encountered a cold dry tundra environment dotted with postglacial lakes that supported very different plants and animals than those present today. The Paleoindian has been labeled the big game hunter. However, archaeologists now widely accept the view that early settlers also utilized smaller scale local resources. Excavations during the last two decades have recovered Paleoindian sites that show a more sedentary lifestyle than previously thought.

Intact sites from this time period are rare, but more have been identified during the past ten years. They are readily identifiable by the distinctive fluted points used by their inhabitants. Because of their age the sites are prone to disturbance by natural events and recent human activities. One undisturbed Paleoindian site was found in Connecticut along the Shepaug River in Washington (site 6LF21, a.k.a. the Templeton Site). Excavated in 1977, it remains one of the only published Paleoindian sites in Connecticut and has returned the only radiocarbon date for this period in the state (10,190 B.P.). Another professionally excavated Paleoindian site was identified on the Mashantucket Pequot Reservation in southeastern Connecticut. Although there was no reported radiocarbon date for the site, projectile point styles suggest it dates close to 10,000 B.P.

Isolated finds of fluted points have been found elsewhere in Connecticut. . Archaeologist Bellantoni reports that over fifty fluted points have been recovered in the state, most reported by collectors who recovered them from plowed fields (Keegan and Keegan 1999). Many are associated with the locations of postglacial lake basins. For example, several fluted points have been found near the rich ecological zone of Robbins Swamp in northwestern Connecticut. The presence and location of the fluted points confirm that the sites belong to the Paleoindian period and that the residents of the sites were fully aware of resources other than herds of large game.

3.1.2 Early Archaic Period (10,000 - 8,000 B.P.)

Archaeologists have found relatively few sites dating from the Early Archaic Period in the Northeast. The transition from the Paleo-Indian to the Early Archaic period is well documented with sites in other areas of the country. However, in the Northeast no clear transition phase has been noted to date.

While the number of radiocarbon-dated Early Archaic sites remains low, they have been found in all the northeastern states. In New York, sites have been found in the Susquehanna Valley, at Lake George, and on Staten Island. The Weirs Beach site on Lake Winnipesaukee in northern New Hampshire had three Early Archaic radiocarbon dates (9,615; 9,155; and 8,985 B.P.). A site on Vermont's Missisquoi River near the Canadian border yielded a radiocarbon date of 8,200 B.P. and a collection of corner-notched points.

Connecticut Early Archaic sites include Yale University's Lewis-Walpole site in Farmington, the Dill Farm site in East Haddam, which held bifurcate base points and yielded a radiocarbon date of 8,050 B.P. at as well as scattered finds. A series of Early Archaic sites were found along the upper Housatonic River at Robbins Swamp in northwestern Connecticut, Several dozen early sites were found in a 40 square-kilometer area during surveys performed by the American Indian Archaeological Institute (now the Institute for American Indian Studies). These sites are reportedly associated with landforms ranging from lake shorelines and upper river terraces to wetland margins and upland springs. They include large, multiple, early component sites, and small, single component, special-activity sites.

3.1.3 Middle Archaic Period (8,000 - 6,000 B.P.)

Archaeological data indicate that Precontact inhabitants of the Northeast began settling into distinct bands with defined territories during the Middle Archaic Period. They established base camps and occupied a variety of special purpose sites during a carefully planned seasonal round. Coastal resources were intensively exploited for the first time during this period. Several new tool types appear during this time, including woodworking tools and large ground stone semi-lunar knives.

Connecticut Middle Archaic sites include the Lewis-Walpole site in Farmington and several sites found by the Public Archaeology Survey Team in the Connecticut River Valley. The Farmington site contained large numbers of Middle Archaic artifacts and the remains of fire hearths, which indicate relatively long-term site occupation. Unfortunately, disturbance at this site prevented any clear stratigraphic record of the Middle Archaic sequence. Evidence from the Connecticut River Valley sites, including the Dill Farm site in East Haddam, indicated increasing task diversification and economic complexity. Large numbers of Middle Archaic Neville and Stark points were found at each of these sites.

3.1.4 Late Archaic Period (6,000-4,000 B.P.)

While an abundance of data exists on the Late Archaic Period, knowledge on the period is incomplete. Current data indicates that the number, size, and types of sites increase dramatically. Populations increased, and economic diversity continued and expanded. Data from archaeology sites indicate longer seasons of settled living, the appearance of ritual burial practices, the use of storage, and a rise in the importance of gathering activities.

The archaeology of the Late Archaic in Connecticut is usually defined as the Mast Forest Archaic, or the Narrow-Stemmed or Narrow-Point tradition. Small narrow-stemmed projectile points, most often made of quartz, are usually associated with these sites. Squibnocket, Sylvan, and Wading River point types are also part of the Late Archaic assemblage. Bone tools also appear, as does pigment use in painting personal objects. (Lavin and Mozzi 1996: 21)

3.1.5 Terminal Archaic Period (4,000 - 3,000 B.P.)

Research conducted during the last 10-15 years shows substantial cultural continuity during the transition from the Terminal Archaic period to the Woodland period. Narrow-stemmed projectile points continue to appear in Terminal Archaic sites in Connecticut and may continue into the Early Woodland. Stratigraphic data and radiocarbon dates from multiple Connecticut sites support this continuity.

Two hallmarks of the Terminal Archaic are the appearance of broad-stemmed, Susquehanna-tradition projectile points and steatite, or soapstone, bowls. These bowls suggest that people were staying long enough in one place to make the use of large, relatively heavy cooking vessels worthwhile. A more sedentary lifestyle and changes in subsistence strategies must also have provided foodstuffs that required heat and longer processing.

3.1.6 Early Woodland Period (3,000 - 2,000 B.P.)

Connecticut's Early Woodland period sites are identified by the presence of a quartz cobble tool industry and the production of coarse Vinette I ceramics. However, Vinette I ceramics are also found in very late Terminal Archaic sites. The use of Narrow-stemmed projectile points continues during this period.

A widespread trade network existed during the Early Woodland Period, but Connecticut inhabitants do not seem to have been very active participants. Early Woodland sites in New York have yielded exotic seashells and distinctive types of stone. A mortuary ceremonialism arose that used the exotic materials as grave goods. However, these exotic lithics and grave goods are not commonly found in Connecticut.

3.1.7 Middle Woodland Period (2,000 - 1,000 B.P.)

During the Middle Woodland period Precontact inhabitants of Connecticut entered into the trade network that existed earlier in New York. The use of non-local lithics increased in the second half of the period, from 1,250 to 1,000 B.P. Archaeological investigations in the Connecticut River Valley have shown that the use non-local stone increases from 5-10% to 54% through the Middle Woodland period.

Refinements in ceramics also took place. Rocker or dentate-stamped pottery appears early in the Middle Woodland, period while the thinner walled, Sebonac tradition ceramic types appear in the second half. Sites found along waterways in Connecticut indicate changes in subsistence and settlement patterns, with populations aggregating along the larger watercourses for the entire year.

3.1.8 Late Woodland Period (1,000 B.P. - Approx. 400 B.P.)

The Late Woodland period, which marks the end of the prehistoric era, saw the establishment of larger, more sedentary settlements, with horticulture becoming an integral part of the local diet and social system. Trade networks continued to flourish in Connecticut. The tribes who met the first Europeans become distinguishable during this period, with Iroquoian speakers occupying most of New York, and Algonquian-speaking groups making their home in southern New York and New England.

The archaeology of Late Woodland sites in Connecticut includes two major ceramic traditions. Sites in the western part of the state contain ceramics of the East River tradition. Ceramics of the Windsor tradition are found in the east. Levanna Triangle projectile points are also associated with Late Woodland sites in Connecticut.

Two important Late Woodland period sites located on the floodplain of the Connecticut River are the Morgan Site in Rocky Hill (6-HT-120 dating to ca. 675+/-75 B.P. and 630 +/-70 B.P.) and an unnamed site in South Windsor (6-HT-116 dating to ca. 460 +/- 100 and 445 +/-90 B.P.). While the site in South Windsor yielded evidence of horticultural use of native species and only one kernel of maize, the Rocky Hill site contained extensive quantities of maize together with a diversity of ceramic types and Levanna projectile points (McBride 1984; Lavin 1988).

Prior to the presence of first European settlers in the area, Native American villages were scattered along the flanks of what is now known as the Connecticut River. Numerous River tribes of the Algonquin group existed, but they apparently did not have a collective name for themselves. All of the river tribes reportedly

spoke a dialect of the Algonquin language, which has been called either Quiripi or Wampano. The Podunk were known to have lived along the east side of the Connecticut River near East Windsor and East Hartford (Sultzman 1997). Previously documented Podunk villages include Appaquag, Hockanum, Namaroake, Naubuc, Newashe (Nawaas), Peskantuk (Peskeomskut), Podunk, and Scanticook (Scantic, Skaticook) (Ibid.).

According to historical accounts,

> The *Podunk* tribe consisted of three bands: the *Namferoke* (*Podunk*, "fishing place"), who lived near the village of Warehouse Point; the *Hockanum* (*Podunk*, "a hook", or "hook shaped"), led by *Tantonimo*, who lived near the village still known as *Hockanum*; and the *Scanticook* (*Nipmuc*, "at the river fork"), who lived on the north bank of the *Scantic* River near the section called Weymouth... (Quinnehtukqut Nipmuc News 1999).

The village at Hockanum was purportedly located about a half-mile north of the project site, on the south side of Willow Brook (Spiess and Bidwell, 1924; see Figure 4 of this report). A map of Podunk villages in the East Hartford area shows a second village on Pewter Pot Brook, about a mile east of the project site (Ibid.). Although there were numerous villages, several cemeteries and at least one fortified villages located along fresh streams and brooks in the East Hartford area, none were reported at the project site location (Ibid.; Spiess 1934; see Figure 4 of this report).

3.1.9 Contact Period (ca.1600-1650)

The initial interactions between Native Americans and Europeans typifies the Contact period, dating from roughly A.D. 1600-1650. At the beginning of this period, Native American settlement patterns were essentially the same as those of the Late Woodland period. Stream side camp sites were occupied in the spring and fall to take advantage of bountiful fish runs. Upland and inland task specific sites were also occupied for short periods for hunting, trapping, and lithic procurement. Palisaded villages were situated on hilltops near rivers, each consisting of between three to sixteen bark-covered longhouses sheltering an average of about 200 individuals. These were located near planting fields, and had to be moved after ten or twenty years when soil fertility, firewood, and nearby game resources were reduced (Salwen 1975). Planting fields were commonly burned at the end of the season to encourage new growth and attract grazing animals. Large pits were used for storing dried meat, fish, and corn, and to bury unwanted trash.

The earliest meetings between Native Americans and Europeans transpired when early explorers traded with the native population. As non-indigenous materials were introduced into the native material culture, tool assemblages and settlement and subsistence patterns changed drastically. Traditional stone, bone, and wood tools were replaced by European goods made of copper and iron. Shell beads and wampum were produced, and furs were collected by Native Americans as a medium of exchange. Europeans were happy to procure furs from Native Americans, resulting in many trading posts being established along New England's major tributaries, including the Connecticut River.

Plagues, intertribal stress, and the pursuits of Europeans to obtain land rights resulted in the subsequent breakdown of native socio-political organization during the seventeenth century. The plagues of 1616-1620, inadvertently introduced by Europeans, depopulated many groups with total losses in southern New England estimated at between 70-90 percent of the original population (Snow 1980). Moreover, the conflicts engendered by rapid colonial expansion, war, and epidemics, caused many Native American groups either to leave the area or take up habitation in established communities, i.e. reservations (Ibid.).

By the end of this period, traditional tools were replaced by adopted European goods such as copper and iron. Shell beads and wampum were produced and furs were collected by Native Americans as a medium

of exchange. As European encroachment on Indian land persisted, these small groups were forced onto smaller and smaller tracts of land, and finally onto reservations. These were small and residents faced economic hardships. As a result, many of these groups moved into English communities or disbanded.

Extensive documentary research pertaining to the Podunk occupying the East Hartford area has been completed. The adjacent United Technologies Company (UTC) parcel, immediately north of Brewer Street, has undergone two cultural resource studies, both of which established the location of reported Podunk villages outside the current project site (e.g., Forrest et al 2006; Heritage Consultants 2006).[2] Both of these reports also provide details about the subsequent rise of the Pequot nation in the Connecticut River Valley, and their assumption of control over the Podunks (Ibid.). Therefore, that information will not be repeated in this document (see Forest et al 2006 and Heritage Consultants 2006).

3.1.9 Known Native American Sites in Proximity to the Project Site

The project site lies in the heart of the Podunk land, and is in proximity to locations that were associated with them as identified by early historians (see Figure 4). In the early 20th century, historian Mathias Spiess spent time documenting where known Podunk sites were on the landscape; where any collected material had been reposited; and what types of material were found (Spiess and Bidwell 1924; Spiess 1937). In addition to the villages, cemeteries, and fortified sites Spiess documented, Native American artifacts have been found from additional locations throughout the East Hartford area.

A site file search at the Office of State Archaeologist (OSA) identified two previously recorded Precontact sites within a one-mile radius of the project site, and one previously recorded historical archaeological site (Figure 5). In all likelihood, this only represents a fraction of the actual footprint of Native American use on the landscape. It is very likely that additional unidentified Precontact period sites once existed within the vicinity that have been lost to the ravages of development and extensive land manipulation.

The "Hockanum Village" site, Site 43-09, is located within land formerly belonging to UTC about a half mile north of the current project site. Reports place the site near Runway 4/22, south of Willow Brook, although its precise location has never been verified (Spiess 1937 as cited in Forrest et al 2006; Heritage Consultants 2006). The site location was depicted on Spiess' map of "Indian Trails and Villages," but his documentation provides little information about the site's actual association with the Podunk (Ibid.). In fact, it is thought that this site might actually be associated with Site 43-22, current reported as being just north of the one-mile radius around the project site, close to Silver Lane (Figure 5). Little is known about either site beyond Spiess' recordation of them, and it is postulated that both have been destroyed by 20th century development (Heritage Consultants 2006).

About .75 miles to the west of the project site, close to the banks of the Connecticut River, lies Site 43-13 (Figure 5). The site is known as the Ensign Street burial ground, described as a Contact Period cemetery. The site was identified by workers digging in the field who recovered an unknown number of burials. According to the site form, prepared by archaeologist Fred Warner in the 1970s, a skull from this site was in the possession of Yale University at that time

In summary, there is a well-documented Native American presence in proximity to the project site. Large streams and minor tributaries provided ample fresh water sources for hunting encampments and larger village settlements, and likely the area was used throughout the Precontact period. The same factors that

[2] An exhaustive summary of Precontact and Contact period peoples in the East Hartford area can be found in both of these documents (Ibid.).

contributed to the region's continued use lead to its extensive development during the subsequent historical period.

3.2 Historic Era

The historical and relatively modern use of the project site is established through a detailed review of documentary records in order to determine:

1) If there is the potential for historical period archaeological deposits to exist on the site;
2) If there is the potential for extant historical resources (structures) to exist in and around the viewshed of the project site; and,
3) If any disturbance to the site has occurred that may have eradicated potential archaeological sensitivity.

For this reason, a brief historical background of the overall project area is provided, while more intensive documentary research is focused on site-specific development.

3.2.1 Background History of Project Area

The town of Hartford once included the land now occupied by the towns of East Hartford, Manchester, and West Hartford. In 1783, East Hartford became a separate town and in 1823, the town of Manchester was annexed from it. East Hartford was also known as the "three mile tract," spanning the eastern side of the Connecticut River from the Hockanum River at the north, to the mouth of Pewter Pot Brook at the south, and extending inland eastward for three miles (Goodwin 1884).

The project site is located in the Hockanum section of East Hartford, characterized by a large meadow to the east of the Connecticut River. Numerous small to large tributaries course through East Hartford, contributing to the area's rich alluvial soils. The agricultural value of the land and the potential water-power of the streams were recognized by early residents who began to settle the area intensively in the early 1660s.

In 1659, Thomas Burnham purchased a tract of land that includes with is now East Hartford from Tantinomo, sachem of the Podunk Indians. His possession of this land led to endless lawsuits, supported by the government, and he was ordered to divide it. Burnham refused to give up his tract, however, and the contesting of ownership continued for many years. As late as 1688 a town meeting of Hartford's residents resulted in the creation of a committee to contend with his land claims. Burnham maintained his land, erecting a house at what was referred to as Podunk – several miles north of the project site. After Burnham's death in 1688, this tract was subdivided by his nine children.

The earliest roads and pathways in East Hartford were north, west, and south of the project site, and the earliest development was centered along them. Main Street was laid out in 1670; Silver Lane and Burnside Avenue in the 1720s (Goodwin 1884). Brewer Street, formerly Brewer Lane, did not exist prior to the mid-18th century, but was under consideration by 1743. According to historian Goodwin, in 1751 the General Assembly made void the doings of an earlier jury appointed by the County Court, and directed the court to appoint another jury for a new lay-out of this street.

> They were "to begin at the said road [now the west road leading from Hartford to Glastonbury] and to lay-out a highway from thence eastward, to be on the south side of said Sanuiel Wells's[3] [sic] lot, of suitable width until it fall in with the said highway on said lot laid out by the former jury, and assess the damages," etc. The Wells family

[3] Samuel Well owned a large tract of land north of Brewer Street in what became UTC property.

> owned land from this road north to the north side of the house lot of Mr. Addison Pitkin, and extending, I am told, to the three-miles end (Goodwin 1879).

Brewer Street was subsequently laid out in an east-west direction between Hockanum and what is now Forbes Street.

During the American Revolution, East Hartford was the site of two encampments by Rochambeau and his army (French army Camp à East Hartford 1782). While it is documented that Rochambeau quartered at the Elisha Pitkin house, his troops bivouacked in the fields north of Silver Lane, about a mile north of the project site (Goodwin 1884). Reportedly, they described the area as having woods and fields, crossed by numerous small streams (Harper et al. 1999).

Some of the smaller streams in the area of the project site were employed in various industries by the early 19th century. To the southwest of the project site, a saw-mill was established at an early date on Pewter Pot Brook in Hockanum. By 1802 this had become a grist mill, and it was still in use as late as 1879 (Goodwin 1879). Also on Pewter Pot Brook, to the north of the project site and Brewer Street (formerly Lane), stood an old oil mill for making linseed oil from flax seed (Ibid; see Figure 6 of this report). Tin ware was once made in a shop on what is now Main Street, below Pewter Pot Brook in Hockanum (Ibid.).

3.2.2 Site Specific History

By the early 19th century, and possibly earlier, tobacco farming had been established on the fertile meadows of East Hartford, much to the economic benefit of the local farmers. Captain Samuel Brewer was one of the largest landowners in the community, with holdings totaling roughly 3,000 acres in Hartford and East Hartford. Brewer established a large tobacco plantation in the Hockanum area of East Hartford, and traded cigars in New York for dry goods and rum sold in his store in East Hartford. The Brewer Tobacco Plantation reportedly stretched along Main Street and part of Brewer Lane for more than a mile (Federal Writers Project 1938). The Brewer family's success in tobacco is reflected in the longevity of their business.

The Brewer Brothers Company at Hockanum was still in the business of sorting and packing tobacco as late as 1919 (State of Connecticut 1919). The family was also well known for their other agricultural endeavors. In 1910 Mr. Brewer of East Hartford was cited as having one of the most productive corn crops in Connecticut, having produced 133 bushels of shelled corn per acre - a feat that was considered highly impressive at the time (Connecticut State Board of Agriculture 1910).

The Brewer family was well established in East Hartford by the mid-19th century, occupying no less than 10 dwellings in the area centered on the intersection of Brewer and Main Streets. The Selden Brewer House, an ornate Greek Revival brick dwelling constructed between 1827 and 1833 on Main Street near the north end of the plantation, stands today in its new location at the intersection of Main and Naubuc Street. It currently serves as the home to the East Hartford Historical Society.

By 1855 there were at least four farm houses established on the north side of Brewer Street, and five on the south, but none appeared to have fallen within the project site boundaries (Woodford 1855: Figure 7). By superimposing modern maps on historical ones, the placement of the project site appears to have been located immediately south of the H. Brewer farm, and west of the R. Brewer farm. In 1850, among the multiple listings for Brewer on the U.S. Census, only one adult's first name began with the letter R; Reuben, a farmer who lived with his wife, Jane, and their three children (U.S. Census 1850).

The project site remained vacant on maps in 1869, but both the house to the north and the house to the immediate east of the project site had been purchased or inherited by C. Vibert (Baker & Tilden; Figure 8). The 1860 Census lists both a Charles and a Chauncy Vibert living in East Hartford, and both are farmers (U.S. Census 1860). The site and surrounding residents appeared virtually unchanged in 1884, although there were less Brewer families living in the area (U.S. Census 1880; Hyde and Company; Figure 9). At that time C. Vibert still retained ownership of the property to the north and to the immediate east (Ibid.). In 1893 and 1906 the project site was still identified as undeveloped, with dwellings to the north and east (U.S.G.S. 1893 and 1906; Figure 10).

During the early 20th century, the role of tobacco farming in the East Hartford area began to diminish as land gave way to other agricultural and commercial endeavors. Concurrently, the population of East Hartford increased exponentially, resulting in a housing boom. Then, in 1929 the Pratt and Whitney Aircraft Company purchased 1000 acres from the Brewers and other farmers for their new factory on Silver Lane, further changing the face of the surrounding landscape.

The 1931 Dolph and Stewart atlas does not depict individual structures, but does indicate that the project site was owned by M. V. Brewer, who collectively owned 20 acres in the immediate vicinity. No M.V. Brewer was identified in the 1930 U.S. Census (U.S. Census 1930). To the east of Brewer's tract was an eight acre parcel owned by Duane A. Viberts (Dolph and Stewart 1931). To the north of Brewer Street were 12 acres owned by John Geiserman, and another 12 owned by M. V. Brewer (Ibid.). An aerial photograph taken in 1934 shows the project site under cultivation, with tobacco barns located along the edges of agricultural fields to the west, east, and south (Fairchild 1934; Figure 11). Likely, the Brewers were still farming it at that time.

A search backward through the census records indicates that Duane A. Vibert was the son of George and Jane Vibert, and was aged two in 1880 (U.S. Census 1880). Also living with the family was George's widowed mother, Cynthia Viberts, who may have been the C. Viberts observed on maps and atlases in both 1869 and 1884. From 1900 through at least 1920, Duane Vibert is listed on federal census records as single and living with his widowed mother, Jane (U.S. Census 1900, 1910, 1920). Directories have him listed as living in East Hartford on Brewer Street from at least 1904 through 1930 (Geers 1904, 1916, 1919, 1923, 1925, and 1930). While he was listed as a farmer through 1923, in 1925 and 1930 he was employed as a salesman (Ibid.).

Duane's mother Jane may have been a Brewer by birth, given that there is an infant Jane Brewer living with her widowed father, Samuel Brewer in 1860. Her age of 3 in 1860 would make her slightly younger than the age of 49 that Duane's mother is listed as in 1900, but this six year anomaly (43 vs. 49) could have been a recordation error. A marriage certificate for Jane and George Vibert, which could verify Jane's maiden name, has not been located (www.ancestry.com; site accessed January 22, 2010).

An overlay of the 1934 aerial photograph and the project site's location on a current U.S.G.S. topographic map indicates that the nearby farm complexes observed on the photograph and earlier maps and atlases are north and west of the project site (see mapped location of project site on Figure 11). However, the Connecticut State GIS system of map overlays indicates that modern Graham Road is actually *east* of the farm complex, rather than west, with the farmstead almost entirely in the project site (UCONN Magic 1990). It should be noted that a disclaimer at the website for the aerial photographs cautions against their absolute accuracy due to skewed perceptions, changes to the landscape, etc. (Ibid.).[4] This large an inaccuracy is questionable, however, especially when other mapping calculations place the project site to

[4] Specifically, the site states "When viewing geospatial data on our site please understand that the maps and data come from a variety of sources and were created at different scales using different methodologies. Therefore, at times maps may not "line up" perfectly" (http://econmap.com/magic/).

the west of the farmstead. Regardless, this discrepancy indicates that it must be considered possible that at least a portion of the Brewer/Vibert farm complex may lie within the project site.

In 1965 the commercial building now owned by Southern New England Telephone (SNET) was constructed on Lot A immediately to the west of the current project site (Town of East Hartford Property Card, 125 Brewer Street, Property 1090). Shortly thereafter, Graham, Glenn, and Leichtner Roads were laid out around the project site, and dozens of multifamily houses were constructed fronting onto these streets (Ibid.).

By the time a 1990 aerial photograph of the project site was taken, it appeared as it does today (UCONN Magic 1990; Figure 13). A large housing development had been built to the east, south, and west of the site where former tobacco fields lay. The site itself was vacant, as it is today, and no vestiges of the Brewer/Vibert farm complex remained on the landscape.

3.2.3 Known Historical Archaeological Sites in Proximity to the Project Site

There is only one previously inventoried historical period archaeological site identified within a one-mile radius of the project site. What is designated as CHC Site 43-26 is situated about .75 miles to the southwest in the village of East Hartford (Figure 5). The site was the location of the 18th century George Risley house, which was moved from its original location on Main Street to another town. Archaeological excavations at the site yielded domestic remains from the 18th and 19th century occupation of the dwelling.

4.0 POTENTIAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY

The potential archaeological sensitivity of the project site is based on two factors; what is the likelihood that potential resources were deposited on the site, and what is the likelihood that those resources have remained undisturbed and intact.

4.1 Precontact Archaeological Sensitivity

The project site lies in an area of known Precontact use. At least three Precontact sites have been previously identified within a one mile radius, and many more exist in East Hartford, having been documented along various rivers and streams (Figure 5). The presence of Podunk villages and burial grounds have been well documented by historian Spiess, who places village sites to the north and east of the project site, one along a branch of Pewter Pot Brook (Spiess and Bidwell 1924; Spiess 1937).

While no Native American resources have been identified within the project site itself, the proximity of known sites and the presence of nearby Pewter Pot Brook suggest that this area may have experienced a Precontact presence. A prior assessment of Precontact archaeological potential for the UTC property north of Brewer Street concluded that many areas were indeed sensitive for Native American resources, outside of locations that were extensively disturbed (see Figure 28 of Forrest et al 2006). The area immediately to the north of the Brewer Street Fire Station site was found to contain contaminated soils, which may have negated the feasibility of testing for cultural resources, but did not necessarily negate the possibility that they were once deposited there. Outside of the contaminated areas, archaeological potential was noted (Ibid.).

The current project site's topography – a relatively flat area in proximity to a fresh water source - coupled with the well drained alluvial soils documented in the site soil study (Weltie 2009), and the known Native American presence in the immediate vicinity, strongly suggest that there is a high potential for precontact

resources to have been deposited on site. These factors, coupled with the fact that there is virtually no documented disturbance to the site beyond its agricultural use, which may have displaced artifacts but does not necessarily destroy site integrity, renders the site highly sensitivity for intact Precontact deposits. There is the possibility that a portion of the Brewer/Vibert farmstead stood on or near the project site, which may have disturbed discrete locations. Furthermore, there is some documented subsurface disturbance immediately along Brewer Street where buried sewer and water pipes exist. Regardless, the vast majority of the project site appears to have remained undisturbed and is, therefore, sensitive for precontact resources.

4.2 Historical Archaeological Sensitivity

Documentary research suggests that the project site was historically used as agricultural land. By 1855 the R. Brewer farm complex was mapped immediately adjacent to, and possibly partially within the project site. The farm house was owned by the Vibert family from at least 1869 through the 1930s, and it appeared to have been razed sometime in the 1940s or 1950s. This is about the time that small single-family Cape Cod style houses were constructed along Brewer Street on undeveloped land west of the project site, in order to serve the growing workforce at UTC. Currently, the project site is surrounded by houses dating to the late 1960s; no visible remnants of the Brewer/Vibert complex remain.

If indeed the farm complex extended into the project site, then there is the possibility that footprints of historical buildings (the dwelling, farns, etc.) exist in the project site. Furthermore, there is also the possibility that more deeply buried shaft features (e.g., privies, cisterns, and wells) may have been left undisturbed. These potential vestiges of 19th century New England agricultural life could provide important information about the changing landscape of East Hartford, as the community transitioned from agricultural use to commercial use. Since there is the potential for components of the farm complex to have existed within the project site, it must be considered potentially sensitive for these 19th through 20th century farm-related resources.

5.0 HISTORICAL RESOURCES

There are no previously inventoried historic sites or historic districts in or around the current project site (Craig Johnson, president of the East Hartford Historical Society to Faline Schneiderman-Fox, January 22, 2010). All of the dwellings surrounding the project site were built in the late 1960s, with the exception of several small one-story Cape Cod style houses to the west on Brewer Street that were constructed in the late 1940s, but are physically and visually removed from the project site (Town of East Hartford Property Cards, Brewer Street; see Photographs 6 through 9 of this report). These small Capes were constructed as housing for Pratt and Whitney employees (Johnson to Schneiderman-Fox, January 22, 2010). Immediately to the north of the project site is a row of evergreens that buffer the view to the adjacent UTC property.

Although there were 19th century houses along Brewer Street in the early and mid-20th century, most of these were razed and replaced with more modern structures. The exception to this is a Greek Revival dwelling at 176 Brewer Street that dates to ca.1840 (Town of East Hartford Property Card, 176 Brewer Street, Property 1096). This house is located about 400 feet to the northeast of the project site, and there is a vacant lot and three mid-20th century houses separating the two (see Figure 13). Furthermore, this ca.1840 structure has been altered extensively, and now serves as a three-family home (Ibid.).

There will be no visual impact to any potential historic resources within the viewshed of the project site due to the late date of construction of all surrounding houses. Therefore, no further consideration is warranted for this resource type.

6.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Documentary research and a pedestrian review of the project site have been completed for the Brewer Street Fire Station project site. The results of this study conclude that the project site is sensitive for Precontact archaeological deposits, due to the high number of documented sites on similar landforms in the immediate vicinity, and the questionable degree of historical disturbances. Furthermore, research indicates that the site was used as an agricultural field, but that a portion of the ca.1855 Brewer/Vibert farm complex may have extended onto it. Therefore, the potential for buried historical archaeological resources cannot be discounted.

Due to the archaeological sensitivity of the project site, Phase IB archaeological field testing is recommended in order to verify the presence/absence of buried resources. Field testing should entail the completion of a series of hand-excavated Shovel Tests (STs) at an interval of no greater than 15 meters, as per the *Environmental Review Primer for Connecticut's Archaeological Resources* (1987). If historical archaeological deposits are encountered, the testing interval may be reduced to no more than 7.5 meters.

The project site does not lie in an area of previously recognized historical resources, and no historical houses or other features are located within its viewshed. One historical house was identified at 176 Brewer Street, but it is visually and physically separated from the project site by vacant land and three standing structures. Furthermore, the historical integrity of the structure has been lost, in part, due to its modification and conversion to a three-family house. Therefore, the construction of a new fire station will have no visual impact to any potential historical resources on or adjacent to the project site, and no further consideration for this resource type is warranted.

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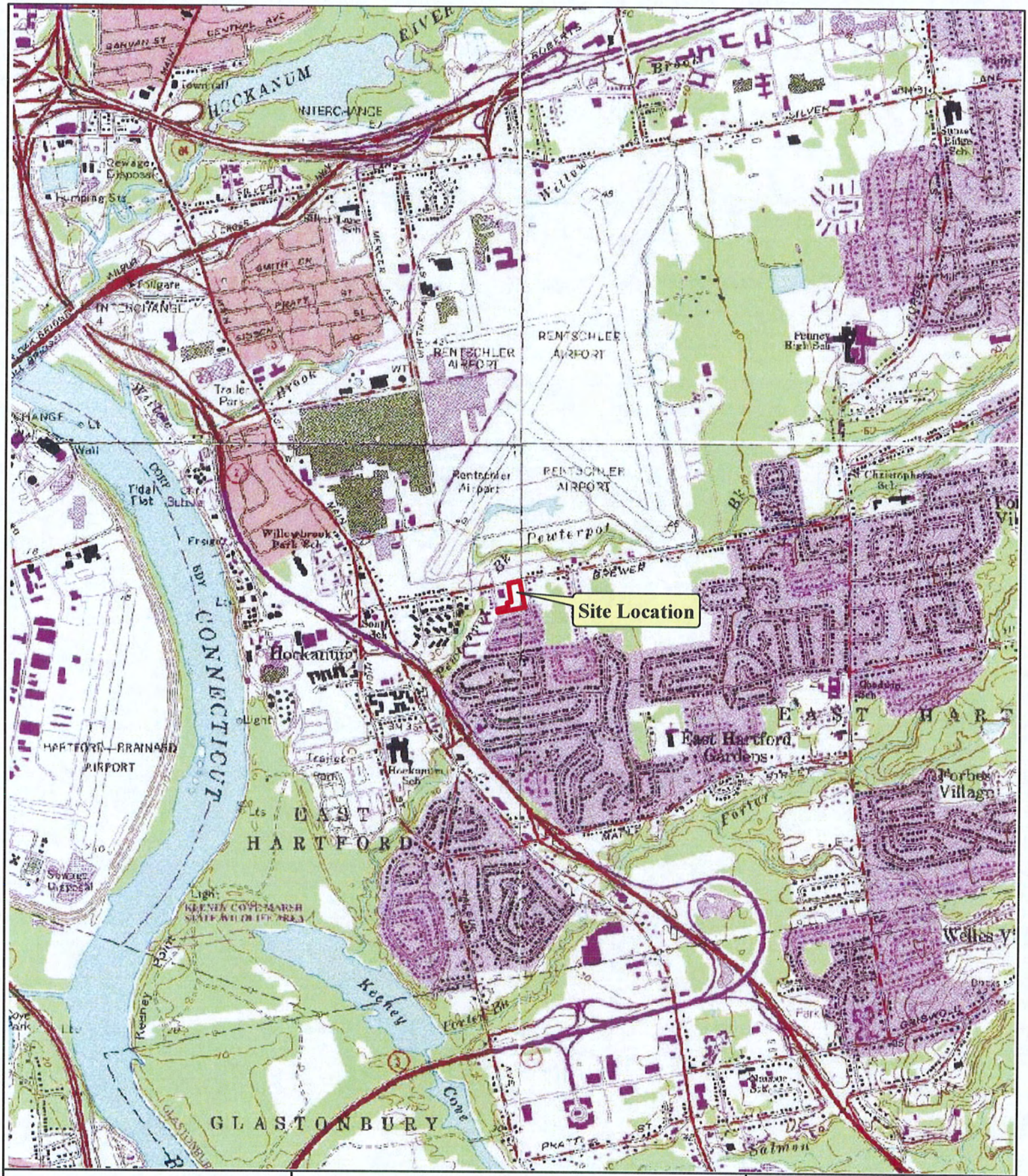

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Project Site Location.

LOCATION: East Hartford, CT

MMI#: 2854-12

MXD: H:location.mxd

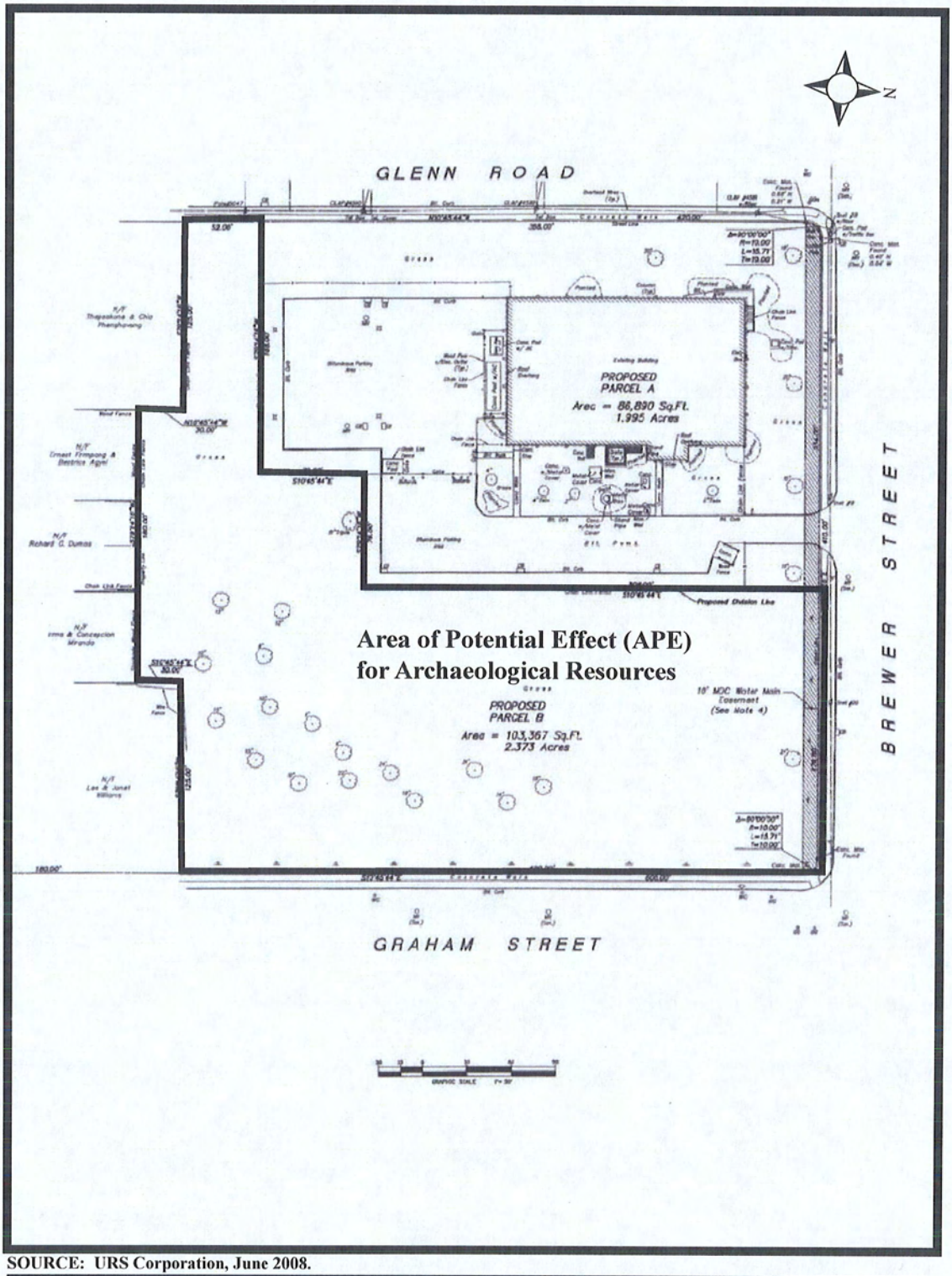
SOURCE: DEP Bulletin No.40

Hartford North, Hartford South, Manchester, and Glastonbury Quadrangles. U.S.G.S., 7.5 Minute Series.

DATE: January 2010

SCALE: 1"= 2,000'

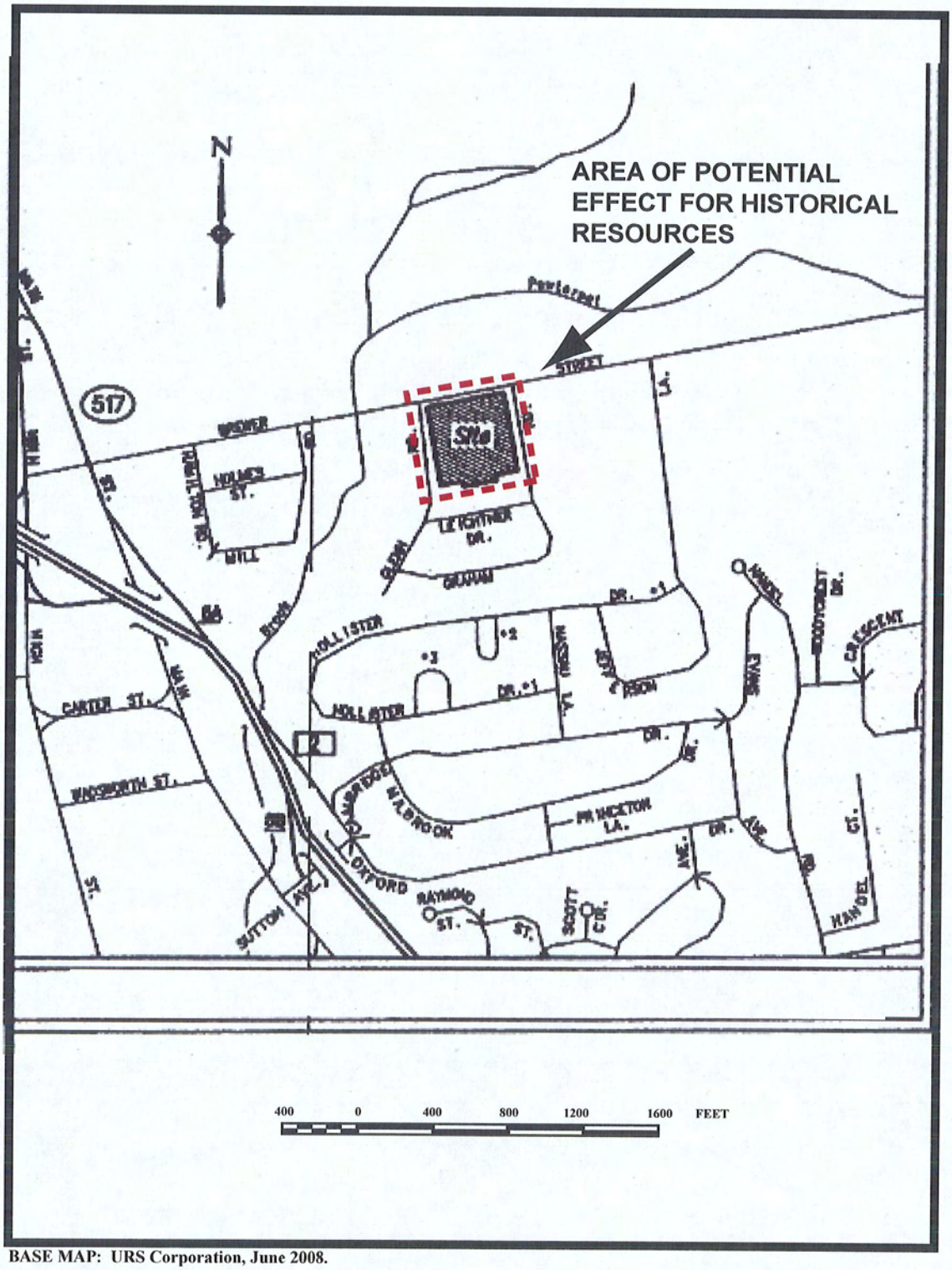
SHEET: Figure 1



SOURCE: URS Corporation, June 2008.

PHASE IA CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY
PROPOSED FIRE STATION, 141 BREWER STREET
TOWN OF EAST HARTFORD
CONNECTICUT

FIGURE 2: Location of Area of Potential Effect (APE) for Archaeological Resources and Current Conditions.



BASE MAP: URS Corporation, June 2008.

PHASE IA CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY
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FIGURE 3: Location of Area of Potential Effect (APE) for Historical Resources.