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BROOKSIDE LOOP DEVELOPMENT  
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK  
TAX BLOCK 7020  
LOTS 128, 133, 200, 250, 123, 372, AND 382  
PHASE IA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY EVALUATION

prepared for:  
FSK Construction Corporation  
200 East 61<sup>st</sup> Street  
New York, New York 10021

prepared by:  
Greenhouse Consultants Incorporated  
40 Exchange Place, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10005

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document presents the Phase IA prehistoric and historic background research conducted by Greenhouse Consultants Incorporated (GCI) in accordance to the guidelines established by the National Historic Preservation Act and the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission. GCI conducted this research in advance to the proposed development of the Brookside Loop property, Staten Island, New York by FSK Construction Corporation of Manhattan, New York. The results of this prehistoric and historic sensitivity research has determined that the project area was largely agricultural throughout the historic period and because of its elevation and proximity to the Sandy Brook and other known prehistoric sites the project area lies within a sensitive archaeological area. This is to say that the project area has the potential for yielding evidence of prehistoric occupation, and to a minimal degree historic period components. As a result, GCI recommends that a Phase IB archaeological testing be conducted within the project area to determine the presence or absence of intact archaeological deposits.

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## **LIST OF PERSONNEL**

Kristofer M. Beadenkopf	-	Principal Investigator Author
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## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Phase IA archaeological sensitivity study is to document the potential prehistoric and historic sensitivity of the proposed Brookside Loop Development. This is accomplished through the review of existing archival, cartographic, and published references, which supply information then used to make recommendations regarding possible testing. Additionally, in order to provide a more detailed context for an evaluation of any identified resources within the parcel, this survey will also include a synthesis of unpublished prehistoric and historic resources in the immediate vicinity of the project area.

The project area is located in Staten Island, south of Anthony Street and north of Richmond Parkway, and is bounded to the west by Winant Avenue and on the east by Warner Avenue. The dimensions of the project area are approximately 300 feet (west-east) by 840 feet (north-south). The project area is located on Tax Block 7020, Lots 123, 128, 133, 200, 250, 372 and 382. See Figure 1 for the location of the Brookside Loop Development on the USGS Arthur Kill Quadrangle and Figure 2 for a more detailed view of the proposed development within the project area.

This study is organized in the following manner: first, a section describing the geography and physical setting of the project area; second, a section that describes the prehistoric sensitivity of the area; third, a review of the historic sensitivity of the area; and fourth, the conclusions and recommendations.

## GEOGRAPHY AND PHYSICAL SETTING

The Brookside Loop Development is located in the Atlantic Coastal Lowland Physiographic Province of New York State. According to Van Diver (1985:34) Long Island is only other location in the state where this province occurs. Geographically, Staten Island is part of New Jersey from which it is separated by the Kill Van Kull and the Staten Island Sound (Skinner 1909:3).

The geology of Staten Island consists of landforms and sediments deposited by the Wisconsin Ice Sheet 55,000-10,000 years ago. These sediments consisted of ground moraine, terminal moraine, and outwash sediments (Jacobson 1980:5). The shoreline of this portion of Staten Island is comprised of sandy embankments of beach sand adjacent to, and in some cases, overlying the area's geologically earlier (Cretaceous) glacial deposits of sand and clay (Bayles 1887:13; Weingartner 1967:41). Fill as well as beach, marsh, dune, swamp, and estuarine deposits may overlie glacial deposits in localized areas (Jacobson 1980:5).

In October 2003, the principal investigator visited the Brookside Loop Development project area in Staten Island. This visit centered on a pedestrian survey, or field inspection, of the project area. The project area is currently a wooded tract of land extending from Woodrow Road to the north and bounded to the east by Sandy Brook (see Plate 1). A temporary gravel driveway (see Plate 2) has been created in the location of the access road to the tract of land and is slated to be paved with asphalt terminating in a cul-de-sac. Homes are projected to be built along the west and eastern sides of this access road within the wooded areas, and a model home has already been constructed in the northeast portion of the project area (see Plate 3).

## PREHISTORIC SENSITIVITY

As part of the evaluation process, this sensitivity study has surveyed published and unpublished resources housed in a variety of locations, including the following: the Archives and Library of the Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences (SIAS); the library of the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission; and the New York Public Library. The results of these searches confirm that the majority of the prehistoric archaeological work has been largely concentrated on the southern portion of the island (Greenhouse Consultants 1988:2). However, the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission has also determined that the area in which the Brookside Loop Development project area is located is of high archaeological sensitivity (Boesch 1994: Figure 4a).

The following review of surrounding prehistoric sites is largely based on the work of Greenhouse Consultants (1988), in which they compiled a list of twenty-nine prehistoric sites in the vicinity of nearby Maguire Estates. Follow up research conducted in October of 2003 has confirmed that these twenty-nine sites are in fact the only documented sites surrounding the project area. Table 1 presents the known prehistoric sites located within two miles or less of the Brookside Loop Development project area. The locations of these sites are shown in Figure 3 as letter codes that correspond to Table 1.

Very few of the sites located in the vicinity of the project area were excavated under controlled conditions, as they represent surface finds or other relatively poorly documented finds by local amateur archaeologists and/or pot hunters (Greenhouse Consultants 1988:2). The Cutting Farm site located 0.85 miles to the north of the project area and designated letter **R** in Table 1 and on Figure 3, was originally one of these poorly documented sites. Since its discovery in the early twentieth century archaeologists have confirmed that the Cutting Farm site is attributable to the Paleo-Indian (14,000 to 11,000 BC), and later Archaic (11,000 to 1,000 BC) and Woodland (1,000 BC to AD 1600) periods (Greenhouse Consultants 1988:2). The Cutting Farm site was the first recorded evidence of the Paleo-Indian occupation on Staten Island (Silver 1984).

Another site close to the Brookside Loop Development project area, and another that was documented by professional archaeologists is the Clay Pit Road site located 0.2 miles to the west of the Brookside Loop Development project area. This site is designated **E** in Table 1 and in Figure 3. The Clay Pit Road site dates to the Middle and Late Woodland period (AD 1 to 1600)



based on the presence of pottery (including Vinette Modified) and projectile points (Pickman 1978:II-8).

Eight of the twenty-nine sites in close proximity to the Brookside Loop Development area are known through the work of archaeologists during the first quarter of the twentieth century. These sites are listed as **A, L, M, P, S, X, Y,** and **AC** in Table 1 and on Figure 3. The descriptions of these sites, although relatively brief, indicate that the sites vary in size and significance, ranging from trace evidence of occupation through campsites and villages that occasionally contained burials or shell middens. Three of these sites were not given names by Parker or his colleagues. Greenhouse Consultants (1988) assigned names to sites **Y, A, AC** based on their proximity to local streams or historical settlements (Greenhouse Consultants 1988: 3). No further information is available about these three sites as no detailed descriptions of the artifacts recovered from them have been found. As a result no further assessment of temporal affiliation is possible for these three sites. Site **A**, named Sandy Brook for the stream that runs through it, is located immediately south of the Brookside Loop Development project area and may encroach within the current project area.

Alanson Skinner, an early twentieth century archaeologist with the American Museum of Natural History recorded two additional sites. These sites are listed as **B** and **G** in Table 1 and on Figure 3. Again, these sites were only minimally documented but some of the artifacts recovered are mentioned in these brief reports. Site **B**, Wort Farm, is reported to have contained burials and possibly dates to the Late Archaic (2,500 to 1,500 BC) through Late Woodland (AD 900 to 1600) periods, and is located 0.19 miles to the north of the current project area. Data also indicate the possibility that the Wort Farm site may extend into the Contact period (AD 1600 to 1750). Site **G**, the Rossville Shell Heap contained shell middens and possibly dwellings, and is located 0.6 miles northwest of the Brookside Loop Development project area. Greenhouse Consultants (1988:3) surmise that the Rossville Shell Heap probably dates to the Woodland period (1,000 BC to AD 1600) based on the description of the ceramics recovered by Skinner (1909:10-22).

One contemporary source of fresh water, the namesake of the Sandy Brook site, exists to the east of the project area and may have been used by prehistoric inhabitants of this part of Staten Island. Moreover, given that prehistoric materials were only found on the western side of Sandy Brook this indicates good potential for such materials to be found in the current project area. Additionally, the soils of the project area are relatively well drained and situated approximately 70 to 100 feet above mean sea level, and within 50 feet of the stream, well suited for prehistoric habitation.

As seen in Figure 3, the locations of known prehistoric sites is rather densely concentrated to the northwest of the project area. It is possible that, although reported separately, these sites may represent one or more larger occupation sites. Supporting this notion is a reference to this phenomenon at Lake's Island and Huguenot sites, as well as the Gerike Farm (I), Pottery Farm (O) and Chemical Lane (Q) sites (Greenhouse Consultants 1988:5). Barring the actual number of sites represented by the twenty-nine documented sites it is clearly evident that all periods of prehistoric occupation are present in this particular portion of Staten Island, and within less than a mile from the Brookside Loop Development project area.

Table 1: Prehistoric Sites in the Vicinity of the Brookside Loop Development

Site Name	Registration #	Reference	Period(s)	Description
A. Sandy Brook	ACP-RICH-14 NYSM 4604	Parker 1922:682	Mid-Late Woodland	Burials, traces of occupation
B. Wort Farm	SIAS: STD 2-3 NYSM 735	Skinner 1909:10	Late Archaic/Late Woodland	
C. Sandy Ground	SIAS:STD 24-3 NYSM 747			Placed on Nat. Reg. Sept. 23, 1982
D. Rossville Campsite	SIAS: STD R-3	Kaeser 1966	Woodland	Campsite
E. Clay Pit Road		Pickman 1978	Mid-Late Woodland	
F. Canada Hill	NYSM 770	Williams, n.d.		
G. Rossville Shell Heap	NYSM 772	Skinner 1909:11	Woodland	Shell Midden
H. Disrigas Area I	NYSM 2320	Rubertone 1974		
I. Gerike Farm		Pickman 1978	Archaic/Mid-Late Woodland	
J. New Site #2	NYSM 5702	Regensburg in Jacobson 1980	Early Woodland	
K. New Site #1	NYSM 5701	Regensburg in Jacobson 1980	Mid Woodland	Flintknapping, limited function
L.	ACP-RICH-19 NYSM 4609	Parker 1922:683		Shell Midden
M. Kreischerville "Indian Fields"	ACP-RICH-13 NYSM 771	Parker 1922:682		Traces of occupation
N. St. Luke's Cemetery		Pickman 1978	Archaic/Late Woodland	
O. Pottery Farm	SIAS: STD 23-3 NYSM 738	Rubertone 1974	Late Archaic/Mid & Late Woodland	
P.	NYSM 4624	Parker 1922:P1. 211/Pickman 1978	Archaic/Late Woodland	Campsite
Q. Chemical Lane	SIAS: STD 22-3 NYSM 739	Rubertone 1974		
R. Cutting Farm		Saintz 1962	Paleo/Archaic/Woodland	
S.	ACP-RICH-18 NYSM 4608	Parker 1922:683		Village

Site Name	Registration #	Reference	Period(s)	Description
T. Hugnot		Anderson 1964/Geismar 1985	Mid Woodland	
U. Smoking Point	SIAS: STD 14-3 NYSM 737	Silver 1984	Paleo/Late Archaic/Transitional	
V. Dstrigas Area II	NYSM 2319	Rubertone 1974		
W. Port Socony No.	SIAS: STD 18-3 NYSM 742			
X.	NYSM 4623	Parker 1922: P1 211		Camp
Y. Kreischerville	ACP-RICH-16 NYSM 4606	Parker 1922: 683		Campsite
Z. Wolfe's Pond	STD 12-3 NYSM 736	Salwan 1957		Shell Midden
AA. Richmond Valley (Boiling Spring)	SIAS: STD-RV	The New Bulletin 1961	Woodland	
AB. Sharrot Avenue	SIAS: STD-PB NYSM 740	Salwen 1957, 1967		
AC. Lemon Creek	NYSM 4621	Parker 1922: P1 211		Traces of occupation

## HISTORIC SENSITIVITY

The first European to see Staten Island was Giovanni da Verrazano, who sailed into New York Harbor in 1524 in quest of a short route to the Far East. Staten Island was then known as *Aquhonga Manacknong*, or *Egquahous* by the Native American inhabitants affiliated with the bands of Unami Delaware who inhabited the island at the time of contact (Clute 1887:8). Purchased from the Native Americans by the Dutch in 1626 and then granted to Michael Pauw in 1630, the Dutch government ordered Cornelieus Melyn to establish a colony on the island in 1632 (Greenhouse Consultants 1988:6). In response to this order Melyn conveyed his right to title to the Dutch West India Company, which then granted land to "... several French Waldenses and to a greater number of Huguenots" (Pickman 1978 in Greenhouse 1988:6). The permanent Dutch settlement, established near South Beach in 1661, was renamed *Staten Eylandt* or *Estate Island* in reference to the governing body of the Netherlands called the *Estate General* (McCall 2000:5).

In 1664, Staten Island became part of the province of New York when the Dutch surrendered their settlements to the British. In 1683, when the British reorganized their American colonies, Staten Island and Shooter's Island became the county of Richmond. The economy of Staten Island originally revolved around the agrarian and maritime sectors.

Frederick Skene's 1907 map of Staten Island, which delineates the colonial land patents, granted between 1668 and 1712, places the project area with the agricultural lands granted to John Shedden, Peter Minnie and Anthony Tice, and possibly Mark Dusachoy (see Figure 4). By 1683, the English had established Richmond County and 200 families were living there. In 1688, the settlements within Richmond County were divided into four towns and the Brookside Loop Development project area became part of Westfield, which was the wealthiest of the four towns by the beginning of the nineteenth century (Greenhouse Consultants 1988:6; Clute 1887:206; Morris 1898:41).

Eighteenth century maps examined included McMillen's 1933 *Map of Staten Island During the Revolution 1775-1783*, Bew's 1785 *Chart and Plan of the Harbor of New York*, and the 1797 *New and Correct Map of the County of Richmond*, which shows the location of the Old Blazing Star Ferry at what is now known as Rossville (see Figure 5). This ferry, which was established before the American Revolution, crossed between New Jersey and Staten Island. During the Revolutionary War, the access roads and the ferry itself increased the strategic importance of the

island, although McMillen's 1933 *Map of Staten Island During the Revolution 1775-1783* (which was compiled from period maps) does not show any evidence of military activities within the project area. Searches of the period maps, including the *Hessian Map* circa 1777 and the *Plan No. 31 du Camp Anglo-Hessois dans Staten Island de 1780 a 1783* confirmed this lack of military occupation. These maps do indicate that two Hessian companies were stationed approximately one mile north of the project area near the Old Blazing Star at Rossville.

These early maps and McMillen's compilation map show two structures along the south side of Woodrow Road in the general area of the current project. These domiciles are designated M. Johnson and L. Mersereau on the *Plan No. 31 du Camp Anglo-Hessois dans Staten Island de 1780 a 1783* and the McMillen map (see Figure 6). Due to the inaccuracies of these late eighteenth century maps, and later ones that are compiled from the earlier sources, it is not possible to determine the exact locations of these structures in relation to the project area. We can, however, assume that the home belonging to L. Messerau is not within the project area because it is depicted as being located east of Sandy Brook, which runs to the east of the Brookside Loop Development project area. As a result, the western structure, which is designated *M. Johnson*, may be likely located within the boundaries of the project area. A title search performed by Greenhouse Consultants (1988) indicates that their project area, as well as the Brookside Loop Development project area was once owned by the Johnson family until the early 1830s (Greenhouse Consultants 1988:8).

After a thorough title search it is still unclear as to when the Johnson family acquired the lands that were previously part of Mark Dusachoy's 1694 colonial land grant. Nevertheless, it is known that the lands belonging to the Johnson family were being divided up as early as 1833 when Cornelius Johnson deeded the roughly 52 acres of what is now the project area to John B. Lake. Throughout the early and mid nineteenth century the land of the project area changed ownership multiple times as seen in Table 2. In 1875, however, the first subdivision of the project area occurred since the Johnson family acquired what is now known as the land within the project area. In March of that year Alexander Foster deeded the northern half of the project area to Thomas Dubois, who, in turn, deeded that portion of the property to John Tyler eight years later. Alexander Foster retained the southern half of the project area until 1899 when he deeded it to Francis McKeon. Subsequent changes in ownership in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries can be seen in Table 2

In the early decades of the twentieth century both the northern and southern portions of the project area were deeded to the Island Garden Realty Corporation. This company subsequently

divided the project area into the current lots and sold them to private individuals. The last portion of Table 2 details the more recent ownership history of the project area, discussed for the first time as individual lot numbers.

Table 2: Brookside Loop, Block 7020, Chain of Title 1694-1925					
Project Area Lot	Grantor	Grantee	Date	Reference	Additional Reference
All		Mark Dusachoy	March 7, 1694	Skene 1907	
All		Johnson Family Farm	1776-1783	McMillen 1933	
Johnson Farm divided between 1783 and 1833. The following represents only those former Johnson lands within the Project Area					
All	Cornelius Johnson	John B. Lake	May 7, 1833	Liber V:105	
All	John B. Lake	Hugh McKeon	March 7, 1836	Liber Z:142	
All	Hugh McKeon	Abraham Decker	March 25, 1857	Liber 40:200	
All	Abraham Decker	Baronet Decker	February 22, 1860	Liber 45:368	
All	Baronet Decker	George & Mary Van Wagner	June 6, 1860	Liber 46:260	
All	George & Mary Van Wagner	Mary Louisa Leaycraft	Sept. 18, 1860	Liber 46:589	
All	Mary Louisa Leaycraft	Jacob Esselborn	April 16, 1864	Liber 56:71	
All	Jacob Esselborn	Catherine Marshall	May 7, 1867	Liber 70:11	
All	Catherine Marshall	Ann Wilson	July 8, 1872	Liber 98:150	
All	Ann Wilson	Alexander Foster	July 8, 1872	Liber 98:153	
Northern Half	Alexander Foster	Thomas Dubois	March 7, 1875	Liber 144:114	
Northern Half	Thomas Dubois	John Tyler	July 2, 1883	Liber 149:268	
Northern Half	John Tyler	William Bishop	May 25, 1886	Liber 152:314	
Southern Half	Alexander Foster	Francis McKeon	June 16, 1899	Liber 280:255	
Southern Half	Francis McKeon	Mary Frances McKeon	October 16, 1903	Liber 297:573	Liber Z:142
Southern Half	Mary Frances McKeon	Rev. William H. Murphy	August 13, 1908	Liber 347:137	Liber 297:573
Southern Half	William Murphy (Estate of Mary McKeon)	Anacieto Sermolino, Vittoria Sermolino	March 14, 1912	Liber 406:94	Liber 347:137; Liber 70:11; Liber Z:142
Southern Half	Anacieto Sermolino, Vittoria Sermolino	Marie Croak, Simon Carlin	Sept. 14, 1925	Liber 603:508	Liber 98:153
Southern Half	Marie Croak, Simon Carlin	Island Garden Realty Corp.	October 19, 1925	Liber 607:114	Liber 406:94; Liber 98:153
Island Garden Realty Corp. divides the Property into current lots.					
123	Walter A. Gray	Rebecca Landin	April 28, 1951	Liber 1187:320	Liber 56:581

Table 2: Brookside Loop, Block 7020, Chain of Title 1694-1925

Project Area Lot	Grantor	Grantee	Date	Reference	Additional Reference
123	Estate of Rebecca Landin	Maude Landin, Yvonne Taylor, Elmer Decker, Herbert Munro, Marcia Emanuel, Arthur Wallen, Norma McGhie, Benjamin Mitchell, Gwendolyn Mitchell, Donna Nugent, Diane Williams, David Mitchell	December 27, 1991	Reel 8022:118	Liber 1187:320
123	Heirs of Elmer Decker	Betty Lindsay and Carol Sears	April 28, 1999	Reel 9466:70	Reel 8023:124
123	Diane Williams	Woodrow Road Associates, LLC	August 1, 2001	Reel 11654:186	Reel 8022:133; Reel 8081:148
123	Gwendolyn Mitchell	Woodrow Road Associates, LLC	August 1, 2001	Reel 11654:189	Reel 8022:139
123	Donna Nugent	Woodrow Road Associates, LLC	August 1, 2001	Reel 11654:192	Reel 8022:136; Reel 8081:144
123	Marcia Emanuel	Woodrow Road Associates, LLC	July 8, 2001	Reel 11654:180	Reel 8022:130
123	Carol Sears	Woodrow Road Associates, LLC	June 18, 2001	Reel 11654:177	Reel 9466:70
123	Betty Lindsey	Woodrow Road Associates, LLC	June 18, 2001	Reel 11654:183	Reel 9466:70
123	Herbert Munro	Woodrow Road Associates, LLC	June 25, 2001	Reel 11654:171	Reel 8022:127
123	David Mitchell	Woodrow Road Associates, LLC	June 5, 2001	Reel 11654:174	Reel 8022:114
123	Norma McGhie	Woodrow Road Associates, LLC	May 25, 2001	Reel 11654:198	Reel 8081:0148
123	Yvonne Taylor	Woodrow Road Associates, LLC	Sept. 7, 2001	Reel 11654:195	Reel 9265:0121
123	Maude Landin	Woodrow Road Associates, LLC	Sept. 7, 2001	Reel 11654:168	Reel 8022:121
128	Marcy Estates Inc.	Katherine Trust Agreement	March 21, 1996	Reel 6569:100	
128	Katherine Trust Agreement	FSK Construction Crop.	April 10, 2000	Reel 10166:241	
133	David Endervelt	Albert Luke	April 24, 1961	Liber 1529:238	
133	Bloomington Realty	Woodrose Associates	April 16, 1986	Reel 379:69	Liber 1529:238
133	National Westminster Bank USA	Woodrose Associates	June 6, 1990	Reel 2635:108	
133	Woodrose Associates	Marcy Estates Inc.	March 15, 1991	Reel 2913:306	
133	Marcy Estates Inc.	Katherine Trust Agreement	March 21, 1996	Reel 6569:100	
133	Katherine Trust Agreement	FSK Construction Crop.	April 10, 2000	Reel 10166:241	
200	Fred Goldhirsch	Winant Associates, LP	April 30, 1997	Reel 7389:220	
200	Winant Associates, LP	FSK Construction Crop.	April 10, 2000	Reel 10166:238	



Table 2: Brookside Loop, Block 7020, Chain of Title 1694-1925					
Project Area Lot	Grantor	Grantee	Date	Reference	Additional Reference
250	Mary Walle, Lottie Buchl	Walter Frances (Heir of Alexander Foster)	March 24, 1925	Liber 599:60	Liber 98:153
250	Walter Frances	Island Garden Realty Corp.	October 19, 1925	Liber 607:81	
250	Fred Goldhirsch	Winant Associates, LP	April 30, 1997	Reel 7389:220	
250	Winant Associates, LP	FSK Construction Corp.	April 10, 2000	Reel 10166:238	

The cartographic sources dating from the nineteenth century indicate that the Brookside Loop Development Project area was largely agrarian, an economic venue that flourished in the area throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries (see US Coast Survey 1845; Bacon and Barnes 1852; Beers 1887; and Robinson 1897). It is significant to note that agriculture peaked in the late 1800s, evidenced by the over 300 farms on Staten Island. These farms produced corn, oats, wheat, and potatoes, and provided this produce to Manhattan and Jersey City. Oysters also played a major role in Staten Island's economy, but by 1800 the original oyster beds had been depleted. To correct this problem oystermen seeded the estuaries with oysters from Virginia and neighboring waters, the industry recovered, and output reached 200,000 bushels per year by 1900, with distribution reaching as far west as the Rocky Mountains (McCall 2000: 5-7).

The nineteenth and early twentieth century maps discussed below show little development of the lands within the project area. The hamlet of Woodrow, which is located approximately 0.5 miles to the east of the project area, was described in 1930 as "... a sparsely inhabited region of which Woodrow M.E. Church is the center" (Leng and Davis 1930:353). That church has been called the second Methodist-Episcopal Church established in America (Morris 1898 II: 443). The maps from the mid-nineteenth century suggest that the majority of the region was agrarian and no Sanborn Fire Insurance maps from this period exist. Woodrow, approximately a mile to the east of the project area, however, was actually one of the area's more developed centers, especially along the main thoroughfare, Woodrow Road.

A map created by the United States Coast Survey, published in 1845, illustrates that the project area consisted of woods and fields at that time (see Figure 7). The Bacon and Barnes map from 1852 shows Bloomingdale Road to the west of the project area and Maguire Avenue to the east of the project area. Woodrow Road, to the north of the project area, is

also present by 1852 (see Figure 8). The Bacon and Barnes map also shows several houses along Woodrow Road. The Butler map, dated 1853, shows these same dwellings and also provides the names of the occupants including, from west to east, C. Van Wagner, N. Adely, and D. Cole (see Figure 9). Anthony Road, the current northern boundary of the project area, was created in the twentieth century and is an eastern extension of Clay Pit Road. These elements are noted because they indicate that while these dwellings were located on the southern side of Woodrow Road, the backyards and fields associated with the structures extend into the Brookside Loop Development area. The project area is also located to the west of lands and a structure belonging to *Mrs. Wilson* as shown on the 1852 Dripps map.

By 1874 ownership of the southern area within the Brookside Loop Development project area had changed from a single owner (*Mrs. Wilson*) to multiple owners of smaller lots. The 1874 and 1887 *Beers Atlas of Staten Island, Richmond County, NY*, indicate that the Brookside Loop Development project area may consist of the southern portions of the lots owned by the Bishop family fronting the south side of Woodrow Road. Other lands lying within the project area may have also included the eastern portions of lots belonging to G. Pernell, J. Tyler, J. Finney, and possibly the northeastern portion of land owned by W. Hines (see Figure 10).

The 1896 Leng and Davis *Map of Staten Island with Ye Olde Names and Nicknames* shows that the area immediately north of the project area along Woodrow Road was known as *Harrisville* or *Little Africa*. These names refer to the African American settlement of Sandy Ground, which is now known as the Sandy Ground Historic Archaeological District (National Park Service 2003). Many of the original oystermen of Staten Island were African-Americans who came from Maryland and settled in Tompkinsville, West Brighton and Sandy Ground. Sandy Ground was established as the first free black community in New York. After escaping slavery and restrictive laws in other parts of the United States before the American Civil War, African American families were drawn to Sandy Ground by the thriving oyster industry (Badner 2002). The Brookside Loop Development project area lies within the Sandy Ground Historic Archaeological District.

Apparently this enclave of African Americans began in 1828 when John Jackson purchased two and a half acres from Isaac Winant (Wilkins 1943b: 26). This is the earliest known record of an African American buying land in this area. The settlement grew from its original location along Bloomingdale Road to the east along Woodrow Road, to the southwest along Sharrots Road, and then to the north along Clay Pit Road.

Again, the original African Americans to settle in this area were emancipated slaves, mostly from Maryland, who "... bought their lands, planted their oyster beds, and by 1850, founded their own church within their settlement, the Zion African Methodist-Episcopal Church (Greenhouse Consultants 1988:9). The community flourished for over a century owing their success to the prosperity of the oyster harvests during the nineteenth century (Wilkins 1943a: 1). Immediately north of the project area at the intersection of Bloomingdale Road (known as Pleasant Road in 1898) and Woodrow Road was *Bogardus Corners* which references the property owner of the lot, C. Bogardus, in the southeastern corner of the intersection (refer back to Figure 10).

The 1898 Robinson atlas provides a more detailed view of at the project area, and shows more changes of ownership. As seen in Figure 11 we can see that the lots which front the southern side of Woodrow Road are owned by more than just the members of the Bishop family. Other owners include S. Gray and B. Mulligan. Also, we can see that the undeveloped eastern portions of the Parnell, Tyler and Finney lots have been truncated and are owned by Alexander Foster. Unfortunately, the Staten Island histories and bibliographies nor city directories provide any additional information regarding these individuals throughout the nineteenth century.

## CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This survey has relayed information regarding the location of twenty-nine recorded prehistoric sites within a two-mile radius of the Brookside Loop Development project area. No prehistoric sites, however, have been clearly documented within the current project area. Nevertheless, because the area has been determined to be of high archaeological sensitivity and because of the close proximity of prehistoric Native American settlements and activity areas it would be improper to characterize the Brookside Loop Development project area as not having prehistoric sensitivity. This is especially important to note because one of these prehistoric sites, Sandy Brook, lies immediately to the south, and may encroach within the current project area. The existence of a well drained area above mean sea level, combined with the presence of at least twenty-nine documented prehistoric sites within a two mile radius of the project area indicates that at least a portion of the Brookside Loop Development project area may contain evidence of prehistoric occupation.

Based on historic cartographic evidence, the Brookside Loop Development project area, although within the Sandy Ground Historic Archaeological District, does not appear to have a strong historical significance. This is because the project area lies within the eastern or southern portions of substantial land parcels and is well distanced from concentrated areas of habitation. As a result future investigation is not expected to yield significant deposits and information regarding the historic occupation of the project area.

Greenhouse Consultants Incorporated, therefore recommends that a Phase IB Archaeological Survey be conducted at the Brookside Loop Development project area in order to determine the presence or absence of significant prehistoric deposits within this archaeologically sensitive area of Staten Island. While minimal at best, historic period deposits may also be found within the project area and will be included in the analysis of the Phase IB Archaeological Survey.

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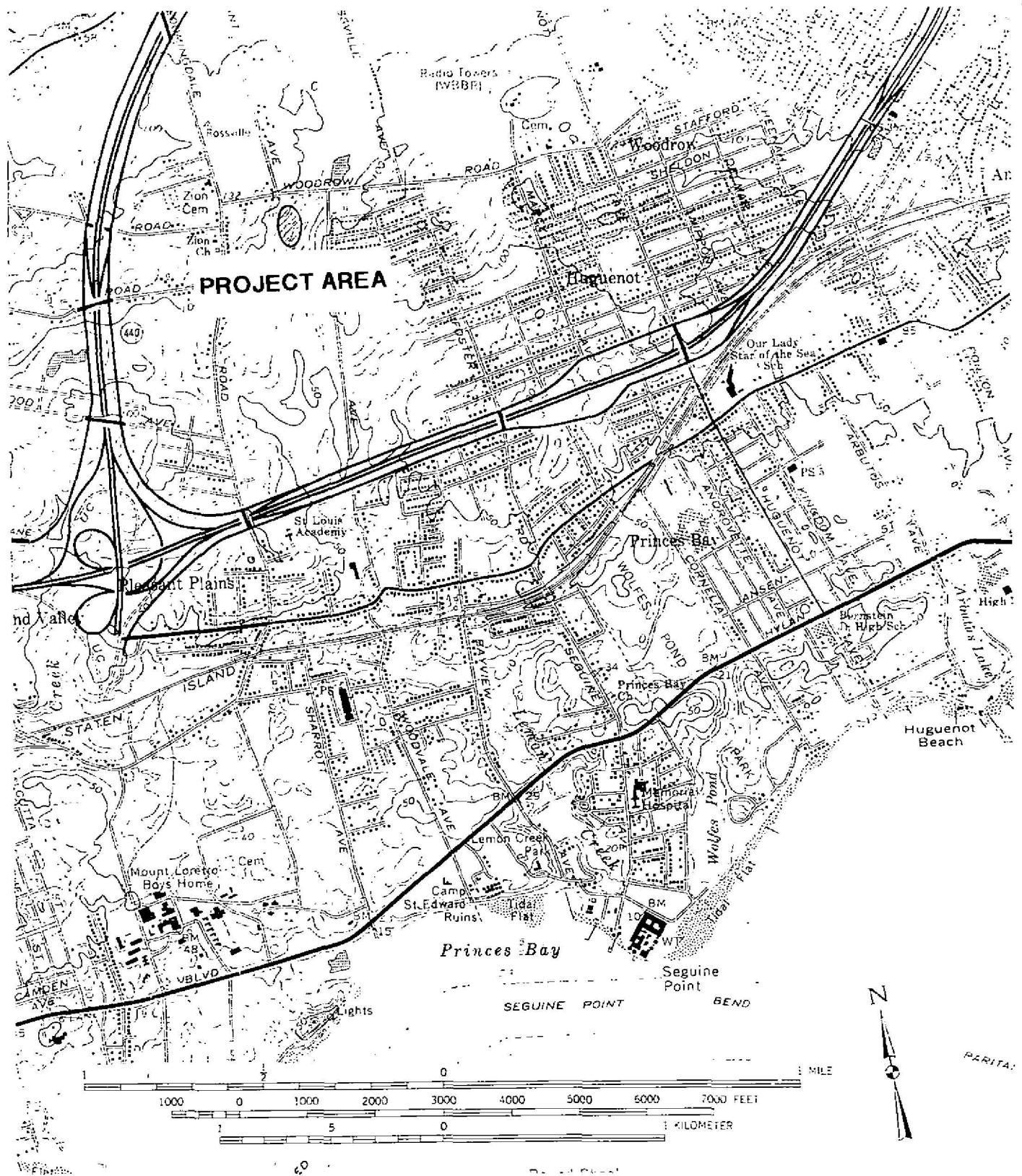


Figure 1 USGS 1966 Arthur Kill Quadrangle, New York – New Jersey. 7.5 minute series (topographic), photo-revised 1981.

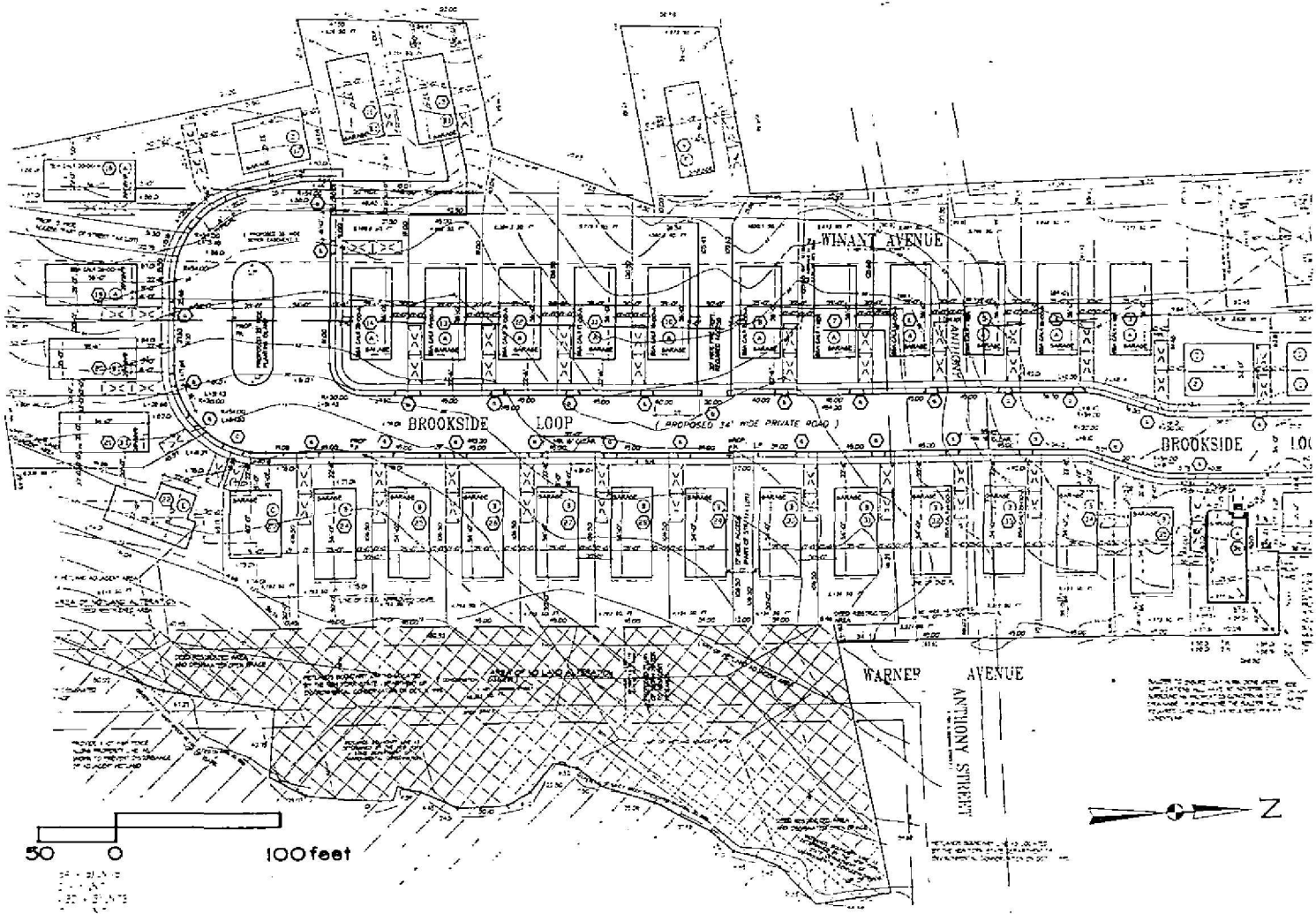


Figure 2 Brookside Loop Development detail map showing the locations of proposed developments.

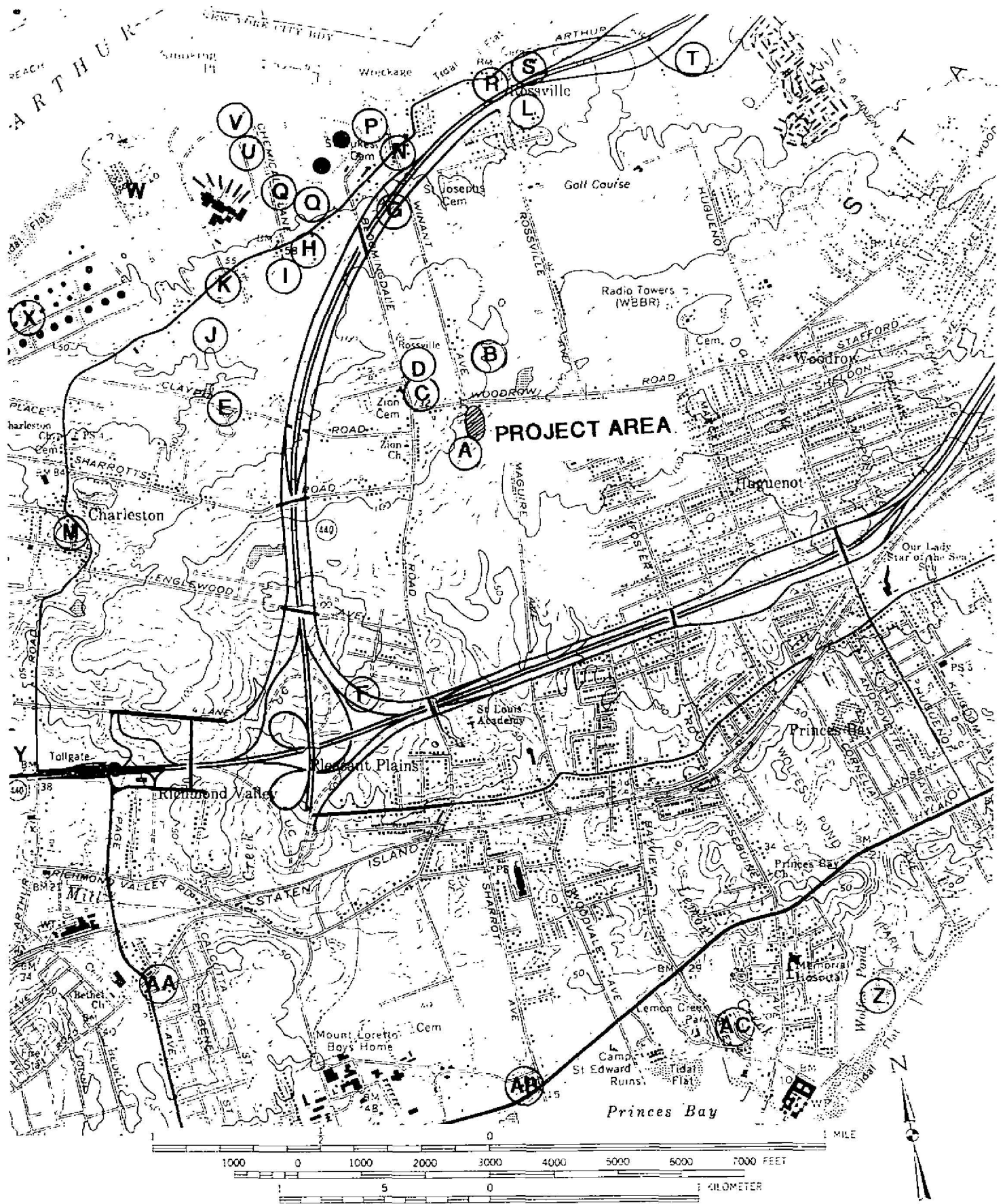


Figure 3 USGS 1966 *Arthur Kill Quadrangle*, New York – New Jersey. 7.5 minute series (topographic), photo-revised 1981 with prehistoric sites shown within a two-mile radius of the project area.

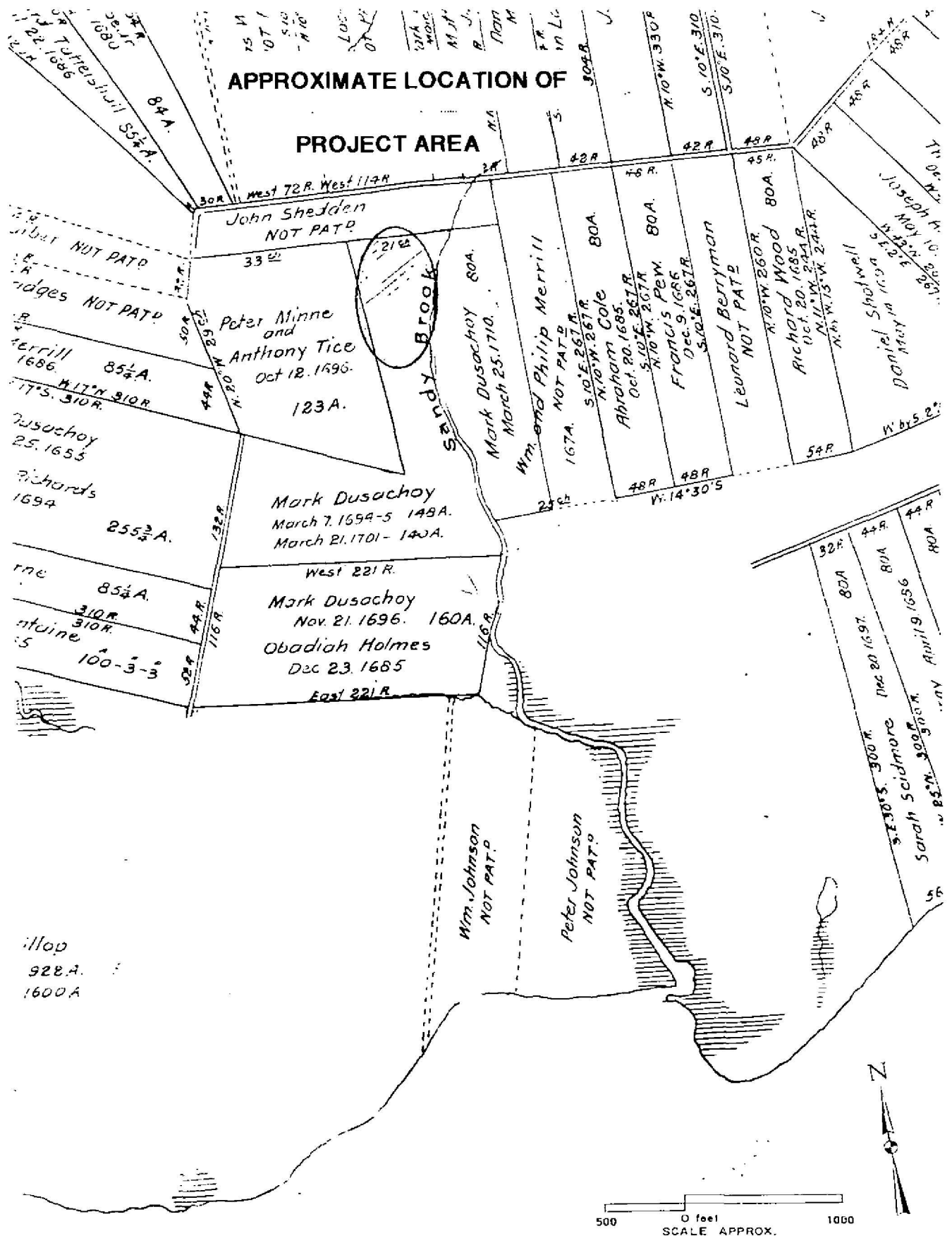
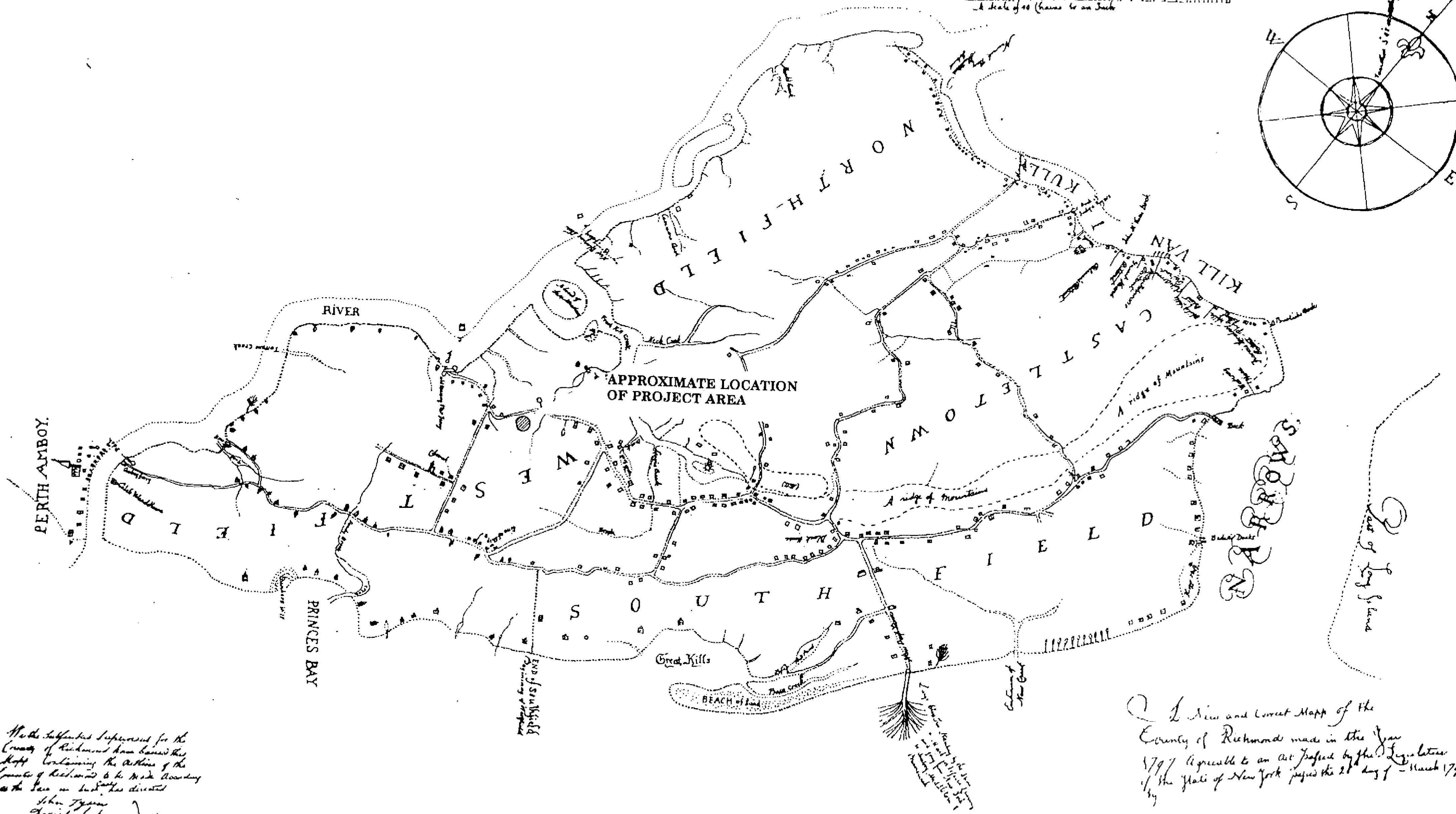
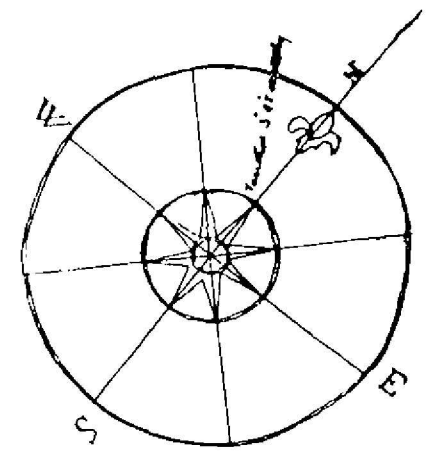


Figure 4 From the 1907 Skene Map of Staten Island, Richmond County, New York. Showing the Colonial Land Patents from 1668 - 1712.



*The following Supplement for the County of Richmond has been drawn this Map containing the outlines of the County of Richmond to be made according to the law in which has directed  
 John Tyson  
 Francis Ledy  
 Hen. Beekman } Supt.  
 Doug. Langdon*

*A New and Correct Map of the County of Richmond made in the Year 1797 agreeable to an Act passed by the Legislature of the State of New York passed the 28 day of March 1797.*

Figure 5 From the 1797 A New and Correct Map of the County of Richmond Made in the Year 1797 Agreeable to an Act Passed by the Legislature of the State of New York. Reproduced by Historical Records Survey, City of New York.

TO THE  
SOUTH  
AND  
WEST  
AND  
EAST  
AND  
NORTH

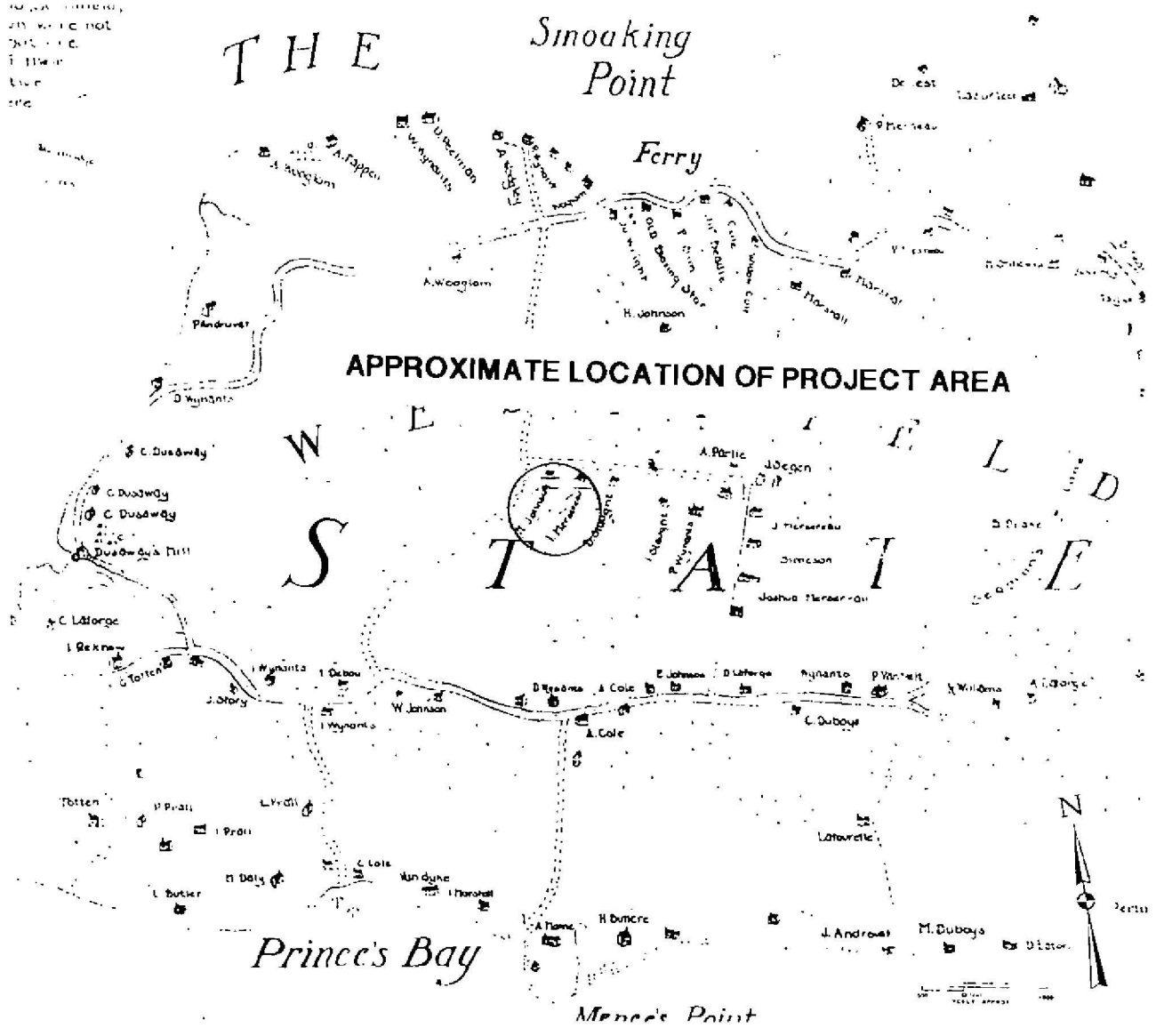


Figure 6

From the 1933 McMullen *A Map of Staten Island During the Revolution 1776-1783*.

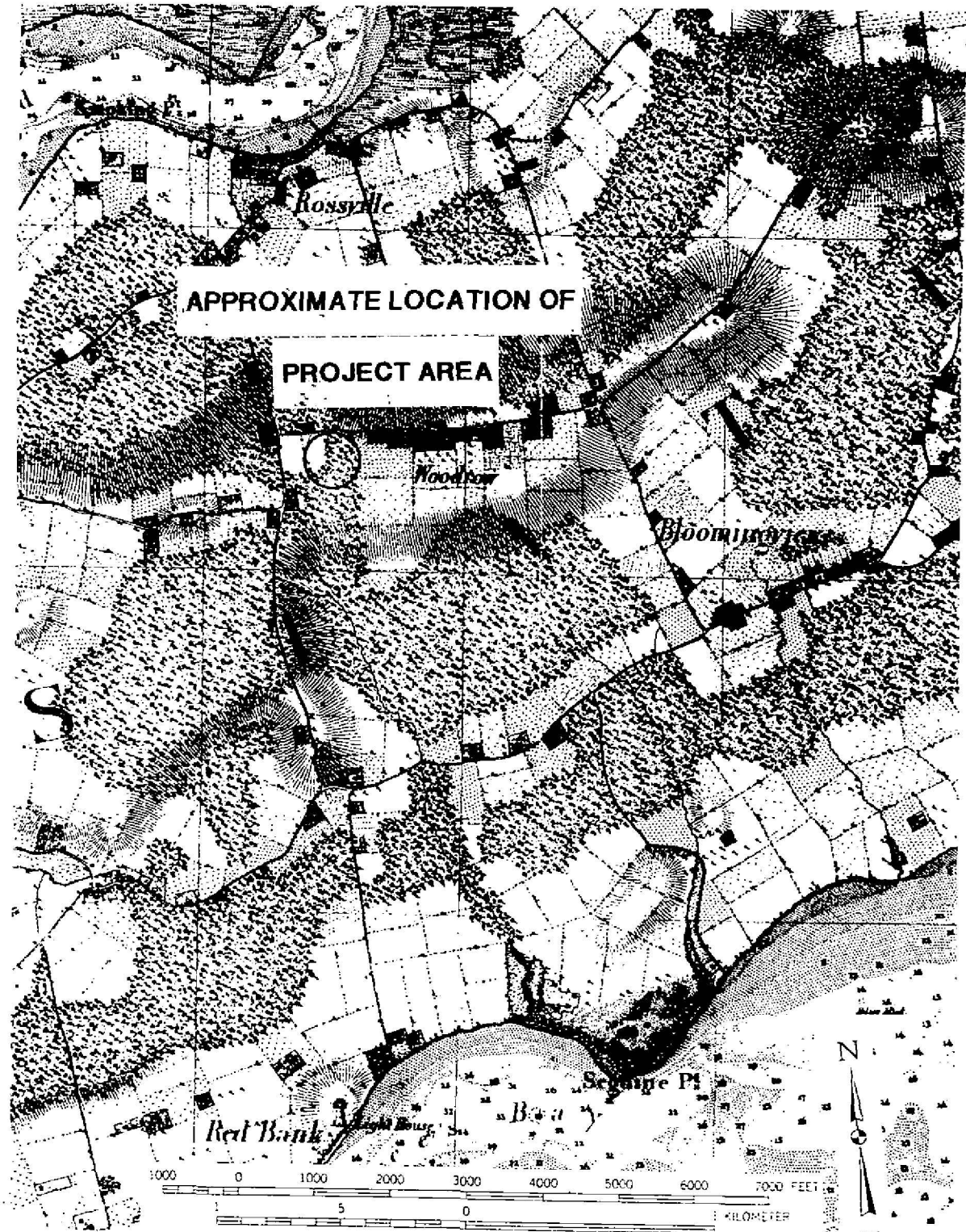


Figure 7 From the *U.S. Coast Survey Charter of NY Harbor, Conducted 1836 – 1839. Map # 35.*

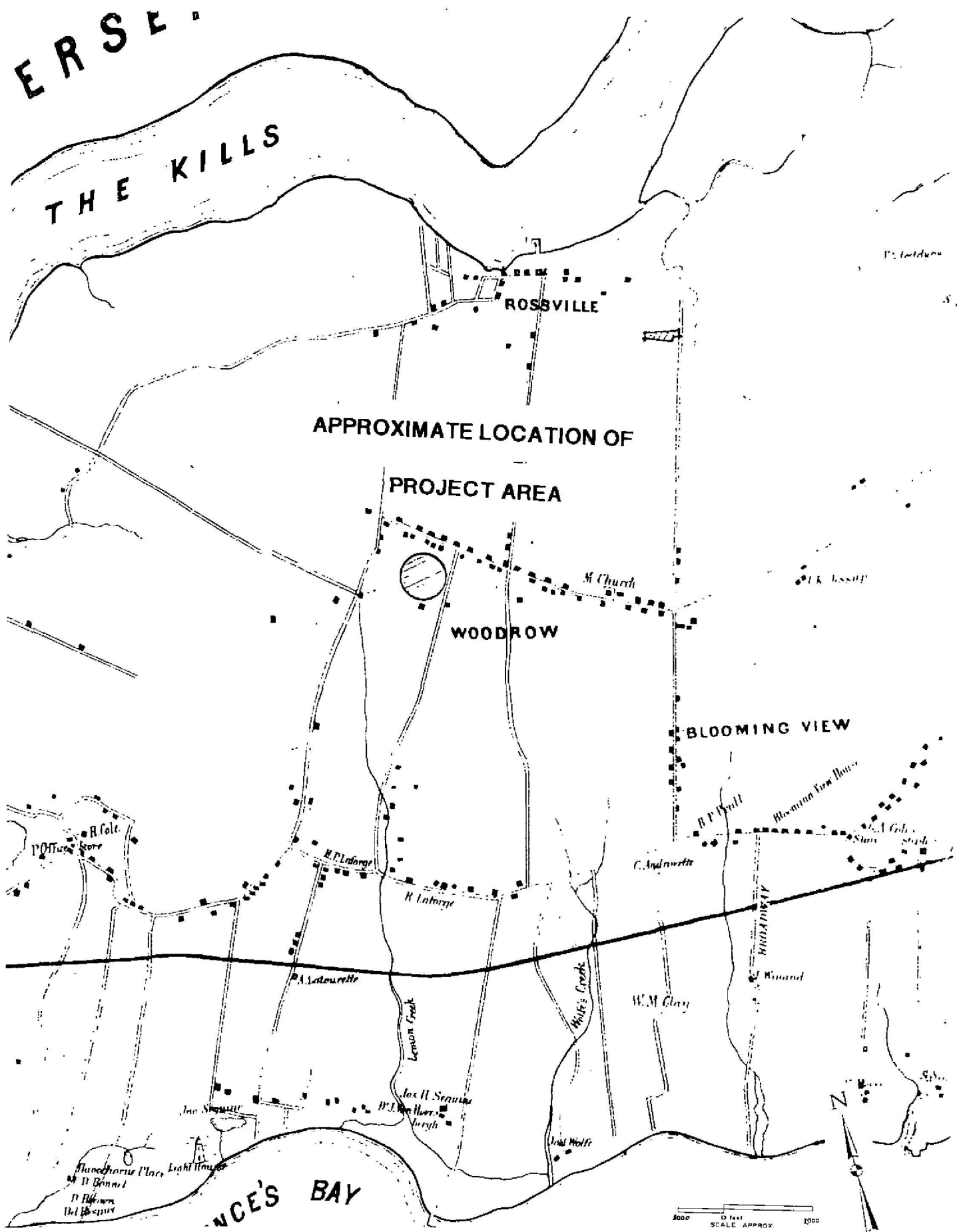


Figure 8 From the 1852 Bacon and Barnes Map of the Proposed Line of the Staten Island Railway.



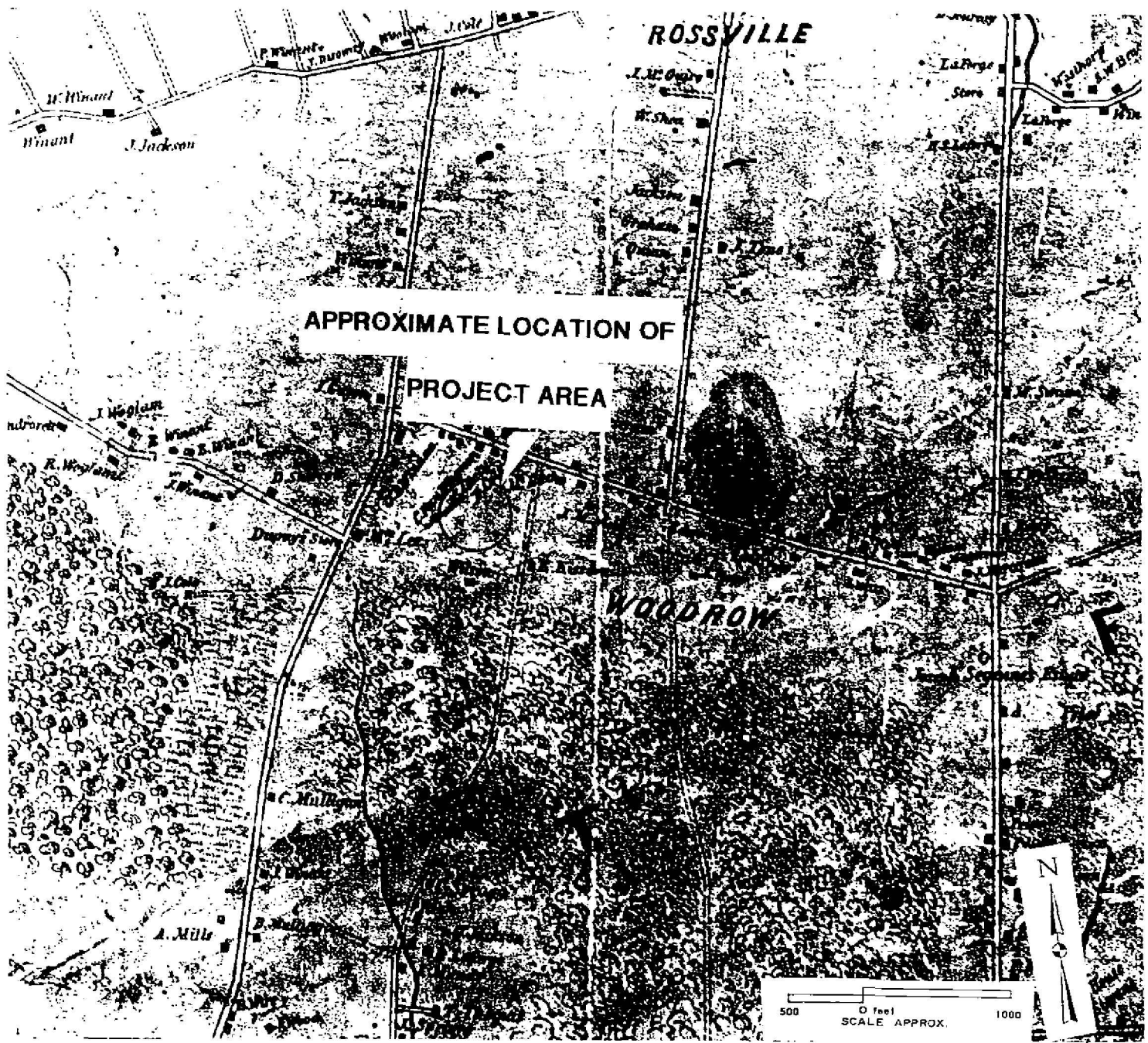


Figure 9 From the 1853 Butler Map of Staten Island or Richmond County, NY.

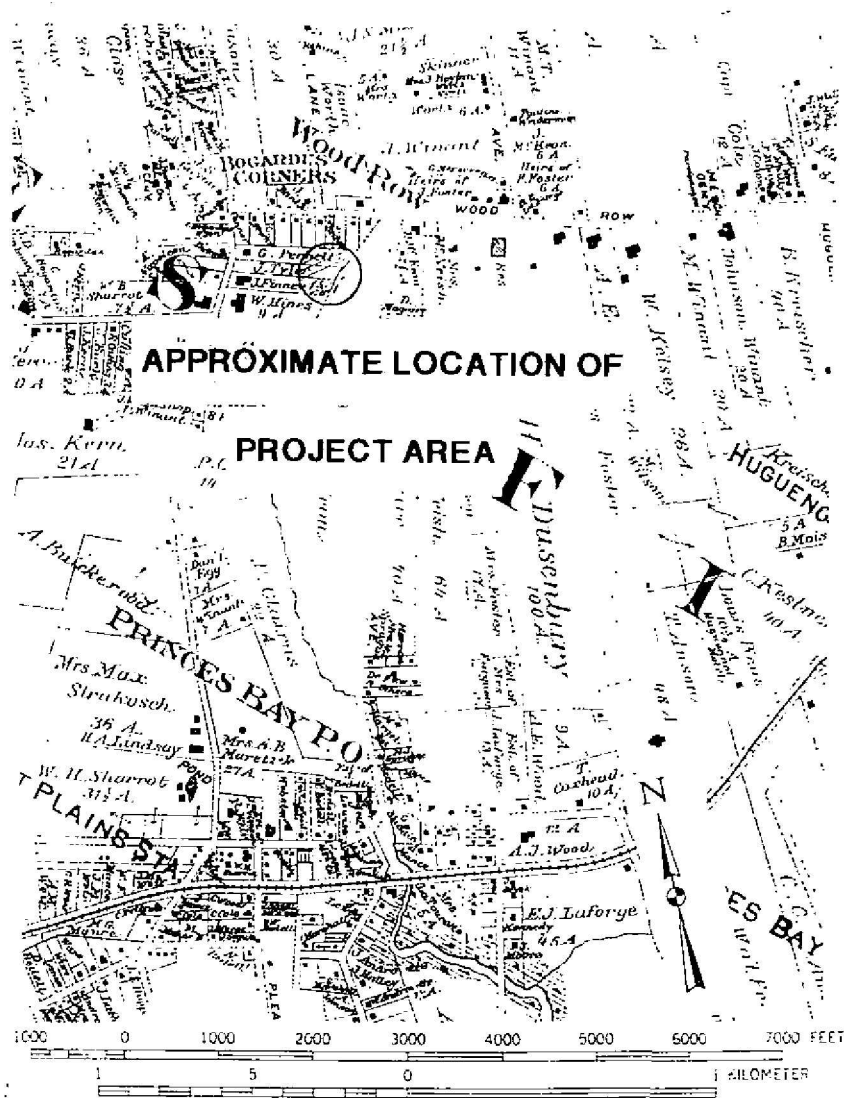


Figure 10 From the 1887 Beers Atlas of Staten Island, Richmond County, NY. Compiled from Actual Surveys and Records.

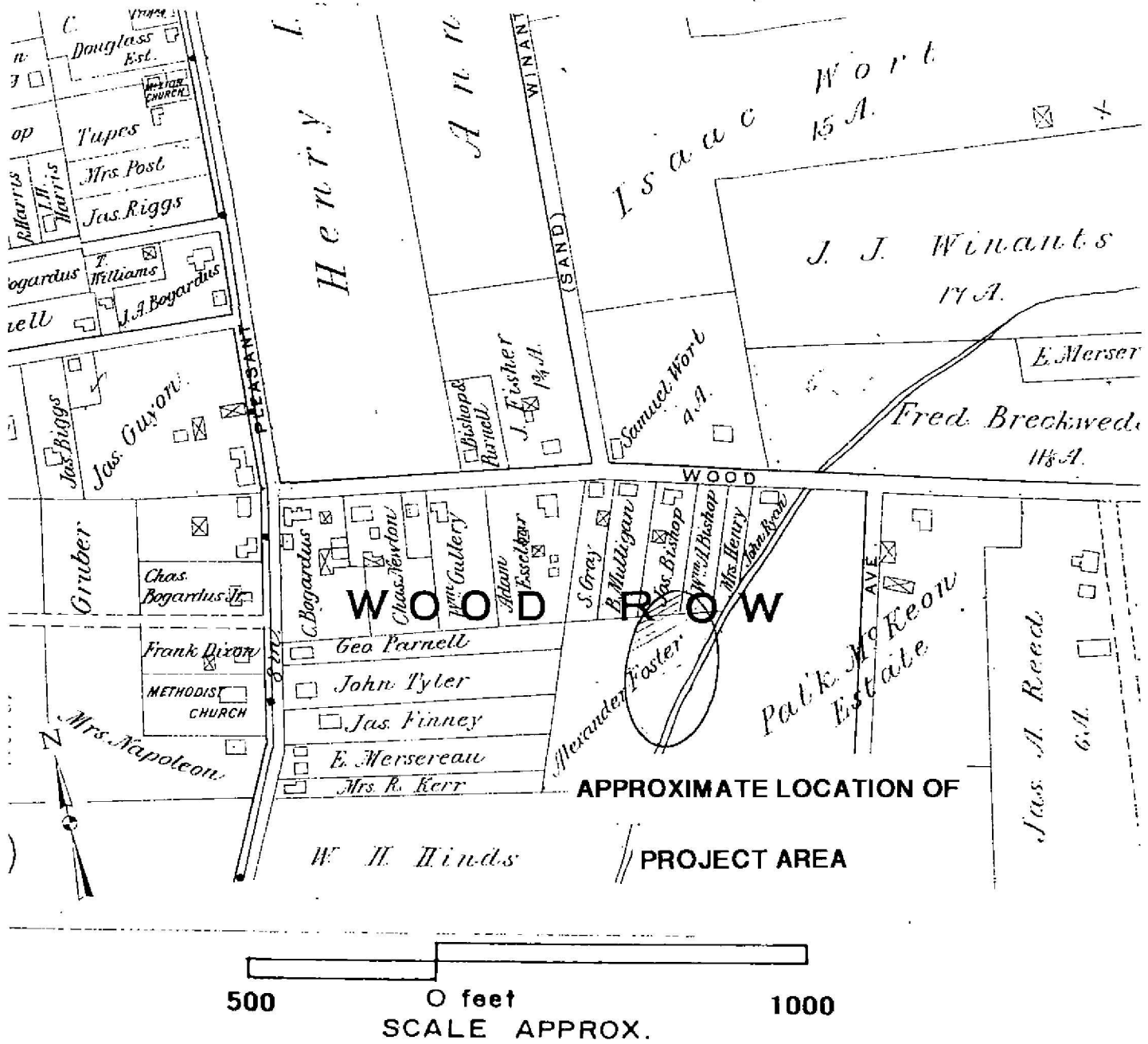


Figure 11 From the 1898 Robinson Atlas of the Borough of Richmond.



Plate 1      Current conditions (wooded) of the project area.



Plate 2      Location of the proposed Brookside Loop access road (now gravel).



Plate 3      Photo of the “model” home in the northeastern portion of the property.