

January 15, 2021

Mr. Gary A. Goeschel, II
Planning Director
Town of East Lyme Planning Commission
108 Pennsylvania Ave
Niantic, CT 06357-1510

CC: Joe Wren, PE, Indigo Land Design, LLC

Re: Proposed Re-subdivision, 40 Spring Rocks Road, East Lyme, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Goeschel:

The Office of State Archaeology (OSA) reviewed the project plans for the proposed single-lot residential re-subdivision project at 40 Spring Rock Road in East Lyme. The planned project includes construction of a house and associated infrastructure, including utilities, a leaching system, a rain garden, and a proposed driveway to access the new lot from Spring Rock Road. The proposed new lot is located behind (east) the existing house on the property.

OSA reviewed state archaeological site files and reports, USDA soil maps, historic maps, LiDAR imagery, and aerial photographs to assess the archaeological sensitivity of the project area. There are no previously-recorded archaeological sites in the immediate project area vicinity, although there are several associated with the Four-Mile River to the west. Historic maps and aerial photos indicate the project area was unoccupied during the historic period.

The proposed project location sits in a residential area east of the Four Mile River. A small, unnamed stream runs along the eastern edge of the lot. In general, this area is considered to have high archaeological sensitivity, based on its proximity to the river and the adjacent wetland. However, desktop review of United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) soil maps indicates that the soils mapped within the lot are Sudbury sandy loam and Ridgebury fine sandy loam, which are moderately- to poorly-drained soil types with relatively shallow depth to the water table. Such soils are generally considered to have low potential for pre-contact Native American archeological resources.

Due to the presence of poorly to moderately drained soils and relatively shallow water table in the project area, the proposed re-subdivision and development of the property at 40 Spring Rock Road is unlikely to impact buried archaeological resources. Therefore, OSA determined that it is not necessary to conduct an archaeological survey prior to development. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me directly at 860-617-6884.

Sincerely,



Sarah P. Sportman, Ph.D.
Office of State Archaeology