



The UNIVERSITY of VERMONT

CONSULTING ARCHAEOLOGY PROGRAM

June 21, 2001

Frank Von Turkovich
Keystone Development Corporation
75 Hegeman Ave
Colchester, VT 05446

RE: End of field Letter for Phase 1 Archaeological Site Identification Survey for the proposed Appletree Terrace development in Burlington, Chittenden County, Vermont

Dear Frank:

From June 5 – 11, 2001, the University of Vermont Consulting Archaeology Program (UVM CAP) conducted a Phase 1 archaeological site identification survey for the proposed Appletree Terrace Residential Development project in Burlington, Chittenden County, Vermont. The proposed project is located on the northern side of Appletree Point, a promontory along the shoreline of Lake Champlain that separates Appletree Bay to the south from the outlet of the Winooski River and the Winooski River delta to the North, in Burlington, Vermont (Figure 1). The approximately 10 acre project area is located within the larger 40 acre land parcel that abuts the southern side of Sunset Cliff Road, an extension of Starr Farm Road. The work focused on three archaeologically sensitive portions of the project area, as determined by an Archaeological Resources Assessment (ARA) concluded earlier by UVM CAP. These three areas included two raised, possible ancient beach ridges in the western, open section of the project area, and the relatively level wooded lot in the eastern portion.

A total of 158 50 x 50 cm test pits placed along 17 transects were excavated within the three archaeologically sensitive areas of the project area (Figure 2). No prehistoric Native American artifacts, or significant historic remains, were recovered from any of the three areas.

Area 1

Area 1 comprised a possible beach terrace likely related to a former lake shore, located in the western part of the project area adjacent to wetlands. In total, seven 50 x 50 cm test pits along two parallel transects were excavated in Area 1. All of Area 1 had been plowed, as was evident in every test pit. Along Transect 1 only Test Pit 2 and Test Pit 3 contained probable evidence of the ancient beach terrace. All other test pits in Area 1 contained a fine sandy loam plow zone underlain by clayey sand or shale/slate bedrock. No prehistoric artifacts were recovered.

Area 2

Area 2 is one to two meters higher than Area 1, located approximately 30 - 40 m (98-131 ft) east of Area 1 on a second, more pronounced beach/terrace underlain by bedrock, on the edge of the tree line. In total 12 .5 x .5 m test pits were excavated every 10 m (33 ft) along two parallel transects, spaced 10 m (33 ft) apart. Transect 1 was located nearest to the tree line and test pits placed along this transect were higher in elevation in the north. As a result bedrock was often encountered immediately beneath the plow zone. Test pits in this northern portion of Area 2 did not exceed 35 cm (14 in) in depth. No prehistoric artifacts were recovered from Area 2.

Area 3

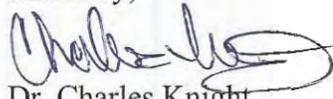
Area 3 is located to the east of Area 2, in a dense stand of young and mature deciduous trees. In total 139 test pits placed along 13 parallel transects were excavated in this area. Due to variations in the surface conditions, which included dugout pits and areas under water, intervals between test pits varied between 10, 12, 15, and 20 meters. All of these variations have been plotted on the site plan. The soil encountered consisted of a developing "A" horizon, over top of "B" and "BC" horizons. This reflects a typical soil stratigraphy for 100 - 200 year old pine forests. A possible plow zone was identified in the southern section of Area 3. No prehistoric artifacts were recovered.

Concluding Summary

In summary, the UVM CAP conducted a Phase 1 archaeological site identification survey on three archaeologically sensitive areas within the proposed Appletree Terrace Residential Development. No prehistoric Native American or historic sites were identified within the area of the proposed project. We recommend that no further archaeological work is needed for this project.

Please feel free to contact us here at the UVM CAP if you have any immediate questions about this matter.

Sincerely,



Dr. Charles Knight
Assistant Director
June 21, 2001

Geoff Mandel
Research Field Technician

cc: Dick Trudell, Trudell Consulting
Scott Dillon, VDHP

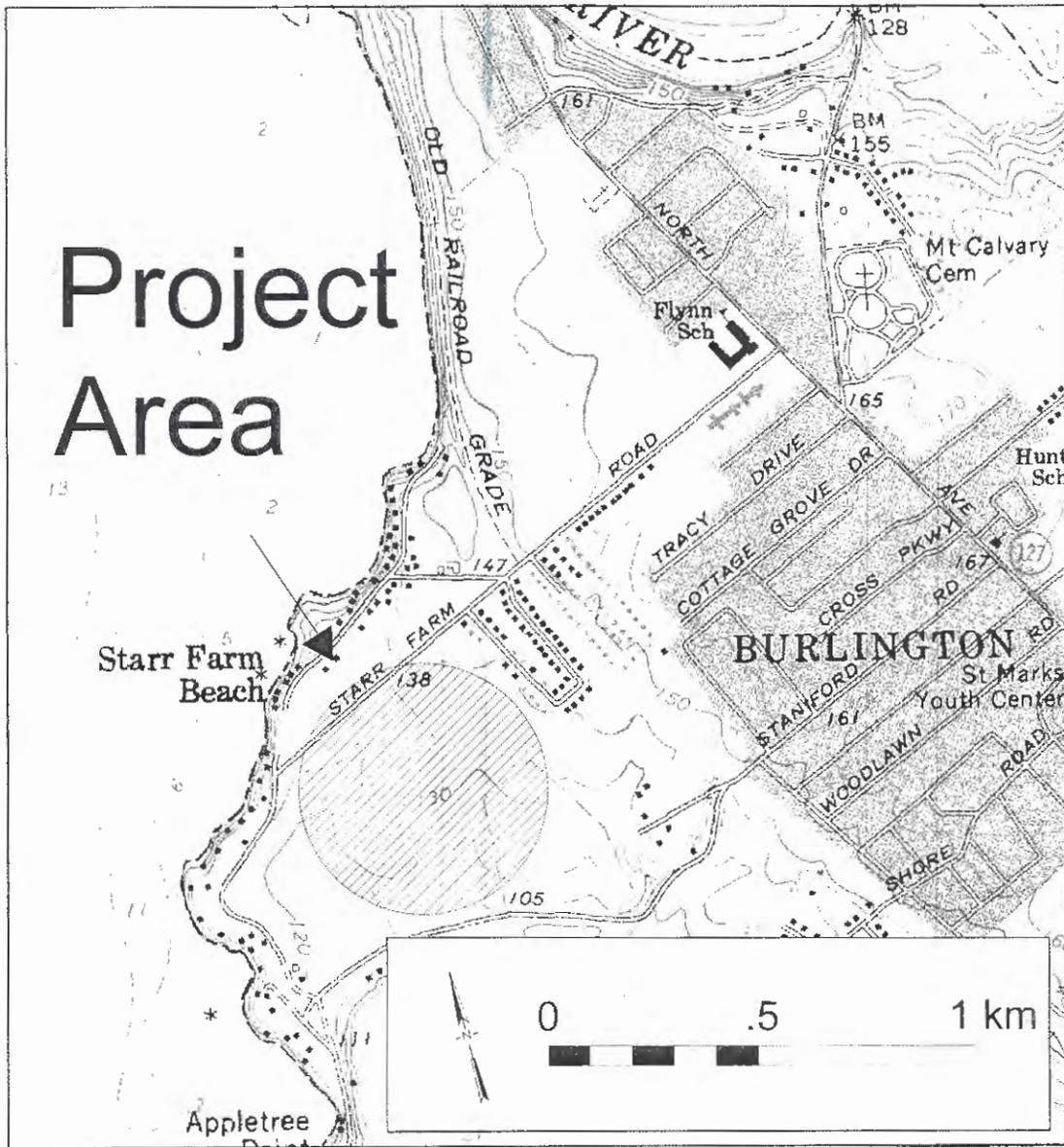


Figure 1. Location of the Phase 1 Archaeological Site Identification Survey of the proposed Appletree Terrace Development in Burlington, Chittenden County, Vermont.

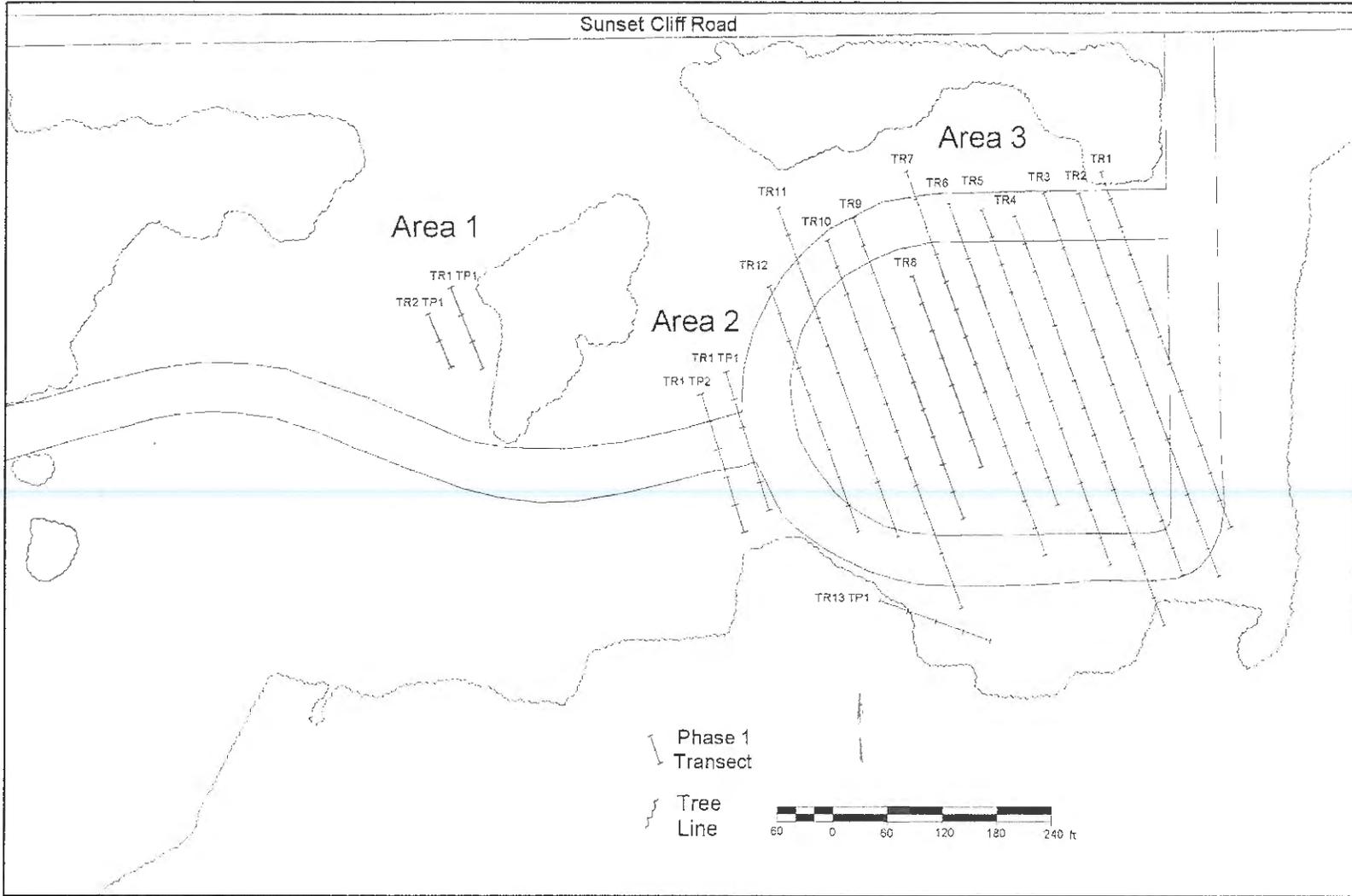


Figure 2. Location of Phase 1 Transects at the proposed Appletree Terrace Development in Burlington, Chittenden County, Vermont.