

A. INTRODUCTION

This chapter considers the potential of the Project to affect historic resources, including architectural resources and buried archaeological resources. The analysis in this EA was conducted in accordance with the procedures set forth in Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), in consultation with the New York State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). The methodology followed in this analysis of historic resources is consistent with the procedures set forth under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as implemented by federal regulations at 36 CFR Part 800, and satisfies the requirements of the New York State Historic Preservation Act of 1980 (SHPA), set forth in Section 14.09 of the New York State Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation Law. In a letter dated September 21, 2009, the SHPO made a determination of no adverse effect on historic and archaeological resources (see **Appendix 4**).

B. EXISTING CONDITIONS**ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES***AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT FOR ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES*

For architectural resources, the Area of Potential Effect (APE) includes the area where direct physical effects may occur—demolition, alteration, or damage from construction on nearby sites—and the area where indirect visual or contextual effects may occur, such as the isolation of a property from its surrounding environment, or the introduction of visual, audible, or atmospheric elements that are out of character with a historic property or that alter its setting. The architectural APE for this Project includes the area that would be affected by the various Project elements, as well as a larger area extending outward for approximately ¼-mile (see **Figure 4-1**). The inclusion of the additional ¼-mile buffer area surrounding the Project area in the APE for this project was chosen in accordance with standard practices for the analysis of historic resources, which include consideration of the type of project to be undertaken, its surrounding area, including the visibility of the project from elsewhere in the area, and professional judgment. These considerations resulted in the APE which was selected for this Project, which accounts for any potential direct (e.g. physical) and indirect (e.g. visual and contextual) impacts to historic resources as a result of the Project. Within the APE, architectural resources analyzed include National Historic Landmarks (NHLs), properties listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places (S/NR) or determined eligible for such listing, and Town of Babylon locally recognized historic resources. In addition, other properties in the APE were evaluated for their potential S/NR eligibility.

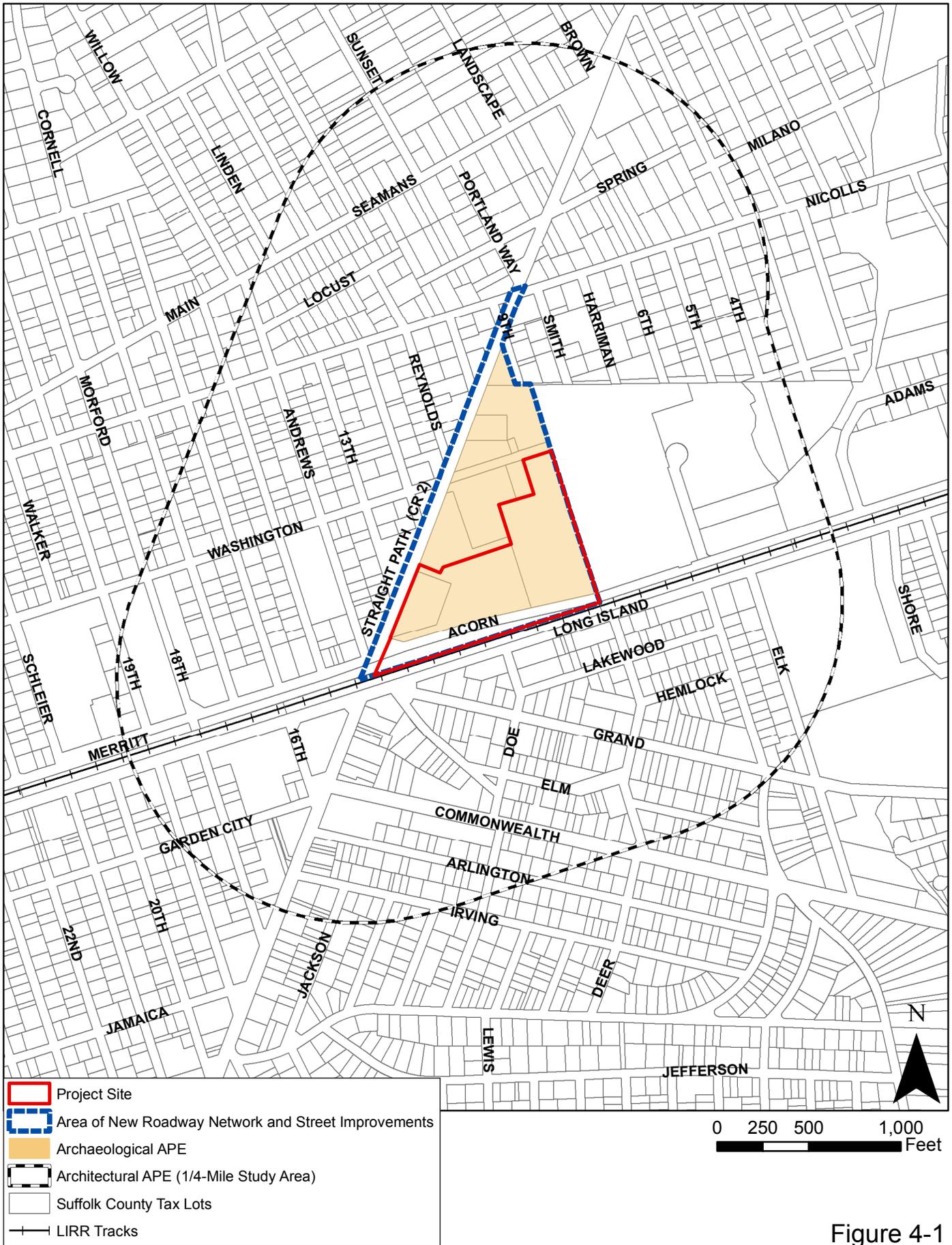


Figure 4-1
Cultural Resources
Area of Potential Effect (APE)

ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES IDENTIFIED IN THE APE

An evaluation of architectural resources in a large area of downtown Wyandanch, including the area that is now the APE for this Project, was conducted in 2006 as part of development of the Wyandanch Downtown Revitalization Plan. During that process, field surveys were conducted on October 31 and November 17, 2006 and based on the review of an architectural historian and information from historical societies and preservation organizations with knowledge of the area, no designated or potential historic resources were identified. This information was provided to the SHPO on February 5, 2007, together with information on the redevelopment anticipated as part of the Wyandanch Downtown Revitalization Plan. On the basis of that information, the SHPO determined in a letter dated February 12, 2007 that the Revitalization Plan will have no adverse effect on historic resources.

To update the 2006 analysis, the SHPO's electronic database was accessed on September 3, 2009 to determine whether any properties listed on or determined eligible for listing on the S/NR are present in the APE. No historic properties were identified in the APE. In addition, no National Historic Landmarks or sites designated by the Town of Babylon's local preservation ordinance (Chapter 137 of the *Code of the Town of Babylon*) are present in the architectural APE. Information about the Project was provided to the SHPO on September 10, 2009. In a letter dated September 21, 2009, the SHPO determined that the Project will have no adverse effect on historic or archaeological resources.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

The APE for archaeological resources is the area where soil would be disturbed as a result of Project construction, which is the Project Site itself and the area where new roadways will be constructed north of the Project Site (see **Figure 4-1**).

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES IDENTIFIED IN THE APE

As previously mentioned, information about the current proposal was provided to the SHPO on September 10, 2009. In a letter dated September 21, 2009, the SHPO determined that the Project will have no adverse effect on cultural resources, including archaeological resources.

C. THE PROJECT

In general, potential effects on historic resources can include both direct physical effects—demolition, alteration, or damage from construction on nearby sites—and indirect effects such as the isolation of a property from its surrounding environment, or the introduction of visual, audible, or atmospheric (e.g., pollutants) elements that are out of character with a property or that alter its historic setting and context (e.g., contextual effects). Adverse effects to archaeological resources can occur from physical disturbance. Significant adverse effects can occur if a project would cause a change in the quality of a property that qualifies it for inclusion in the S/NR.

No architectural or archaeological resources were identified in the APEs for architectural and archaeological resources, and therefore the Project will have no adverse effect on historic and archaeological resources. During review of the Wyandanch Downtown Revitalization Plan, which included a proposal for an intermodal transit facility on the current Project Site, the SHPO

determined that the Revitalization Plan will have no adverse effect on historic and archaeological resources. Information about the current proposal was provided to the SHPO on September 10, 2009. In a letter dated September 21, 2009, the SHPO determined that the Project will have no adverse effect on historic or archaeological resources. See **Appendix 4** for all correspondence with the SHPO.

Additionally, it should be noted that since the Project does not involve use of any existing historic resource, public park, recreation area, or wildlife or waterfowl refuge, an evaluation of the Project under Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Act of 1966 (49 USC § 303) is not required. *