

TRACKER Archaeology Inc
PO Box 130, Monroe, NY 10949
March 4, 2025

Attn: Thomas Kentop, Sr.
Project Manager
Medenbach, Eggers & Carr
Civil Engineering and Land Surveying PC
4305 US Hwy 209, Stone Ridge, NY

Re: Boices Lane

Dear Thomas:

TRACKER Archaeology, Inc. can conduct a Phase II intensive survey for the Boices Lane property at & around ST 195 in Ulster, New York. The Phase II will consist of the following:

Additional Research

More in depth research information will be attempted on the environmental and prehistoric contexts within which the site exists. Research issues and questions will also be discussed for the archaeological site in question. Such research issues may include site function(s), cultural affiliations, seasonality, etc.

Shovel Testing

Phase II shovel tests at 25 to 12.5 foot (7.5-4m) meter intervals will also be conducted to more precisely define site parameters, artifact concentrations, and feature potential.

Excavation Procedures

Phase II excavation units (TU's) will also be conducted. Placement of TU's will be in areas of densest artifact concentrations and feature potential. Excavation units may possibly be placed in areas of moderate as well as lighter artifacts concentrations to determine site variability.

The one meter square TU's will be excavated by natural or cultural stratigraphy. Excavation of TU's will be conducted manually with the use of shovel and trowels. Shovel techniques utilized will be the "scrapping" or skimming method. Soil horizon interfaces and potential features will be trowelled in an attempt to uncover cultural features. Elevations of stratigraphy will be recorded with the use of a line level. Line levels will be generally placed at 10 cm. above ground surface at the highest corner of the TU. The same line level will be used to stratigraphically profile (map) EU walls.

The exact number of TU's excavated will be determined at the time of field investigations but will be about 3-4 TU's on this site. Spatial (horizontal) mapping of artifacts and features will be established by the EU's. Vertical mapping of the same will be by line level and stratigraphy.

Pre-printed TU forms will be used to document all pertinent field data by each level and each TU. Pre-printed feature forms will be used to document the same on any excavated features. Field information will also be transcribed in a field journal. Photographs will be taken of stratigraphic profiles, end of unit plan shots, topographic points of interest and general work in progress.

Soils will be screened through 1/4 inch wire mesh and analyzed for artifacts, except features which will be screened through 1/8 inch wire mesh or bagged as soil samples. Soils will be recorded according to texture and color. Soil color will be matched against the Munsell color chart for soils. All artifacts and any ecofacts or soils samples will be bagged by stratum and level, provenienced, and returned to the laboratory for processing and analysis.

Analysis of Data Methods

Artifacts recovered and retained during Phase II field work will be transferred to the TRACKER laboratory in Monroe, New York. The artifacts will be cleaned, dried if necessary and rebagged.

The archaeological remains will be identified utilizing a modified version of the National Park Service Material Cultural Data Base Taxonomy. Artifacts will be indexed according to "function" and will minimally include: functional group, class, morphology and the material.

The artifact inventory will be catalogued on a data base program which will assist in manipulating variables and queries and in calculating statistical information.

Final Report

After completion of the Phase II investigation we will prepare a final report documenting the research, field methods and results, laboratory methods and results, site interpretation, and conclusions. All data from the previous Phase I archaeological investigations will be incorporated into the final report. All maps, plans, profiles, sketches, photographs, will be included in an appendix. The site map will be drafted on CAD utilizing all topographic features present.

Phase II investigation methods should interpret the site and determine if the site is eligible for the nomination to State or National Register of Historic Places. Phase II investigations would supply information needed to make this determination and would include:

- 1)Site integrity, including the depth and extent of undisturbed soil horizons and the presence or absence of cultural features, and the degree of natural and/or human disturbances to those features.
- 2)Cultural components/affiliations and time range present.
- 3)Vertical and horizontal distribution of archaeological remains (spatial boundaries and stratigraphic levels).
- 4)Site interpretation, including any uniqueness/significance, in a local or regional context, must be demonstrated.

Schedule

We estimate about 2 weeks for completion of the Phase II field work, weather and logistics permitting. We can begin the investigations immediately upon written confirmation and a retainer for the Phase II.

Cost

Cost of the Phase II investigation would be between \$5,500.00-\$6,500.00 (depending on if the flags are still intact). Any soil floatation/floral analysis, carbon dating analyses or faunal analysis from a Feature (if encountered) would be additional. We request a retainer of ½ the Phase II cost. The final ½ would be paid when the report is completed.

The proposal is based on over 40 years of experience, over 30 years in business, and over 1200 reports conducting these types of interpretive excavations across this region and elsewhere. All field, laboratory, and office work to be carried out will be conducted according to Standards set forth by the New York Archaeological Council (NYAC) and New York Historic Preservation Office (NYSHPO) and in conjunction with the NYSHPO. This proposal does not include alluvial deep testing which may be needed on larger floodplains, deep fill testing or burial removal. The client will address any safety issues concerning shovel test pits or the 1 meter excavation units with any occupants or other potential visitors. This proposal is limited to 60 days.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call at any time. We are willing to work with you on any project concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

Alfred G. Cammisa, M.A., P.I.

If this proposal is acceptable, please sign below:

Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

Organization: _____