

Archaeological and Historical Resource Study

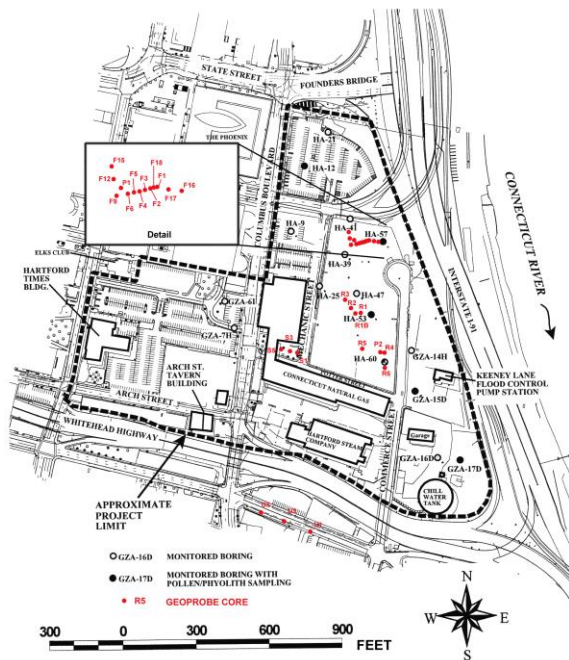
Adriaen's Landing Project

Hartford, Connecticut

As a state-sponsored development, the Adriaen's Landing project had to meet the requirements of the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA). AHS conducted archaeological and historical studies to locate cultural resources, assess the significance of identified resources, and mitigate impacts to significant resources within the project area.

Conducting archaeological investigations at Adriaen's Landing was a challenge: the entire project area was paved, there was considerable below-ground disturbance, and hazardous soil conditions prevented access to several locations. In light of these conditions, AHS designed state-of-the-art methodologies for identifying and mitigating impacts to significant cultural resources. In conventional archaeological studies, hand-excavated test pits are used to sample a project area. At Adriaen's Landing this was impossible; therefore,

AHS used a combination of deep Geoprobe borings and machine-excavated trenches to identify archaeological remains. Background historical and environmental research guided the locations of the borings and trenches to maximize the retrieval of archaeological data. The archaeological study had two core components: 1) the collection and synthesis of geological, environmental, and palynological (pollen) data to reconstruct the prehistoric and early historic environment and associated human lifeways; and 2) to identify buried significant historical resources. AHS's innovative testing strategy was successful, generating important new information about the prehistory and early history of the Adriaen's Landing project area, and by extrapolation, the Connecticut River Valley and the Connecticut coast.



Adriaen's Landing Boring Locations.

State-level documentation was prepared for three above-ground historic resources: the Keeney Street pump station, the Charter Oak Brewery, and the Hartford Times Building.