

**Archaeological Resources Assessment for the Pigeon Property, 1705 Route 128, Westford,  
Chittenden, County, Vermont**



**Submitted to:**

**Dan Albrecht  
Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission  
110 West Canal Street, Suite 202  
Winooski, VT 05404**

**Submitted by:**

**John G. Crock, Ph.D. and Kathleen Kenny**

**Consulting Archaeology Program  
University of Vermont  
111 Delehanty Hall  
180 Colchester Ave  
Burlington, VT 05405**

**January, 2021  
UVM CAP Report No. 1313**

# **Archaeological Resources Assessment for the Pigeon Property, 1705 Route 128, Westford, Chittenden, County, Vermont**

## **Project Description and Study Goal**

This Archaeological Resources Assessment (ARA) includes the Pigeon property at 1705 Route 128 in Westford, Vermont, presently under consideration for redevelopment. The property is located on the north side of Route 128, north of the Westford Town Common and extends northward down in elevation toward the Browns River. The overall parcel is approximately 3.3 acres in size, and includes a historic home in addition to a garage that was previously used for commercial purposes. The ARA is completed on behalf of the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) Brownfields Program in advance of proposed environmental cleanup of the property at 1705 Route 128 in Westford. This study is conducted to satisfy permitting requirements under state and federal law including Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, given funding support for the program from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The goal of this ARA is to provide sufficient information to identify archaeological resources that are present or potentially present within the proposed project's APE. The ARA: 1) locates all previously recorded sites and archaeologically sensitive areas within or adjacent to the project APE and, 2) recommends whether or not further archaeological studies will be required if these sites/areas cannot be avoided during any future redevelopment.

## **Methods**

To assess the potential for pre-Contact era Native American sites, the state archaeological site files, archaeological reports and other documentation were used to identify the locations of previously identified Native American sites that lie in close proximity to the project area. The criteria contained in the VDHP's "Environmental Predictive Model for Locating Archaeological Sites" was used to establish the project parcel's sensitivity for containing pre-Contact era Native American sites.

To assess potential historic archaeological resources at a general level, nineteenth- and twentieth-century maps were examined and compared to identify any previously unrecorded historic site areas that are potentially present in the project APE. The files of the state archaeological site inventory and the Vermont historic sites and structures inventory maintained by the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation (VDHP) was reviewed to identify the archaeological sites that already recorded within and/or near the project's Area of Potential Effects (APE). Town histories, genealogical records, census records and other documentary evidence was reviewed to collect any additional information that might influence estimates of the project area's archaeological sensitivity for historic sites. and/or archaeologically sensitive areas that can be identified from these sources. Results from both the sensitivity assessment and records review are presented below.

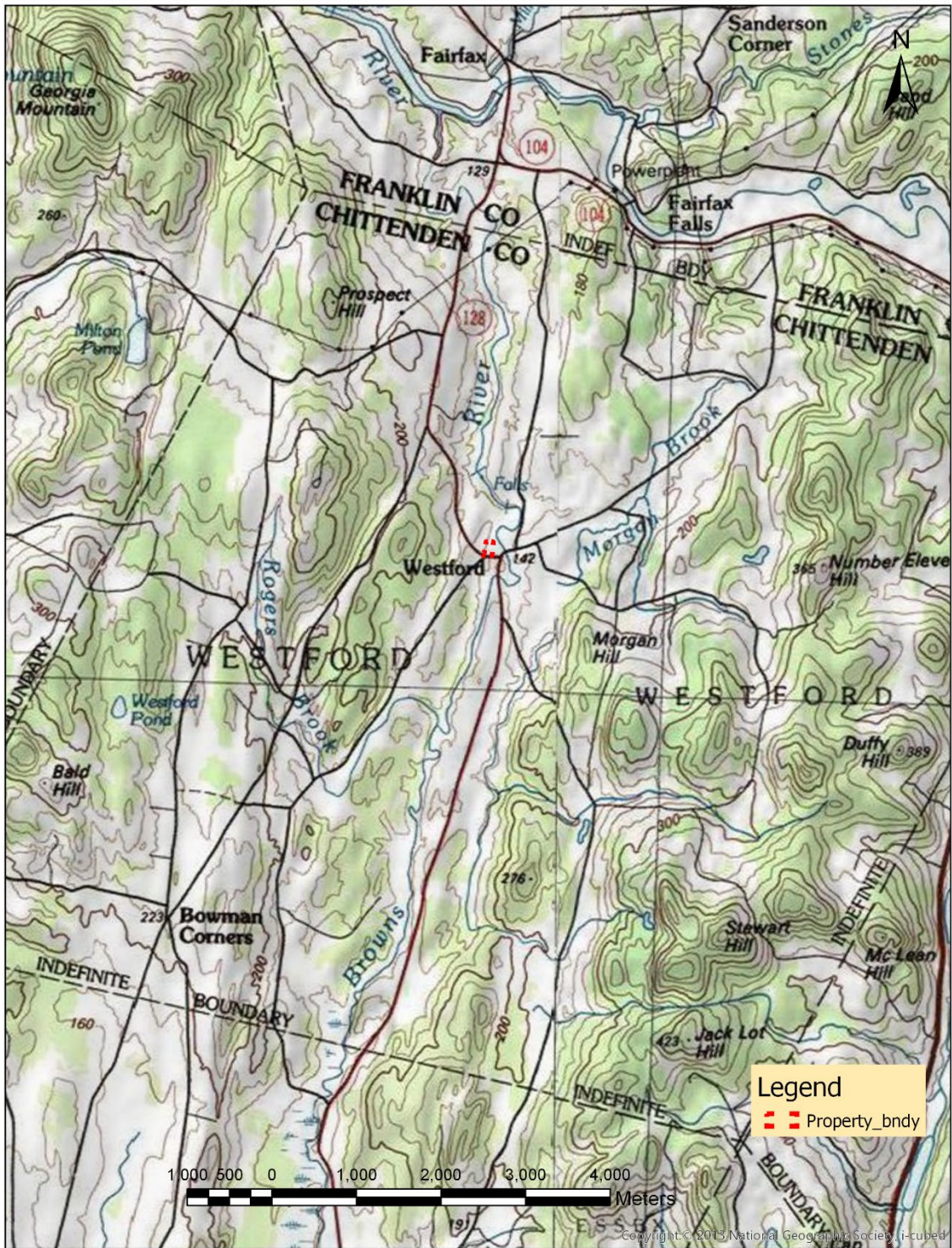


Figure 1. USGS map showing the location of the Pigeon Property, 1705 Route 128, Westford, Chittenden County, Vermont.

## **Environmental Setting**

The project area falls within the eastern portion of the physiographic subdivision of Vermont known as the Vermont Lowlands zone, which includes foothills to the west of the mountainous Green Mountain zone, in between the mountains and the shoreline of Lake Champlain. Specifically, the property lies within the Browns River drainage, an approximately 32 km long (20 mile) waterway that drains a portion of the western slope of the Green Mountains, including Mount Mansfield, Vermont's highest peak. The project parcel is located approximately 13 km (8 mi) upstream from Fairfax, Vermont, where the river empties into the Lamoille River, a major tributary of Lake Champlain. The property itself is associated with two unnamed north-south trending ravines that drain higher elevations and connect higher topographic features such as the level terrace upon which the green is situated to the river channel below. The project area sits above a meandering and down-cutting portion of the Browns River which includes falls and rapids.

Perhaps the most important influence upon the geological, hydrological, and topographic structure of the general project area was the Laurentide glacier. The Laurentide Ice Sheet overlaid much of the Northeastern United States for thousands of years until its retreat at the conclusion of the Pleistocene epoch. Based on a reassessment of deglaciation using combined C<sup>14</sup>, paleomagnetic and varve chronological data, Ridge (2003) and Ridge et al. (1999) suggest that glacial ice completely receded from northeastern North America (barring isolated remnants in Northern Maine) by sometime before 13,400 cal yr B.P. (Richard and Occhietti 2005). Ridge et al. (1999) specifically assign a date range of 13,700-13,400 cal yr B.P. to regional ice retreat beyond the international boundary line on the basis of varves at Enosberg Falls in the Missisquoi River Valley (Dyke et al. 2003). As the Laurentide Ice Sheet receded north and out of the Champlain Basin, meltwater carved valleys, including the Browns River Valley, and glacial Lake Vermont began to form. Ultimately, glacial retreat, ablation, or processes related to it, shaped much of the topography of the Green Mountains, including the project area (Robinson et al. 1992). Surficial sediments in the Browns River valley and specifically the project area are a product of these processes and include glaciolacustrine clays deposited by Lake Vermont. The presence of Lake Vermont over Westford is reflected in the specific soil types in the project area which include Munson and Raynam silt loams, 2-6% slopes, and Munson and Belgrade silt loams 12-25% slopes.

### **Archaeological Sensitivity for Pre-Contact Native American Sites**

Native people entered what is now Vermont soon after the retreat of the glacier, sometime around 12,500 years before present. While to date no Paleoindian sites have been discovered within the Browns River Valley, there are sites from this period within the broader Lamoille River drainage, and in locations accessible via drainage travel routes near the mouth of the Winooski River near the shoreline of the ancient Champlain Sea (Crock and Robinson 2012). Based on the locations of the earliest sites, and those in the millennia afterward, the Browns River and other river corridors leading into and out of the Champlain Valley were critically important travel corridors for Native Americans and an integral part of their settlement system.

The closest recorded sites to the project area include two sites associated with the drainage ravine that runs along the western side of the property boundary (Figure 2). The closest



Figure 2. Aerial photo with airborne LiDAR overlay showing the location of the Pigeon property in Westford, Vermont, and previously recorded pre-Contact era Native American archaeological sites nearby.

site, VT-CH-653 represents an artifact find reportedly made at the western end of the town “Common,” across Route 128 from the project parcel. A pre-Contact era Native American stemmed stone spear point was reportedly recovered from the site. Based on its morphology, it reportedly resembles a Kirk or Neville type attributable to the Middle Archaic period, ca. 10,000-7,500 before present. The second site nearby is located further up the same drainage. Site VT-CH-741 represents an isolated artifact find reported from a front yard/garden area. A chert chopping tool was reportedly recovered by the landowners of property near the intersection of Brookside Road and White Church Lane. Both of these previously recorded sites appear associated with a natural drainage, the upper portions of which have been altered or infilled, that once ran near what is now Brookside Road, and downward, around where the Westford Town Library is now located and along the west side of the project property to the Browns River (see Figure 2)

While portions of the project parcel have been disturbed as a result of historic development, including the construction of the house and garage, and associated activities associated with each, portions of the property may contain intact pre-Contact Native American archaeological deposits in relatively undisturbed contexts. Based on the VDHP’s Environmental Predictive Model for Locating pre-Contact Archaeological Sites, the project parcel scores a 50 given its proximity to the gorge and tributary streams (Appendix 1). The area also is highlighted in a digital version of the predictive model, due to its habitability factors including level terrain, proximity to the river, falls/rapids, and drainage draws (Figure 3). As a result, portions of the project area, particularly the side yard to the west of the house, area in the back of the house and garage along the “edge” of the higher terrace, as well portions of the property at lower elevations to the north are considered archaeologically sensitive pre-Contact Native American archaeological sites. An archaeological Phase I Survey is recommended in previously undisturbed portions of these areas in advance of ground disturbance to determine the presence/absence of potentially significant sites.

### **Archaeological Sensitivity for Historic Era Sites**

Westford Center is the only village in Westford (Rann 1886:696). In this area, the Browns River afforded “the best mill privileges” found in the town (Rann 1886:696). According to a local history, “the first settlement was made on the site of the village by Elisha Baker in 1795, who erected and operated a saw-mill on the river. Soon after Joshua Stanton built a forge and grist-mill in the near vicinity. The forge made a good quality of iron from ore taken from the mines in Colchester, mixed with a harder quality from the State of New York, which was boated to Burlington, and carted thence to Westford. Notwithstanding the fact that the expense of carting the ore through forest and over hill such a distance reduced the profit to a minimum, it gave employment to a number workmen, so much so that another forge was soon built at a point about one hundred rods lower down the river, not far from the present grist mill” (Rann 1886:696-697). The iron business reportedly ended “as the Colchester ore gave out” ca. 1810 (Rann 1886:697).

The Pigeon property may have been developed as a residential site as early as ca.1807 and definitely prior to 1817. The currently standing house was most likely built by Dr. Thomas

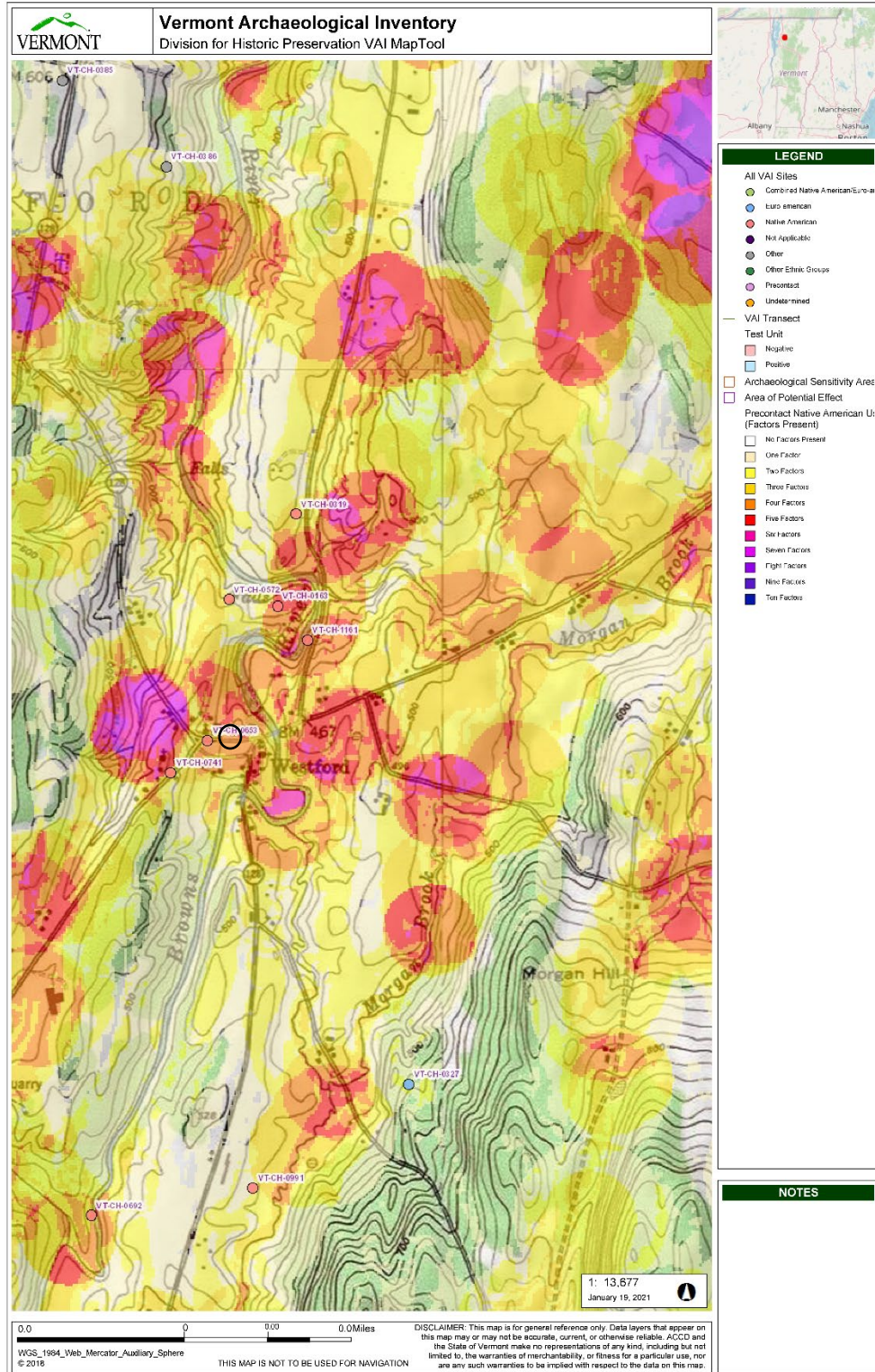


Figure 4. USGS topographic map with an overlay of pre-Contact era Native American habitability factors, the location of the project area (black circle) and previously recorded archaeological sites. Note the overlapping factors near the project area (level terrain, river falls, tributary streams).

Haynes after 1826/1827 and before 1850; likely c. 1830 after several different land purchases were made. The house has been occupied ever since, by seven different families (see detailed property ownership and development history in Appendix 2). The original house on the property, located to the east of the existing house, may have stood into the late 1850s-- see the structure labeled "G Conant" on the 1857 Walling map (Figure 5) but was probably torn down prior to 1869 based on the Beers map (Figure 6). The existing garage was built by Carl S. Paige in the summer of 1946 (probably in the area of the early house site)(Figures 7 and 8). There were also some outbuildings on the property (e.g. a barn belonging to Haynes). In addition, there was also once a store in the area east of the existing garage from 1865 to ca. 1946, operated by Luther M. Bates and later Eugene "Gene" B Dominique. Following the purchase of the property by the Pigeon family in 1968, the garage and area where the store was once located were used by Roland and Nettie Pigeon for their bus company until 1996.

Based on the nearly 200 year-long occupation for the house by a diverse list of occupants, significant archaeological deposits that could be used to better understand specific periods of time or specific historic research questions are not anticipated in the vicinity of the house. Based on the background research, no other areas of the property are believed to have the potential to contain significant historic archaeological resources either. The historic store, for example, east of the existing garage, was razed/infilled in the late 1940s and its former location utilized for parking and vehicle storage. As a result, archaeological deposits associated with the store are not expected to exist in a meaningfully intact context and if and where present, are not expected to contribute to a better understanding of nineteenth-twentieth-century general stores, many of which are still in operation in Vermont.

### **Conclusions and Recommendations**

A large portion of the project property north of its historically developed frontage on Route 128 is sensitive for pre-Contact Native American sites based on environmental criteria and previously recorded sites nearby. This includes the western side yard of the house, the backyard of the house and terrace edge behind the garage, as well as the undeveloped portions of the parcel at lower elevations bordering drainage ravines to the north toward the river (Figure 9). An archaeological Phase I Survey is recommended if ground disturbance is proposed in any of these areas that fall outside the footprint of the house, garage, and limits of other existing disturbances associated with features such as subsurface trenches or buried fuel tanks.

In terms of historic archaeological sites, the original early eighteenth century house location is likely to have been overwritten by the construction of the garage in the mid twentieth century. As a result, evidence of the earliest occupation of the property and, by extension, Westford, is not likely to exist intact. Furthermore, historic archaeological deposits associated with the standing house structure represent multiple families over nearly two centuries. As a result, no significant deposits are anticipated in the house portion of the property that would have the potential to contribute to a better understanding of the house's occupational history, or the settlement and development of Westford. Similarly, as outlined above, the former location of a general store on the property is not expected to contain significant archaeological deposits. As a result, no further archaeological work is recommended in the southern, developed portion of the property bordering Route 128.





Figure 5. Detail of H.F. Walling's 1857 *Map of Chittenden County, Vermont*, with the location of the Pigeon Property added.

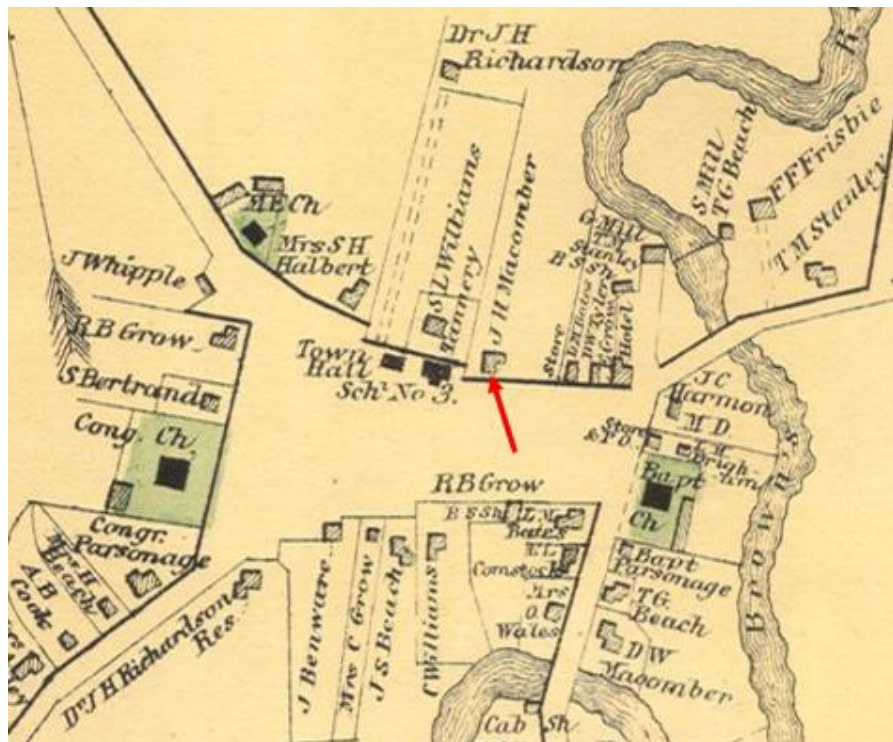


Figure 6. Detail of F.W. Beers' 1869 *Atlas of Chittenden County, Vermont*, with the location of the Pigeon Property added.



Figure 7. Detail of an aerial photograph showing the project area in 1942, and the location of the Pigeon Property (Air Mapping Corp. 1942).



Figure 8. Detail of an aerial photograph showing the project area in 1962, and the location of the Pigeon Property (Air Mapping Corp. 1962).

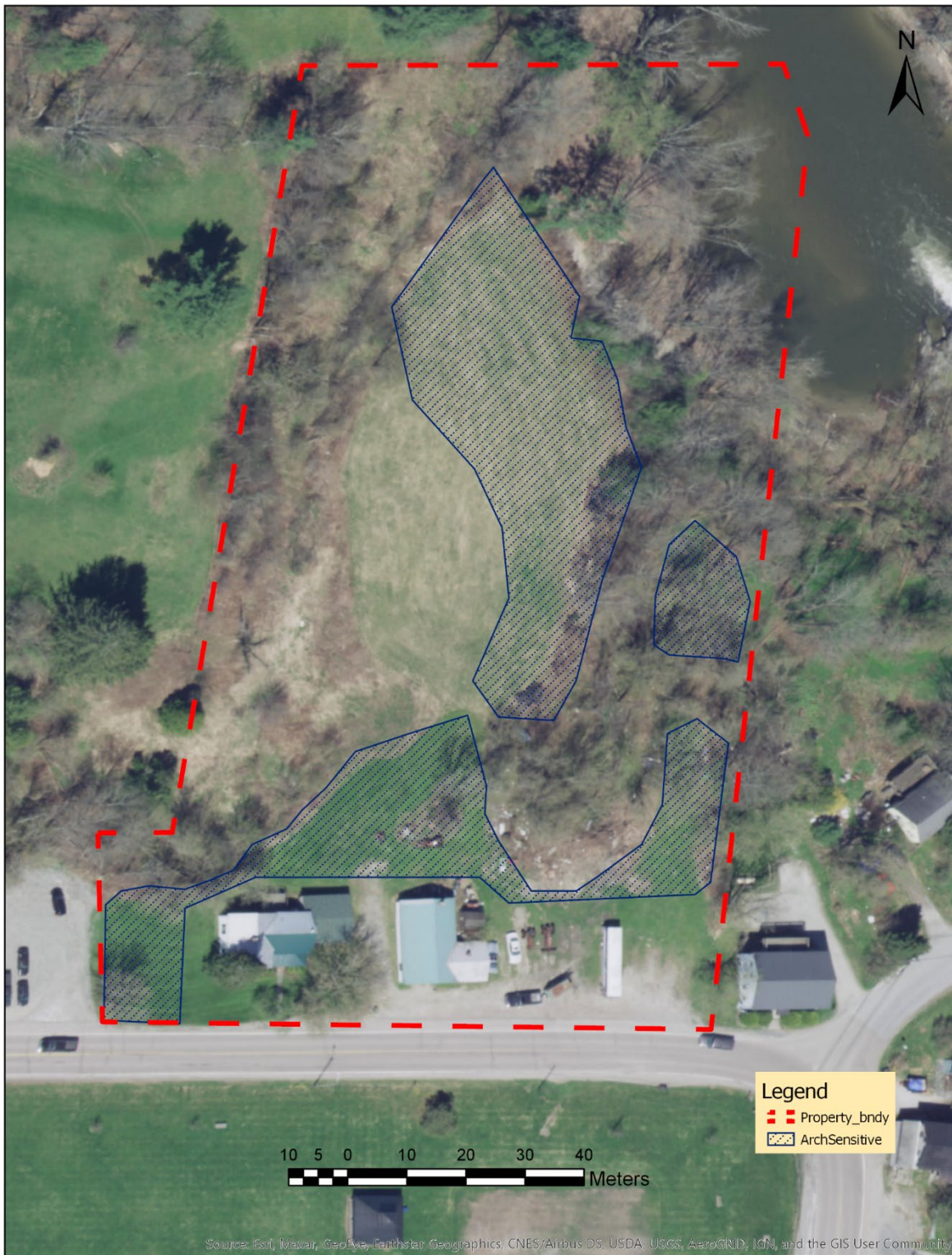


Figure 9. Aerial photo showing the Pigeon Property at 1705 Route 128 in Westford, Vermont, and areas on the parcel that are sensitive for pre-Contact Native American archaeological sites.

## References Cited

### Air Mapping Corp.

- 1942 *Aerial Photograph DCC-2-58*. Air Mapping Corp., Minneapolis, Minnesota. U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service Survey of Vermont. Image on file: Vermont Archives and Records Administration Center, Middlesex, Vermont.
- 1962 *Aerial Photograph VT-62-H 24-176*. Air Mapping Corp., Minneapolis, Minnesota. U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service Survey of Vermont. Image on file: Vermont Archives and Records Administration Center, Middlesex, Vermont.

### *Barre Daily Times* (Barre, Vermont)

- 1928 July 27, "Westford Man Killed." p. 7.

### Beers, F.W.

- 1869 *Atlas of Chittenden County, Vermont*. F.W. Beers, A.D. Ellis and G.G. Soule, New York, New York.

### *Burlington Clipper* (Burlington,

- Vermont) 1925 March 26,  
"Westford." p. 5.

### *Burlington Daily News* (Burlington, Vermont)

- 1944 March 8, "Era Ends in Westford When Gene Domingue Quits Store." p. 3.  
1946 July 18, "Serious Fire Averted by Fast Action." p. 7.

### *Burlington Free Press* (Burlington, Vermont)

- 1928 August 2, "Westford--Funeral of Clark B. Paige Held at His Late Home." p. 14.  
1939 December 11, Mrs. Amira Grow." p. 17.  
1949 February 23, "E.G. Gale Westford, Observes Birthday--Personal Items." p. 15.  
1949 June 3, "28 Children Attend Westford Conference-- Gas Pump Destroyed." p. 16.  
1962 February 7, "UVM Custodian Honored by Staff, Faculty at Tea." p. 4.  
1965 September 25, "Westford Benefit Nets \$40 Profit." p. 1.  
1966 September 22, "New Westford School Dedicated." p. 5.  
1966 October 12, "Carl S. Paige." p. 13.  
1969 October 6, "Pigeon Drives Westford Bus for 24 Years." p. 10.  
1996 May 6, "Bus driver at end of road." p. 15.  
2017 April 28, "Obituaries: Roland A. Pigeon Age 95, Westford." p. A15.

### Child, Hamilton

- 1882 *Gazetteer and Business Directory of Chittenden County, Vermont, for 1882-1883*.  
The Journal Office, Syracuse, New York.

- Crock, John G. and Francis “Jess” Robinson  
 2012 Maritime Mountaineers: Paleoindian Settlement Patterns on the West Coast of New England. In *Late Pleistocene Archaeology and Ecology in the Far Northeast*, edited by Claude Chapdelaine, pp. 43-76. Texas A&M University Press.
- De Bolt, Mary M.  
 1908 *Lineage Book: National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution*. Vol. LXVII. Printed for the Society. Washington, D.C.
- Dyke, Arthur S., D. Giroux and L. Robertson  
 2003 Deglaciation of North America. Geological Survey of Canada, Open File 1574.
- Faxton, George  
 1880 *The History of the Faxon Family, Containing A Genealogy of the Descendants of Thomas Faxon of Braintree, Mass.* Springfield Printing Company, Springfield, Massachusetts.
- Montague, George W.M. and William L. Montague  
 1866 *History and Genealogy of the Montague Family of America, Descended from Richard Montague of Hadley, Mass., and Peter Montague of Lancaster Co., VA., With Genealogical Notes of Other Families by Name of Montague*. J.E. Williams, Amherst, Massachusetts.
- Newport Daily Express* (Newport, Vermont)  
 1953 March 4, “Eugene Domingue Former Postmaster in Westford Dies.” p. 2.
- Rann, W.S.  
 1886 *History of Chittenden County Vermont, With Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of Some of its Prominent Men and Pioneers*. D. Mason & Co., Publishers, Syracuse, New York.
- Richard, Pierre J. H., and Serge Occhitetti  
 2005 C<sup>14</sup> Chronology for Ice Retreat and Inception of Champlain Sea in the St. Lawrence Lowlands, Canada. *Quaternary Research* 63:353-358.
- Ridge, John C.  
 2003 The Last Deglaciation of the Northeastern United States: A Combined Varve, Paleomagnetic, and Calibrated <sup>14</sup>C Chronology. In *Geoarchaeology of Landscapes in the Glaciated Northeast*, edited by David L. Cremeens and John P. Hart, pp. 15-45. New York State Museum, Bulletin 497, Albany.
- Ridge, John C., Mark R. Besonen, Marc Brochu, Sarah L. Brown, Jamie W. Callahan, Glen J. Cook, Robert S. Nicholson and Nathaniel J. Toll  
 1999 Varve, Paleomagnetic, and <sup>14</sup>C Chronologies for Late Pleistocene Events in New Hampshire and Vermont (U.S.A.). *Géographie physique et Quaternaire* 53(1):79-106.

Robinson, Brian S., Thomas R. Buchanan, Ellen R. Cowie, Weatherbee R. Dorshow, and Catherine A. Quinn

1992 *Archaeological Phase I Survey of the Vermont Segment of the Champlain Pipeline Project (FERC Docket No. CP98-646-000), 2 Vol.* University of Maine at Farmington Archaeology Research Center.

*St. Albans Daily Messenger* (St. Albans, Vermont)

1888 October 15, "Death of J.H. Macomber of Westford." p.

4. 1894 October 3, "Westford." p. 2.

*United States Army Register of Enlistments 1798-1914*

Various Years. *United States Army Register of Enlistments 1798-1914*. Database on-line. Image. Ancestry.com Operations Inc. Provo, Utah. *Ancestry.com*. [www.http://ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) : 2007. Original Data *Register of Enlistments in the U.S. Army 1798-1914*. National Archives Microfilm Publication M233. Records of the Adjutant General's Office 1780's-1917. Record Group 94; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

United States Census Bureau [U.S. Census]

1820 United States Federal Census. Database and Digital Image. Ancestry.com Operations Inc. Provo, Utah. *Ancestry.com*. [www.http://ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) : 2011. From National Archives microfilm publication M33.

1830 United States Federal Census. Database and Digital Image. Ancestry.com Operations Inc. Provo, Utah. *Ancestry.com*. [www.http://ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) : 2011. From National Archives microfilm publication M19.

1840 United States Federal Census. Database and Digital Image. Ancestry.com Operations Inc. Provo, Utah. *Ancestry.com*. [www.http://ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) : 2011. From National Archives microfilm publication M704.

1850 United States Federal Census. Database and Digital Image. Ancestry.com Operations Inc. Provo, Utah. *Ancestry.com*. [www.http://ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) : 2011. From National Archives microfilm publication M432.

1860 United States Federal Census. Database and Digital Image. Ancestry.com Operations Inc. Provo, Utah. *Ancestry.com*. [www.http://ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) : 2011. From National Archives microfilm publication M653.

1880 United States Federal Census. Database and Digital Image. Ancestry.com Operations Inc. Provo, Utah. *Ancestry.com*. [www.http://ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) : 2011. From National Archives microfilm publication T9.

1920 United States Federal Census. Database and Digital Image. Ancestry.com Operations Inc. Provo, Utah. *Ancestry.com*. [www.http://ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) : 2011. From National Archives microfilm publication T625.

1930 United States Federal Census. Database and Digital Image. Ancestry.com Operations Inc. Provo, Utah. *Ancestry.com*. [www.http://ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) : 2011. From National Archives microfilm publication T626.

1940 United States Federal Census (Population). [Database on-line]. Ancestry.com

Operations Inc. Lehi, Utah. *Ancestry.com*. [www.http://ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) : 2012.  
From National Archives microfilm publication T627.

#### United States Pension Bureau

n.d. Record for Melzor B. Buck / Lucretia Kinsley Buck (11<sup>th</sup> U.S. Infantry); WO Pension Number 4620 and WC Pension Number 5099. *War of 1812 Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files*. Digital Images. *Fold 3.com*.  
[www.http://fold3.com](http://fold3.com) : 2010. From: United States National Archives Record Group #15.

#### Walling, H.F.

1857 *Map of Chittenden County, Vermont*. Baker & Tilden & Co., New York, New York.

#### Westford Land Records

Various Years. *Westford Land Records*. Manuscript of file: Westford Town Clerk's Office, Westford, Chittenden County, Vermont.

#### Vermont Daily Transcript (St. Albans, Vermont)

1868 September 5, "Eye and Ear Infirmary." p. 3.

#### Vermont Death Records 1909-2008.

Various years. *Vermont Death Records 1909-2008*. Database on-line. Ancestry.com Operations Inc., Provo, Utah. *Ancestry.com*. [www.http://ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com): 2011. From Microfilmed original documents of the Vermont Secretary of State, Montpelier, Vermont.

#### Vermont Vital Records 1720-1908.

Various years. *Vermont Vital Records 1720-1908*. Database on-line. Ancestry.com Operations Inc., Provo, Utah. *Ancestry.com*. [www.http://ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) : 2011. From Microfilmed original documents of the Vermont Secretary of State, Montpelier, Vermont.

#### Vermont Wills and Probate Records 1749-1999

1889 Estate of James H. Macomber of Westford, Vermont (Estate Files, Box 28, Files 4152-4180). Accessed online. Database and Digital Images. Vermont Wills and Probate Records 1749-1999. Ancestry.com Operations Inc. Provo, Utah. *Ancestry.com*. [www.http://ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) : 2011. From Microfilmed original documents of the Chittenden County Probate Court as preserved by the Vermont Secretary of State, Montpelier, Vermont.

**APPENDIX I: VDHP PREDICTIVE MODEL SCORE SHEET**  
**VERMONT DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

**Environmental Predictive Model for Locating Pre-contact Archaeological Sites**

Project Name **Westford 1705 Route 128** County **Chittenden** Town **Westford**  
DHP No. Map No. Staff Init. Date **1/18/21**

Additional Information

<b>Environmental Variable</b>	<b>Proximity</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Assigned Score</b>
<b>A. RIVERS and STREAMS (EXISTING or RELICT):</b>			
1) Distance to River or Permanent Stream (measured from top of bank)	0- 90 m	12	<b>12</b>
	90- 180 m	6	
2) Distance to Intermittent Stream	0- 90 m	8	
	90-180 m	4	
3) Confluence of River/River or River/Stream	0-90 m	12	
	90 –180 m	6	
4) Confluence of Intermittent Streams	0 – 90 m	8	
	90 – 180 m	4	
5) Falls or Rapids	0 – 90 m	8	<b>8</b>
	90 – 180 m	4	
6) Head of Draw	0 – 90 m	8	<b>8</b>
	90 – 180 m	4	
7) Major Floodplain/Alluvial Terrace		32	
8) Knoll or swamp island		32	
9) Stable Riverine Island		32	
<b>B. LAKES and PONDS (EXISTING or RELICT):</b>			
10) Distance to Pond or Lake	0- 90 m	12	
	90 -180 m	6	
11) Confluence of River or Stream	0-90 m	12	
	90 –180 m	6	
12) Lake Cove/Peninsula/Head of Bay		12	
<b>C. WETLANDS:</b>			
13) Distance to Wetland (wetland > one acre in size)	0- 90 m	12	
	90 -180 m	6	
14) Knoll or swamp island		32	
<b>D. VALLEY EDGE and GLACIAL LAND FORMS:</b>			
15) High elevated landform such as Knoll Top/Ridge Crest/ Promontory		12	
16) Valley edge features such as Kame/Outwash Terrace**	16	12	<b>12</b>



17) Marine/Lake Delta Complex**		12	
18) Champlain Sea or Glacial Lake ShoreLine**		32	
<b>E. OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:</b>			
19) Caves /Rockshelters		32	<b>12</b>
20) X Natural Travel Corridor Sole or important access to another drainage Drainage divide		12	
21) Existing or Relict Spring	0 – 90 m 90 – 180 m	8 4	
22) Potential or Apparent Prehistoric Quarry for stone procurement	0 – 180 m	32	
23) ) Special Environmental or Natural Area, such as Milton aquifer, mountain top, etc. (these may be historic or prehistoric sacred or traditional site locations and prehistoric site types as well)		32	
<b>F. OTHER HIGH SENSITIVITY FACTORS:</b>			
24) High Likelihood of Burials		32	
25) High Recorded Site Density		32	
26) High likelihood of containing significant site based on recorded or archival data or oral tradition		32	
<b>G. NEGATIVE FACTORS:</b>			
27) Excessive Slope (>15%) or Steep Erosional Slope (>20)		- 32	
28) Previously disturbed land as evaluated by a qualified archeological professional or engineer based on coring, earlier as-built plans, or obvious surface evidence (such as a gravel pit)		- 32	
<b>** refer to 1970 Surficial Geological Map of Vermont</b>			<b>Total Score: 50</b>
<b>Other Comments :</b>			
<b>0- 31 = Archeologically Non- Sensitive</b> <b>32+ = Archeologically Sensitive</b>			

## APPENDIX 2: DETAILED HISTORY OF OWNERSHIP FOR THE PROJECT PARCEL

According to the town land records, the project area property is located on Lot #40 of the Second Division of lots in the Town of Westford. In this area, the south line of the lot is roughly the north line of Route 128. On December 16, 1802, Zephinah Jones and Timothy Morgan Jr. of Westford sold Lot #40 and Lot #44, both in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division and each 100 acres, along with an iron forge on Lot #40 to Lyman King of Burlington for \$2,000 (WLR 2:266). On February 9, 1804, Lyman King sold same lots, the forge, and “all other buildings,” to Samuel Mower of Westford for \$1,500 (WLR 2:408). On November 18, 1805, Samuel Mower sold the bulk of the land on these lots lying west of Browns River as well as a half interest in the forge and the associated dam and water rights to Harlow Barnaby for \$1,000 (WLR 3:75).

On February 14, 1807, Harlow Barnaby sold a half acre of the above land on Lot #40 a short distance west of the river along with an 1/8<sup>th</sup> interest in the iron forge to Stephen Williams for \$130 (WLR 3:182). The half acre lot was located north of the road beginning “about 30 rods” (495 ft) west of the river; then running north 8 rods (132 ft); then west 10 rods (165 ft); then south 8 rods (132 ft) to the north side of the road; then running east on the road to the beginning (WLR 3:182). This half acre lot forms the nucleus of the present project area property. On March 10, 1807, Stephen Williams sold the half acre lot to Levi Farnsworth along with the interest in the iron forge (WLR 3:261). On February 1, 1808, Levi Farnsworth sold the half acre and the eight part interest in the forge to David Haselton (1767-1848) of Westford for \$133 (Find-a-Grave, Gravestone/Memorial, Brookside Cemetery, Westford, Vermont; WLR 3:275). On April 10, 1808, David Haselton sold the half acre to Timothy Moors (WLR 3:331). On April 14, 1810, Timothy Moors sold the same property “with appurtenances” to Nathan Bailey of Fletcher for \$100 (WLR 4:228). On May 1, 1817, Nathan Bailey sold the half acre to Thomas Peake of Sheldon for \$172 (WLR 5:465). This deed specifically mentions a building on the lot (WLR 5:465). On December 8, 1818, Thomas Peake of Sheldon sold the land and buildings to Melzor B. Buck of Fletcher (WLR 5:482).

Melzor B. Buck (1788-1866), a physician, owned the half acre lot between December 1818 and November 1819 (Montague and Montague 1866:417; WLR 5:482; 6:28; *United States Army Register of Enlistments 1798-1914*). Buck was originally from Worthington, Massachusetts (Montague and Montague 1866:417). On January 6, 1812, he married Lucretia Kingsley (1794-1871) a native of Cambridge, Vermont, in Russelton, Canada (Montague and Montague 1866:417). Early in 1813, the couple lived in North Hero (Montague and Montague 1866:417; *United States Army Register of Enlistments 1798-1914*). Between April 1813 and September of 1815, Dr. Buck served as a sergeant with the 11<sup>th</sup> U.S. Infantry (War of 1812) (*United States Army Register of Enlistments 1798-1914*; *United States Pension Bureau* n.d.). While in service, he was participate in at least six battles, served as hospital steward at Fort Erie, and was, at one point, early in 1814, a prisoner of war (*United States Army Register of Enlistments 1798-1914*; *U.S. Pension Bureau* n.d.). Immediately after the war, in 1816, Buck and his family lived in Cambridge, Vermont (Montague and Montague 1866:417). By 1818, however, they were living in Westford, where one of their several children, Moses, was born on June 24, 1818 (Montague and Montague 1866:417).

On November 27, 1819, Melzor Buck sold the half acre property in Westford to Thomas Haynes of Swanton, another physician, for \$200 (WLR 6:28). Buck eventually went on to settle in Brasher, St. Lawrence County, New York (near Massena) (Montague and Montague 1866:417). Dr. Thomas Haynes (1792-1860) had been born in North Hero, a son of Samuel and Rachel Haynes (De Bolt 1908:266; Find-a-Grave, Gravestone/Memorial, South Cemetery, North Hero, Vermont; *Vermont Vital Records 1720-1908*). Thomas Haynes followed in the footsteps of his grandfather, Dr. Thomas Haynes (1735-1789), who had served as a surgeon in Gen. Amherst's Army at the taking of Ticonderoga in 1759 long before settling in North Hero (De Bolt 1908:266). Thomas Haynes (1792-1860) practiced medicine in Swanton for a few years before moving to Westford where he practiced for thirty years (U.S. Census 1830, 1840, 1850; *Vermont Daily Transcript* September 5, 1868; *Vermont Vital Records 1720-1908*).

On April 22, 1826, Thomas Haynes bought two acres lying west and north of his half acre house lot from Danforth Wales (WLR 6:545). This parcel started at a maple stump on the highway just west of Haynes' barn, then ran north on the west side of a rill in a straight line to a stake and stone located northwest of a spring; then on the north bank of the rill in a straight line to Browns River; then southward on the river to a maple tree; then in a direct line to the northeast corner of Haynes' half acre house lot; then west on the north line of Haynes' lot 10 rods (165 ft); then south 8 rods (132 ft) on Haynes' west line to the highway; then west on highway to the beginning (WLR 6:545). On June 18, 1827, Haynes added another twenty-six rods of land to his house lot. This parcel, purchased from Thompson Beach, was described as beginning on the south line of Lot #40 in Haynes' west line, then running N19°30'E 7 chains (462 ft) and 6 links (4 ft); then east to Haynes' northeast corner at the river; then on Haynes' line to the beginning (WLR 6:577). On April 7, 1829, Dr. Haynes bought a small parcel from the town for \$8 (WLR 9:370). This lot began at the southwest corner of his property, on the line between him and Beach, then ran south 10 feet (to a point on a line even with the south end of the school); then east to the end of Haynes' property; then west on his south line to the beginning (WLR 9:370). Haynes also had to acquire a few quit claim deeds from other parties to secure clear title to his land (WLR 6:546; 6:611; 10:202).

Thomas Haynes sold his property to James Nichols (?-1894) on April 20, 1850 (*St. Albans Daily Messenger* October 3, 1894; WLR 11:511). The house lot was then described as being bounded south by the green or common; west by town property, land owned by Chauncy Williams (the tanner), and land owned by Daniel Douglass; north by Daniel Douglass; and east by the Browns River and by Harminius Halbert (1815-1859, the inn keeper and postmaster) (WLR 11:511; U.S. Census 1840, 1850, 1860; *Vermont Vital Records 1720-1908*). Dr. Haynes subsequently moved to Plattsburgh, New York (U.S. Census 1850, 1860). On November 12, 1851, James Nichols sold the former Haynes property in Westford to George Hobart (1817- 1909) and his first wife, Annis Robinson (1830-1864) (Faxton 1880:208; Walling 1857; WLR 12:132). George Hobart was a son of Deacon Jonas Hobart (b. ca 1785-1880) and Sarah Faxton (1788-?), originally of New Hampshire, but who had settled in the eastern part of Westford in 1804 (Faxton 1880:126, 208; Rann 1886:699). George Hobart was a farmer and, for a time, the town clerk of Westford (Faxton 1880:126, 208; Rann 1886:699). After his first wife's death, George Hobart married Maria Phillips (1838-1887) on March 1, 1866 (Faxton 1880:208; Find-a-Grave, Gravestone/Memorial, Osgood Hill

Cemetery, Westford, *Vermont; Vermont Vital Records 1720-1908*). Around this time, on February 13, 1866, George Hobart sold the property on the north side of the Westford common to James H. Macomber (1823-1888) for \$1,200 (Beers 1869; WLR 14:483).

J.H. Macomber was a farmer (he owned two farms) and represented Westford “in the legislature for two or three terms, and, at one time or another, had held nearly if not quite every town office” (*St. Albans Daily Messenger* October 15, 1888; *Vermont Wills and Probate Records 1749-1999*, 1889, Estate of James H. Macomber of Westford, Vermont). When he died in 1888, his “house and lot” in the village were valued at \$850 (*Vermont Wills and Probate Records 1749-1999*, 1889, Estate of James H. Macomber of Westford, Vermont). On August 25, 1890, his heirs sold the house in the village to the wife of George L. Grow, Amira E. (Beach) Grow (1849-1939), who was a life-long resident of Westford (*Burlington Free Press* December 11, 1939; *Vermont Vital Records 1720-1908*; WLR 18:163). On May 31, 1940, the estate of Amira Grow sold the property to J. Ovila and Eva Harton (WLR 24:444). On May 31, 1945, J. Ovila and Eva Harton sold the 3 acres of land located on the north side of Vt. Rte. 128 with buildings thereon and bounded west by the town property; east by E.B. Dominique; and north by the Browns River, to Carl S. Paige (WLR 25:246).

Carl S. Paige (1894-1966) had been born in Westford, a son of Clark B. Paige (1868-1928) and Josephine Weston (*Burlington Free Press* October 12, 1966; *Vermont Death Records 1909-2008*). As a young man, Carl Paige lived in other towns. In 1917, Carl Paige, then of Fairfax, married Helen Leach (*Vermont Marriage Records 1909-2008*). In 1920, he was a salesman in St. Albans, and in 1925, he was again in Fairfax working at “the Power House at the falls” (*Burlington Clipper* March 26, 1925; U.S. Census 1920). However, he returned to Westford by ca. 1930 (U.S. Census 1930). He may have returned to town ca. 1928 after the accidental electrocution death of his father who was trying to fix the aerial on his radio (*Barre Daily Times* July 27, 1928; *Burlington Free Press* August 2, 1928). While in Westford, Carl Paige served as the school director, as a town representative, and as a road commissioner (*Burlington Free Press* September 22, 1966). He remained a farmer until at least ca. 1940 (U.S. Census 1940). As noted above, Carl Paige bought the both the old Haynes house on the north side of the common as well as the land with an old store building on it to the east of the house in 1945 (WLR25:246; 25:286).

In 1946, in the area east of the house, Carl Paige built a garage / service station. On July 18, 1946, it was reported that “a truck driven by Henry Paige hooked onto the gas tank hose at the filling station of his brother Carl S. Paige. Parked close to the gas pump, Paige started up his car just at the noon hour; the bumper caught in the hose ripping the tank loose, and as the electric wires snapped a spark ignited the gasoline. Men working on the newly constructed Paige garage ran frantically to move their cars; townspeople rushed over and grabbed shovels. Edgar Grow arrived in a hurry with his fire extinguisher, but the dirt thrown on did the trick. Flames shot out of the feed pipe leading to the huge underground storage tank filled Tuesday, but, fortunately, the fire went no further. An explosion, it was said, would have

'been like an atomic bomb on the Common' and would probably have demolished the new garage and seriously threatened the Paige home and the old hotel both close by" (*Burlington Daily News* July 18, 1946). In February of 1949, it was noted that "Carl S. Paige has rented his garage to a mechanic" (*Burlington Free Press* February 23, 1949). In June of 1949 it was noted "while getting gas at Carl Paige's garage last Friday afternoon, the bumper of Carlton Minor's pickup truck caught on the hose of the gas tank, pulling it over which caused a fire. The pump was destroyed" (*Burlington Free Press* June 3, 1949). It appears that the garage operated to at least 1965 (*Burlington Free Press* September 25, 1965). It is not clear if Carl Paige actually operated the garage the whole time, or simply owned it. Carl Paige was the "custodian of UVM's Waterman Building" from ca. 1950 to 1962 (*Burlington Free Press* February 7, 1962; October 12, 1966).

Carl S. Paige died in 1966 and on December 12, 1968, his widow, Helen Paige (1888-1974), sold the house, garage, and about three acres of land to Roland and Nettie (Burnor) Pigeon (*Burlington Free Press* April 28, 2017; *Vermont Death Records 1909-2008*; WLR 30:420). Helen Paige, however, reserved the right to occupy the premises during her lifetime (WLR 30:420). Roland A. Pigeon (1921-2017) was a son of Emile and Dorilla Pigeon (*Burlington Free Press* April 28, 2017). His parents moved the family from Quebec to a farm in Westford in 1929 (*Burlington Free Press* April 28, 2017; U.S. Census 1930). In ca. 1941 Roland Pigeon "started as a substitute driver for his father . . . who drove a Westford school bus" using his father's Pontiac sedan "as a school bus" (*Burlington Free Press* October 6, 1969; May 6, 1996). Roland Pigeon kept driving for the school to supplement the income he got as a dairy farmer (to ca. 1968) and as a musician (*Burlington Free Press* October 6, 1969; May 6, 1996). He eventually contracted with the Westford School District to provide the regular school bus service with him purchasing and maintaining his own busses (*Burlington Free Press* October 6, 1969). Eventually, he acquired a "fleet of seven school buses and three charter busses" (*Burlington Free Press* May 6, 1996).

As noted above, Roland Pigeon purchased the project area property in 1968. In 1969, it was reported that Pigeon was "getting ready to open a service station and garage in Westford, the former Carl Paige garage" (*Burlington Free Press* October 6, 1969). The article continued: "He hopes to open in two or three weeks, depending on whether he can find a gas company who will service him. 'They don't want to bother with small stations who can't give then a guarantee of gallonage' he said. He thinks Agway may agree to, however" (*Burlington Free Press* October 6, 1969). It is unclear based on the documents available at the time of this report whether or not the gas service at the garage ever resumed. However, Roland Pigeon operated his "charter coach bus company" on this site until 1996, when he retired (*Burlington Free Press* April 28, 2017).

### **The Store Site**

On July 28, 1865, Jasper L. Depatie (1841-1915), a returning Civil War veteran (8<sup>th</sup> Vermont, 1862-1864) bought a small lot on the north side of the common, 30 ft deep and lying between the hotel property and the land owned by George Hobart from George Farnsworth for \$300 (WLR 14:393). On March 9, 1867, Depatie sold the premises to George Hill for \$400, and moved to North Brookfield, Massachusetts (WLR 15:79; U.S. Census 1880). On April 15, 1867, George Hill sold the store property on the north side of

the common to Luther M. Bates, a grandson of Job Bates who had settled in the south part of town in 1796, for \$500 (Rann 1886:698, 702; WLR 15:93; *Vermont Vital Records 1720-1908*). In 1882, it was noted that Luther Bates was the town clerk; a “dealer in dry goods groceries, boots and shoes, crockery & etc;” and a farmer of three acres (Child 1882:402; Rann 1886:698, 702). On July 2, 1900, Luther Bates sold the property to John Howrigan (1843-1914) for \$600 (*Vermont Death Records 1909- 2008*; WLR 19:84). In May of 1903, John Howrigan sold the same property, with buildings, to Eugene Dominique for \$600 (WLR 19:254). Eugene “Gene” B Dominique (1871-1953) was an institution in Westford (*Burlington Daily News* March 8, 1944; *Newport Daily Express* March 4, 1953). He operated a general store in the town for about 42 years and was also postmaster for 29 years (*Newport Daily Express* March 4, 1953). On September 11, 1910, Eugene Dominique bought 8 square rods of land immediately north of his store from Henry N. Macomber, who was then the owner of the hotel property (Rann 1886:703; WLR 20:111). On September 4, 1945, Eugene Dominique sold his property (the two adjoining pieces) to Carl S. Paige (WLR 25:286).