

3.5 HISTORIC RESOURCES

3.5.1 Introduction

This Section describes the methodology used to assess the potential effects of the proposed construction of Shaft 33B and its water main connections on historic resources. The evaluation was conducted in accordance with the methodologies set forth in the *CEQR Technical Manual*, and was also consistent with the requirements of the New York State Historic Preservation Act, and the professional standards of the New York Archaeological Council.

The *CEQR Technical Manual* identifies historic resources as districts, buildings, structures, sites, and objects of historical, aesthetic, cultural, and archaeological importance. This includes designated New York City Landmarks (NYCLs), properties pending designation as landmarks by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (NYCLPC), properties listed on the New York State and National Registers of Historic Places (S/NR) or located within a district listed on or formally determined eligible for listing on the Registers, properties determined to be eligible for listing on the Registers by the New York State Historic Preservation Office (NYSHPO), National Historic Landmarks, and properties not included in these categories but that nonetheless meet or are likely to meet eligibility requirements for Register listing. Historic resources include both archaeological and architectural resources. Archaeological resources are physical remains from the pre-historic (Native American) period or historic period, usually buried below the surface, while architectural resources are historically important buildings, structures, objects, sites, and districts.

Adverse effects can occur to archaeological resources when excavation occurs that disturbs or destroys those archaeological resources. Adverse effects can occur to architectural resources when a project results in physical alteration or demolition to a historic resource; when a project results in a change in the scale, visual prominence, or context (setting) of the historic resource; and when a project's construction activities result in adverse physical effects to a historic resource, for example because of vibration.

The evaluation considered the potential effects of construction activities on architectural and archaeological resources. Activation of the shaft and operation of the shaft and water main connections are not anticipated to have any potential for adverse effect on historic resources. Once construction is complete, no excavation would occur that could adversely affect archaeological resources. The activation and operation of the shaft and water mains would not result in notable visible changes to the surrounding area that might adversely affect views to or the context of nearby historic properties; it also would not cause any physical changes (such as vibration) to any nearby historic properties. Therefore, a detailed analysis of potential impacts on historic resources was not conducted for the operation of the shaft and water main connections.

3.5.2 Existing Conditions Methodology

Establishing Study Areas

Archaeological Resources Study Areas

Potential impacts to archaeological resources would be related to project activities that would disturb the ground, and therefore that could affect any buried archaeological resources. Therefore, the Study Area for archaeological resources, also referred to as the Area of Potential Effect, or “APE,” consists of the preferred Shaft Site, alternative Shaft Sites, and potential routes of the water main connections, where ground disturbance would occur as a result of excavation for Shaft 33B, its water main connections, or related construction activities.

Architectural Resources Study Areas

For architectural resources, Study Areas were developed based on the area of potential effect for construction-period impacts, such as ground-borne vibrations, and on the area of potential effect for any visual or contextual effects, which is usually a larger area.

As set forth in the *CEQR Technical Manual*, the size of a study area for architectural resources is directly related to the anticipated extent of an action’s impacts. For most proposals, a study area defined by the radius of 400 feet from the borders of the project site is adequate, but if an action would result in activities that are only visible from limited locations, a smaller study area may be appropriate. For the analysis of potential impacts from construction and operation of Shaft 33B and the associated water mains, the following Study Areas were used for the evaluation of architectural resources:

- Known historic structures near the Shaft Sites: 400-foot Study Areas around the preferred and alternate Shaft Site locations were used to identify known historic structures.
- Potential historic structures near the Shaft Sites: 100-foot Study Areas around the preferred and alternate Shaft Site locations were used for identification of potential historic resources that appear to meet criteria for S/NR listing and NYCL designation.
- Known and potential historic structures near water main connection routes: 100-foot Study Areas were used for identification of known and potential historic resources along the likely water main connection routes.

Identification of Existing Historic Resources

Within the Study Areas for archaeological and architectural resources, all properties that are officially recognized as historic resources (designated NYCLs, properties pending designation as NYCLs, properties listed on the S/NR, or properties determined to be eligible for listing on the S/NR by the NYSHPO) were identified. In addition, properties that appear to meet the criteria for designation as NYCLs or listing on the S/NR were also identified.

In order for a property to be designated as a NYCL under the current law, it must be at least 30 years old and must possess a special character or special historical or aesthetic interest or value

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as part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of the city, state, or nation. Four types of landmarks are recognized:

- Individual Landmarks: These consist of individual structures and range from rowhouses to bathhouses to mansions to skyscrapers to bridges.
- Interior Landmarks: These are building interiors that are customarily open or accessible to the public.
- Scenic Landmarks: These are City-owned parks or other landscape features.
- Historic Districts: These are areas of New York City that possess architectural and historical significance and a distinct sense of place.

The criteria of eligibility for listing of properties on the National Register of Historic Places have been established by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior; New York State uses these criteria to identify properties that are eligible for listing on the State Register as well. Following these criteria, properties may be eligible for the Registers if they possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. Are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. Are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C. Embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. Have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Archaeological resources assessments were prepared by a professional archaeologist for each of the archaeological resources Study Areas to identify any locations where archaeological resources may be buried.¹ The archaeological resources assessments were prepared using documentary research to identify past uses of each Study Area and the extent of subsequent disturbance of potential resources by later construction or other activities.

Known architectural resources were identified by reviewing inventories of such resources maintained by NYCLPC and the SHPO. Potential architectural resources (i.e., those that appear to meet the criteria for designation as NYCLs or for listing on the S/NR) were identified through field visits to the Study Areas by professional architectural historians.

¹ *Phase 1A Historic Resources Assessment of the Proposed City Tunnel Number 3, Stage 2, Manhattan Leg, Shaft 33B Project Area, Borough of Manhattan, New York City, New York*, prepared by Eugene J. Boesch, October 14, 2005; *Phase 1A Historic Resources Assessment Addendum*, prepared by Eugene J. Boesch, October 14, 2005.

3.5.3 Future Conditions Without the Project Methodology

Any changes that are predicted to occur in the Future Without the Project, as identified for other sections of the EIS, were considered to determine whether any changes might be expected to existing archaeological and architectural resources.

3.5.4 Future Conditions With the Project Methodology

The project's potential effects on historic resources (both archaeological and architectural resources) during construction were then considered. Possible effects evaluated included direct physical impacts on archaeological and architectural resources, as well as contextual effects on architectural resources. Direct effects could include disturbance or destruction of archaeological resources, as well as physical destruction, demolition, damage of alteration of an architectural resource. In addition, visual effects, such as changes in the appearance of an architectural resource or in its setting—including introduction of incompatible visual, audible, or atmospheric elements to a resource's setting, or elimination of publicly accessible views to the resource—were also considered for both the construction and operation of Shaft 33B.

