

Memorandum

To: William Lee, Gowanus Environmental Remediation Trust #2

From: Michael Audin, RPA & Scott Warnasch, RPA

Date: April 16, 2021

RE: Memo # 12 - Results of Level 1 Cultural Resource Review
Debris Staging at Clean Earth – Claremont
RTA-1A Dredging, Level 1 Monitoring
Gowanus Canal Remediation Project
Brooklyn, Kings County, NY

This memorandum presents the findings of Archaeology & Historic Resource Services, LLC's (AHRS) review of screened sediments at the Clean Earth Claremont Facility in Jersey City, New Jersey (Clean Earth) from Level 1 Monitoring. The screened sediments are from the RTA-1 dredging currently underway at the Gowanus Canal Superfund Site in Brooklyn, New York. The purpose of this memorandum is to present the results and recommendations for the items recovered from sediment screening at Clean Earth reviewed by an AHRS archaeologist on 4/16/21.

INTRODUCTION

Cashman Dredging and Marine Contracting Co. (Cashman) continues with the dredging of soft sediments from RTA-1 under the oversight of the EPA. The dredge material is being processed according to the Level 1 Archaeological Monitoring protocol outlined in the draft Cultural Resource Monitoring Plan (revised September 2020). This protocol calls for dredged soft sediments to be placed directly into scows, floated to Clean Earth, and screened over 4" bars on a vibrating platform. Items removed during the vibratory screening process are then sorted by the Clean Earth operator as per the Cultural Resource Monitoring Plan. Items of potential interest (possible artifacts or objects of local interests) are placed in a separate stockpile and photographed daily for AHRS archaeologists to review. These items are then placed in a holding area for AHRS to inspect weekly.

RESULTS

AHRS archaeologist Scott Warnasch conducted a scheduled site visit on 4/16/21 to review the recovered items in person with the assistance of a Clean Earth machine and operator to sort through stockpiled items. Photographs were taken of stockpiled items at Clean Earth.

The recovered items were spread by machine on a flat hard surface to allow for an archaeologist to clearly review them (Photograph 1). Any item of potential interest was separated, rinsed and

assessed. The reviewed material was collected on the right side of the review area, while residual material reviewed last week remained at center and left (Photograph 1). The reviewed material was unsorted and included muddy debris comprised of concrete fragments, rocks, large and small pieces of wood and timber miscellaneous metal, tires and car parts (Photograph 2, 3 and 4). No items of interest were retained.



Photograph 1 – View of debris piles to be reviewed (far right), front view.



Photograph 2 – smaller pieces of wood, front view.



Photograph 3 – Example of large timbers, front view.



Photograph 4 – Example of the miscellaneous material reviewed, front view.

Items Segregated for Further Review

AHRS archaeologist retained no items for further analysis.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

AHRS concludes that no items observed during the sediment screening at Clean Earth were of interest or retained. AHRS further recommends that all the non-historically/archaeologically significant debris at Clean Earth has been reviewed by the AHRS archaeologist as of 4/16/2021 may be disposed of.