



Cultural Resource Consultants

Memorandum

To: William Lee, Gowanus Environmental Remediation Trust #2

From: Michael Audin, RPA & Scott Warnasch, RPA

Date: April 23, 2021

RE: Memo # 13 - 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 recently screened at Clean Earth and reviewed by an AHRS archaeologist on 4/23/21. The attached figure provided by the Trust indicate the approximate area of the probing activities (Figure 1).

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 4/23/21 to review items recovered as part of a probing activity at Turning Basin 1 (TB-1). The material under review consisted of a metal bollard and triangular mounting plate used on a pier or dock (Photographs 1, 2 & 3). It has been retained for further evaluation.



Photograph 1 – View of bollard item, front view.



Photograph 2 – View of bollard item, rear view.



Photograph 3 – View of bollard item, overview.

Items Segregated for Further Review

AHRS archaeologist retained one item for further analysis: a metal bollard and mounting plate.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

AHRS concludes that the item observed at Clean Earth retains possible historic/archaeological significance. Per the draft Cultural Resource Monitoring Plan, AHRS further recommends that all the non-historically/archaeologically significant debris at Clean Earth has been reviewed by the AHRS archaeologist as of 4/23/2021 may be disposed of.



Figure 1 – An obstruction was identified at an elevation of -10.51ft’ and removed on April 13, 2021 following refusal during probing activities conducted in preparation of pipe pile installation at TB-1