



Cultural Resource Consultants

Memorandum

To: William Lee, Gowanus Environmental Remediation Trust #2

From: Michael Audin, RPA & Scott Warnasch, RPA

Date: July 26, 2021

RE: Memo # 15 - 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 7/21/21. The attached figure provided by the Trust indicates the approximate area that was dredged.

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.

The items reviewed on 7/21/21 were retrieved while dredging around the steel cofferdam in front of the Flushing Tunnel.

RESULTS

AHRS archaeologist Scott Warnasch conducted a scheduled site visit on 7/21/21 to review the recovered items in person. Photographs were taken of stockpiled items at Clean Earth.

The items under review consisted of a twenty-four-inch by four-inch black stone decorative column (broken in two pieces) (Photograph 1) and a twelve-inch by thirteen-inch mechanical component of undetermined function that appears to contain peddles (Photographs 2 and 3).



Photograph 1 – View of stone column, front view.



Photograph 2 – View of mechanical component.



Photograph 3 – View of mechanical component, top view.

Items Segregated for Further Review

AHRS archaeologist retained one item for further analysis: a mechanical component.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

AHRS concludes that out of the two items observed at Clean Earth, one holds possible historic/archaeological significance and should be retained for further review. 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 7/21/2021 may be disposed of.

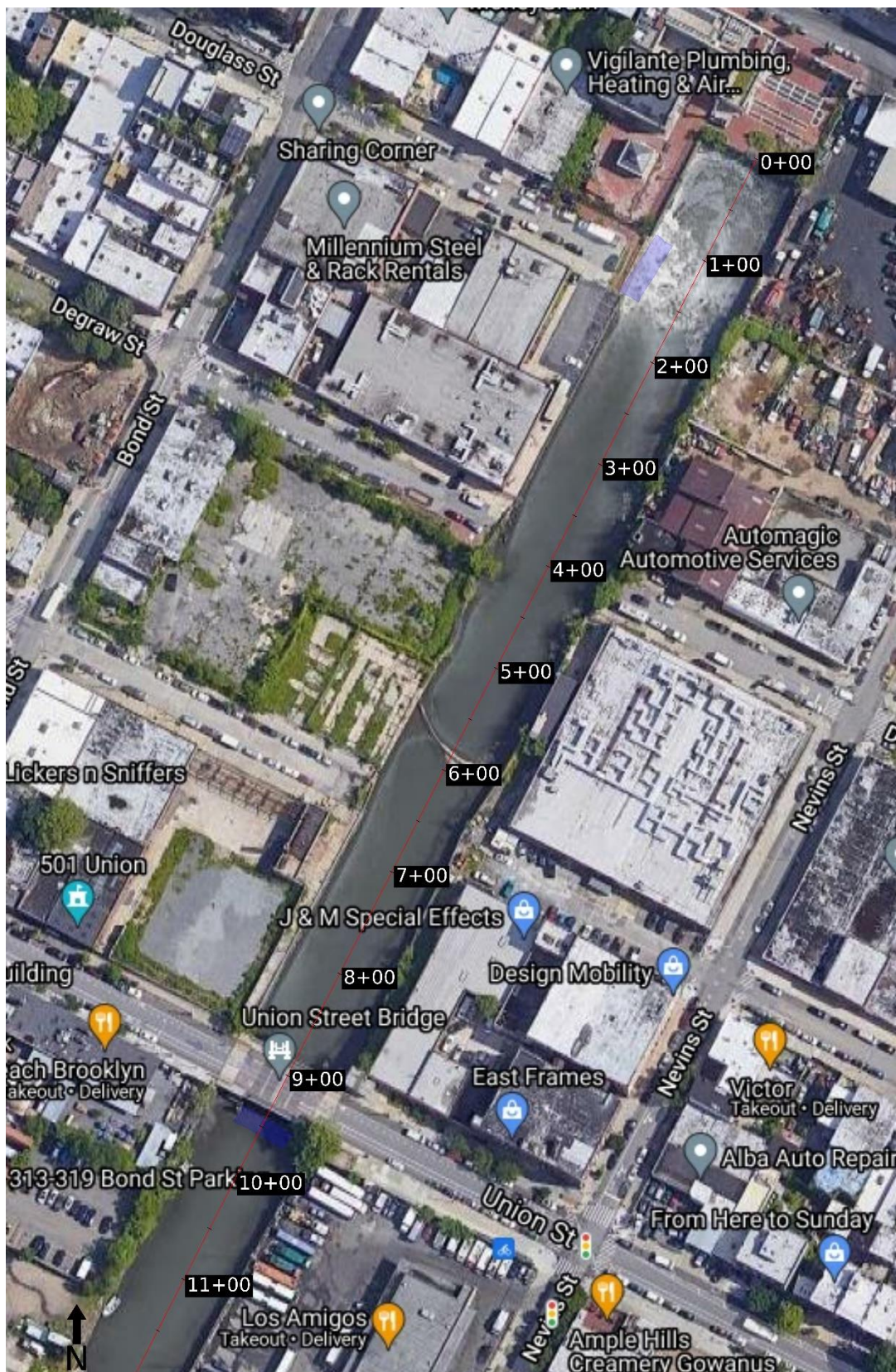


Figure 1 – Approximate source areas for debris reviewed by AHRs at Clean Earth July 21, 2021