



# Memorandum

To: William Lee, Gowanus Environmental Remediation Trust

From: Kathryn Whalen, Ph.D., RPA- Principal Investigator, and Ed Button, M.A., RPA- Field Director

Date: July 1, 2024

RE: Memo #2- Results of Level 1 Cultural Resource Review of June 25<sup>th</sup> Dredging

## **Activities Observed on June 25, 2024**

This memorandum presents the review of Chronicle Heritage's Level 1 archaeological monitoring of the dredging conducted on June 25, 2024. The area impacted was within RTA3 and was located adjacent to the staging area at 595 Smith Street. Mr. Ed Button, M.A., RPA, Field Director, was on site that day to observe the operations. The purpose of this memorandum is to summarize our recommendations for the items recovered and reviewed by Mr. Button.

## **INTRODUCTION**

June 25, 2024, was the first day of dredging conducted by Cashman Dredging and Marine Contracting Co. (Cashman) for the RTA 2 section of the project. This was a Level 1 effort on the west side of the canal near the southern edge of the Smith Street staging area (Figure 1). The purpose of this work is to make the canal navigable in that area for barge travel. The archaeological monitor was present to make sure operators understood the Level 1 responsibilities, and to get an understanding of the types and amounts of materials generated by dredging. Archaeological monitoring was conducted from the shore. Debris was inspected from the bucket of the excavator.

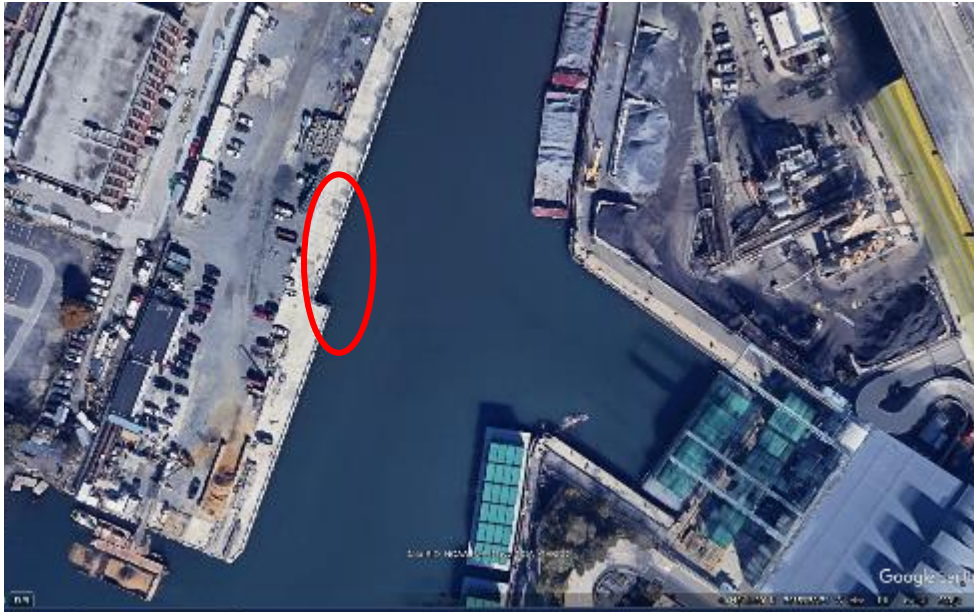


Figure 1. Observed dredging area in red (Base map from Google Earth, July1, 2024).

## RESULTS

Mr. Button observed only old cribbing timbers and wood debris from the day's operations. No objects of interest were identified.



Figure 2. Results map of June 25, 2024 Level 1 archaeological monitoring (Base Map Google Earth June 27, 2024).



Photograph 1. Project facility, 595/659 Smith Street, facing southwest. Area to be dredged is at base of railing (left)(Chronicle Heritage 2024).





Photograph 2. Project facility along Gowanus Canal, facing northeast towards I-278 Bridge (Chronicle Heritage 2024).



Photograph 3. Dredging barge moving into location (Chronicle Heritage 2024).



Photograph 4. 1000-ton Weeks 75 barge moved from berth (Chronicle Heritage 2024).



Photograph 5. Dredging adjacent to Project facility, 595/659 Smith Street, facing northeast (Chronicle Heritage 2024).





Photo 6. Dredging adjacent to Project facility, 595/659 Smith Street, facing southeast (Chronicle Heritage 2024).





Photograph 7. Cashman excavator operator and crew chief inspect dredged debris in bucket (Chronicle Heritage 2024).



Photograph 8. Dredging adjacent to Project facility, 595/659 Smith Street, facing northeast (Chronicle Heritage 2024).

## **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Materials encountered during this dredging session included old cribbing and wood debris. No objects of interest or artifacts were identified.