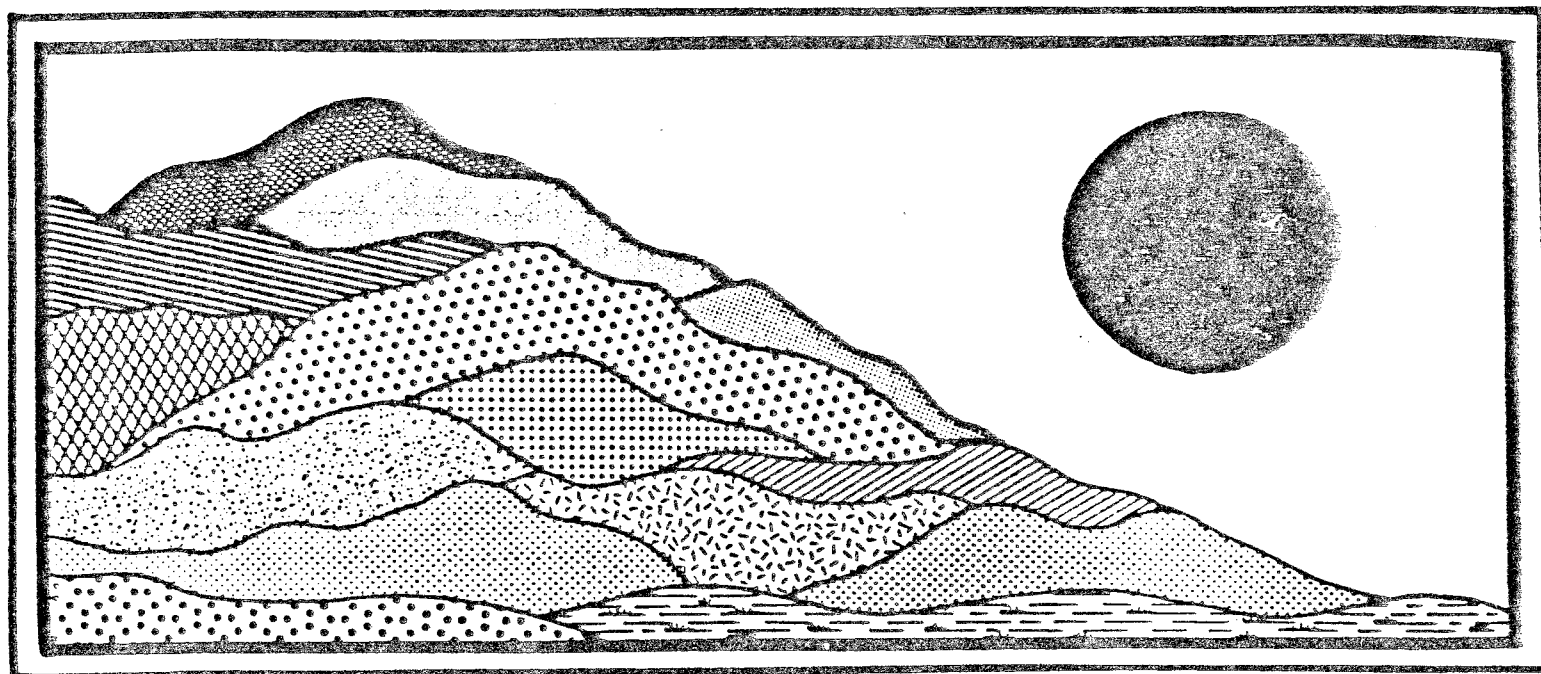


Nazarko Gravel Excavation

Old Lyme, Connecticut

May 1986



ENVIRONMENTAL

REVIEW TEAM

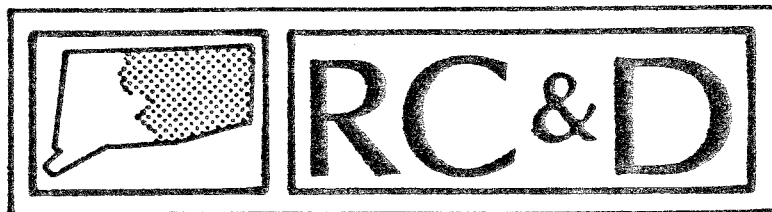
REPORT

Nazarko Gravel Excavation

Old Lyme, Connecticut

Review Date: APRIL 3, 1986

Report Date: MAY 1986



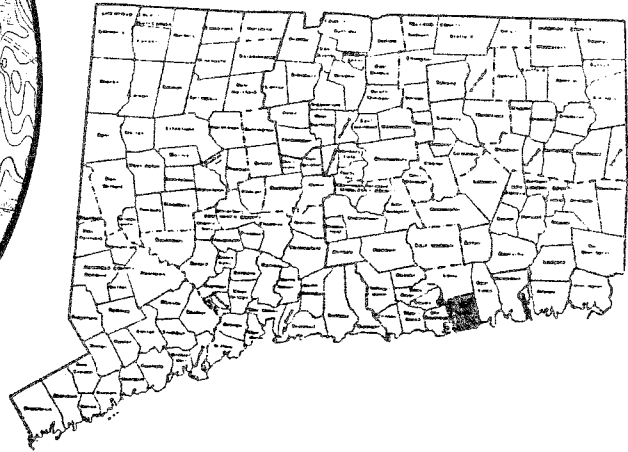
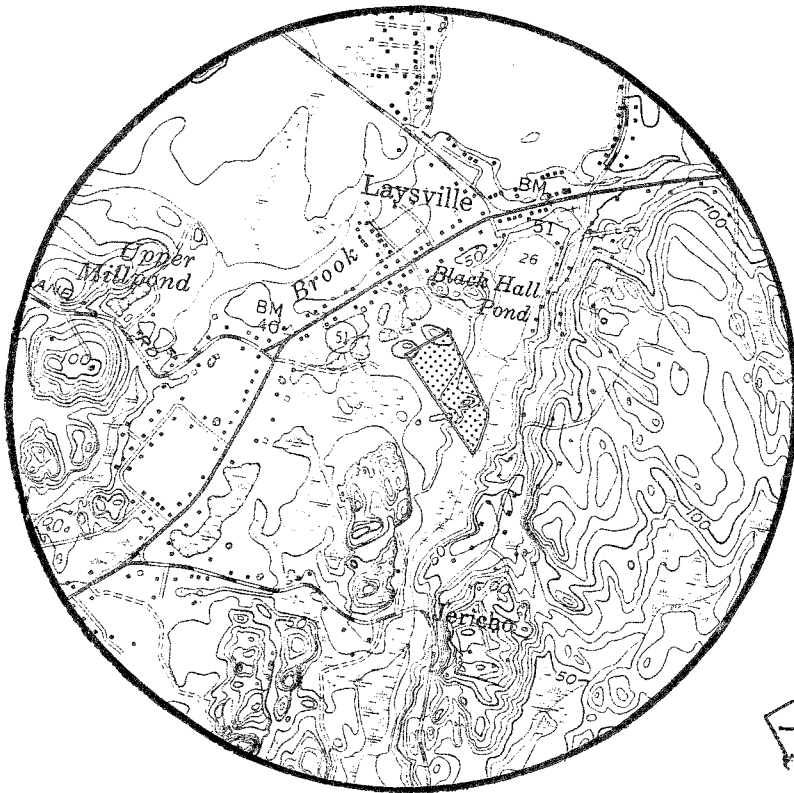
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW TEAM

PO BOX 198

BROOKLYN, CONNECTICUT 06234

Site Location

NAZARKO GRAVEL EXCAVATION
OLD LYME, CONNECTICUT



EASTERN CONNECTICUT
RESOURCE CONSERVATION
& DEVELOPMENT AREA

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW TEAM REPORT
ON
THE NAZARKO GRAVEL EXCAVATION
OLD LYME, CONNECTICUT

This report is an outgrowth of a request from the First Selectman of Old Lyme to the New London County Soil and Water Conservation District (S&WCD). The S&WCD referred this request to the Eastern Connecticut Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area Executive Committee for their consideration and approval. The request was approved and the measure reviewed by the Eastern Connecticut Environmental Review Team (ERT).

The ERT met and field checked the site on Thursday, April 3, 1986. Team members participating on this review included:

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Barry Cavanna | -District Conservationist--U.S.D.A., Soil Conservation Service |
| Richard Serra | -Regional Planner--CT River Estuary Regional Planning Agency |
| Elaine Sych | -ERT Coordinator--Eastern CT RC&D Area |
| Bill Warzecha | -Geologist--DEP, Natural Resources Center |

Prior to the review day, each team member received a summary of the proposed project, a list of the Town's concerns, a general site location map and a soils map. During the field review the team members were given site plans. The team met with, and were accompanied by the First Selectman, the Zoning Enforcement Officer, the applicants and their engineer. Following the review, reports from each team member were submitted to the ERT Coordinator for compilation and editing into this final report.

This report represents the Team's findings. It is not meant to compete with private consultants by providing site designs or detailed solutions to development problems. The team does not recommend what final action should be taken on a proposed project--all final decisions and conclusions rest with the Town and landowner. This report identified the existing resource base and evaluates its significance to the proposed development, and also suggests considerations that should be of concern to the developer and the Town. The results of this Team action are oriented toward the development of better environmental quality and the long-term economics of land use.

The Eastern Connecticut RC & D Executive Committee hopes you will find this report of value and assistance in making your decision on this proposed gravel excavation.

If you require any additional information, please contact:

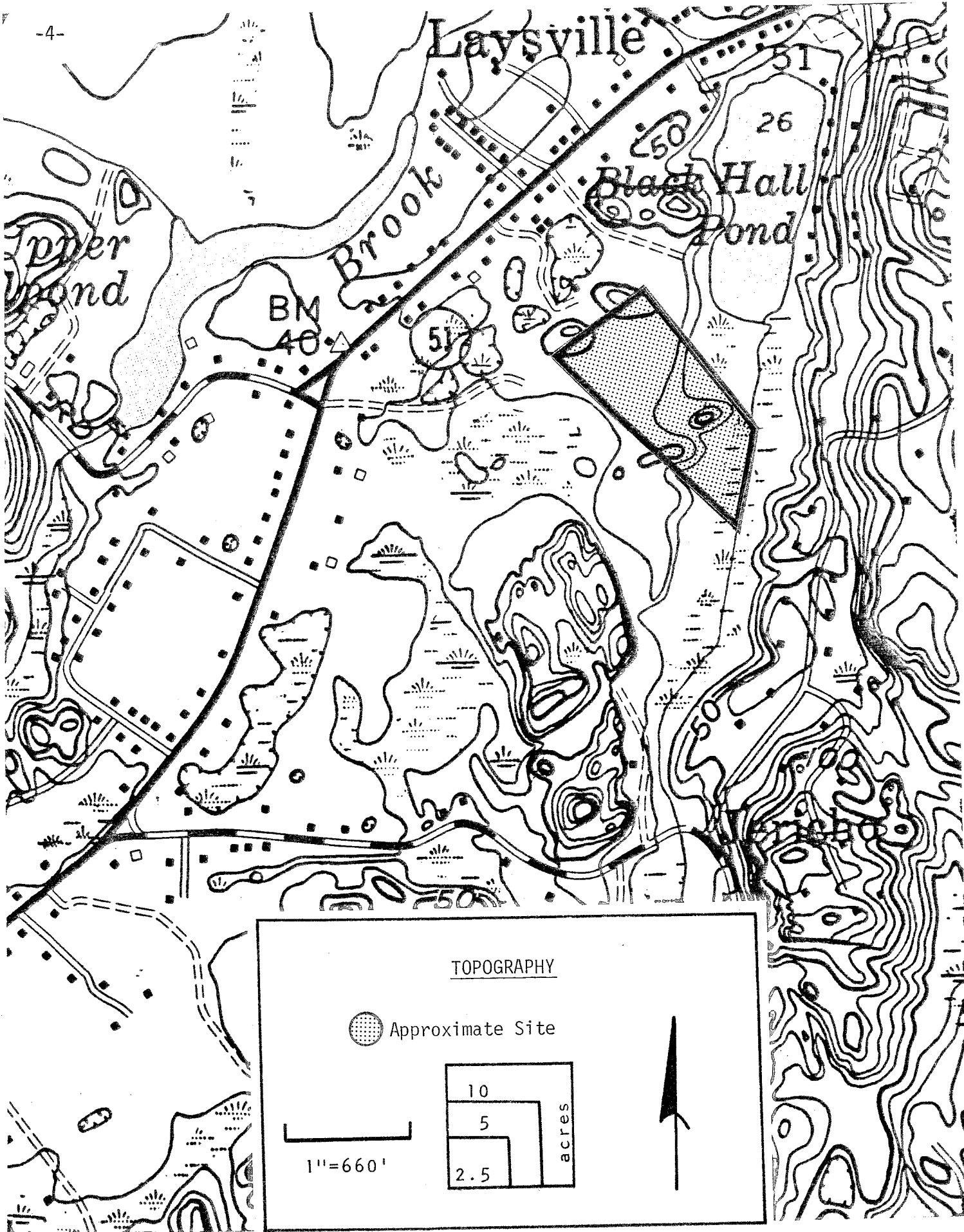
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Laysville

Brook

Upper Pond

Black Hall Pond

BM 40

51

26

50

51

50

50

TOPOGRAPHY

Approximate Site

1" = 660'

10

5

2.5

acres



1. INTRODUCTION

The First Selectman of Old Lyme has asked for the Environmental Review Team's assistance in reviewing a proposed gravel excavation.

The proposed gravel mining operation is located in the northern section of Old Lyme near Laysville. It is about 800' southeast of Route 1. The site's access road will be onto Route 1 east of Sunset Drive.

The material will be excavated from a 9.1 acre parcel of land referred to as Lot 9 of the Nazarko subdivision. It is estimated that 5.1 acres or 180,000 cubic yards of material would be excavated as a result of the sand and gravel removal operation. The applicants are anticipating that the gravel removal operation will take place over a three (3) year period. Following the sand and gravel removal operation, an eight (8) lot subdivision between lot 9 and Route 1 and a \pm 2.8 acre pond will be created.

The excavation will be conducted to within 20' of the properties east and west boundaries. At the southern boundary is Buckey Brook. The outwash plain of this brook is designated as a 500 year Flood Hazard Area. This area is approximately at the 28' contour.

Except for a parcel of Commercial property adjacent to the parcel on Route 1, the site and surrounding properties are zoned residential. The closest residential structure to the proposed access road is owned by the applicant. The closest residential structure to the excavation site is approximately 300'+. Located west of proposed lot 5.

2. TOPOGRAPHY AND SETTING

The site is dominated by flat slopes except in few areas where they are gentle. The gentle slopes on the site are associated mainly with the two (2) bedrock-cored knobs northwest of the proposed pond site.

Buckey Brook, which is the outlet stream for Black Hall Pond forms the eastern boundary of Lot 9. It was the only visible watercourse observed on the site during the field review.

Maximum and minimum elevations on the site are \pm 50 feet above mean sea level and \pm 27 feet above mean sea level respectively.

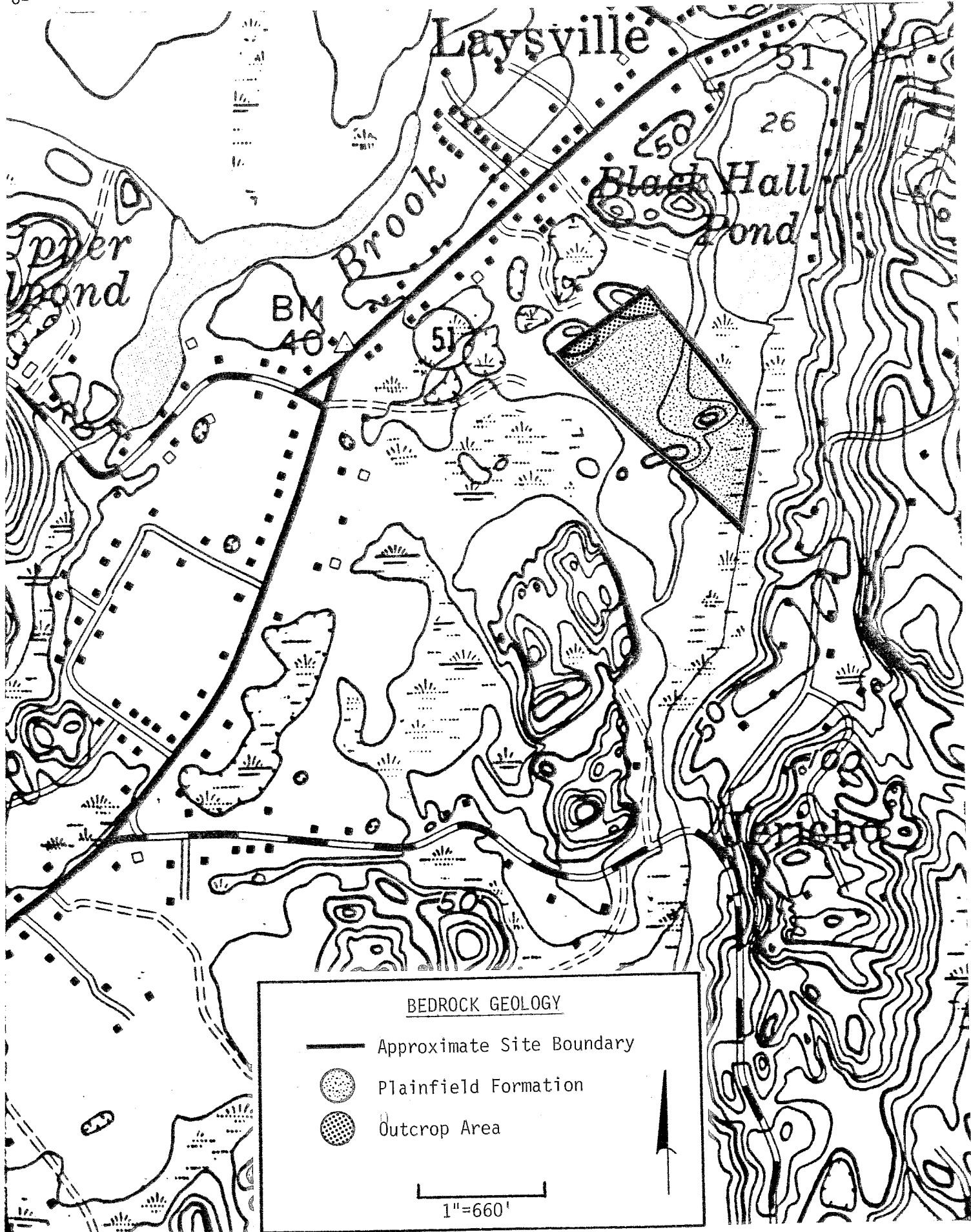
3. GEOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

The study area is located within the Old Lyme topographic quadrangle. A bedrock geologic map (QR-21 by Larry Lundgren, Jr.) and surficial geologic map (QR-31, by Richard F. Flint) for the quadrangle have been published by the Connecticut Geological and Natural History Survey.

3.2 Bedrock Geology

Bedrock breaks the ground surface on a small knoll about 100 feet from the western edge of the proposed excavated area. This ledge exposure is on Lot 7 in the proposed subdivision. According to deep test information supplied to Team members on the review day, the ledgerock surface was encountered about



10 feet below ground surface in the western parts of the excavated area (test hole 4) and at about 7.5 feet below ground surface just outside of the proposed excavated area in the southern parts. The bedrock surface was not encountered in any of the other six (6) deep test pits excavated in or near the proposed excavation area.

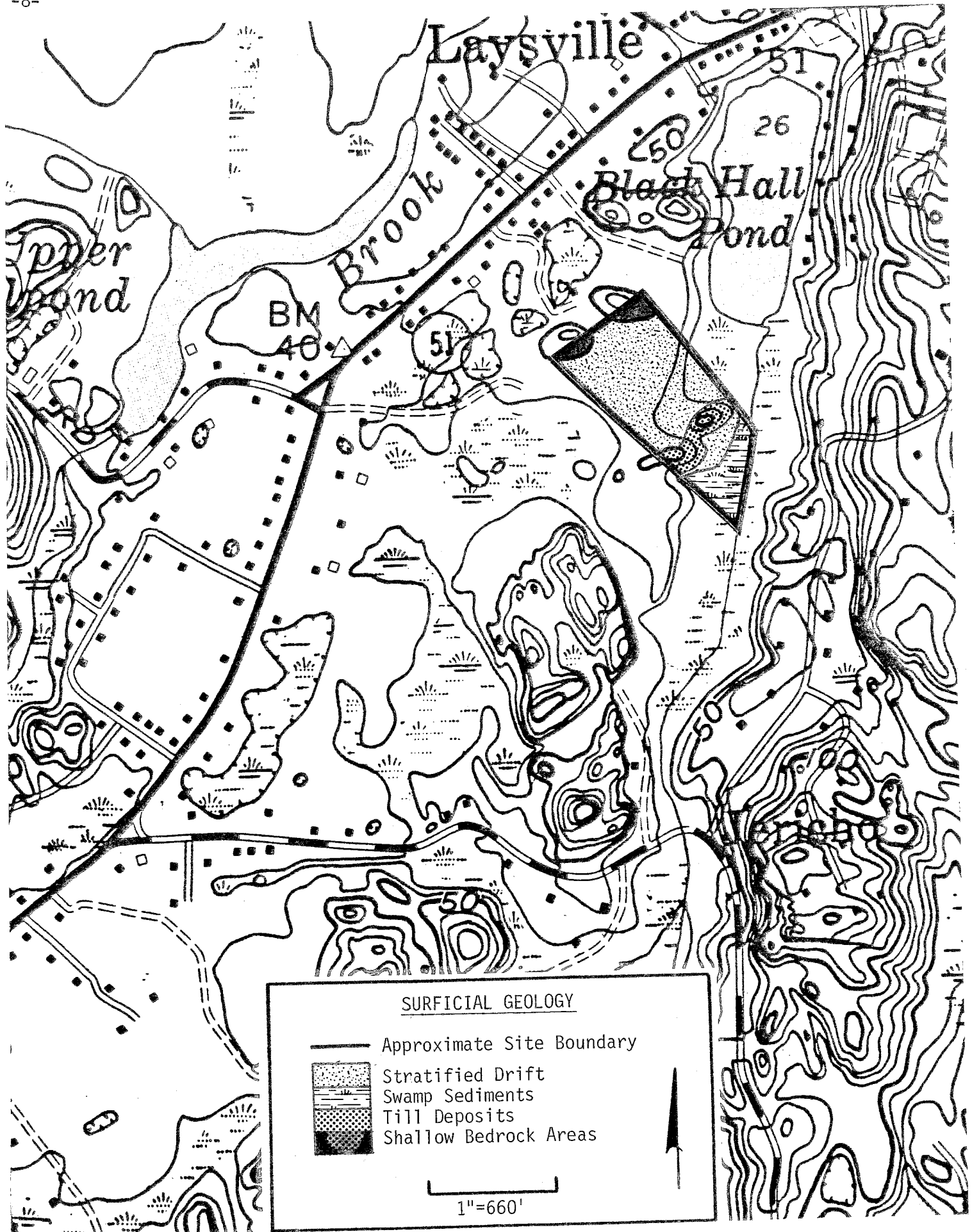
Lundgren describes the rock type underlying the study area as a subunit of Plainfield Formation. These rocks consist mainly of a gray biotite rich gneiss whose major minerals include quartz and feldspar. This rock unit also contains schistose and amphibolitic layers. All of these rocks have been dissected extensively by a granitic rock referred to as Black Hall-type granite following their formation during Proterozoic geologic time, at least 600 million years ago. The Black Hall-type granite, which is characterized by large biotite crystals, intruded the older rocks (Plainfield Formation) probably during the Permian geologic period (about 245-290 million years ago). Except for the granitic seams, whose origin is igneous (formed from molten magma), all of the rock layers (i.e., gneisses, schists and amphibolites) comprising the Plainfield Formation underlying the site are crystalline, metamorphic rocks. Metamorphic rocks are rocks which have been changed due to great heat and pressure within the earth's crust. The granitic material that intruded the metamorphic rocks formed from molten magma beneath the earth's crust. As it traveled upwards, it found its way into cracks, openings and layering in the metamorphic rocks as seen in outcrops today.

The rocks underlying the site flank the west side of a geologic structure known as the Lyme Dome. This geologic structure encompasses all of Old Lyme. A dome is a geologic feature which is characterized by a roughly circular pattern of rock outcrops with the layering in the rocks dipping away from a central area. The central area of the Lyme Dome bisects the town in a north-south direction. The oldest rocks are found in the center of the dome and become progressively younger outward from the center. The layering of the outcrops on the site dip moderately to the north-northwest.

Bedrock underlying the site should pose no major problems in terms of the proposed sand and gravel removal project, except that it may be encountered in the areas near test hole 4 and 5.

3.3 Surficial Geology

Except for a till-covered upland portion of the site at the eastern edge of the proposed excavated area, bedrock on the site is overlain by a glacial sediment known as ice-contact stratified drift. Ice formerly flowed through Connecticut, accumulating rock debris from clay-sized grains to boulders as it eroded local soils and bedrock. In most highland areas, the debris was redeposited directly from the ice without substantial reworking by water. The resulting, texturally complex sediment is known as till. During glacial retreat, ice melted in the highlands and become restricted to valley areas.



Meltwater streams washed the accumulated rock particles from the stagnant portions of these ice "tongues", depositing the particles both near to and far from the ice. Where deposited near ice, the meltwater sediments, which are known as "ice contact stratified drift", principally consist of medium to coarse sand and gravel. Where deposited farther away, the sediments contain higher proportions of fine sand, silt, and occasionally clay. The decrease in grain size was a result of the decrease in the flow energy of the meltwater as it continued its journey from the ice. In addition, the manner of deposition resulted in a generally distinct stratification or layering in the sediments.

Flint describes the stratified drift covering the site as sand, gravel, silt and clay, which in many places is poorly sorted with abrupt changes in grain size and is deformed. A map entitled Ground Water Availability in Connecticut--1978 prepared by Daniel Meade suggests that upper parts of the sand and gravel deposits on the site are coarse grained but become finer-grained with depth. One possible theory is that the deeper finer-grained deposits were deposited away from the glacier ice, which was followed by a readvancement of the ice-front. This readvancement of glacier ice front allowed for the deposition of the coarser grained material over the fine-grained material.

Thicknesses of the sand and gravel on the site, based on deep test hole data and available mapping information ranges between 7 feet and about 50 feet.

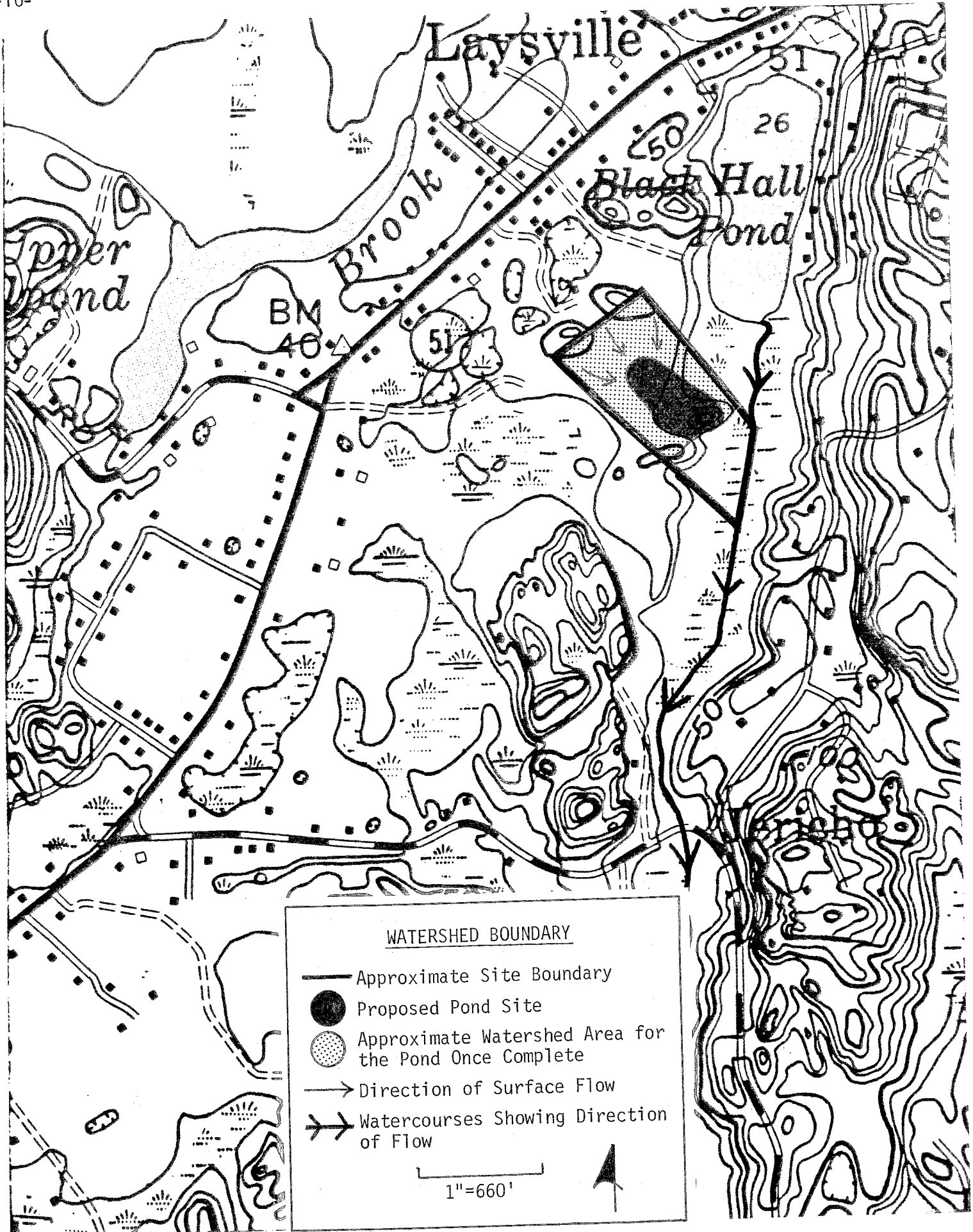
According to the applicants engineer, the textural characteristics of the sand and gravel on the site, at least to the depths of the excavated deep test pits makes it very suitable for aggregate, i.e., road base material, fill material for leaching systems, etc. The finer grained stratified drift beneath the coarse grained material does not have high potential for aggregate.

Post-glacially deposited materials called swamp sediments overlie stratified drift at the eastern limits of the site. These sediments, which generally parallel Buckey Brook consist of silt, sand, and clay mixed with organic matter in poorly drained areas. It is understood that these sediments would not be disturbed by the proposed sand and gravel extraction operation.

4. HYDROLOGY

4.1 The Watershed

The entire study area (Lot 9) lies within the watershed of Buckey Brook. Buckey Brook is the outlet stream for Black Hall Pond. From Black Hall Pond, the brook flows in a southerly direction of about one and a third miles where it drains into Black Hall River. Precipitation falling on the subject parcel will be quickly absorbed by the permeable sands and gravels. It will percolate downwards until it reaches the groundwater table. Once it reaches the groundwater table it moves by the force of gravity towards discharge points, i.e., streams, springs, wetlands, ponds, etc.



Present plans, as indicated earlier in the report, call for the removal of about 180,000 cubic yards of sand and gravel over a three (3) year period. This material would be excavated from an area about 5.1 acres. It is understood that the end result of the sand and gravel extraction operation would be the creation of a pond that is about 2.8 acres in size. According to the applicants, the purpose of the pond would be mainly for aesthetics and it would be used by homeowners in the subdivision. The pond, which would have no inlet or outlet stream would be created by excavating the sand and gravel below the groundwater table. A berm would be created at the eastern limits of the excavation which would physically separate the proposed mining operation from the wetlands that parallel Buckey Brook. It seems likely that the water level in the proposed pond would coincide with the water level in the wetland and Buckey Brook. Surface water runoff to the proposed pond should be small due to the presence of highly permeable sands and gravels in the area. In addition, the contributing watershed is only about 6.5 acres. The term "watershed" refers to the land area that drains runoff to a discharge point, i.e., stream, pond, etc. It is understood that this + 6.5 acre drainage area would remain as vegetated, open space. As a result no impervious surfaces such as paved driveways or parking areas would be created thereby increasing the surface runoff potential to the pond.

The project engineer stated on the review day that the average depth of the pond would be about 10 feet. Assuming the pond has a surface area of about 3 acres, it is estimated that the pond would have a capacity of about 9 million gallons of water.

4.2 Erosion and Sediment Control

None of the soils covering the area to be excavated comprise regulated inland-wetland soils. In addition, the proposed mining operation would take place about 100 feet west of Buckey Brook on relatively flat slopes. Based on these conditions, it seems likely that the proposed excavation should not lead to increases in siltation problems to wetlands and/or Buckey Brook as long as proper precautions are followed. These precautions should be incorporated into a sound erosion and sediment control plan. In this regard, the applicant's engineer should reference a publication entitled Guideline for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control. The finally approved sediment and erosion plan will need to be strictly enforced in order to reduce the potential for environmental damage. It should be pointed out, however, that when the mining operation proceeds beneath the groundwater table, the excavated material will need to be stockpiled and given to de-water. Stock-piling water-laden soils can lead to mobilization of fine soil particles. In order to avoid environmental damage (siltation) and degradation of neighboring properties, the applicant should be required to contain and filter the disturbed water. This will need to be addressed completely in the sediment and erosion control plan.

4.3 Groundwater Contamination

Because the groundwater table will be exposed, there is an increased risk of groundwater contamination after the pond is created from sources such as heavy application of fertilizer, chemical landscaping products, septic system, etc. Every effort should be made to reduce the potential of surface water contamination, if the pond is constructed.

The proposed excavation itself should not pose any serious water quality threats, unless an accidental spillage of fuel oil occurs. During the pre-review meeting at Old Lyme Town Hall, representatives from Nazarko Realty Group made available to team members a draft for Excavation Permit Restrictions. Item 6 of this draft indicates that "no storage of any fuel or oil on the property". This should help reduce the chance for accidental spillage of fuel oil. Because heavy equipment requires frequent crankcase oil changes, perhaps consideration should be given to designating an effective catchment area to safely intercept spilled fuel oil from regular maintenance. The area should be far removed from any surface water, wetland, and domestic/public water supply wells. Provision should also be made for containing possible fuel oil spillage in the designated area if a spill occurs.

4.4 Precipitation Versus Evaporation

According to Water Resource Bulletin No. 31 (lower Connecticut River Basin) in which the site lies, it is indicated that precipitation averages 47 inches per year. Evapotranspiration, which is the combined loss of water due to evaporation and plant transpiration, is estimated to be about half of the precipitation, or about 23 inches annually¹. According to the "Water Atlas of the United States", direct evaporation from surface water bodies in this area of Connecticut, is about 29.5 inches annually². Based on this information, it appears that water losses due to direct evaporation would be greater from a surface water body than from upland areas.

The discussion in the preceding paragraph would be in disagreement with testimony given by the project engineer regarding precipitation versus evaporation. (See page 3 of minutes of Public Hearing Zoning Commission, January 13, 1986, about halfway down the page.)

4.5 The Stratified Drift Aquifer

Town officials asked Team members to comment on the affects of the proposed sand and gravel mining operation on the stratified drift (sand and gravel) aquifer beneath the site.

According to the Groundwater Availability in Connecticut, mentioned earlier, the type of stratified drift (sand and gravel) deposits covering the proposed gravel mining operation are known to be capable of yielding moderate to large amounts of water (50-500 gallons per minute).

¹"Water Resources Inventory of Connecticut, Part 4, Southwestern Coastal River Basins", U. S. Geological Survey, Connecticut Water Resources Bulletin No. 17 (1970) TABLE 1.

²Geraghty, J.J., D. W. Miller, F. Vanderleen and F.L. Troise, 1973, "Water Atlas of the United States", Water Information Center, Port Washington, N. Y.

It should be pointed out that stratified drift deposits, which are coarse grained, may parallel Buckey Brook. Because they lace the fine-grained zone, which is found in the deposits covering the subject area they may be capable of yielding moderate to very large amounts of water (50-2,000 gallons per minute). The potential of any particular location in the study area as a groundwater supply source will depend upon the texture and thickness of the deposits at that location, the proximity to streams and the size of those streams, and other factors. The fine-grained material (fine sand) in the stratified drift covering the proposed mining area have a relatively slowly permeable medium and, also, is a difficult material in which to finish wells. The coarse grained stratified drift overlying the fine-grained material in the study area would probably have a higher potential for producing water.

Based on some conservative assumptions, the Team's geologist estimated the potential yield of a well tapping the stratified drift deposits on the site. The estimate was based on an assumed transmissivity (ability of the deposits to transmit water) value of the aquifer, an assumed saturated thickness and the area of stratified drift at least 10 feet thick. Based on the above assumptions, it was estimated that the aquifer could produce about 120 gallons per minute or + 130,000 gallons per day (based on an 18-hour pumping period). A yield of 130,000 gallons/day would be capable of serving approximately 2,200 persons consuming 60 gallons of water per day. In conclusion, it seems likely that based on the above assumptions, the potential of the stratified drift on the site would be moderate for a public water supply. However, in order to accurately determine the potential of the stratified drift in the site, tests wells would have to be drilled to obtain a firmer estimate of the sites water-supply potential. Because the proposed operation would remove a total of 180,000 cubic yards of sand and gravel, it would destroy the affected area for a groundwater supply since the coarse grained material would be removed.

4.6 Water Quality and the Aquifer

A major concern associated with the mining operation is its affect on water quality of the aquifer. Of particular concern, are hydrocarbons associated with machinery used for the mining operation. Most types of hydrocarbons such as fuel oil, gasoline, diesel fuel, etc., can be a serious source of pollution to surface and/or groundwater if proper precautions and care in operations are not taken. If they reach the groundwater, they may render the water unusable for potable purposes and for fishery/wildlife habitat. According to the applicants, hydrocarbons (i.e., fuel oil, gas, etc.) will not be stored on the site; however, heavy equipment may be serviced (i.e., greased) on the property. Therefore, harmful effects on the aquifer would be likely only if an accidental spillage of fuel oil from machinery occurs. Every effort should be made to avoid storing hydrocarbons on the site and minimize the maintenance of machinery on the site. This should hopefully reduce the chance of hydrocarbon contaminants from reaching the groundwater. Of course, the threat of an accidental spillage would occur only during the active excavation periods. Since the affected are will be undeveloped and left as open space, it seems likely that following the mining operation there should be no measurable impact on ground or surface water. It should be pointed out, however, that contamination could rise from recreational activities, particularly swimming and boating.



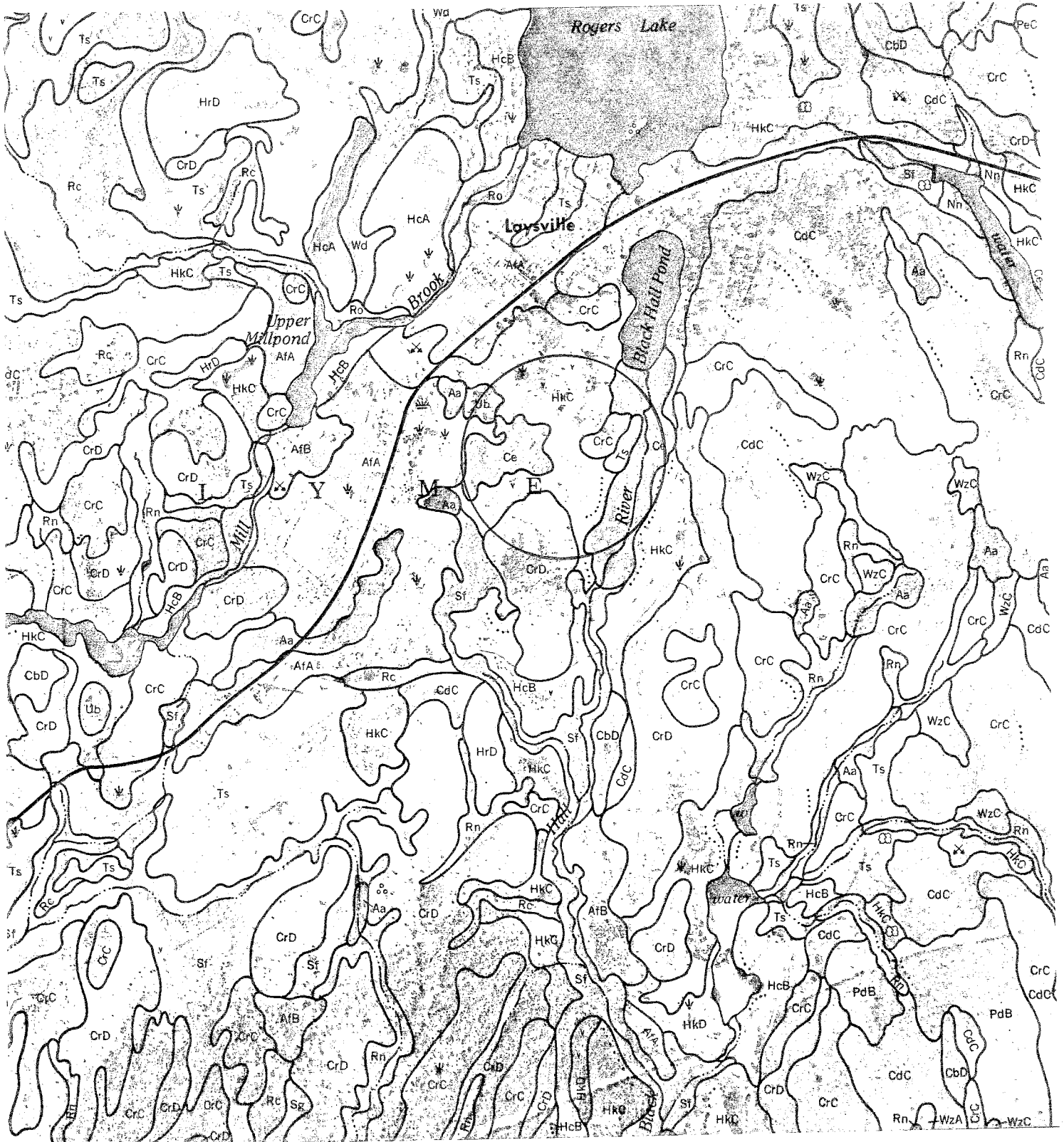
United States
Department of
Agriculture

Soil
Conservation
Service

New London County
562 New London Turnpike
Norwich, CT 06360
887-4163

Soil Survey Sheet #77

Scale 1" = 1320'



5. SOILS

It is recommended that the Town receive the following:

--Sediment and Erosion Control Plan consistent with the Guidelines.
(should show spoil areas and excavation sequence methods)

--Area for equipment maintenance.

It should be noted that the pond should be of high quality.

For further assistance and information regarding soils recommendations please contact the New London County U.S.D.A.--S.C.S. 887-4163.

6. PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 Introduction

Gravel excavation and removal operations are generally one of the more controversial uses of land primarily due to abuses of some operations in the past. Operations which were left unprotected have become a threat to public health and safety with their unstabilized banks and inability of the area to support ground cover.

The objective, with regard to gravel excavation operations, should be to control and regulate such activities to prevent permanent harmful effects upon the neighborhood and community and yet to encourage the taking of the maximum advantage of the natural land resources.

Since the location of earth products are not directly related to a zoning map and can be discovered anywhere, regulations to control operations must be based on obvious and probable effects of an operation on the surrounding area.

Additionally, it is very important that regulations require the return of the land to a useable condition when excavation is completed and insure, through bonding, that the standards are complied with.

6.2 Plan Evaluation

To properly evaluate a proposed gravel excavation operation submittal information required should typically consist of: Truck access routes; hours of operation; machinery to be used; existing and proposed contours; soil borings to depth of proposed excavation; depth of water table; an Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan; Reclamation Plan; Staging Plan for projects that would exceed permit time period; and type and distance of buffer.

Buffer requirements should reflect the fact that gravel operations may be conducted in any zoning district. To minimize nuisances between land uses buffer requirements should change as intensity of adjacent uses change.

6.3 Traffic Evaluation

The access road has good sight clearance onto Route 1.

The traffic volume proposed ranges from three (3) to eight (8) vehicles per hour during the hours of operation.

The Connecticut Department of Transportation's 1990 traffic volume projections estimate an Average Daily Traffic (ADT) of 6461 vehicles on Route 1 in the vicinity of the site. This estimate produces a 30th hour V/C ratio (design capacity ratio) of .19 with a V/C ratio of 1.0 being at full capacity. The ConnDOT 1985 ADT count for the same area is 5000 vehicles. This ADT would result in a 30th hour V/C ratio of .15. In both scenarios the capacity of Route 1 should be more than adequate to handle the additional traffic proposed.

A ConnDOT access permit would be required.

6.4 Planning Considerations

- A) While the distance between the site and nearest residence seems adequate, to minimize visual and noise nuisances it is important that care be taken to leave trees within the buffer for screening. This is noted on the plan and should be highlighted.
- B) At the southern extent of the excavation Erosion and Sedimentation measures should be utilized to insure the protection of the streamway.
- C) An Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan for the complete project should be developed.
- D) The plan should delineate areas that will be used to stockpile materials--both topsoil and gravel.
- E) The plan should delineate an area (if any) to be used for vehicle maintenance.
- F) The plan should contain a complete reclamation proposal.
- G) Due to the fact that the amount of material proposed to be removed seems to exceed the permit time period (2 years), a staging plan should be developed. This plan should coincide with the permit time period.
- H) The intended use of the complete nine acre site should be reviewed. The plan states that 2 acres will be dedicated to open space. What is contemplated for the remaining seven?

With regard to the restrictions submitted with the application (received by Selectmen's office 3/20/86), it is suggested that:

- Item #2 RE: monitoring wells -- should state the interval period for testing and report submittal to the Commission (quarterly etc.).
- #3 RE: Building permit for 7 lots -- the wording "substantially complete" is vague. The development of these sites prior to the operation completion could create unnecessary nuisances due to the additional construction equipment and proximity of structures to the excavation site.
- #7 RE: Park like conditions should be defined in terms of materials and sequence.
- #8 RE: Noise monitoring -- time period should be developed or wording "at the decision of the Town" added.

To insure compliance with an approved plan, a performance bond adequate to cover the expense of project completion should be explored.

If conducted properly, a fully stabilized pond on this site dedicated as open space should enhance the rural residential nature of the area.



7. SUMMARY

NOTE: This is a brief summary of the major concerns, comments and recommendations of the Team. You are strongly urged to read the entire report in order to obtain all the information concerning a specific topic. The numbers in parentheses refer to a section in the report.

- The bedrock underlying the site should pose no major problems in terms of the proposed sand and gravel removal. (3.2)
- It is understood that the swamp sediments in the eastern limits of the site will not be disturbed by this proposal. (3.3)
- It seems likely that the proposed excavation should not lead to an increase in siltation problems to the wetland or Buckey Brook as long as proper precautions are followed. (4.2,5,6.4)
- The excavated material that will have to be stockpiled and de-watered will also need to be contained and the water filtered to avoid damage and degradation of neighboring properties. (4.2,6.4)
- If a pond is constructed every effort should be made to reduce the potential of surface water contamination. (4.3)
- Consideration should be given to designating a catchment area to intercept spilled fuel oil from equipment maintenance. (4.3,5,6.4)
- It appears that water losses due to direct evaporation would be greater from a surface water body than from upland areas. This is in disagreement with the testimony from the project engineer concerning precipitation versus evaporation. (4.4)
- The potential of the stratified drift on the site would be moderate for a public water supply. In order to obtain a firmer estimate of the sites water supply potential tests wells would have to be dug. (4.5)
- The proposed sand and gravel removal would destroy the affected area for groundwater supply by removing the coarse grained material. (4.5)
- Every effort should be made to avoid storing hydrocarbons on the site and minimize equipment maintenance on the site. (4.6)
- It seems likely that following the sand and gravel removal there should be no measurable impact on ground or surface water. (4.6)
- Contamination could arise from recreational activities. (4.6)
- To properly evaluate a proposed sand and gravel excavation submittal information required should typically consist of: (6.2)
 1. Truck access routes
 2. Hours of operation
 3. Machinery to be used

4. Existing and proposed contours
5. Soil borings to depth of proposed excavation
6. Depth of water table
7. An erosion and Sediment Control Plan
8. Reclamation Plan
9. Staging Plan for projects that would exceed the permit time period (6.4)
10. Type and distance of buffer (6.4)

- Buffer requirements should change as intensity of adjacent uses change. (6.2, 6.4)
- The capacity of Route 1 should be more than adequate to handle the additional traffic proposed. (6.3)
- A ConnDOT access permit is required. (6.3)
- The intended use of the complete 9 acre site should be reviewed with regard to open space. (6.4)
- It is suggested that there be clarification of several statements in the "Excavation Permit Restrictions" submitted by the applicants. (6.4)
- To insure compliance with an approved plan, a performance bond adequate to cover the expense of project completion should be explored. (6.4)
- If completed properly, a pond on this site dedicated as open space, should enhance the rural residential character of the area. (6.4)



About The Team

The Eastern Connecticut Environmental Review Team (ERT) is a group of professionals in environmental fields drawn together from a variety of federal, state, and regional agencies. Specialists on the Team include geologists, biologists, foresters, climatologists, soil scientists, landscape architects, archeologists, recreation specialists, engineers and planners. The ERT operates with state funding under the supervision of the Eastern Connecticut Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area--an 86 town area.

The Team is available as a public service at no cost to Connecticut towns.

PURPOSE OF THE TEAM

The Environmental Review Team is available to help towns and developers in the review of sites proposed for major land use activities. To date, the ERT has been involved in reviewing a wide range of projects including subdivisions, sanitary landfills, commercial and industrial developments, sand and gravel operations, elderly housing, recreation/open space projects, watershed studies and resource inventories.

Reviews are conducted in the interest of providing information and analysis that will assist towns and developers in environmentally sound decision-making. This is done through identifying the natural resource base of the project site and highlighting opportunities and limitations for the proposed land use.

REQUESTING A REVIEW

Environmental reviews may be requested by the chief elected officials of a municipality or the chairman of town commissions such as planning and zoning, conservation, inland wetlands, parks and recreation or economic development. Requests should be directed to the Chairman of your local Soil and Water Conservation District. This request letter should include a summary of the proposed project, a location map of the project site, written permission from the landowner allowing the Team to enter the property for purposes of review, a statement identifying the specific areas of concern the Team should address, and the time available for completion of the ERT study. When this request is approved by the local Soil and Water Conservation District and the Eastern Connecticut RC&D Executive Council, the Team will undertake the review on a priority basis.

For additional information regarding the Environmental Review Team, please contact Elaine A. Sych (774-1253), Environmental Review Team Coordinator, Eastern Connecticut RC&D Area, P.O. Box 198, Brooklyn, Connecticut 06234.