

Subject: Case 10-E-0501

In regards to the CPV project, I feel that the most objectionable part of the project is the area known as Survey Area 12. This area of the CPV site plan was not part of CPV original Cultural Resource investigation, in fact Doug Mackey found Survey Area 12 worthy of an additional surface testing prior to site work.

Survey Area 12 contains a known Native American Burial ground. The Town of Minisink of NYS has within its museum documents that state the presence of a Native American Orchard, with ancient crab apple trees left still standing in 1827.

Issac Dolson in the 1780s wrote of the numerous bones that were dug up as he was plowing. Within Survey Area 12 there resided an ancient burial ground that resided within a crab apple orchard, then in 1735 Tunies Dolson built a Log structure Loop holed for Musketry upon this land. As noted in the NYS Military Museum, Dolson's Blockhouse was built in 1756, a man named Morgan Owen was killed while trying to reach the safety of the blockhouse during the French Indian War. Most of the written information contained at the Town of Minisink Museum is sourced to one person, her name is Bett. She is listed in the Town of Minisinks Slave book. First listed in 1800, owned by Issac Dolson (Revolutionary Soldier); she gave birth to 3 daughters sold of into slavery. Bet was emancipated in 1827 and lived to an old age. She is known to have verbally described many accounts of the life she lived within Survey Area 12.

Washington's Headquarters in Newburgh NY, in the 1930s were giving many artifacts found within the Survey Area 12 site. In 1685 with the signing of the Minisink Land Patents an Iron pipe Apature (Peace Pipe) was giving to the Chief Jogee, one of the signers of the Minisink Patent. Washington's headquarters has possession of Jogee's pipe giving to him by the then Governor of NY. It is believed that the Survey Area 12 lies within the final resting place of Jogee. Please honor this sacred land by requiring the applicant to in some way Mitigate this destruction of our Cultural Resouces within the Survey Area 12 of the CPV Valley Site plan.

Michael S. VanDervoort
Town of Minisink Heritage Commission Representative