Executive Summary

The proposed project is the last stage in the disposition of approximately 400 acres of HSA-owned property in Tarrytown, Greenburgh and Irvington resulting in approximately 272 acres dedicated to the preservation of open space.

For this final disposition project, the Applicant intends to subdivide the 46.6-acre site into 12 single-family lots (including 10 new lots and two lots for existing structures). Three of the five existing structures on the project site will be demolished.

For purposes of clarity and to facilitate review and understanding of this DEIS, the following is a brief list naming the existing buildings and water features located on the project site and referenced, by name, in various sections of this DEIS. Exhibit 1-1, Existing On-Site Structures and Water Features illustrates the location of the following:

- Gate House Existing residential structure containing one dwelling unit.
- ➤ Gracemere Lodge Existing residential structure containing three dwelling units.
- ➤ Gracemere Hall Existing residential structure containing eight dwelling units.
- ➤ Gracemere Courts Two separate single-family residential structures, each containing one dwelling unit.
- Upper Gracemere Lake A manimade lake of approximately 60,332 square feet (1.39 acre).
- ➤ Turtle Pond (also referred to as "ice pond") A manmade pond of approximately 6,130 square feet (0.14 acre).

1.1 Introduction

The following Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) examines the potential impacts of the Jardim Estates East subdivision in which an approximately 46.6-acre parcel of land would be divided into 12 single-family residential lots, including lots for two existing residential structures. The two existing structures known as Gracemere Courts and the existing structure known as the Gate House will be demolished. The proposed Jardim Estates East subdivision layout under the R-60 zoning classification results in subdivision of the 46.6-acre site for 12 residential lots of no less than 60,000 square feet and the associated roadways. The residential lots will cover virtually the entire 46.6-acre site, including Upper Gracemere Lake and Turtle Pond as well as those sections of the property with steep slopes and wetlands.

The property, which is owned by the Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity (HSA), is located south of Sheldon Avenue in the Village of Tarrytown, approximately 0.9 mile east of the Hudson River and about 0.24 mile south of the New York State Thruway 1-87/1-287. The property comprises multiple contiguous parcels, which form an irregular shape. A detailed description of the project site is provided in Chapter 2: Project Description.

This DEIS is submitted in compliance with the provisions of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) and the regulations and procedures of the Village of Tarrytown. The proposed action is a Type I Action as designated by the Planning Board. Accordingly, the Applicant will comply in all respects with the requirements of SEQRA as regards a Type I Action.

1.2 Description of the Proposed Action

Access will be provided from the existing private roads, which will be modified as necessary (widened) to accommodate the anticipated traffic and to meet generally accepted road standards. The proposed roads will generally follow to the greatest extent possible the existing on-site private roads.

The Jardim Estates East subdivision will involve new road construction required to extend the existing private road into the site to develop the proposed new single family lots with houses, driveways and lawns. Two existing residences are to remain on individual lots and the two residential structures known as Gracemere Courts and the existing structure known as the Gate House will be demolished. All but one of the existing and proposed structures are to be served with municipal sanitary sewage disposal and public water supply systems. This remaining single proposed residence will be served by an individual sewage treatment system and water supply system due to the site configuration and lot isolation from the subdivision. There will be a total site disturbance of approximately 7.92 acres (approximately 17% of the 46.6 acre

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site) for the construction of all infrastructure, lots, residences and utilities. It is anticipated that the project would be constructed over a period of three to six years. Site development plan approval will be required for individual building lots in the subdivision pursuant to §305-52.A of the Tarrytown Zoning Ordinance.

Primary access to the subdivision would be provided from the existing private road known as Gracemere located at the westerly edge of the site (at the eastern edge of the Emerald Woods site) and from Browning Lane. Two new extensions of the existing private road will be developed to permit access to the new lots.

Lot 1 will be located on both sides of the existing private road (known as Gracemere) that extends from Browning Lane and will include all of Upper Gracemere Lake with the proposed house being located on the portion of Lot 1 located across the roadway. The existing structure known as the Gate House will be removed (demolished) and a new house constructed on lot 1. Lot 2 will be located on both sides of the road (Gracemere) with the existing structure known as Gracemere Lodge occupying the portion of the lot located on the north side of the road.

The existing structure known as Gracemere Hall will occupy lot 11. Driveway access to Gracemere Hall will be relocated as illustrated on Exhibit 1-2, Site Plan – Conventional Layout. Lots 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 will have access from a new extension of the Gracemere roadway. This portion of the site will also include a cul-de-sac layout, which will allow vehicular maneuverability and turning.

Lots 3 and 4 will have access from a new common driveway extension off of the Gracemere roadway.

Lots 5 and 6 will have will have access from the existing private driveway access off Sheldon Avenue.

The conventional layout plan will result in the development of the entire 46.6-acre site for 12 residential lots and the associated roadways. The residential lots will cover virtually the entire 46.6-acre site, including Upper Gracemere Lake and Turtle Pond as well as those sections of the property with steep slopes and wetlands.

The portion of the project site that is Upper Gracemere Lake will become part of lot 1, as shown on Exhibit 1-3, Layout Plan - Conventional Layout. A deed restriction will require the owner of lot 1 to maintain Upper Gracemere Lake. The deed restriction will appear on the final subdivision plat with maintenance provisions as specified as part of the subdivision approval process.

Lot #5 will include Turtle Pond. The owner of lot #5 will be required to maintain Turtle Pond pursuant to a deed restriction, which will appear on the final subdivision plat with maintenance provisions as specified as part of the subdivision approval process.

All existing and proposed roads will be owned and maintained by a homeowners association. Several properties have access easements for ingress and egress over the private road owned by the Applicant. These easements were in place prior to the HSA's purchase of the property in 1975, and no changes are proposed to the existing easements. A 25' wide easement is proposed over a portion of lot 5 to provide access to the two houses located to the east of the site.

Drainage easements over individual lots will be reserved by the Developer for the construction and maintenance of drainage facilities. All drainage facilities will be maintained by a Homeowners Association. As described earlier in this chapter, water and sewer facilities would be constructed by the Developer, according to Village standards and, once constructed, these facilities would be dedicated to the Village.

1.3 Site History and Description of Prior Approvals

1.3.1 Historic Use of the Property

The following summary of the historic use of the property is taken from the Phase 1A/1B Archaeological and Architectural Investigation (for the complete Phase 1A/1B Archaeological and Architectural Investigation, see Section 16.3 of this DEIS). Names and other references in this section reflect historic records and may differ from current names and references used elsewhere in this DEIS.

The project site is located within the former colonial lands of Philipsburg Manor. Philipsburg, which had remained intact for over eighty years, was finally dissolved following the American Revolution when the Philipse family, who sided with the British, lost their land rights. The former tenant farmers quickly subdivided and purchased their holdings. The southern part of the project site fell within a 100-acre parcel given to the Dutch Church as farm land. The northern part of the project site fell within a 240-acre parcel purchased by John Van Wart, and from which the Pennybridge district was later carved. There is no evidence that the project site was used for any purpose other than farm land or grazing land during the colonial period.

In 1849 the Hudson River Railroad had been laid out through Tarrytown along the Hudson River, nearly one mile west of the project site. The introduction of the train brought new residents to the area. A number of these new residents were wealthy businessmen, moving here to establish country residences. Substantial parcels of former farmland were purchased to create large and sometimes extravagant estates.

In 1856, merchant Robert Graves of Brooklyn purchased a 69-acre parcel (including two right-of-ways) from New York City merchant Ambrose Kingsland, who in turn

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had acquired the land the year before from local landowner James Campbell. Graves appears to have made the first documented improvements on the project site including the construction of the Gate House (circa 1860).

The most significant change to the project site, however, occurred in the late 1860s or early 1870s, when Robert Graves began converting his farmland into a country estate, which he called "Rockview." During this period, Graves constructed what is now known as Gracemere Hall. He also had the lake (now known as Upper Gracemere Lake) built, by damming a stream that ran through the property. The stone reservoir at the southwest corner of the project site dates to this period. By the early 1880s, the site also contained a large greenhouse, a windmill and tower, and an ice house.

Robert Graves died in 1886, and in 1890 his Tarrytown estate was sold at public auction to businessman Charles Graef of New York City. Graef renamed the estate "Gracemere" and utilized it as a summer home. During the Graef occupancy of the property, large greenhouses and stables were constructed east of Gracemere Hall. During this period, the Gracemere estate was home to not only the Graef family, but a large number of estate workers and their families including eight servants in the main house, as well as separate households led by the head butler, two gardeners, a coachman and several stablemen.

In 1907, Graef's heirs sold the Gracemere estate to New York City merchant Henry K. Browning. Browning was the owner of The Browning-King Company, a successful chain of men's clothing stores in Manhattan and the maker of uniforms for the American armed forces during World War I. Browning and his wife had four daughters; as each one grew up and got married, Browning had a mansion house built for each newlywed couple on the Gracemere property. The estate houses that were constructed for Browning's daughters include the house formerly located north of Gracemere Hall, which was demolished in 2005, and the building now known as Gracemere Lodge.

Two of the houses Browning had constructed for his daughters are outside of the project site. These include Gracemere Manor House (n/f Maselli) and Gracemere Manor House (n/f Viertel). In addition, the residence now known as Pennyworth Cottage (n/f Aukland) was associated with the Gracemere estate. These structures are identified on Exhibit 1-4, Adjoining Property Owners.

By 1930, there was a camp for underprivileged city boys located on the Gracemere property (although exactly where is unclear). By the late 1930s, the heyday of the Gracemere estate had waned. Henry King Browning died in October 1936, and it appears that his death as well as the hard financial times of the Great Depression contributed to the downfall of the property. After Henry King Browning's death, his widow moved in with her daughter Adelaide Green to the more modern house north of Gracemere Hall (now demolished) and lived there until her death in 1951. Much of the remaining Gracemere estate property was sold to a Swiss watch manufacturer



named Kocher. By 1950, the two one-story frame residences along the southern side of the project site had been built, as had a house on the extreme southeastern side of the project site (remains of which were observed during the field walkover). The two mansion houses within the project site (Gracemere Hall and Gracemere Lodge) had both been divided into apartments.

During the 1970s, the Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity (the current owner of the property) began buying parcels of land from the Kocher family and others, to create the project site that exists today. Since that time, the Browning mansion was demolished (in 2005), but there appears to have been no new construction on the project site since the 1950s. Today, the buildings are used primarily as housing for church members.

1.3.2 Past Approvals and Disposition of the Original 400 Acres Owned by the Applicant

The proposed project is the last stage in the disposition of approximately 400 acres of property owned by the Applicant in Tarrytown, Irvington and Greenburgh. The following table lists the past subdivision approvals or other form of disposition for the original 400± acres owned by the Applicant.

Table 1.1 Prior Approvals

Site / Project	Location	Total Ac.	Types of Approvals and Date
East Belvedere	Tarrytown	3.2	Subdivision early 1990s
Irvington property	Irvington	29.6	Subdivision approval early-mid 1990s
Emerald Woods	Tarrytown	34	Subdivision approval (4/27/04)
Taxter Ridge Park Preserve	Greenburgh	183	No subdivision. Sold for open space
	Tarrytown	17.58	(2004).
Belvedere	Tarrytown	26.58	No subdivision. Preliminary site plan approval (2006).
County Open Space	Tarrytown	40	No subdivision.
Taxter Road	Greenburgh	21+	Subdivision approval (4/30/08).
Jardim Estates East	Tarrytown	46.6	Subdivision under review.
TOTAL		401.56 Ac.	

HSA acquired the Jardim Estates East property in 1975 with several buildings. As shown on Exhibit 1-1, Existing On-Site Structures and Water Features, the existing buildings include the Gate House, Gracemere Lodge, Gracemere Hall, and Gracemere Courts. Another building known as the Browning Estate was demolished in 2005. These buildings are described in greater detail in Chapter 2: Project Description.



1.4 List of all Local, County, State, and Other Approvals Required

1.4.1 Local

The proposed project will require subdivision approval from the Tarrytown Planning Board. Pursuant to §305-52.A of the Village of Tarrytown Zoning Code (as amended 12-1-2008), the Planning Board has the authority to review and approve site plans for those proposed lots which it deems appropriate in the interest of the general welfare and to minimize any potential adverse impact. The Tarrytown Planning Board will also review the project for the purposes of Article 8 (State Environmental Quality Review Act) of the Environmental Conservation Law. Wetlands impacts associated with road and infrastructure improvements within the wetland setback as well as razing of existing structures within the wetland setback would require a permit from the Tarrytown Planning Board pursuant to §302-9 of the Village of Tarrytown Code.

1.4.2 **County**

Water and sewer extensions will require approval from the Westchester County Health Department. The action will be referred to Westchester County for §239-m review by the County Planning Board.

1.4.3 State

A NYSDEC General Stormwater SPDES Permit will be required from New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Since the site is located in a Local Waterfront Revitalization Area (LWRP), the New York State Department of State, Division of Coastal Resources will make a consistency determination relative to Local Waterfront Revitalization Area Program policies.

1.4.4 Other

A Nationwide Permit may be required from the US Army Corps of Engineers for activity in the vicinity of the existing pond.



1.5 Summary of Significant Impacts Identified and Mitigation Measures

The following table summarizes the potentially significant environmental impacts of the proposed action, proposed improvements and initigating measures as described in detail in this DEIS.

Table 1.2 Summary of Impacts and Mitigation

	Anticipated Impacts	Proposed Mitigation Measures
Land Use, Zoning and Public Policy	The Proposed Action is consistent with Village Zoning and all land use policy documents.	No significant impacts are anticipated.
Cultural Resources	Phase II fieldwork will be conducted for the two house sites (Sheldon Avenue historic site and Schneider historic site) prior to any development of these locations in order to further elucidate the extent and integrity of the existing resources.	Results will be shared with the State Historic Preservation Officer and mitigation measures will be developed and coordinated with the SHPO as appropriate.
Natural Resources	The project will result in total site disturbance of 7.92 acres (±17% of the 46.6 acre site). Of the 2,098 trees surveyed, 365 will be removed as part of the development.	The applicant proposes a number of activities that will result in improvements to existing wetlands and watercourses on the site. Landscaping will utilize native vegetative species.
Traffic	The proposed development will generate 12 vehicular trips in the AM peak and 16 trips in the PM peak. It will have no measurable impact on traffic operating conditions in the area.	An "All-Way Stop" is recommended at the intersection of Browning Lane and Walnut Street.
Infrastructure	The proposed development would generate 4,080 gpd of sewage and would require 4,800 gpd of water. Implementation of the proposed stormwater management plan will result in a net reduction of stormwater peak flows leaving the site and therefore a reduction a reduction of stormwater flow downstream than currently exists.	The new water mains will be 8° ductile iron pipe, extending to the end of the proposed cul-de-sac and a spur running along the common driveway serving lots 3 and 4. Each run will deadend and be provided with a fire hydrant near each end. The proposed sanitary sewer system is a low pressure sewer (LPS) system that is powered by grinder pumps. A low pressure sewer system uses small-diameter pipes and grinder pumps that will be installed at each residence. The grinder pump station collects all of the wastewater from the residence and grinds it into slurry. The wastewater will then be pumped to existing sewer manhole located in the roadway at Gracemere.
Community Facilities and Services	The development will generate approximately \$481,896 per year in taxes, including approximately \$121,438 for the Village and approximately \$293,957 for the Irvington School District. The project will result in an increase in school district enrollment by an estimated 5 students. The Applicant will pay the Village of Tarrytown a \$8,568 per lot recreation fee, which is levied on subdivision developers to meet village recreation needs. The 12 lots proposed for the site would result in an additional \$102,816 toward capital funding for parks and recreation funding in the village.	No significant adverse impacts are anticipated.

1.6 Description of Alternatives Analyzed

Three separate alternatives to the proposed action Subdivision Plan are considered in this DEIS. Each of these alternatives is briefly described below and evaluated in detail in Chapter 9: Alternatives. For a table that compares the proposed project to each of the alternatives, see Chapter 9: Alternatives.

1.6.1 Alternative 1 - No Action

The No Action alternative is required by SEQRA. In this case, No Action would mean the Site would remain in its current condition, with none of the beneficial, or adverse, impacts of the proposed development. The property would continue as it is, with the existing buildings maintained in their current condition. No additional generation of taxes is anticipated under a "No Action" scenario.

1.6.2 Alternative 2 – Cluster Subdivision

Alternative 2 examines development of the site as a 12 lot Cluster Subdivision. The proposed lots would be clustered, as allowed by the provisions of the Tarrytown Zoning Code (§ 305.131). The clustering would be used to enhance the overall physical and visual character of the proposed development and to preserve open space areas totaling approximately 27.16 acres (58% of the site) including Turtle Pond, Upper Gracemere Lake, and trail access to Taxter Ridge Park.

The cluster plan is shown on Exhibit 9-2 and examined in detail in Chapter 9: Alternatives.

1.6.3 Alternative 3 – Taxter Ridge Park

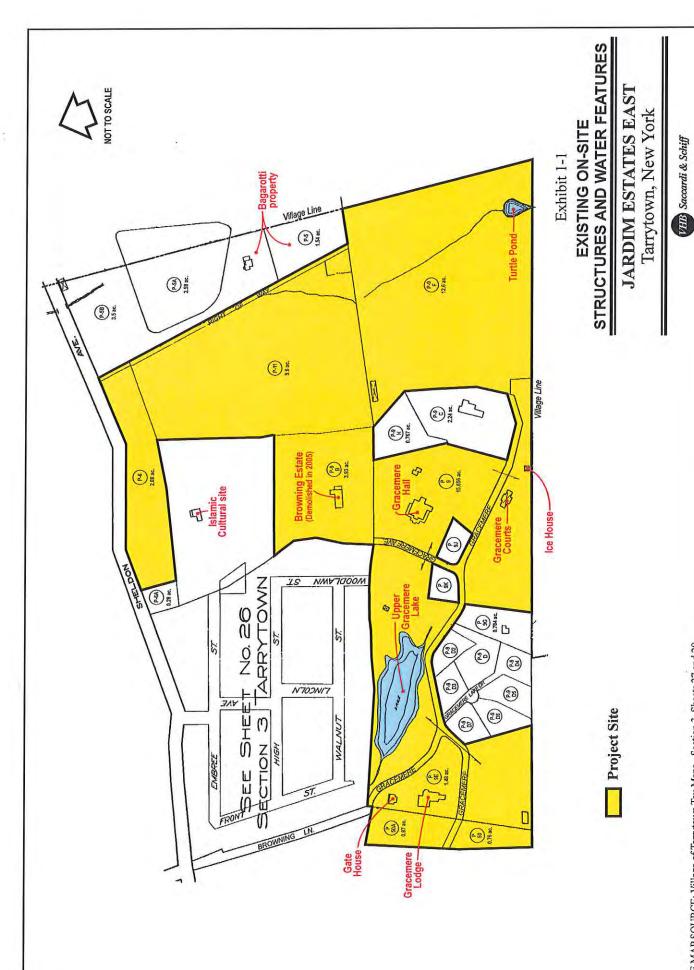
Adding the property to Taxter Ridge Park has been suggested by the Planning Board for consideration as a potential alternative.

As with other properties in the Village and County, it is conceivable that the site could be purchased as open space using a combination of Village, County, State, and/or not-for-profit funding sources, although it is noted that no such purchase options or proposals currently exist.

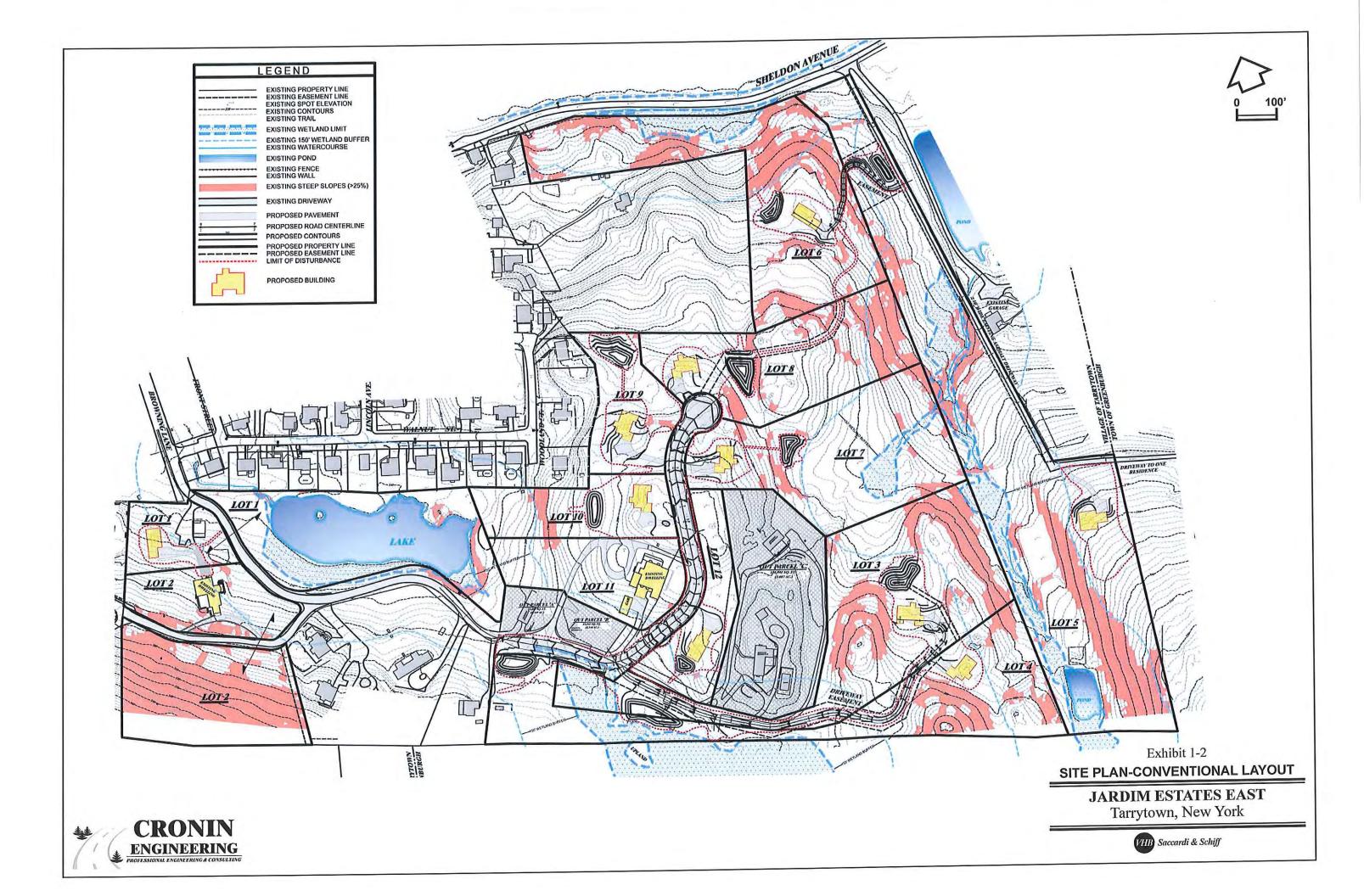
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1.6.4 Alternative 4 - Sheldon Avenue Alternative **Access Plan**

Alternative 4 examines the potential for access to the site from Sheldon Avenue. Although this alternative access from Sheldon Avenue has been aligned to avoid wetlands and to work with the topography to the maximum extent possible, access from Sheldon Avenue is both very environmentally damaging and prohibitively expensive to construct.



BASE MAP SOURCE: Village of Tarrytown Tax Maps - Section 3, Sheets 27 and 29



. 0	BLILDING HEIGHT (FT.)	30 MAX.	OBT.	SI SY	CBT	CBT	OSL	CREL	O81	CIBIL	091	CIBL	SI SY	780	
TÓW	BULDING HEIGHT (STORES)	2.5 MAX	CELL	SISY	OEL	081	RE	OELL	QBL	ŒL	CELL	TBD	SISY	780	
TARRY	REAT YARD (LP.)	45 MIN.	46	173	822	148	513	110	520	35	6#	804	312	57	
SE OF	BOTH SIDE YANDS (LF.)	50 MIN.	85	82	312	181	692	6443	102	156	180	28	131	944	
OILLA	ONE SIDE YARD (UF.)	25 MIN.	35	29	81	41	51	185	42	82	18	22	85	76	
TRICT	PRONT YARD (LF.)	40 MIN.	50	1.1	689	826	136	301	42	15	16	41	0.5	17	
NING DIS	COVERAGE (% LOT AREA)	12.0 MAX.	1.3	2.0	1.2	1,4	7.0	1.1	1.6	1.9	4.3	3.9	8.8	4.6	
ER-60 ZC	ACCESSORY BURDING COVERAGE (% LOT AREA)	2.0 MAX.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0'0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2 "	0.0	
SCHEDUI	PRINCIPAL BUILDING COVERAGE (% LOT AREA)	10.0 MAX.	1.3	2.0	12	1.4	7.0	1.1	1.6	1.9	4.3	3.9	5"2	4.6	
SULATION	WEDTH AT PROSET OF BUILDING (LF.)	150 MIN.	174	182	405	219	353	314	150	189	£1.2	162	192	161	
NING REC	STREET PROMINGE (LF.)	150 MIN.	1,173	1,131	195	161	150	711	127	150	185	391	‡ 0 €	285	
LBULKZC	LOTAREA (ACRES)	1.377 MIN.	4.34	4.08	5.26	4.20	9,17	4.93	3.94	3.23	1,48	1.50	1.92	138	
CONVENTIONAL BULK ZONING REGULATION SCHEDULE R-60 ZONING DISTRICT (VILLAGE OF TARRYTOWN)	LOT MREA (SO, FT.)	60,000 MIN.	189,252	177,736	800'622	182,867	389,325	214,967	171,756	140,569	64,411	69,642	79,228	60,324	
CON	DESCRIPTION	REQUIRED	LOT 1	LOT 2	£ 101	LOT 4	LOT 5	LOT 6	LOT7	LOT8	E 101	LOT 10	LOT 11	LOT 12	

^{*} PER SECTION § 305 ATTACHMENT S, THE VILLAGE OF TARRATOWN ZONING SCHEDLLE FOR SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCE DISTRICTS
** PRE-EXISTING NON-CONFORMING SIDE YARD SÉTBACK, AND PRIMARY EVILLING SETBACK FOR ACCESSORY STRUCTURE

			υ	CONVENTIONAL BUILDABLE AREAS	ONAL BUIL	DABLEAF	REAS		
LOT KUJARETI	AREA (90, FT.)	WETLAND AREA (SQ, FT.)	80% OF * WETLAND AREA (90. FT.)	STEEP SLOPES AREA (*25%) (80, FT.)	BOX OF STREPY BLOPES ANDA (AZEN) (ACRES)	HIGH CROUND AREA (>300° EL.) (80, FT.)	25% OF HIGH GROUND APEA (+300 EL.) (50, FT.)	TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL FEATURE AREA TO BE EXCLUDED (90, FT.) ***	NET LOT AREA (NOT COMERD BY ENARONMENTAL FEATURES) (SO, FT.)
1.01	189,252	91,326	45,663	610,7	3,510	0	0	49,173	140,080
LOT 2	177,736	0	0	786,77	38,994	0	0	38,994	138,743
LOT3	229,038	13,375	889'9	49,484	24,742	7,555	1,889	33,318	195,720
LOT 4	182,867	18,407	9.204	27,783	13,892	191'01	2,540	25,635	157,232
LOT 5	399,325	63,798	31,899	73,744	36,872	15,504	3,876	72,647	326,678
LOT 6	214,967	14,978	7,489	66,914	33,457	. 0	0	40,946	174,021
LOT 7	171,756	11,208	5,604	13,573	6.787	0	0	12,391	159,366
LOT 8	140,569	0	0	31,457	15,729	0	0	15,729	124,841
LOT9	64,411	o	0	1,158	673	٥	0	578	263,632
LOT 10	59,642	0	0	4,445	2,223	264	141	2,364	67,279
LOT 11	79,228	0	0	1,213	209	0	0	209	78,622
LOT 12	60,324	0	0	197	66	8,033	2,008	86	60,226

PER § 305-67-B; FIFTY PERCENT OF SAID WETLANDS AND STEEP SLOPE AREAS SMALL BE EXCLUDED FROM ANY AND ALL DENSITY CALCULATIONS PERTAINING TO MINIMUM LOT SIZE, COVERAGE AND OTHER DENSITY CALCULATIONS.

Exhibit 1-3

CONVENTIONAL PLAN ZONING

JARDIM ESTATES EAST COMPLIANCE CHART Tarrytown, New York

VHB Saccardi & Schiff



[&]quot; PER § 305-57-2; AREA DEFINED AS HIGH GROUND IN SUBSECTION , 25% OF SAID AREA OF HIGH GROUND BE EXCLUDED FROM ALL DENSITY CALCULATIONS PERTANNING. TO MINIMUM LOT SIZE, COVERAGE AND OTHER DENSITY CALCULATIONS.

^{***} PER § 36697-C: IF THE MAXIMUM HEIGHT OF ANY STRUCTURE OR BUILDING IN THE AREA OF HIGH GROUND IS LIMITED TO 30 VERTICAL FEET AS MEASURED ON THE ASSTERIA SIZE OF THE AREA OF HIGH GROUND OR MEASURED ON THE WESTERIA SIZE OF ANY STRUCTURE OR BUILDING BEGITED ON THE WESTERIA SIZE OF THE AREA OF HIGH GROUND, FROM THE NATURAL SIDER, THE TWENTY-THA-BERGENT REDUCTION IN DENSITY CALCULATIONS SHALL NOT APPLY.

