

# Petition 1120, Attachment TOF-5-A



Department of Economic and  
Community Development



## State Historic Preservation Office

One Constitution Plaza | Hartford, CT 06103 | 860.256.2800 | Cultureandtourism.org

### PROJECT REVIEW COVER FORM

**1. This information relates to a previously submitted project.**

You do not need to complete the rest of the form if you have been previously issued a SHPO Project Number. Please attach information to this form and submit

SHPO Project Number \_\_\_\_\_  
(Not all previously submitted projects will have project numbers)

Project Address Hawthorne Drive, Fairfield, Connecticut  
(Street Address and City or Town)

**2. This is a new Project.**

If you have checked this box, it is necessary to complete ALL entries on this form.

Project Name Hawthorne Drive Substation Expansion Project

Project Location Hawthorne Drive  
Include street number, street name, and or Route Number. If no street address exists give closest intersection.

City or Town Fairfield  
In addition to the village or hamlet name (if appropriate), the municipality must be included here.

County Fairfield  
If the undertaking includes multiple addresses, please attach a list to this form.

Date of Construction (for existing structures) \_\_\_\_\_

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY (include full description in attachment):**

This project will result in the expansion of the existing substation to the west.

**TYPE OF REVIEW REQUESTED**

a. Does this undertaking involve funding or permit approval from a State or Federal Agency?

Yes  No

Agency Name/Contact	Type of Permit/Approval	State	Federal
_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

b. Have you consulted the SHPO and UCONN Dodd Center files to determine the presence or absence of previously identified cultural resources within or adjacent to the project area?

Yes  No

If yes:  
Was the project site wholly or partially located within an identified archeologically sensitive area?  Yes  No

Does the project site involve or is it substantially contiguous to a property listed or recommended for listing in the CT State or National Registers of Historic Places?  Yes  No

Does the project involve the rehabilitation, renovation, relocation, demolition or addition to any building or structure that is 50 years old or older?  Yes  No

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**The Historic Preservation Review Process in Connecticut Cultural Resource Review** under the National Historic Preservation Act – Section 106 <http://www.achp.gov/106summary.html> involves providing technical guidance and professional advice on the potential impact of publicly funded, assisted, licensed or permitted projects on the state's historic, architectural and archaeological resources. This responsibility of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is discharged in two steps: (1) identification of significant historic, architectural and archaeological resources; and (2) advisory assistance to promote compatibility between new development and preservation of the state's cultural heritage.

Project review is conducted in two stages. First, the SHPO assesses affected properties to determine whether or not they are listed or eligible for listing in the Connecticut State or National Registers of Historic Places. If so, it is deemed "historic" and worthy of protection and the second stage of review is undertaken. The project is reviewed to evaluate its impact on the properties significant materials and character. Where adverse effects are identified, alternatives are explored to avoid, or reduce project impacts; where this is unsuccessful, mitigation measures are developed and formal agreement documents are prepared stipulating these measures. For more information and guidance, please see our website at: <http://www.cultureandtourism.org/cct/cwp/view.asp?a=3933&q=293820>

**ALL PROJECTS SUBMITTED FOR REVIEW MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS\*:**

- PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Please attach a full description of the work that will be undertaken as a result of this project. Portions of environmental statements or project applications may be included. The project boundary of the project should be clearly defined\*\*
- PROJECT MAP** This should include the precise location of the project – preferably a clear color image showing the nearest streets or roadways as well as all portions of the project. Tax maps, Sanborn maps and USGS quadrangle maps are all acceptable, but Bing and Google Earth are also accepted if the information provided is clear and well labeled. The project boundary should be clearly defined on the map and affected legal parcels should be identified.
- PHOTOGRAPHS** Clear, current images of the property should be submitted. Black and white photocopies will not be accepted. Include images of the areas where the proposed work will take place. May require: exterior elevations, detailed photos of elements to be repaired/replaced (windows, doors, porches, etc.) All photos should be clearly labeled.

For Existing Structures	Yes	N/A	Comments	
Property Card	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
For New Construction	Yes	N/A	Comments	
Project plans or limits of construction (if available)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
If project is located in a Historic District include renderings or elevation drawings of the proposed structure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Soils Maps <a href="http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/HomePage.htm">http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/HomePage.htm</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Historic Maps <a href="http://magic.lib.uconn.edu/">http://magic.lib.uconn.edu/</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
For non-building-related projects (dams, culverts, bridge repair, etc)	Yes	N/S	Comments	
Property Card	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Soils Map (see above)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Historic Maps (see above)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
STAFF REVIEW AREA	Above	Date	Below	Date
Indicate date of Review and Initials of Reviewer				

**PROJECT CONTACT**

Name Shawn Crosbie Title Environmental Analyst  
 Firm/Agency United Illuminating Corporation  
 Address 180 Marsh Hill Road  
 City Orange State CT Zip 06477  
 Phone 203.926.4595 Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email shawn.crosbie@uinet.com

\*Note that the SHPO's ability to complete a timely project review depends largely on the quality of the materials submitted.  
 \*\* Please be sure to include the project name and location on *each page* of your submission.

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**Connecticut**  
*still revolutionary*

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### PROJECT REVIEW COVER FORM

#### SHPO USE ONLY

Based on our review of the information provided to the State Historic Preservation Office, it is our opinion that:

- No historic properties will be affected by this project. No further review is requested.
- This project will cause no adverse effects to the following historic properties. No further review is requested:
- This project will cause no adverse effects to the following historic properties, conditional upon the stipulations included in the attached letter:
- Additional information is required to complete our review of this project. Please see the attached letter with our requests and recommendations.
- This project will adversely affect historic properties as it is currently designed or proposed. Please see the attached letter for further details and guidance.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel T. Forrest  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date





## INTEGRATED HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLANNING

July 2, 2014

Shawn C. Crosbie  
The United Illuminating Company  
180 Marsh Hill Rd.  
Orange, Connecticut 06477

**RE: Cultural Resources Desktop Review of Proposed Expansion of the Hawthorne Drive Substation in Fairfield, Connecticut**

Mr. Crosbie:

Heritage Consultants, LLC, is pleased to have this opportunity to provide United Illuminating with the following preliminary archeological assessment of proposed expansion of the Hawthorne Drive substation in Fairfield, Connecticut (Figure 1). The proposed project parcel is situated to the west of the existing substation and it measures approximately 60 m (200 ft) by 150 m (500 ft) in size. The current project entailed completion of an existing conditions cultural resources summary based on the examination of GIS data obtained from the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office, as well as historical data, aerial photographs, and topographic quadrangles maintained by Heritage Consultants, LLC. This investigation did not consider the effects of the proposed construction upon built resources, and it is based upon project location information provided to Heritage Consultants, LLC by United Illuminating. The objectives of this study were to gather and present data regarding previously identified cultural resources situated within 0.8 km (0.5 mi) of the proposed substation expansion area and to investigate the proposed project area in terms of its natural and historical characteristics so that the need for completing additional cultural resources investigations could be evaluated.

Figures 2 and 3 show that the region encompassing the proposed substation expansion area contained a well-developed road system and numerous residences by the mid nineteenth century. However, the proposed project parcel appears to be an outlying parcel of land, likely used for agricultural purposes. The interpretation is confirmed by Figure 4, an aerial image dating from 1934, which shows that the proposed substation expansion area consisted of plowed fields as of the early twentieth century. This image also shows that a powerline corridor was already in place at that time, and it was located just to the south of the future site of the Hawthorne Drive substation and the proposed project parcel. Figure 5, an aerial image taken in 1965, demonstrates that the area encompassing the proposed substation expansion area was greatly modified during the middle of the twentieth century. This image shows that the entirety of proposed project parcel had been cleared of vegetation and bulldozed; it also shows a large spoil pile within the northeast portion of the proposed substation expansion area. In addition, two large ponds were constructed just to the north and west of the proposed project parcel by 1965. All of these landscape alterations would have greatly disturbed the proposed project parcel in anticipation of future construction in the area. Figure 6, an aerial imaged captured in the 1990, shows the construction in the area that was anticipated in 1965. This included the installation of the existing substation facility, as well as several large buildings to the north and west of the proposed project parcel. The 1990 aerial also suggests that the

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Coreen Kelsey  
June 23, 2014  
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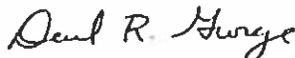
previously disturbed substation expansion area was allowed to grow over. Figures 7 and 8, aerial images taken in 2004, and 2012, respectively, show the proposed project parcel in its essentially modern state. The area remains surrounded by the existing substation of the east, the large buildings to the north and west, and a residential neighborhood to the south. Finally, Figure 9 depicts the various soil types located throughout the proposed project region. As this figure indicates, the proposed substation expansion area is encompassed within soils described as Udorthents. These soils are classified as having been disturbed by mechanical means, including cutting, filling, and grading; they no longer retain any potential to yield intact archaeological deposits.

In addition, a review of previously recorded cultural resources on file with the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office revealed that while no National Register of Historic Places properties were situated in the vicinity of the proposed substation area, a single archaeological site (51-8) was recorded within 0.8 km (0.5 mi) of the proposed equipment location (Figures 10 and 11). Site 51-8, also known as Lake Mohegan, has been characterized as a camp site dating from an unknown prehistoric period. Recorded by Fred Warner in 1979, the site is described as containing the remains of stone tool manufacturing debris, and was, at the time of its recording, flooded by the Mill River. The potential significance of the site area applying the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]) was not listed on the submitted site form, and no additional testing of the site area was recommended.

Finally, a pedestrian survey of the area by representatives of Heritage Consultants, LLC on June 31, 2014 confirmed the disturbed nature of the proposed substation expansion area, which now consist of a re-contoured parcel of land on which wet soils and some spoil piles are located (Photos 1 through 6). It is clear that this parcel of land has been heavily impacted in the past by mechanical equipment, and cutting and filling, as well as re-grading. This undoubtedly occurred in the 1960s when this parcel of land was stripped of vegetation and bulldozed to make way for construction of the existing substation and the large buildings to the north and west. Given the environmental conditions and the presence of disturbed soils throughout the proposed project parcel, it is the professional opinion of Heritage Consultants, LLC that this area no longer retains the potential to yield intact cultural deposits. As a result, no additional archaeological research is recommended prior to construction of the proposed substation expansion.

If you have any questions regarding this Technical Memorandum, or if we may be of additional assistance with this or any other projects you may have, please do not hesitate to call us at 860-667-3001 or email us [info@heritage-consultants.com](mailto:info@heritage-consultants.com). We are at your service.

Sincerely,



David R. George, M.A., R.P.A.





Figure 4. Excerpt from an historic 1934 topographic quadrangle depicting the proposed substation expansion area in Fairfield, Connecticut.



Figure 6. Excerpt from a 1990 aerial image depicting the proposed substation expansion area in Fairfield, Connecticut.



Figure 8. Excerpt from a 2012 aerial image depicting the proposed substation expansion area in Fairfield, Connecticut.

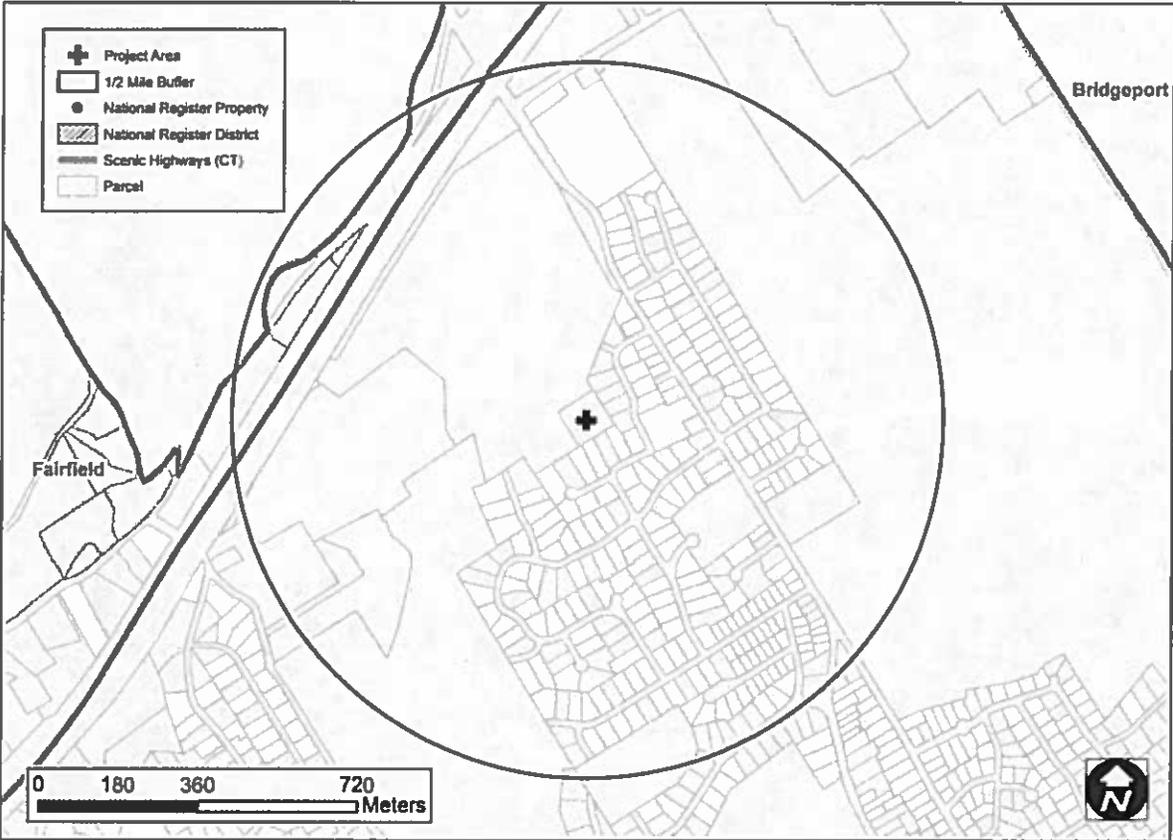


Figure 10. Digital map depicting the locations of previously identified National Register of Historic Places properties in the vicinity of the proposed substation expansion area in Fairfield, Connecticut.

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**Photo 1.** Overview photo from the proposed substation expansion area facing southeast.



**Photo 2.** Overview photo from the proposed substation expansion area facing southeast.



Photo 5. Overview photo of the proposed substation expansion area facing southeast.



Photo 6. Overview photo of the proposed substation expansion area facing northeast.