



Fort Edward Overlay Analysis

Fort Edward, New York

November 2005

EPA Region 2
Superfund Redevelopment Initiative

funded by
United States Environmental Protection Agency

prepared for
The Town of Fort Edward
Fort Edward, New York

prepared by
E² Inc.

Acknowledgments

E² Inc. would like to thank the following people and organizations for their hard work in support of the overlay analysis and for their valuable contributions to this report.

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Project Overview

The *Overlay Analysis* report analyzes potential areas of overlap between community planning documents in Fort Edward and EPA's remedial plans for the Hudson River PCBs Superfund site. The overlay analysis reviews the potential impacts and implications of EPA's remedial activities for the Town of Fort Edward's existing and future planning initiatives. The goal of the overlay analysis is to enhance the Town of Fort Edward's efforts to plan for future community needs and address community priorities within the context of the Hudson River PCBs Superfund site and the planned Energy Park sediment dewatering and transfer facility. This project has combined the research and analysis conducted by environmental consultants E² Inc. with community discussions to help inform the Town of Fort Edward and EPA as the construction of the sediment dewatering and transfer facility at the Energy Park site and the dredging of the Hudson River move forward.

The *Overlay Analysis* report focuses on three areas of significant overlap between Fort Edward's community priorities and EPA's remedial activities: cultural resources, traffic and infrastructure, and water resources. The report reviews each of these areas in turn, summarizing existing community conditions and remedial plans and highlighting potential short- and long-term priorities and opportunities. Maps, photographs, and timelines illustrate each of the three overlay areas.

For reference, this report is also a companion document to the *Adaptive Use Analysis* report produced by the project's consultant team in September 2005. The *Adaptive Use Analysis* report analyzes potential future use opportunities, challenges, and key considerations presented by the sediment dewatering and transfer facility planned for the Energy Park site in Fort Edward. The *Adaptive Use Analysis* report provides feedback to the Town of Fort Edward, the General Electric Company, and EPA so that future land considerations can be incorporated as part of revisions to the *Phase 1 Intermediate Design Report* and the development of the *Phase 1 Final Design Report*.



Site of Old Fort Edward, adjacent to Hudson River



Rogers Island Visitors Center



Delaware and Hudson Railroad Depot
(National Register of Historic Places)

Cultural Resources Overlay Fort Edward, New York

Cultural Resources Overview

Fort Edward is situated within a region of the United States with a strikingly rich social, agricultural, and industrial history. Located an hour north of Albany, at the northern reaches of the Hudson River and the middle reaches of the Champlain Canal, Fort Edward's twenty-five square miles provide key insights into the formative history of the United States. Fort Edward is a national historical resource for the story of early Native peoples, as well as for the nation's revolutionary war heritage. In addition, the community's history helps to chronicle the rise of the nation's industrial economy and waterway transportation in the United States.

The Cultural Resources Overlay recognizes that the dredging of the Hudson River offers significant opportunities for the Town and Village of Fort Edward to work closely with EPA, state agencies, and the General Electric Company to ensure that the community's historical resources are adequately protected. This section of the Overlay highlights the locations of historic resources in Fort Edward, maps anticipated transportation routes, timelines, and potential impacts associated with dredging activities, and outlines potential opportunities for ongoing coordination.

The map below illustrates Fort Edward's location within significant local and regional historic resources, focusing in particular on the French and Indian War.

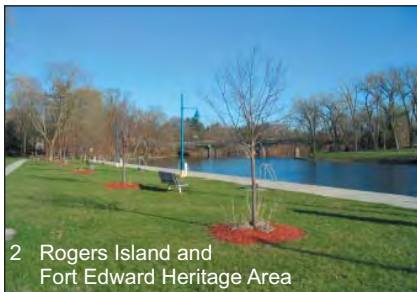


Cultural Resources: Local Context

The Town and Village of Fort Edward have an abundance of cultural resources that date to the 18th century and earlier. The map to the right identifies five significant heritage areas in Fort Edward and provides a list of local cultural resource sites.



1 Champlain Canal Corridor



2 Rogers Island and Fort Edward Heritage Area



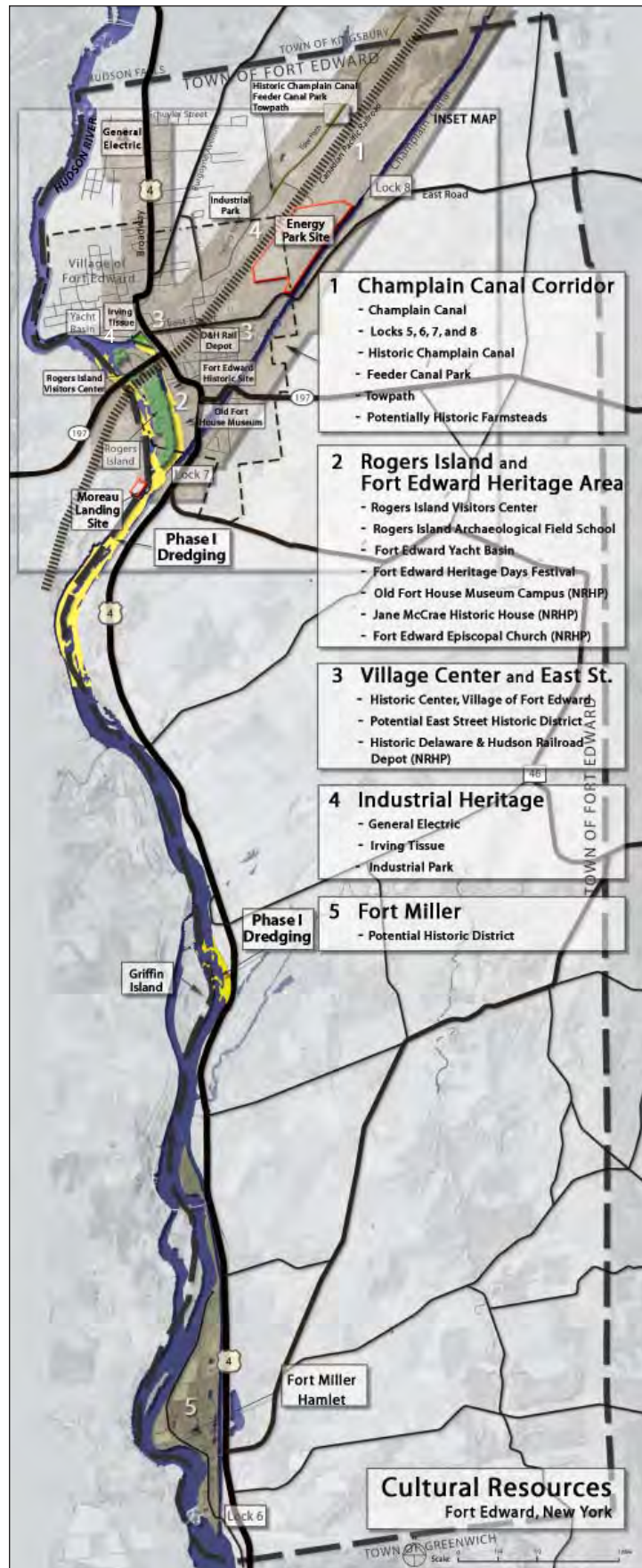
3 Village Center and East Street



4 Industrial Heritage



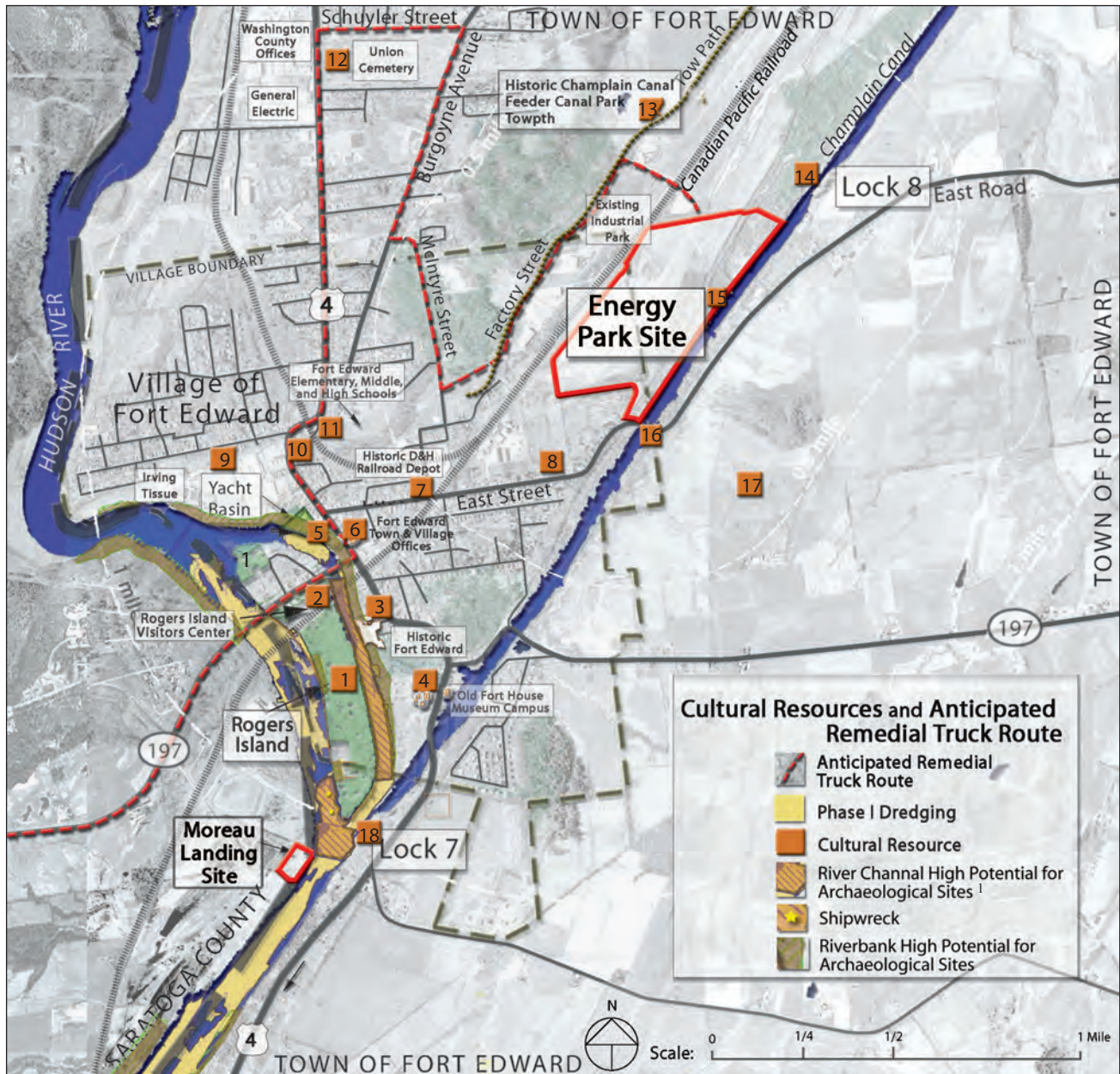
5 View of Hudson River from Fort Miller



Cultural Resources: Anticipated Remedial Truck Route, Pre-Dredging Facility Construction

During the construction of the sediment dewatering and transfer facility at the Energy Park site in Fort Edward, the anticipated remedial truck route will extend through the Village and Town of Fort Edward via primary access roads Route 197 and Route 4. Local route roads include Schuyler Street, Burgoyne Avenue, and McIntyre Street. The route passes several cultural resource areas, including Rogers Island, the Village Center area, the Union Cemetery, Washington County's municipal offices, residential neighborhoods, and Feeder Canal Park and towpath.

Pre-dredging cultural resource investigations include cultural resource assessments and archaeological dives in the Hudson River. The Village and Town of Fort Edward will need to work closely with EPA, the General Electric Company, and state agencies to ensure that the plans for the recovery and preservation of the community's historical resources meet the community's requirements for the extent and comprehensiveness of the recovery effort.



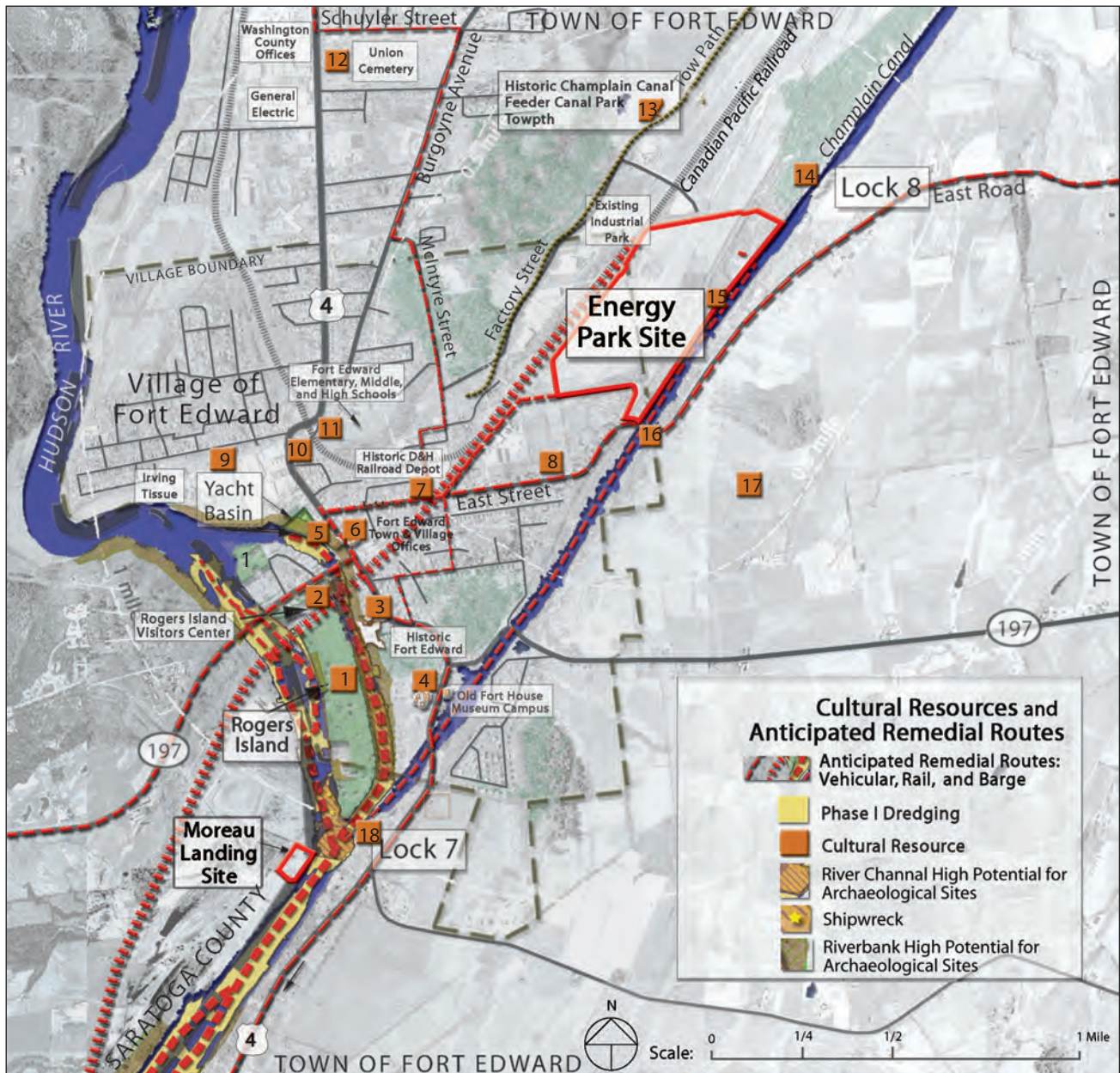
Fort Edward's Cultural Resource Sites

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Rogers Island and Fort Edward Little League Park | 10 Old Revolutionary War Path - Historic Marker |
| 2 Rogers Island Visitors Center | 11 Jane McCrae Monument |
| 3 Historic Fort Edward and Sutler Archaeological Site | 12 Union Cemetery |
| 4 Old Fort House Museum Grounds (NRHP) | 13 Historic Champlain Canal (NRHP), Feeder Canal Park, and Towpath Trail |
| 5 Jane McCrae Historic House (NRHP) | 14 Lock 8 and Picnic Area |
| 6 Saint James Episcopal Church (NRHP) | 15 Champlain Canal Recreation Route |
| 7 Delaware and Hudson Railroad Depot (NRHP) | 16 East Road Bridge |
| 8 East Street District (Potentially NRHP-eligible) | 17 Potentially Historic Farmsteads |
| 9 Irving Tissue | 18 Lock 7 and Picnic Area |

¹ Source: General Electric Company, April 2005, *Archaeological Resources Assessment Report for Phase 1 Dredge Areas, Hudson River PCBs Superfund Site*, prepared by URS Corporation Burlington, New Jersey.

Cultural Resources: Anticipated Remedial Routes, Post-Dredging Facility Construction

Once the construction of the sediment dewatering and transfer facility has been completed and river dredging begins, routes for three modes of transportation – rail, barge, and road – will extend through Fort Edward. Close coordination will be needed to ensure the appropriate timing, scale, and volume of vehicular, barge, and rail traffic passing through Fort Edward to ensure that the traffic flows do not negatively impact the community's historic resources, including Rogers Island, the Historic Fort Edward Heritage Area, the East Street Neighborhood, and the Champlain Canal Corridor.



Fort Edward's Cultural Resource Sites

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
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Cultural Resources: Local Historic Resources



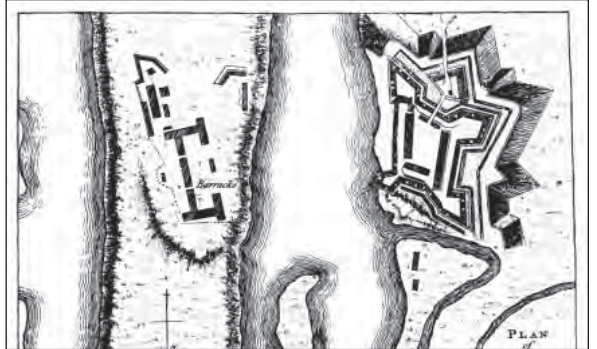
Rogers Island Visitors Center



View of Heritage Days Festival at the Fort Edward Yacht Basin



Site of Old Fort Edward, inland along Route 4



Plan of Rogers Island and Fort Edward, ca. 1763
Source: *Rangers and Redcoats on the Hudson* by David Starbuck



Delaware and Hudson Railroad Depot
(National Register of Historic Places)



Old Fort House Museum and Grounds

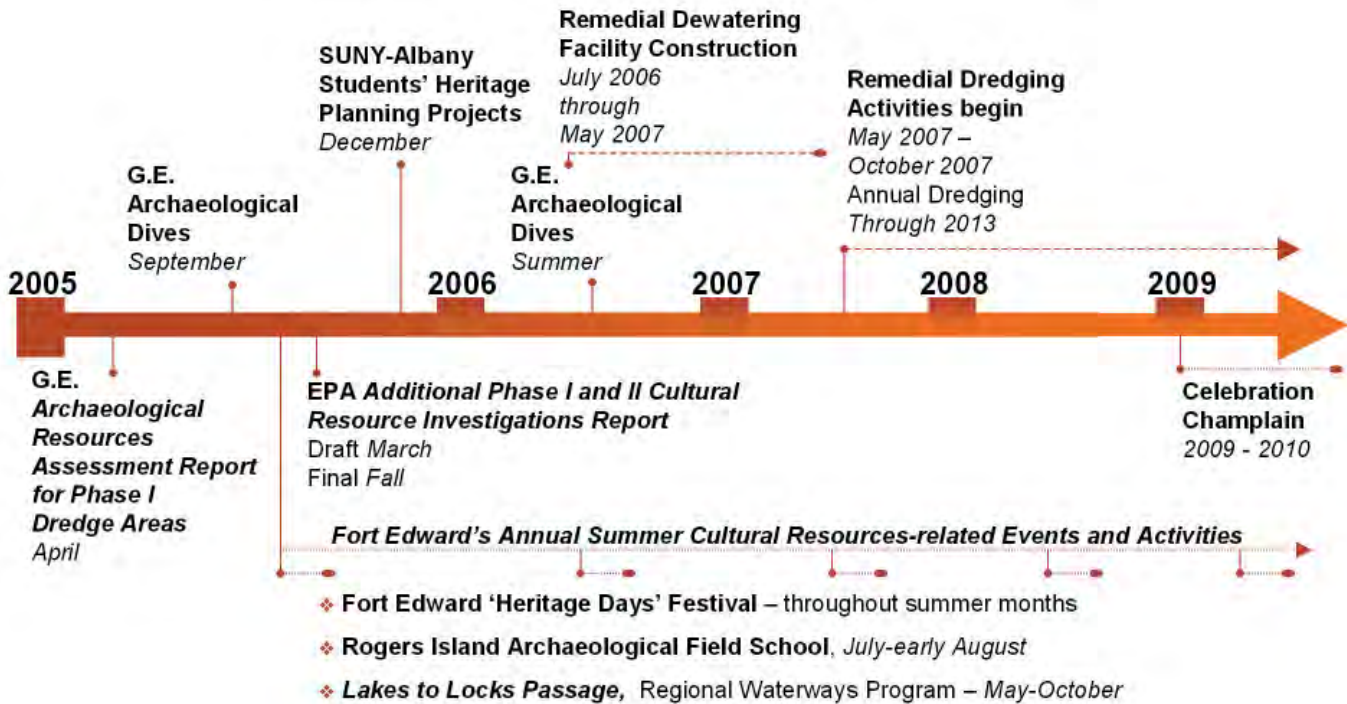


Historic Champlain Canal (National Register of Historic Places),
Feeder Canal Park, and Towpath



Industrial Heritage: Irving Tissue

Cultural Resources: *Timeline of EPA, General Electric Company, and Fort Edward Activities*



Evaluation of the potential impacts of remedial activities on Fort Edward's cultural resources has been ongoing since 2004. Findings from the General Electric Company's archaeological resource research were published in the *Archaeological Resources Assessment Report for Phase I Dredging* in April 2005. EPA completed the *Additional Phase I and II Cultural Resources Investigations Report* in fall 2005. Both reports indicate areas of Fort Edward with significant archaeological and cultural resources and indicate areas that require further evaluation. The General Electric Company conducted archaeological dives in fall 2005 and will conduct additional dives in 2006.

The timeline on this page indicates that shorter-term, cultural resource-related activities will likely need to focus on the laying the groundwork for the storage, preservation, and presentation of Fort Edward's historical artifacts and the creation of a long-term heritage tourism strategy.

Cultural resource-related activities include the recovery of artifacts from the Hudson River bottom. The Rogers Island Visitor Center is planning the development of an archival storage space to hold artifacts collected from these dives as well as artifacts currently in the Rogers Island Visitor Center. SUNY-Albany planning students are currently engaged in a Heritage Tourism Development Study for the Town of Fort Edward. Their study will be completed by late 2005.

In the longer-term, there are both annual and one-time events that present significant opportunities to recognize Fort Edwards' cultural resources. Local examples include Fort Edward's Heritage Days Festival, held in the Village Center and at the Fort Edward Yacht Basin. Between 2005 and 2009, 'Heritage Days' will expand to dates throughout the summer to celebrate significant anniversary celebrations and milestones in Fort Edward's history. The Rogers Island Visitors Center is also in planning the construction of an Archaeological Research Center as well as Rogers Island Museum. These facilities will help interpret Fort Edward's rich regional history related to early Native peoples, the wars of the 18th century, and the transportation canals that followed. The Rogers Island Archaeological Field School also holds annual field camp sessions in July through early August.

Fort Edward is also participating in several regional heritage programs, including the 'Lakes to Locks' waterways heritage program and 'Celebration Champlain', a year-long celebration in 2009 of historical events along the Champlain Canal and Hudson River. To the extent possible, the timing and scale of remedial activities during these periods could be adjusted to accommodate these events.

Cultural Resources: *Potential Near-Term Priorities*

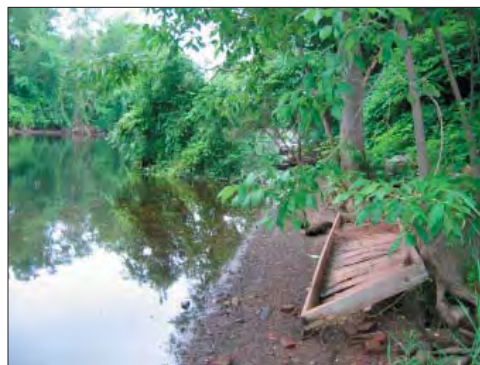
- Recovery and preservation of archaeological resources during dredging activities. Fort Edward, the General Electric Company, and EPA can work to reach consensus on the standards of archaeological material recovery.
- Storage and integration of archaeological resources into existing Rogers Island and NY State artifact inventories in a timely manner, also in keeping with the *Standards for Cultural Resource Investigations* and the *Curation of Archaeological Collections in New York State* report.
- Monitoring of historic Locks 5, 6, and particularly Lock 7 for potential repair needs.
- Ensuring that the turning basin planned for the Energy Park site does not alter the historical integrity of the Champlain Canal.

Cultural Resources: *Potential Long-Term Priorities*

- Development of a Fort Edward archaeological archive, research center, and museum.
- Maintenance of the historic character and integrity of the Champlain Canal Corridor.
- The Village and Town of Fort Edward's participation in regional heritage programs, particularly those focusing on the Champlain Canal Corridor (Celebration Champlain and the New York State and National Park Service Canalway programs).
- Development of Heritage Districts within one mile of the dewatering facility and along the Hudson River.
- Determination of homes and farmsteads in Fort Edward eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.



Sutler Archaeological Site, a Dig Site of the Annual Rogers Island Archaeological Field School



View of the Hudson River and Banks Site of Historic Fort Edward



Heritage Days Festivities Revolutionary War Reenactment Camp Site

Cultural Resources: *Potential Near-Term Opportunities*

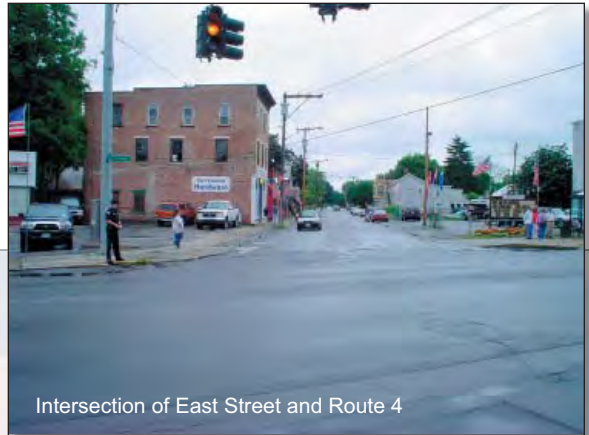
- The Fort Edward Heritage Advisory Committee can work to inform EPA, the Town of Fort Edward, and the General Electric Company on decisions related to remedial dredging activities, including reaching consensus on the standards of archaeological material recovery.
- The Fort Edward Heritage Advisory Committee can work with SUNY-Albany planning students on Fort Edward's heritage-based tourism opportunities, planning, and design.
- Opportunity to expand local residents' educational opportunities and involvement in the area's Native American, revolutionary war-era, and industrial and waterway history.

Cultural Resources: *Potential Long-Term Opportunities*

- Incorporation and implementation of SUNY-Albany student planning project ideas and designs into a heritage tourism-based economic development approach.
- Development of 'Heritage Indicators', a system by which the Fort Edward Heritage Advisory Committee and other local and municipal groups could track the progress and measure the planned approach to heritage tourism as an economic development strategy in the community.
- The Fort Edward Heritage Advisory Committee can coordinate with EPA and the Village and Town of Fort Edward over the long-term to inform decision-making regarding cultural resources-related activities and timeframes.



Fort Edward Entry Corridor Along Route 197, View of Rogers Island
Potential signage for entry corridor improvements, as suggested in the *Fort Edward Revitalization Plan, 2004*



Intersection of East Street and Route 4



East Street



Rail Trestle over the Hudson River

Traffic and Infrastructure Overlay

Fort Edward, New York

Traffic and Infrastructure Overview

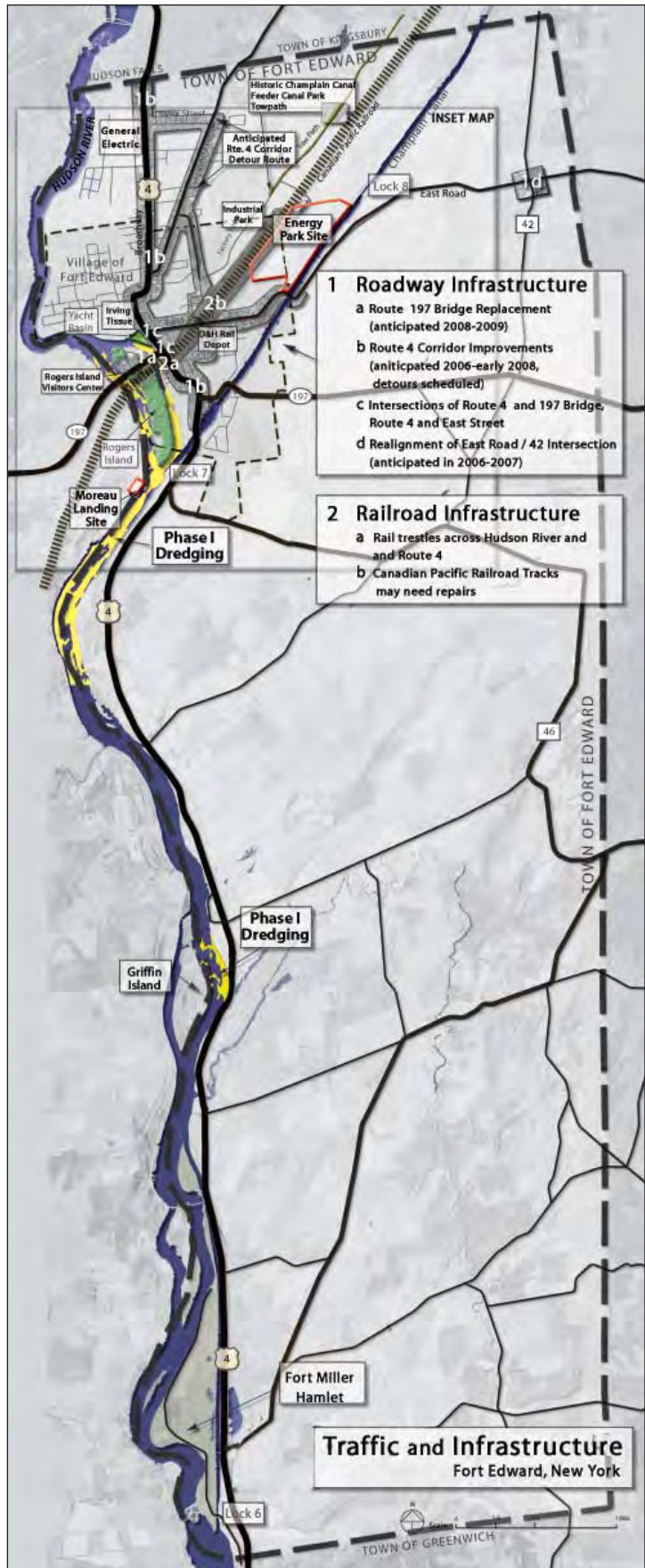
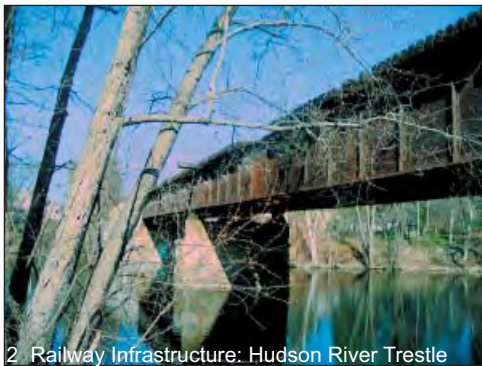
The Traffic and Infrastructure Overlay recognizes that the remediation of the Hudson River offers significant opportunities for the Town and Village of Fort Edward to work closely with EPA and state agencies to ensure that the community's infrastructure and quality of life are not negatively impacted by vehicular, barge, and rail traffic associated with the construction of the sediment dewatering and transfer facility at the Energy Park site and the dredging of the Hudson River. This section of the Overlay highlights the locations of planned infrastructure improvements in Fort Edward, maps anticipated transportation routes, timelines, and potential impacts associated with dredging activities, and outlines potential opportunities for ongoing coordination.

The map below illustrates Fort Edward's location within New York State and New England. Fort Edward is accessible by rail via the Canadian Pacific rail line, by road via Interstate 87 and State Route 4, and by waterway via the Hudson River and Champlain Canal.



Traffic and Infrastructure: Local Context

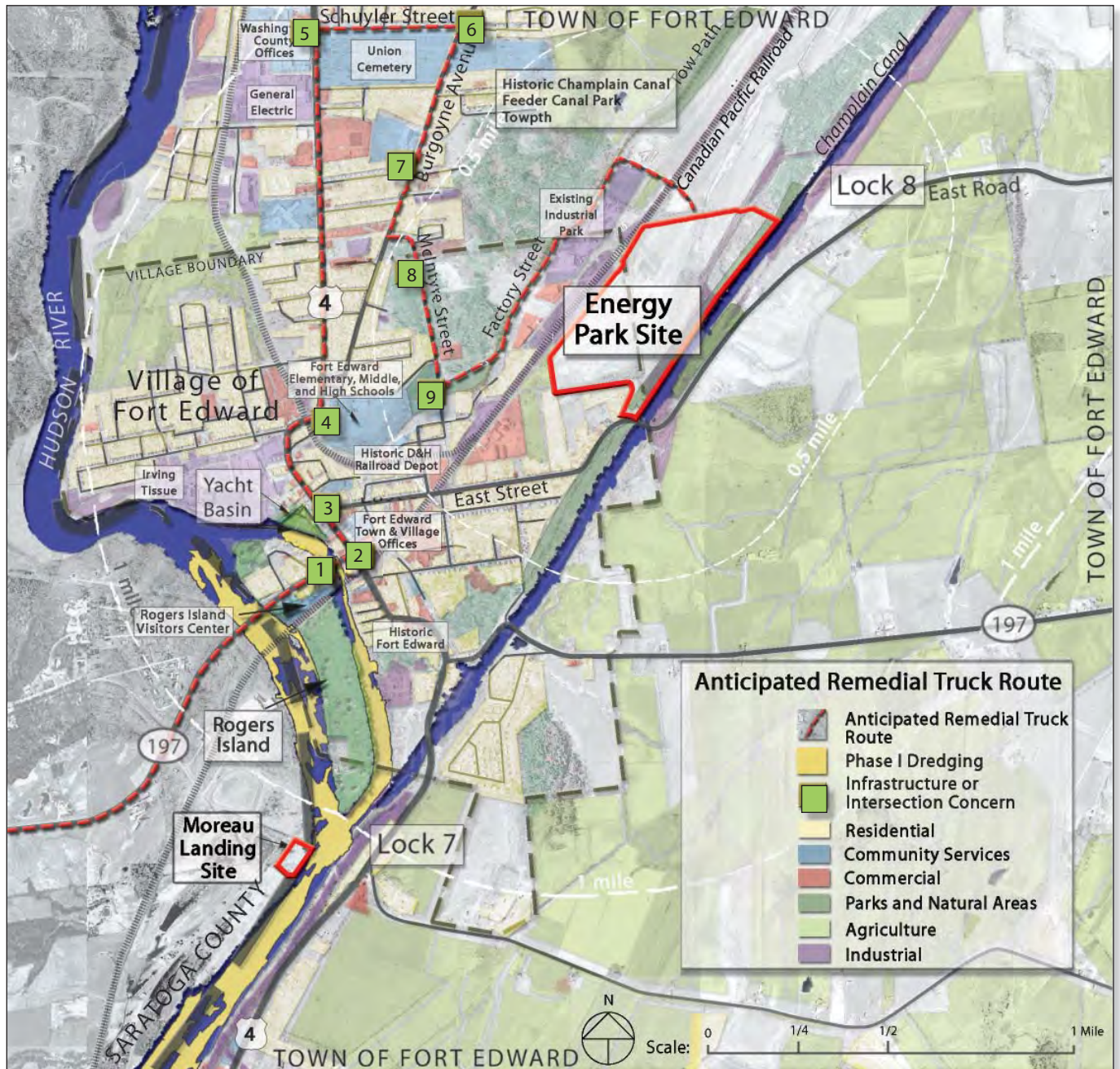
The map to the right identifies planned roadway infrastructure improvements as well as key rail line infrastructure locations in Fort Edward.



Traffic and Infrastructure: Anticipated Remedial Truck Route, Pre-Dredging Facility Construction

During the construction of the sediment dewatering and transfer facility at the Energy Park site in Fort Edward, scheduled for July 2006 through May 2007, the anticipated remedial truck route will extend through the Village and Town of Fort Edward via primary access roads Route 197 and Route 4. Local route roads include Schuyler Street, Burgoyne Avenue, and McIntyre Street.

The map below illustrates the anticipated remedial truck route, with numbered squares identifying key road intersections and residential neighborhoods. Several of these areas are scheduled for road infrastructure improvements in coming years. The Route 197 Bridge is scheduled for replacement in 2008-2009. Route 4 road and infrastructure improvements and associated detours are scheduled to take place beginning in Summer 2006. These improvements will start south of Route 197 and will work northward.

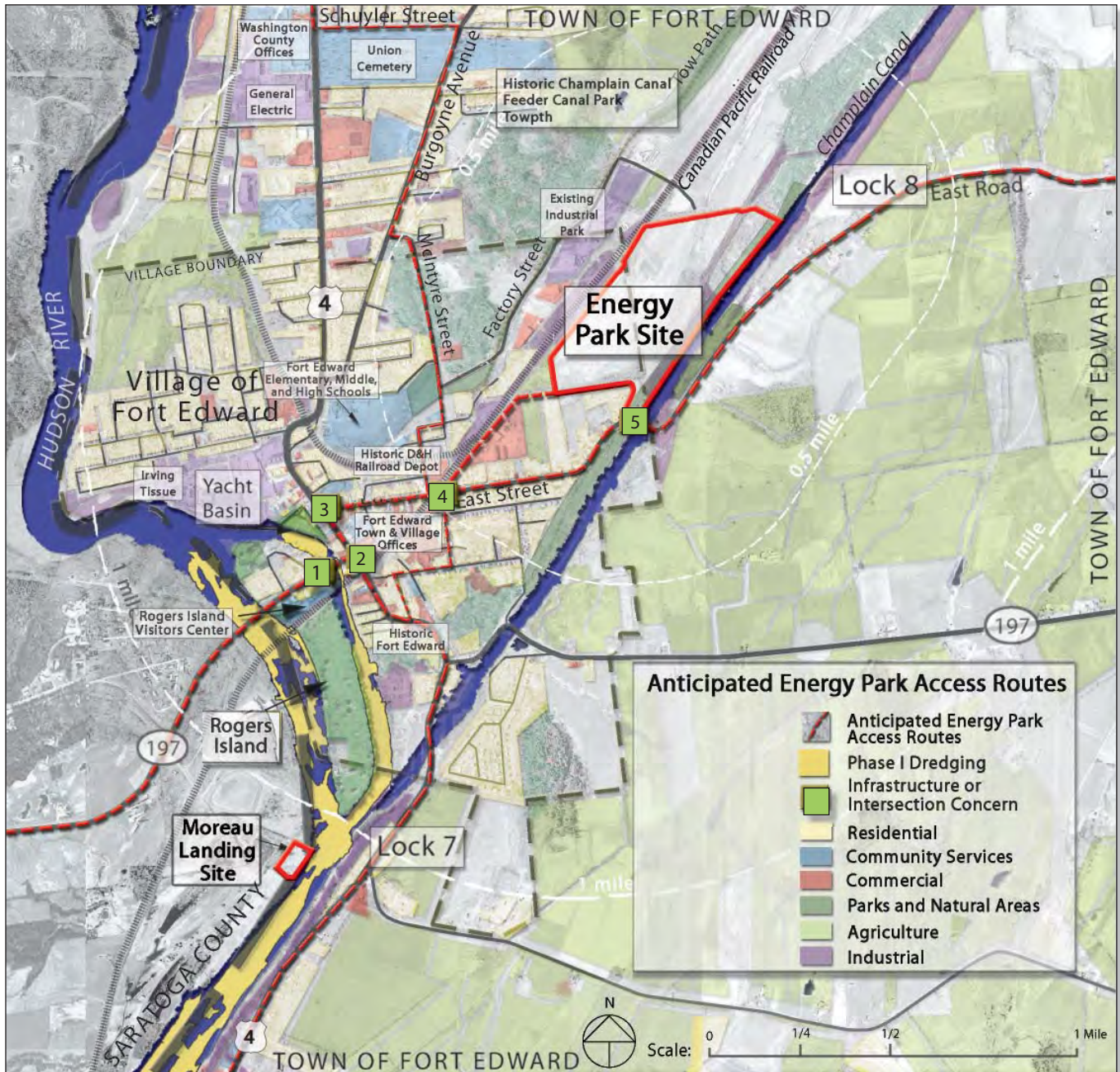


Anticipated Pre-Dredging Remedial Truck Route: Key Road Intersections and Residential Neighborhoods

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Route 197 Bridge | 5 Intersection of Route 4 and Schuyler Street |
| 2 Intersection of Route 4 and Route 197 Bridge and proposed Route 196 Industrial Corridor Road | 6 Intersection of Schuyler Street and Burgoyne Avenue |
| 3 Intersection of Route 4 and East Street | 7 Residential Neighborhood |
| 4 Detour Route near Maple Street and Fort Edward Elementary, Middle, and High School | 8 Residential Neighborhood |
| | 9 Intersection of McIntyre Street and Factory Street |

Traffic and Infrastructure: Anticipated Remedial Routes, Post-Dredging Facility Construction

Once the construction of the sediment dewatering and transfer facility has been completed and river dredging begins, routes for three modes of transportation – rail, barge, and road – will extend through Fort Edward. Close coordination will be needed between the Village and Town of Fort Edward, EPA, and state agencies to ensure the appropriate timing, scale, and volume of vehicular, barge, and rail traffic passing through Fort Edward. Key road intersections that will need to be monitored are highlighted on the map below.



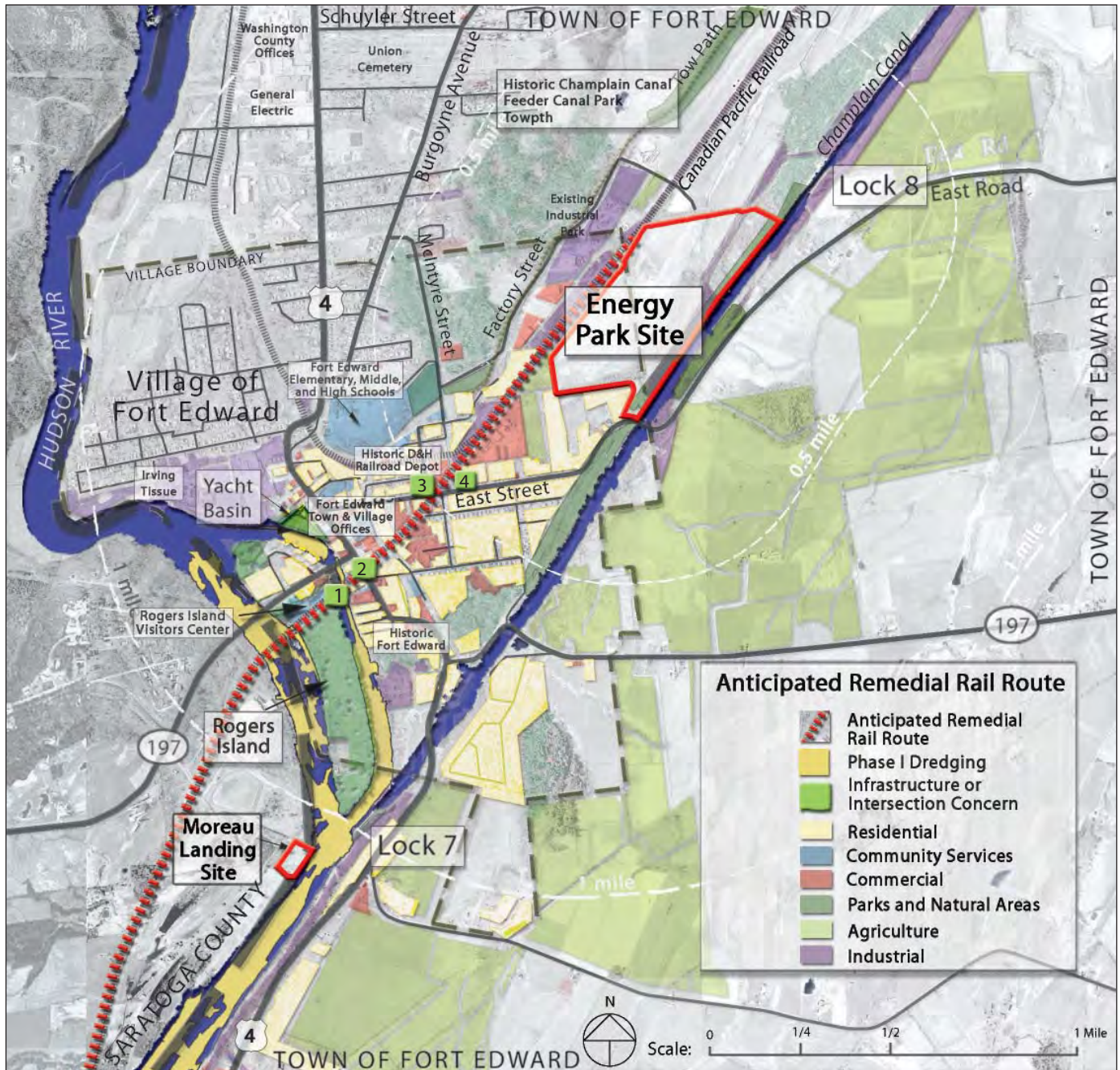
Anticipated Remedial Vehicular Routes: Key Road Intersections

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Route 197 Bridge 2 Intersection of Route 4 and Route 197 Bridge and proposed Route 196 Industrial Corridor Road 3 Intersection of Route 4 and East Street | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4 Intersection of East Street and Industrial Entrance Drive 5 East Road Bridge over the Champlain Canal |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Traffic and Infrastructure: Anticipated Remedial Rail Route

Rail line activity will significantly increase from the Energy Park Site to points southward once the construction of the sediment dewatering and transfer facility has been completed and river dredging begins. Close coordination will be needed between the Village and Town of Fort Edward, EPA, and state agencies to ensure the appropriate timing, scale, and volume of rail traffic passing through Fort Edward.

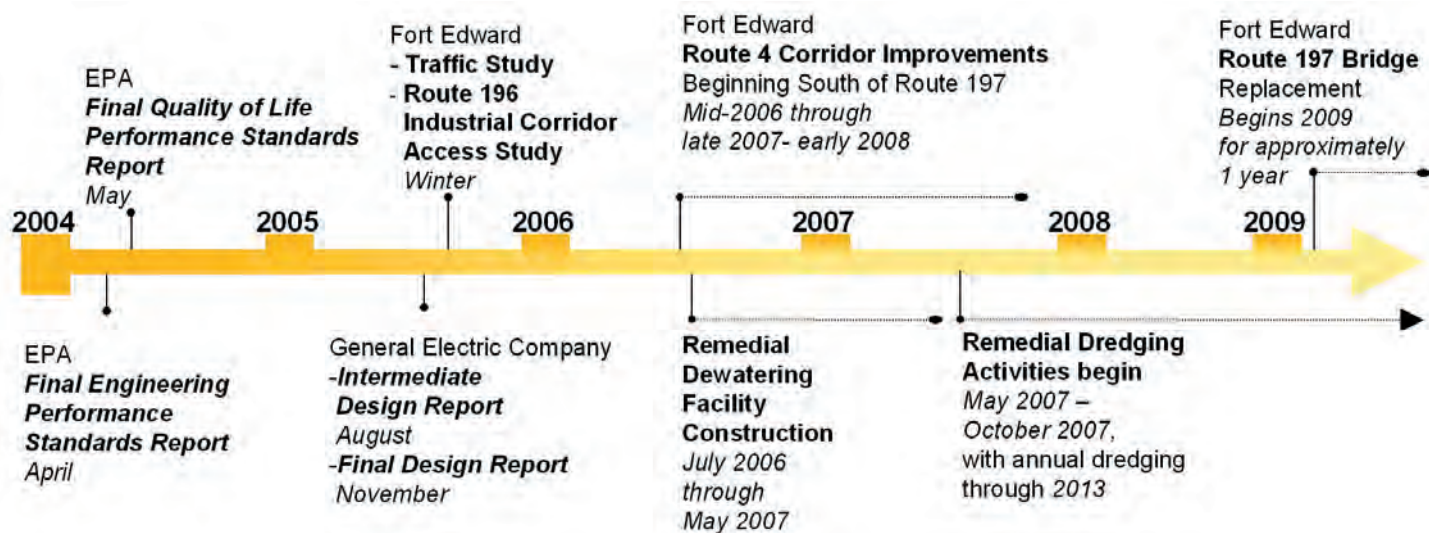
Key rail line infrastructure and intersections that will need to be evaluated and monitored are highlighted on the map below.



Anticipated Remedial Transportation Routes: Key Rail Line Infrastructure

- 1 Rail Trestle over Hudson River
- 2 Rail Trestle over Route 4
- 3 Delaware and Hudson Railroad Depot Activity
- 4 Intersection of Rail Line, East Street, and Industrial Entrance Drive

Traffic and Infrastructure: *Timeline of EPA, General Electric, and Fort Edward Activities*



The timeline on this page indicates that there are traffic and road infrastructure improvements planned in Fort Edward over the next three to five years. In particular, the construction of the sediment dewatering and transfer facility at the Energy Park site will coincide with the timing of planned Route 4 Corridor improvements. The Town of Fort Edward is also currently evaluating the feasibility of extending a proposed Route 196 industrial corridor access road from downtown Fort Edward to the Energy Park site. It is possible that the road's construction could also take place in the next several years, or during the longer duration of dredging activities planned for the Hudson River. Lastly, the repair or replacement of the Route 197 Bridge is scheduled to begin in 2008, following completion of the Route 4 Corridor improvements and dewatering facility construction. The timing of each of these planned traffic and road infrastructure improvements during the construction of the dewatering facility and the dredging of the Hudson River highlights the importance of ongoing coordination between the Village and Town of Fort Edward, EPA, state agencies, and the General Electric Company.



Rail Trestle over Route 4 in Fort Edward



Rail Trestle over the Hudson River



Delaware and Hudson Rail Depot and proposed Industrial Entrance Drive, indicated by dotted red line.

Traffic and Infrastructure: *Potential Near-Term Priorities*

- The Route 197 Bridge and the rail trestle over the Hudson River may require reinforcement or repairs prior to the traffic associated with remedial dredging activities.
- Addressing the potential for traffic congestion at key intersections during the dewatering facility's construction and Route 4 Corridor improvements in mid-2006 through 2007.
- Minimizing negative quality of life impacts in the community due to increased truck traffic during the construction of the sediment dewatering and transfer facility at the Energy Park site.

Traffic and Infrastructure: *Potential Long-Term Priorities*

- Planning for potential economic growth, including the adaptive reuse of the dewatering facility, in the Energy Park area of the Champlain Canal corridor by the Town of Fort Edward. The feasibility of improved road and infrastructure access to this area will be determined by the Town of Fort Edward's ongoing study of the potential extension of a Route 196 industrial access road from downtown Fort Edward to the Energy Park site.



Intersection of Route 197 Bridge and Route 4



On Rogers Island,
Looking East Towards Route 197 Bridge



East Street Neighborhood:
A Potential Historic District



Intersection of Schuyler Street and Route 4

Traffic and Infrastructure: *Potential Near-Term Opportunities*

- Development of a Fort Edward Road, Rail, and Waterways Advisory Committee, a decision-making group that works to inform EPA and the Town of Fort Edward on decisions related to the overlap of remedial plans for the Hudson River PCBs Superfund site with local transportation infrastructure, including working towards consensus on the potential need for the accelerated construction of an industrial access road.
- Coordination and adjustment of the timing and routing of anticipated remedial truck, barge, and rail traffic to minimize negative community impacts. The construction of the Route 196 industrial access road could also be accelerated to provide an alternative remedial road route in Fort Edward.

Traffic and Infrastructure: *Potential Long-Term Opportunities*

- A post-remedial evaluation by EPA and the General Electric Company to monitor and evaluate the condition of the community's transportation infrastructure, including roads, rail lines, and the Champlain Canal.
- Ongoing coordination between the Fort Edward Road, Rail, and Waterways Advisory Committee, EPA, and the General Electric Company to monitor the community's transportation infrastructure during the duration of remedial activities at the Hudson River PCBs Superfund site.



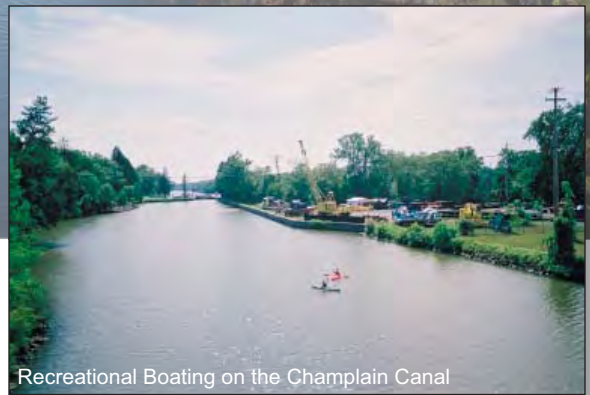
Route 197 Bridge



Fort Edward Yacht Basin during 'Heritage Days' Festival



Lock 8



Recreational Boating on the Champlain Canal

Waterway Resources Overlay

Fort Edward, New York

Waterway Resources: Overview

The Champlain Canal corridor and the Hudson River corridor comprise the primary waterway resources in Fort Edward. These corridors are part of an interconnected statewide network of canal and river resources that provide a range of local and regional recreational, commercial, and heritage tourism-related boating opportunities.

The Waterway Resources Overlay recognizes that dredging activities and barge traffic associated with the remediation of the Hudson River will have local and regional waterway access implications for both the Champlain Canal and Hudson River corridors. Accordingly, the Town and Village of Fort Edward will need to work closely with EPA and state agencies to ensure that local waterway activities are coordinated with the timing of remedial activities and that local waterway resources are appropriately monitored and protected. This section of the Overlay highlights the context of local waterway resources, maps anticipated barge routes, timelines, and potential waterway impacts associated with dredging activities, and outlines potential opportunities for ongoing coordination.

The map below illustrates the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, which was designated as a National Heritage Corridor in 2000. As one of the communities located along this 524-mile canalway system, Fort Edward could connect and partner with twenty-four other localities in a regional effort to recognize both the waterway resources and the engineered structures that have helped knit the region together and build the nation's economy.



Waterway Resources: Local Context

The map to the right identifies major waterway resources in Fort Edward: the Champlain Canal corridor and the Hudson River corridor. Both corridors offer opportunities for recreational, commercial, and industrial boating, as well as areas for recreation along the corridors' edges. The corridors' historical character also defines the waterways as cultural resources for local residents and visitors.



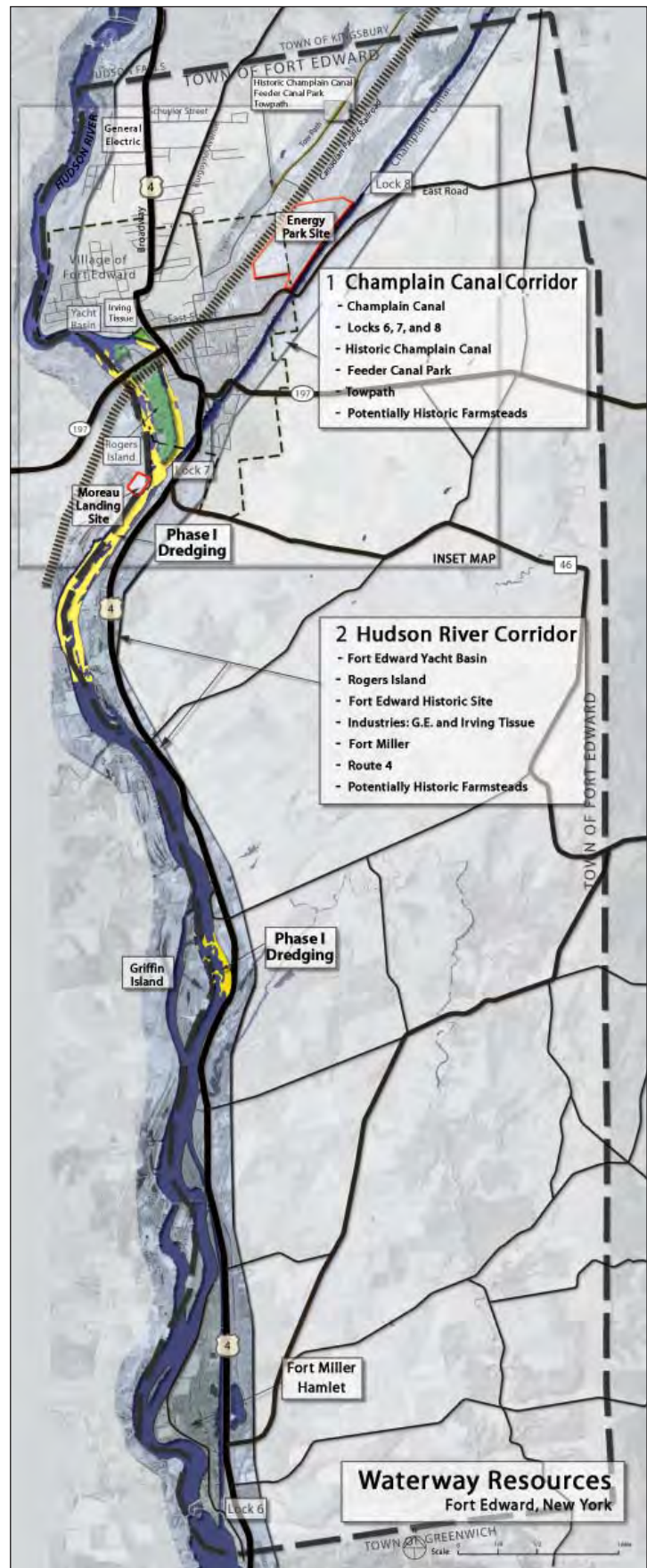
1 Champlain Canal Corridor, East Road Bridge

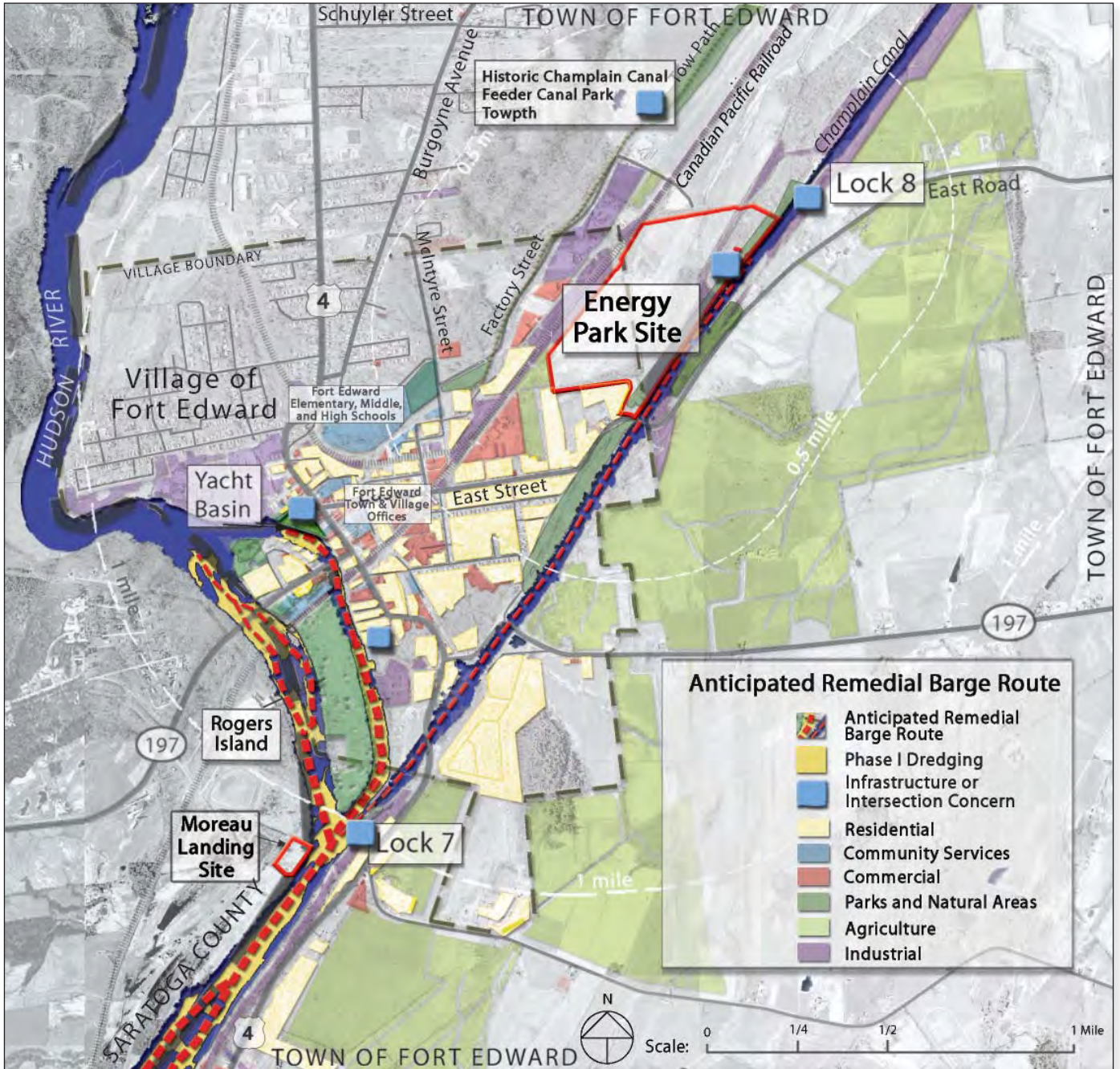


2 Hudson River Corridor, Yacht Basin

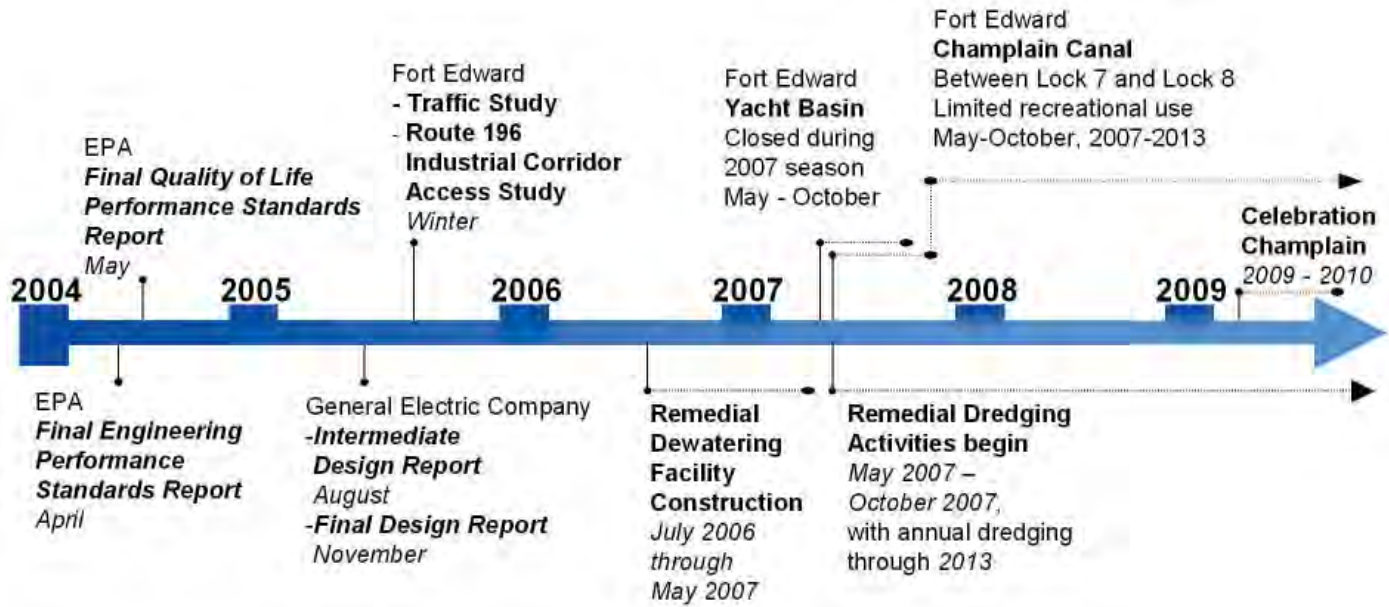


2 Hudson River Corridor, Fort Edward Site Historic Marker





Waterway Resources: *Timeline of EPA, General Electric, and Fort Edward Activities*



Evaluation of the potential impacts of remedial activities on waterway resources in and around Fort Edward has been ongoing since EPA’s Record of Decision for the Hudson River PCBs Superfund site, released in February 2002. Recent documents include EPA’s *Final Quality of Life Performance Standards* report and *Final Engineering Performance Standards* report, as well as the *Intermediate Design Report* for the site’s sediment dewatering and transfer facility, which was submitted to EPA by the General Electric Company in August 2005. The final Design Report will be submitted to EPA in late 2005.

The timeline on this page indicates that shorter-term, waterway resource-related activities through early 2007 in Fort Edward will likely need to focus on the Town of Fort Edward’s planning for the temporary closure of the Fort Edward Yacht Basin and working with surrounding communities to ensure that dredging activities do not result in a long-term decline in recreational and commercial boat traffic on the Hudson River and Champlain Canal.

Longer-term waterway resource-related activities will likely need to focus on monitoring and addressing potential impacts associated with barge traffic and the dredging of the Hudson River. The Village and Town of Fort Edward can also work closely with EPA to coordinate remedial schedules with local and regional waterway resource-based events. Events would include Fort Edward’s annual ‘Heritage Days’ celebrations, as well as ‘Celebration Champlain’, planned for 2009, which will recognize the Champlain Canal’s importance as part of the nation’s history.



Recreational Boating on the Hudson River during ‘Heritage Days’ Festival



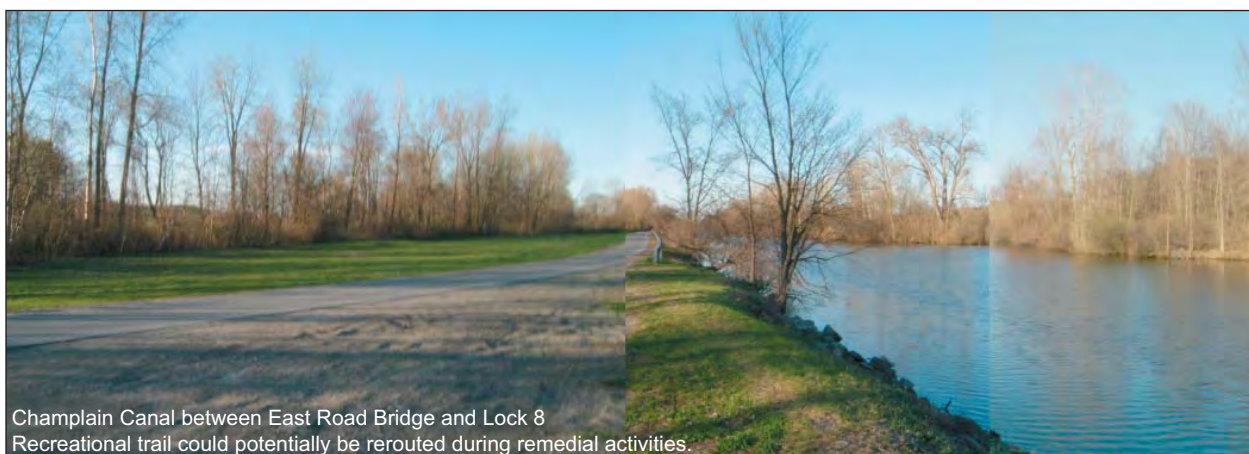
View of Lock 7 and Picnic Area

Waterway Resources: *Potential Near-Term Priorities*

- Addressing potential decline in recreational and commercial boating in the Fort Edward area over the near-term.
- Consideration of community impacts from the anticipated closure of the Fort Edward Yacht Basin for one season, from May 2007 to October 2007.
- Monitoring and potential repair of Champlain Canal locks 5, 6, and 7 as needed due to their increased use over the near-term.
- Evaluation of alternative recreational trail routes along the Champlain Canal between East Street and Lock 8. The existing trail route will be closed to recreational users as part of facility operations at the Energy Park site.

Waterway Resources: *Potential Long-Term Priorities*

- Monitoring and potential repair of Champlain Canal locks 5, 6, and 7 as needed due to their increased use over the long-term.
- Consideration of the changing character of the Champlain Canal corridor in Fort Edward and Washington County, due both to new residential development and the construction of the sediment dewatering and transfer facility at the Energy Park site.
- Potential decline in recreational and commercial boating in the Fort Edward area during dredging of the Hudson River will need to be addressed over the long-term.

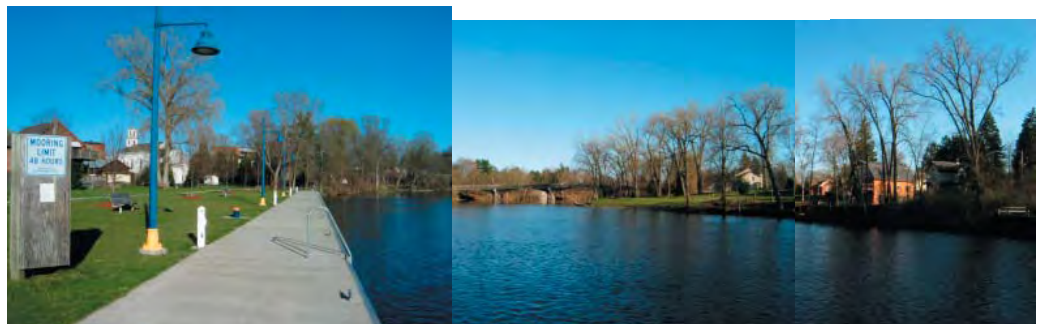


Waterway Resources: *Potential Near-Term Opportunities*

- Development of a Fort Edward Road, Rail, and Waterways Advisory Committee, a decision-making group that works to inform EPA and the Town of Fort Edward on decisions related to the overlap of remedial plans for the Hudson River PCBs Superfund site with the community's use of local waterways, including working towards building consensus on the timing and scale of remedial road, rail, and waterway uses and planned infrastructure improvements.
- Potential collaboration between the Village and Town of Fort Edward with other localities located along the Champlain Canal to develop shared resource partnerships as well as publicize the temporary closure (May-October 2007) and long-term availability of the Fort Edward Yacht Basin as a recreational resource for local residents and visitors.
- Rerouting the pedestrian recreational trail between Lock 8 and East Street along the eastern edge of the Champlain Canal. Alternatively, the recreational trail that runs along the canal north of Lock 8 could be connected to the Towpath Trail and Feeder Canal Park. Signage could redirect and reconnect the Towpath Trail with the recreational trail section along the Champlain Canal between East Street and the Route 197 Canal Bridge.

Waterway Resources: *Potential Long-Term Opportunities*

- The Village and Town of Fort Edward could work with EPA to identify areas of the Hudson River that could be dredged to accommodate larger vessels. For example, the Fort Edward Yacht Basin could potentially be targeted for further dredging or reduced backfill to enable access by a wider range of recreational and commercial boats.
- Development of 'Waterway Resource Indicators', a system by which the Road, Rail, and Waterways Advisory Committee could track and measure the progress of waterway resources development. Indicators could range from development of a local waterways-related wayfinding system to data gathered on the usage of a particular area like the Yacht Basin. Tracking and marking events and usage over time could allow for efficient use of resources as well as a provide reference points for future decision-making.



Yacht Basin in April 2005



Yacht Basin during 'Heritage Days' Festival, 2005

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