

GEOTECHNICAL REPORT

Coal Mine Brook
Observation Platforms
December 2021
0 Plantation Street Worcester, Massachusetts

Prepared for:

Beals & Thomas

Reservoir Corporate Center
144 Turnpike Road
Southborough, MA 01772-1204

City of Worcester

Department of Public Works
50 Skyline Drive
Worcester, MA 01605



Gill Engineering Associates, Inc.
63 Kendrick Street
Needham, MA 02494



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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Scope of Report

The purpose of this report is to provide recommendations for the foundations for the proposed observation platforms to be constructed along Coal Mine Brook in the City of Worcester, Massachusetts. The observation platforms are part of park improvements being done by the City's Department of Public Works. All parameters provided will be in accordance with AASHTO LRFD 9th Edition Design Specifications and the 9th Edition of the Massachusetts State Building Code. The report will also provide recommendations for the construction of the proposed foundations with guidance on minimizing potential construction issues.

1.2. Site Description

The park is located along Lake Quinsigamond in the eastern part of the City Worcester as depicted on the site location map in Appendix 6.1. The observation platforms being proposed are to be located adjacent to Coal Mine Brook and the existing East Side Trail.

As part of the park improvements, two observation platforms are being proposed to overlook Coal Mine Brook. This will require clearing and grubbing of the vegetation that currently exist in the proposed observation platform locations. The photo below shows the dense vegetation along Coal Mine Brook and the East Side Trail, as well as Lake Quinsigamond in the background.



Photo 1-Showing dense vegetation nearby the proposed observation platform locations.

There are overhead transmission lines between the east and west observation platforms. These lines are not anticipated to interfere during construction.

2. SUBSURFACE CONDITIONS

2.1. Local Geology

According to the USGS Bedrock Geologic Map of the Worcester North Quadrangle, Worcester County, Massachusetts, the site is underlain by quartz-muscovite phyllite or schist, overtop metasediments as much as 5cm thick. Some plagioclase-biotite-hornblende-quartz granofels can also be found in the area. See Appendix 6.2 for the map.

According to the Soil Conservation Survey Map, the site the upper layers consist of loamy sand and fine sandy loam. See Appendix 6.2 for the map.

2.2. Subsurface Exploration

The subsurface exploration consisted of two (2) soil borings located within 50' of the proposed observation platforms (designated as B-1 & B-2). The borings were drilled using a 3-inch hollow stem auger casing and a 1 3/8-inch split spoon sampler on April 22, 2021 by New England Boring Contractors, Inc. of Derry, New Hampshire and observed by Gill Engineering Associates, Inc. (GEA) which included a visual and hands-on examination of the soil samples. See Appendix 6.3 for an as-drilled boring site plan and Appendix 6.4 for boring logs.

2.3. Subsurface Profile

2.3.1. Boring B-1

The existing ground grade at B-1 is at ~400.0'. The top 12 feet consists of loose soil comprised of medium or silty sand with some coarse gravel and cobble. The layer from 12 feet down to the end of the boring at 27 feet consists of medium dense medium sand, coarse sand, or silty sand, and gravel with trace fine cobble. Ground water depth was measured to be at ~25' below grade.

2.3.2. Boring B-2

The existing ground grade at B-2 is at ~380'. The top 12 feet consists of very loose to loose medium sand with some cobble. The layer below 12 feet to the end of the boring at 27 feet consists of coarse and medium sand with coarse gravel and trace cobble. Ground water depth was measured to be at ~20' below grade.

2.3.3. Soil Parameters

See Table 1 for recommended soil parameters for design. See Appendix 6.6 for calculations.

Table 1: Recommended Soil Parameters

Layer	Unit Weight γ (lb/ft ³)	Friction Angle Φ
Upper (0' to 10')	120	30
Lower (>10')	120	38
Gravel Borrow	125	37

1. Friction angle based upon SPT N_{160} Correlation and AASHTO Table 10.4.6.2.4-1
2. Gravel borrow per MassDOT M1.03.0

2.4. Seismic Design Category Evaluation

Seismic design parameters were determined using the 9th Edition of the Massachusetts Building Code and ASCE 7-16 Minimum Design Loads and Associated Criteria for Buildings and Other Structures. Calculations are presented in Appendix 6.6 – Preliminary Design Calculations. The following are recommended seismic parameters for design:

Site Class: D (Medium dense soil with $15 < N < 50$ blows/ft)

Mapped Ground and Spectral Response:

- Peak Horizontal Ground Acceleration (PGA): 0.12
- Horizontal Response Spectral Acceleration, 0.2 Sec (S_s): 0.21
- Horizontal Response Spectral Acceleration, 1.0 Sec (S_1): 0.05

Site Factors:

- Zero-Period (F_{pga}): 1.6
- Short Period (F_a): 1.6
- Long Period (F_v): 2.6

Design Spectral Response Parameters for Site Class D:

- A_s : 0.19 G
- S_{DS} : 0.22 G
- S_{D1} : 0.05 G

Seismic Design Category B

2.5. Liquefaction Potential

Based on the soil conditions found at the project site, seismically induced settlement should not be significant; therefore, there is a low potential for liquefaction in the event of seismic activity. The soils present are medium dense and well-graded. Additionally, the site has a low probability of having an event that would trigger liquefaction ($M < 6.0$).

3. RECOMMENDED FOUNDATION SYSTEM

3.1. Shallow Foundation

It is not recommended to use a shallow foundation for the support for the boardwalk structure due to the loose upper soil layers.

3.2. Deep Foundation

A deep foundation consisting of helical piles may be a viable alternative and will provide ease of construction due to the site constraints of the timber terrain.

An analysis was performed to determine the length, size and number of helical plates for the maximum load. See summary table below and Appendix 6.6 for detailed calculations.

Table 1-Summary of Helical Pile Analysis

Boring #	Plate Diameter				Min. Embedment	Max. Unsupported L	Allow. Pile Load
	Pile Size	1	2	3			
1 & 2	2.875 in	12.00 in	10.00 in	8.00 in	10 ft	6 ft	18.2 kips

4. CONSTRUCTION CONSIDERATIONS

4.1. Excavation

As required by OSHA regulations, lateral support is required for any excavation depth greater than four feet and where 1.5:1 slope cannot be maintained. Items for temporary earth support should be included in the contract documents. The design of any temporary support earth (SOE) is the responsibility of the Contractor and should be designed in accordance with Massachusetts Building Code requirements.

4.2. Obstructions

The proposed observation platforms will be located over area currently occupied with heavy vegetation including trees. Foundation placement should consider obstruction from tree roots that would remain in place after site preparations and the presence of cobbles. The presence of obstructions may require relocating helical piles in order to meet the minimum embedment length.

4.3. Protection of Adjacent Structures and Utilities

There are overhead transmission lines between the east and west observation platforms. These lines are not anticipated to interfere during construction, assuming there is a 20' clearance for construction equipment.

4.4. Sequence of Construction Activities

No special sequencing of construction will be anticipated to accommodate pedestrians within the park or adjacent traffic.

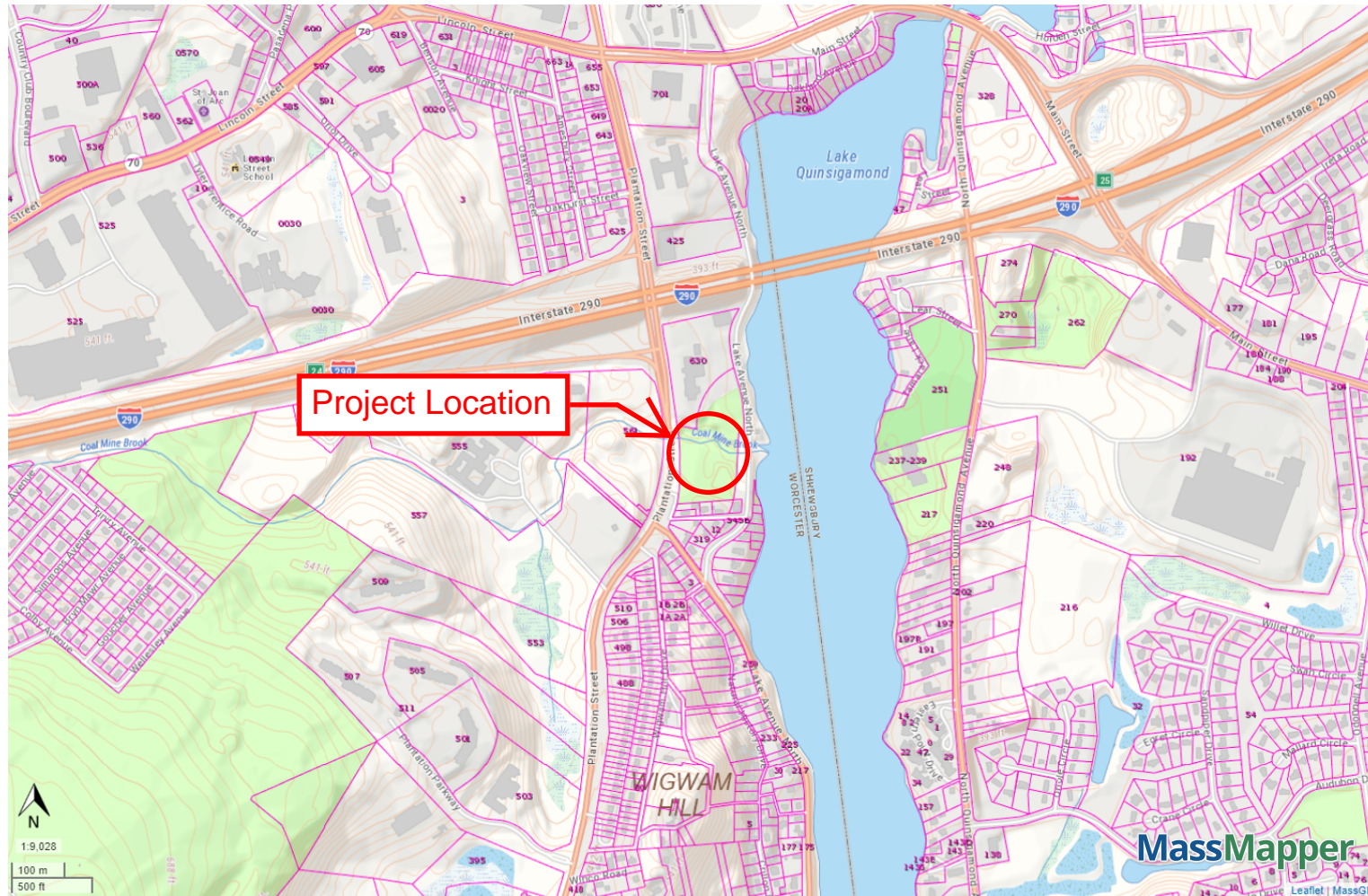
5. **CONCLUSION**

It is recommended to use helical piles to support the observation platform structures. It is recommended that the contractor evaluate soil conditions prior to ordering helical piles due to the presence of obstructions.

APPENDIX

6.1. Project Locus Map

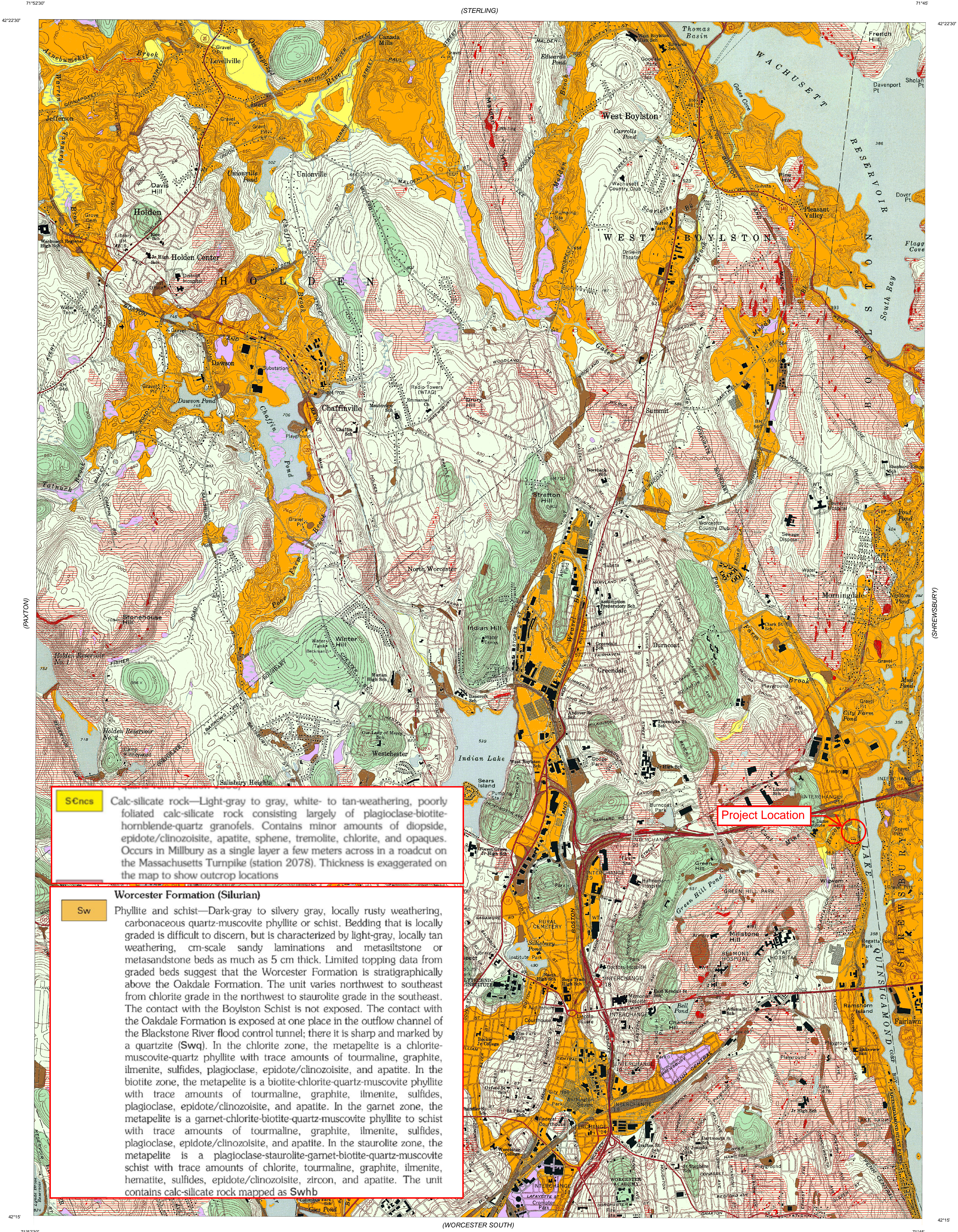
Coal Mine Brook Observation Platforms



Property Tax Parcels

APPENDIX

6.2. Surficial Geologic Map



Surficial Geologic Map of the Worcester North Quadrangle, Massachusetts

Compiled by
Byron D. Stone, Janet R. Stone, and Mary L. DiGiacomo-Cohen
2008



Worcester County, Massachusetts, Northeastern Part (MA613)			
Worcester County, Massachusetts, Northeastern Part (MA613)			
Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
245B	Hinckley loamy sand, 3 to 8 percent slopes	0.6	43.3%
254B	Merrimac fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	0.7	56.7%
Totals for Area of Interest		1.3	100.0%

APPENDIX

6.3. Boring Location Plan



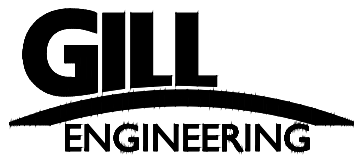
LOCUS
NOT TO SCALE



BORING PLAN
NOT TO SCALE

NOTES:

1. LOCATION OF DRIVE SAMPLE BORINGS ARE SHOWN THUS: ●
2. BORING DEPTHS SHALL BE APPROXIMATELY 25 FEET.
3. BORING LOGS SHALL BE PREPARED AND SUBMITTED TO GILL ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES.
4. BORING LOCATIONS MAY BE ADJUSTED TO AVOID CONFLICTS WITH EXISTING UTILITIES.
5. SOIL SAMPLES SHALL BE PROVIDED TO THE ENGINEER ON-SITE FOR STORAGE AT GILL ENGINEERING.



BORING PLAN
CITY OF WORCESTER

BORING PLAN FOR COAL MINE BROOK PLATFORMS


Gill Engineering Associates, Inc. 63 Kendrick Street Needham, MA 02494 781-355-7100 www.gill-eng.com


PLAN VIEW
4/28/2021

SHEET
1
OF 1

APPENDIX

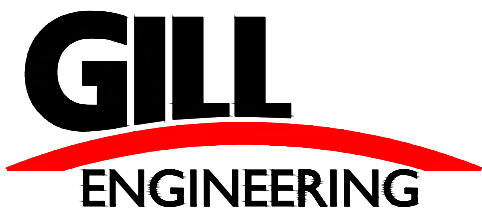
6.4. Boring Logs

		Gill Engineering Associates, Inc. 63 Kendrick Street Needham, MA 02494			Boring No. B-1	
					Page 1 of 2	
City/Town: Worcester, MA		Bridge Number: N/A		Project File Number: N/A		Contract Number:
Location: Coal Mine Brook – West Platform				Date & Time Started: 4/22/2021 at 10:55 AM		Total Hours: 1
Groundwater Depth (Feet): ~25'		Date & Time: 4/22/2021		Date & Time Completed: 4/22/2021 at 12:00 PM		
Coordinates: N: 42°17'27" W: 71°45'35"				Driller's Company & Name: NEBC – Anthony		
Ground Elevation (Feet): ~400'				Gill Representative: Nikki Nelson		
Depth (Feet)	Sample Number	Depth Range (Feet)	Blow Counts per 6 Inches Coring Times Minutes per Foot	Recovery (inches)	Field Description	Strata Changes
- - - - 5	S-1	0' – 2'	1 – 2 – 3 – 2	7"	Dry, very loose, brown, MEDIUM SAND and coarse gravel, trace of cobble	
5	S-2	5' – 7'	4 – 2 – 2 – 2	6"	Moist, very loose, brown and red, SILTY SAND, some cobble and coarse gravel	5'
- - - - 10	S-3	10' – 12'	3 – 2 – 4 – 3	15"	Moist, loose, light brown, MEDIUM SAND	
15	S-4	15' – 17'	16 – 22 – 16 – 18	9"	Moist, medium dense, brown/grey, MEDIUM SAND, trace of cobble and gravel	17'
- - - - 20	S-5	20' – 22'	26 – 27 – 26 – 28	23"	Dry, medium dense, brown/grey, COARSE SAND and gravel, some cobble	
25	S-6	25' – 27'	23 – 18 – 15 – 13	13"	Moist, medium dense, brown, SILTY SAND, some coarse gravel, trace of cobble	27'
- - - - 30					End of Exploration	
35						
Remarks:				Arrow-Board: x Signs: x Cones: x	Protective Device – Stand: x Box: x Well Depth: x Solid Pipe: x Stick Up Pipe: x Screen Pipe: x	
Penetration Resistance (N) Guide						Type of Drill Rig: Mobile Controlled
Cohesionless Soils (Sands, Gravels)			Cohesive Soils (Sils, Clays)			Casing Type: Hollow Stem Size: 3" Hammer Weight: 300lbs Fall: 30" Depth: x Sampler Type: S/S Size: 1-3/8" Automatic Hammer Weight: x Safety Hammer Weight: x Donut Hammer Weight: 140 lbs Fall: 30" Core Barrel Type: x Size: x
Relative Density	Penetration Resistance	Consistency	Penetration Resistance			
Very Loose	0 – 4	Very Soft	0 – 2			
Loose	4 – 10	Soft	2 – 4			
Medium Dense	10 – 30	Medium Stiff	4 – 8			
Dense	30 – 50	Stiff	8 – 15			
Very Dense	Over 50	Very Stiff	15 – 30			
		Hard	Over 30			
N = Sum of Second and Third 6" Blow counts						
Terms Used for Second Entry of Descriptions: and = 40-50%, some = 10-40%, trace = 10% or less						

		Gill Engineering Associates, Inc. 63 Kendrick Street Needham, MA 02494			Boring No. B-2	
					Page 2 of 2	
City/Town: Worcester, MA		Bridge Number: N/A		Project File Number: N/A		Contract Number:
Location: Coal Mine Brook – East Platform				Date & Time Started: 4/22/2021 at 8:46 AM		Total Hours: 1.75
Groundwater Depth (Feet): ~20'		Date & Time: 4/22/2021		Date & Time Completed: 4/22/2021 at 10:30 AM		
Coordinates: N: 42°17'27" W: 71°45'33"				Driller's Company & Name: NEBC – Anthony		
Ground Elevation (Feet): ~380'				Gill Representative: Nikki Nelson		
Depth (Feet)	Sample Number	Depth Range (Feet)	Blow Counts per 6 Inches	Recovery (inches)	Field Description	Strata Changes
			Coring Times Minutes per Foot			
-	S-1	0' – 2'	2 – 3 – 4 – 4	7"	Dry, very loose, brown, MEDIUM SAND, trace of cobble	
5	S-2	5' – 7'	4 – 5 – 7 – 6	4"	Dry, very loose, brown, MEDIUM SAND, with some cobble	5'
10	S-3	10' – 12'	9 – 7 – 6 – 6	11"	Dry, loose, light brown, MEDIUM SAND, and coarse gravel, some cobble	
15	S-4	15' – 17'	21 – 19 – 18 – 21	9"	Dry, medium dense, light brown, COARSE SAND and gravel and cobble	17'
20	S-5	20' – 22'	11 – 13 – 12 – 10	13"	Wet, medium dense, brown, MEDIUM SAND and coarse gravel, trace of cobble	
25	S-6	25' – 27'	12 – 15 – 18 – 21	11"	Wet, medium dense, brown, MEDIUM SAND and coarse gravel, trace of cobble	27'
30					End of Exploration	
35						
Remarks:				Arrow-Board: x Signs: x Cones: x	Protective Device – Stand: x Box: x Well Depth: x Solid Pipe: x Stick Up Pipe: x Screen Pipe: x	
Penetration Resistance (N) Guide					Type of Drill Rig: Mobile Controlled	
Cohesionless Soils (Sands, Gravels)			Cohesive Soils (Silts, Clays)		Casing Type: Hollow Stem Size: 3" Hammer Weight: 300lbs Fall: 30" Depth: x Sampler Type: S/S Size: 1-3/8" Automatic Hammer Weight: x Safety Hammer Weight: x Donut Hammer Weight: 140 lbs Fall: 30" Core Barrel Type: x Size: x	
Relative Density	Penetration Resistance	Consistency	Penetration Resistance			
Very Loose	0 – 4	Very Soft	0 – 2			
Loose	4 – 10	Soft	2 – 4			
Medium Dense	10 – 30	Medium Stiff	4 – 8			
Dense	30 – 50	Stiff	8 – 15			
Very Dense	Over 50	Very Stiff	15 – 30			
		Hard	Over 30			
N = Sum of Second and Third 6" Blow counts						
Terms Used for Second Entry of Descriptions: and = 40-50%, some = 10-40%, trace = 10% or less						

APPENDIX

6.5. Preliminary Design Calculations



CLIENT BEALS & THOMAS
PROJECT COAL MINE BROOK
BRIDGE NO. N/A
SUBJECT GEOTECHNICAL CALCS

PAGE 1 OF 5
CALC BY LCS
CHECK BY JAV
DATE DEC. 2021

EXISTING SOIL CONDITIONS

Soil Strength

Worcester, MA

References:

(1) AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design, 9th Edition, 2020

(2) 04/22/2021 Geologic Earth Exploration - Subsurface Investigation

Soil Strength (10.4.6.2.4)

$$\gamma_w = 0.062 \text{ kcf}$$

$$\gamma_{sat} = 0.120 \text{ kcf}$$

$$\text{Water Table B-1} = 25.00 \text{ ft} \quad 10 \text{ year flood}$$

$$\text{Water Table B-2} = 20.00 \text{ ft} \quad 10 \text{ year flood}$$

Boring B-1 Blow Count Correction for Overburden Pressure - West Platform

To Depth (ft)	h_1 (ft)	h_2 (ft)	σ'_v (ksf)	C_N	N blows/ft	$N_1 = C_N N$ blows/ft	$N_{60} = (ER/60\%)N$ blows/ft	$N_{160} = C_N N_{60}$ blows/ft
1	1	0	0.120	1.94	5	9.7	6.67	12.95
5	5	0	0.600	1.40	4	5.6	5.33	7.49
10	10	0	1.200	1.17	6	7.0	8.00	9.38
15	15	0	1.800	1.04	38	39.4	50.67	52.54

Boring B-2 Blow Count Correction for Overburden Pressure - East Platform

To Depth (ft)	h_1 (ft)	h_2 (ft)	σ'_v (ksf)	C_N	N blows/ft	$N_1 = C_N N$ blows/ft	$N_{60} = (ER/60\%)N$ blows/ft	$N_{160} = C_N N_{60}$ blows/ft
1	1	0	0.120	1.94	7	13.6	9.33	18.13
5	5	0	0.600	1.40	12	16.9	16.00	22.47
10	10	0	1.200	1.17	13	15.2	17.33	20.33
15	15	0	1.800	1.04	37	38.4	49.33	51.16

h_1 = depth above water table

h_2 = depth below water table

$$\sigma'_v = \gamma h_1 + \gamma' h_2$$

$$\gamma' = \gamma_{sat} - \gamma_w$$

$$C_N = 0.77 \log_{10} (40 / \sigma'_v) < 2$$

(1) 10.4.6.2.4.-1

Hammer Efficiency Correction

$$N_{60} = (ER/60\%)N$$

$$ER = 80\%$$

$$N_{60} = 1.333 N$$

$$N_{I60} = C_N N_{60}$$

(1) 10.4.6.2.4-2

Automatic Trip Hammer used

(1) 10.4.6.2.4-3

Drained Friction Angle

Table 10.4.6.2.4-1—Correlation of SPT N_{I60} Values to Drained Friction Angle of Granular Soils (modified after Bowles, 1977)

N_{I60}	ϕ_f
<4	25–30
4	27–32
10	30–35
30	35–40
50	38–43

Conservatively use lower values of range:

N_{I60}	ϕ_f
<4	25
4	27
10	30
30	35
50	38

Depth (ft)	N_{I60}	N_{I60} low	N_{I60} high	$\phi_{f \text{ low}}$	$\phi_{f \text{ high}}$	ϕ_f
1	13	10	30	30	35	30
5	16	10	30	30	35	31
10	52	50	50	38	38	38
15	53	50	50	38	38	38

Recommended Friction Angles:

$$\phi_f = 30$$

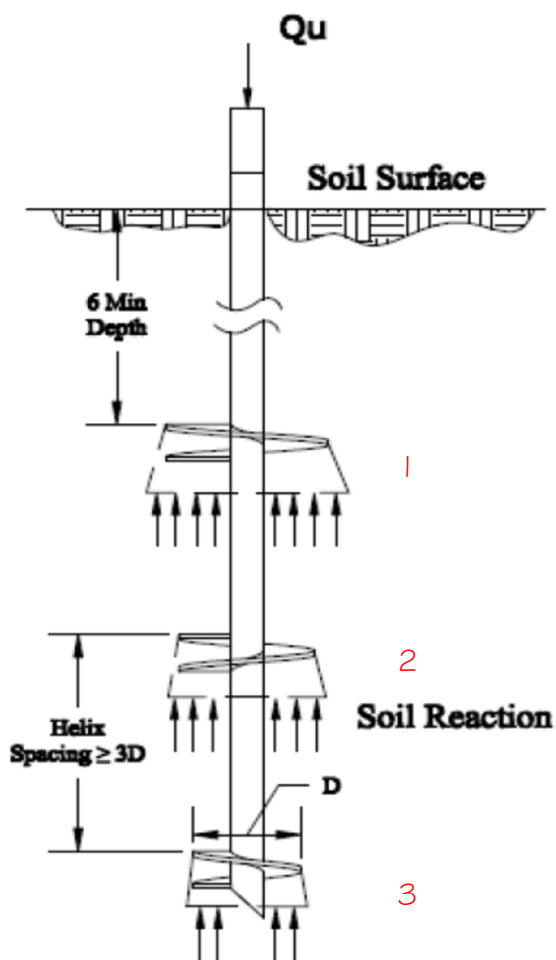
$$\phi_f = 38$$

HELICAL PILE DESIGN

Worcester, MA

References:

- (1) AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design, 9th Edition, 2020
- (2) Helical Anchors, Inc. Engineering Design Manual, 2014



General Equation for computing bearing capacity per Helix Plate:

Equation 1

$$Q_u = A_h(cN_c + q'N_q + 0.5\gamma'BN_\gamma)$$

REF-2

Where: Q_u = Ultimate Capacity (lbs)
 A_h = Projected Helical Plate Area (ft²)
 c = Soil Cohesion (lb/ft²)
 N_c = Bearing capacity factor for cohesion (dimensionless)
 q' = Effective Overburden Pressure (lb/ft²)
 N_q = Bearing capacity factor for overburden (dimensionless)
 γ' = Effective unit weight of the soil (lb/ft³)
 B = Footing width (ft)
 N_γ = Bearing Capacity factor (dimensionless)

The base width B term can be neglected which reduces the equation to:

Equation 2

$$Q_u = A_h(cN_c + q'N_q)$$

REF-2

Helical Pile Input:

Shaft Square or Round? Round
 Width or Diameter? 2.88 in

Shaft Area = 6.49 in²

Plate #	Dia	A_h (in ²)
1	<u>12.00 in</u>	106.61
2	<u>10.00 in</u>	72.048
3	<u>8.00 in</u>	43.774

Soil Properties:

γ_w = 0.062 kcf
 γ_{sat} = 0.120 kcf

Water Table Depth = 20.00 ft

Plate #	Depth	h_1 (ft)	h_2 (ft)	q' (ksf)	c (ksf)	N_c	ϕ_f	N_q	Q_u (Kips)
1	<u>6</u>	6	0	0.720	0	0	34	29.4	15.67
2	<u>8</u>	8	0	0.960	0	0	34	29.4	14.12
3	<u>10</u>	10	0	1.200	0	0	34	29.4	10.72

Total = 40.52

$Q_{all} = Q_u / FS$ Where $FS =$ 2 $Q_{all} =$ 20.3 Kips

Factored Nominal Bearing Resistance of piles, $R_R = \phi R_n$ where $Q_u = R_n$ REF 10.7.3.8.6a-1
 Where $\phi =$ 0.45 $R_R =$ 18.2 Kips

	Pile Diameter x Thickness (in) x (in)	Max Torque (Tube Connection Failure Point) (lb-ft)	Allowable Compression Capacity (SF of 2 applied) (lb)	Allowable Tension Capacity depth ≤ 14ft (SF of 2 applied) (lb)	Allowable Tension Capacity depth >14ft (SF of 2 applied) (lb)	Torque Correlation Factor Kt (ft-1)
1 7/8"	1.875"x 0.154"	1975	9875	4938	6913	10
2 3/8"	2.375"x 0.154"	3150	15750	7875	11025	10
2 7/8"	2.875"x 0.250"	7020	31590	15795	22113	9
3 1/2"	3.500"x 0.250"	11500	40250	20125	28175	7
4 1/2"	4.500"x 0.250"	18495	51786	25893	36250	5.6
5 9/16"	5.5625"x 0.250"	29120	65520	32760	45864	4.5
5 9/16"	5.5625"x 0.375"	40988	92223	46112	64556	4.5
6 5/8"	6.625"x 0.250"	42155	84310	42155	59017	4
6 5/8"	6.625"x 0.375"	59951	119902	59951	83931	4
8 5/8"	8.625"x 0.250"	73231	109847	54923	76893	3
8 5/8"	8.625"x 0.375"	105451	158177	79088	110724	3
10 3/4"	10.75"x 0.250"	115832	144510	72225	101157	2.5
10 3/4"	10.75"x 0.375"	167832	209790	104895	146853	2.5
12 3/4"	12.75"x 0.375"	239756	239756	119878	167829	2



ISO 9001:2015
certified

ISO 14001:2015
certified



NORMATIVE INFORMATION

GoliathTech Inc. products are certified and approved by ICC-ES ESR-3726 and the Canadian Construction Materials Centre (CCMC 13675-R.) Their performance is equivalent or superior to prescribed NBC2015 standards. GoliathTech manufacturing facility is certified to the quality standard ISO 9001:2015 (Certificate number Q101242) as well as the environmental standard ISO 14001:2015. Its manufacturing welding facility is certified to CSA W47.1

NOTES

Helical piles shall be installed to appropriate depth in suitable bearing stratum as determined by the geotechnical engineer or local jurisdictional authority. Torque correlated capacities are based on installing the pile to its torque rating, using consistent rate of advance and RPM. A minimum factor of safety of 2 has already been applied to the above numbers. To calculate ultimate compression or tension multiply above allowable numbers by 2. Deflections of 0.25 to 0.50 inches are typical at allowable capacity.

1. The distance between the piles has to be a minimum of 3x the helix size (although we suggest 5x) from the center of the pile but no less than 3'.
2. Compression values are based on fully laterally supported piles (pile fully embedded in soil), if not, contact engineering department for calculations.
3. The compression and tension values take into account the steel corrosion for 50 years.
4. Steel shaft conform to CAN/CSA G40.21 and ASTM-A500 class C, hot dip galvanized conform to ASTM A123.
5. Steel yield strength for 3 1/2" piles and less $F_y = 60$ ksi, Tensile strength $F_u = 70$ ksi
6. Steel yield strength for 4 1/2" piles and more $F_y = 55$ ksi, Tensile strength $F_u = 65$ ksi (other strengths can be obtained for special orders, contact customer service.)
7. Different helix configurations and pile heads are available.
8. For custom heads or steel assembly (including mechanical design and shop drawing) contact customer service.

GoliathTech Inc 175B rue Péladeau, Magog, QC, Canada, J1X 5G9	Date August 1st 2019	Revised and Approved by Hussien Abd El Baky
TECHNICAL DATA SHEET	Doc Number GTSPEC001	Massachusetts license number 55074