

LEONARD H. AMBLO, L.S. • CHRISTOPHER A. HAGGERTY, L.S.

September 21, 2021

Mr. Josh Arneson Town Manager Town of Richmond P.O. Box 285 Richmond, VT 05477

RE: Williams Hill Update, Richmond, VT

Dear Mr. Arneson,

In preparation for tonight's Selectboard Hearing, please find below is a summary of our work to date:

After meeting with George Bedard, LS, we were graciously given a copy of a survey bill of Palmer Road in Hinesburg. This survey bill indicated that it joined with a road laid out by the Selectmen of the Town of Richmond in the spring of that year (1797). This document was recorded in 1823. As there are a number of historical roads in this area, we focused our initial research on the time period between 1797 and 1823, in both the Towns of Richmond and Williston (this being an area of Richmond that was formerly part of Williston). This search turned up no definitive survey bills.

Given the possibility that Williams Hill Road was laid out later in the Town's history, we focused our next phase of research in the Town of Richmond, from the 1797 to 1870 time period. As the roadway is shown on historical maps (Wallings, 1857 and Beers, 1871), we searched through all volumes in this time period, page by page (this included Volumes 1 through 11). Though many other survey bills were recovered, none appeared to be pertinent to Williams Hill Road. Those with descriptions that were consistent with the overall length of the road were entered into AutoCad where we ruled that these were not representative of the current or historical shape of Williams Hill Road.

We measured the centerline of the physical road bed and compared this to the aforementioned historical maps and 1942/1962 aerial photographs and were able to determine that the current roadway reasonably matches the orientation. We also compared our measurements to other surveys of record, including those prepared by LaRose Surveying, Bedard Surveying, Lamoureux & Dickenson Consulting Engineers and Vermont Land Surveyors. We found that these surveys largely agreed with the location of the westerly end of Williams Hill Road, and our measurements were consistent with their findings and conclusions. Also reviewed were the Town Highway plans, which with the exception of that area along the O'Neil driveway, matched our measured location of the road bed.

We flagged the centerline of the existing roadway, which is characterized as an old single-lane road bed, with stone walls on either side for the majority of its length. In the upper section, the stone walls are consistently 44' apart, and the road bed is largely centered between them. In the lower section (paralleling the O'Neil driveway), the road changes character drastically, as it is barely one lane in width and the walls vary from 20-30 feet apart.

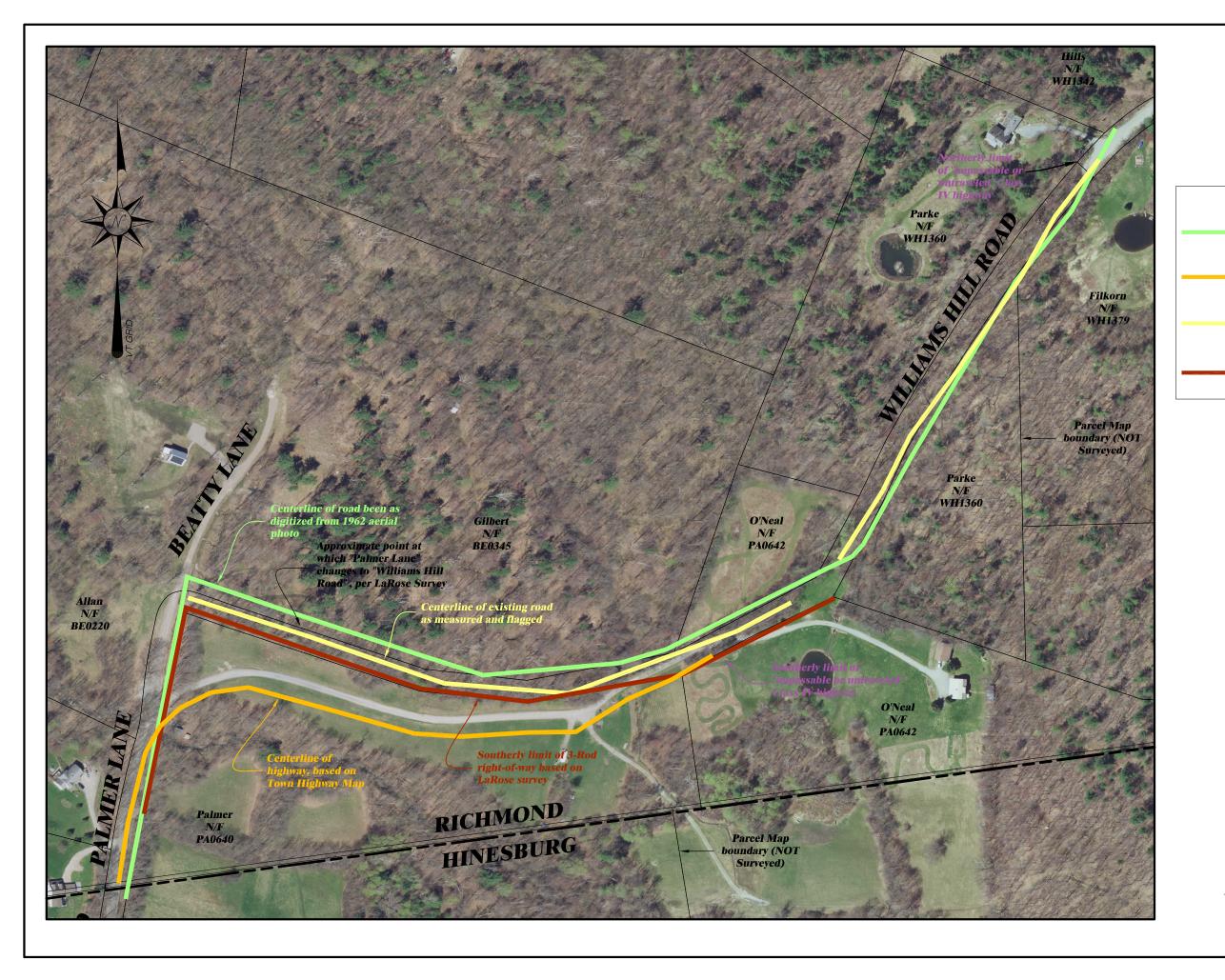
Thank you and please call if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

Christopher Haggerty, L.S. Vermont

Cc: files

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Centerline of visible road bed as shown on 1962 aerial photograph Centerline of Class IV Road as depicted on Town Highway Map Centerline of existing road bed, as measured and flagged by BPLS

Southerly sideline of 3—Rod historical road, as shown on LaRose survey



SKETCH SHOWING A PORTION OF

WILLIAMS HILL ROAD

RICHMOND, VERMONT
1"=200' 9/14/21

