

Upper Hudson Recreation Hub Master Plan Development December 2016









December 2016





UPPER HUDSON RECRATION HUB - Mission Statement

The goal of this project is to establish a benchmark vision for a new gateway hub to the Adirondacks that will promote a world-class recreational experience and increase the economic vitality of the "5 Towns" including North Hudson, Newcomb, Indian Lake, Long Lake, and Minerva. The project should ensure that the proposed uses, programs and services improve access to the regions recreational amenities and support the growth of local communities and the region.

This new "Gateway to the Adirondacks at the Upper Hudson Recreation Hub" should be developed in a manner that creates a dynamic and attractive destination that links local and regional resources and is easily accessible from the Northway, nearby Towns, villages and hamlets. The facilities should provide year around recreational opportunities and services for multiple uses, users, venders and special interest groups. A new Gateway Center would welcome, orient and connect visitors to trail networks, recreation destinations and business within the 5 Towns.

Careful stewardship is required to protect the natural beauty of the site and its surroundings and to create a compelling Adirondack setting that will support a wide variety of uses and programs generally including camping, equestrian amenities, open space activity areas, trails and staging for large events. The meadows, woodlands, wetlands and gently sloping terrain combine to create a unique context for diverse recreational interests including access to the Schroon River which runs along the western boundary of the project area.

Although the project will be implemented over an extended period of time every aspect of its development should be positioned to create a world class experience that is unique to the region and includes a mix of lodging, businesses and interpretive opportunities. Many of the structures from Frontier Town remain on the site and although the viable use of these structures is unknown, the spirit of this beloved theme park should be reflected in a manner that celebrates the site's history.

Upper Hudson Recreation Hub Master Plan





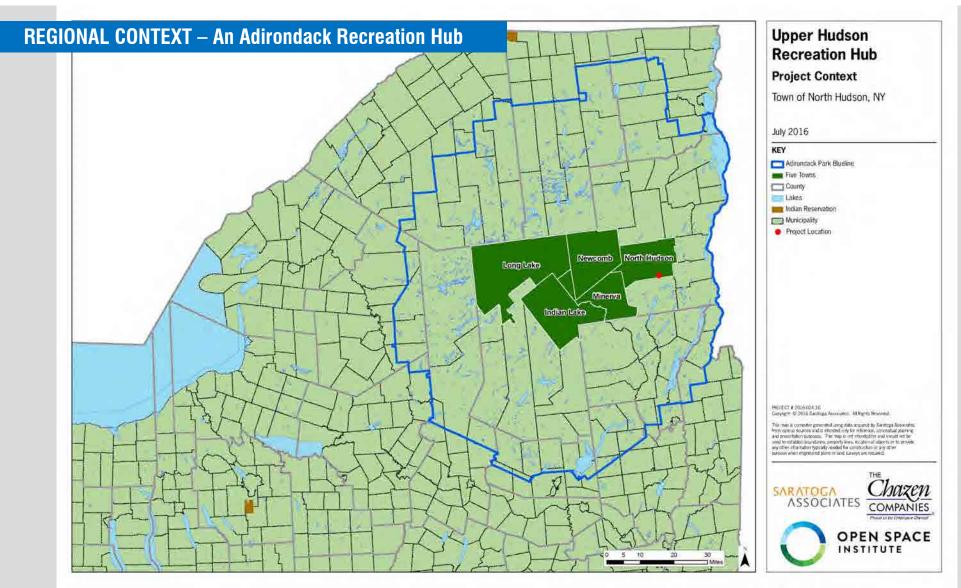


PROJECT LOCATION & CONTEXT





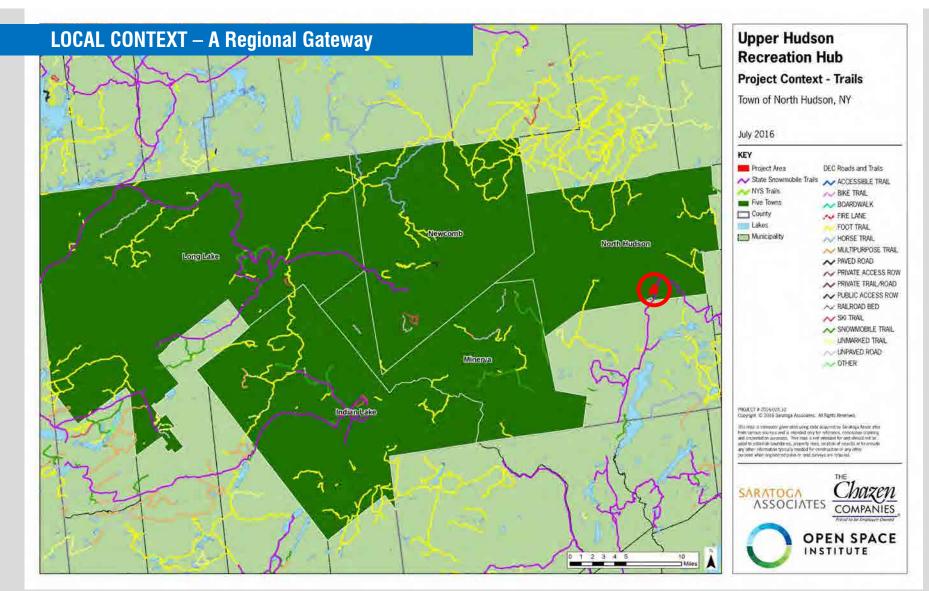








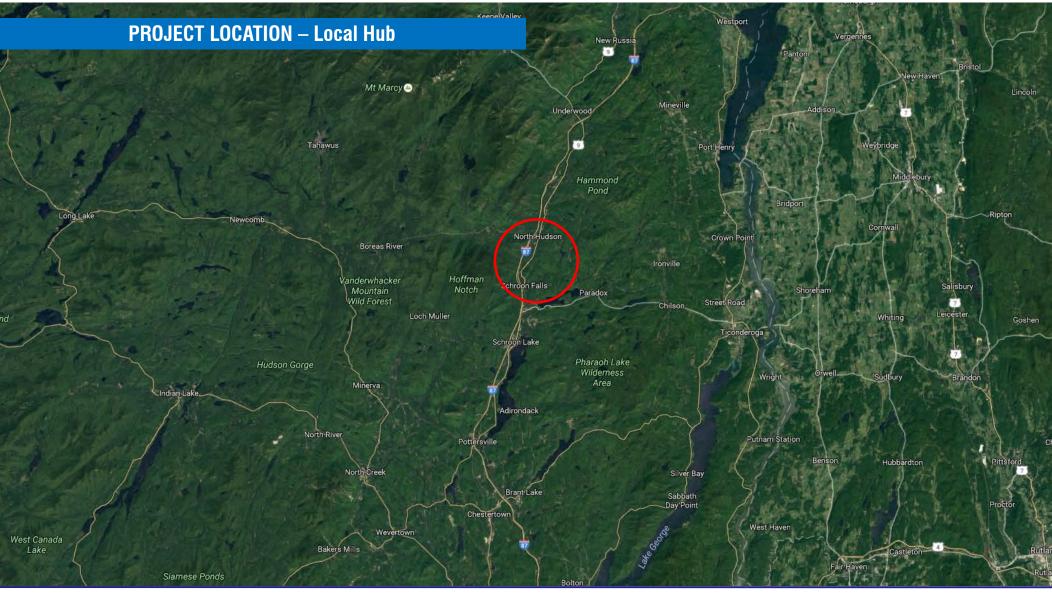












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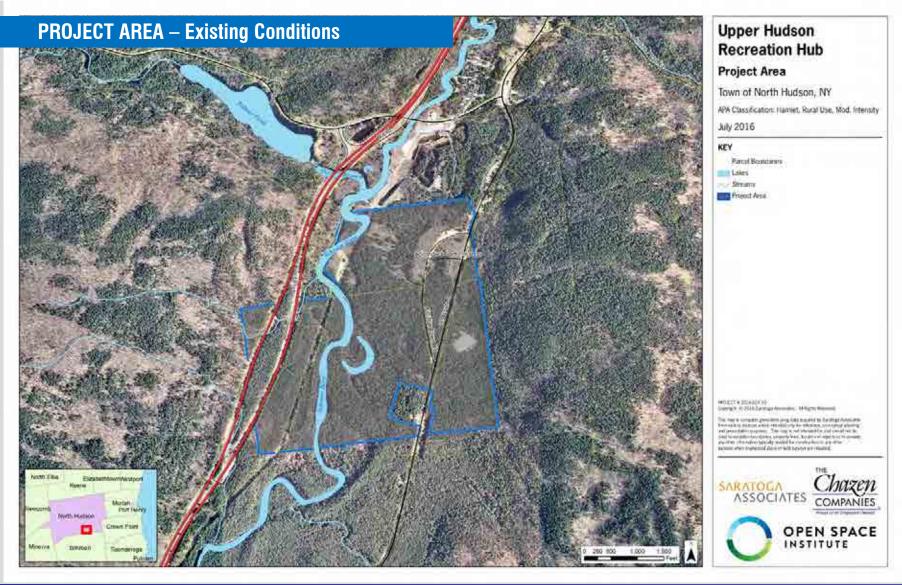


EXISTING CONDITIONS





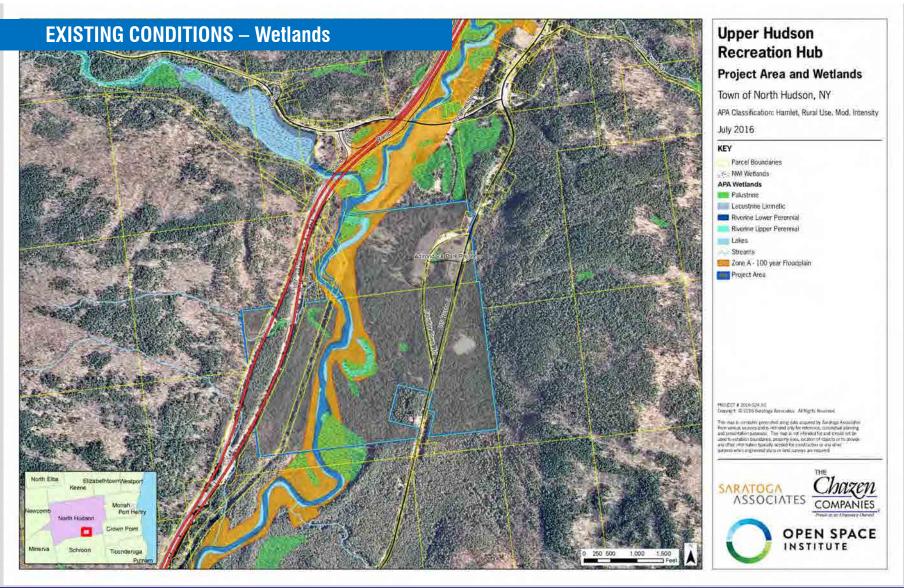








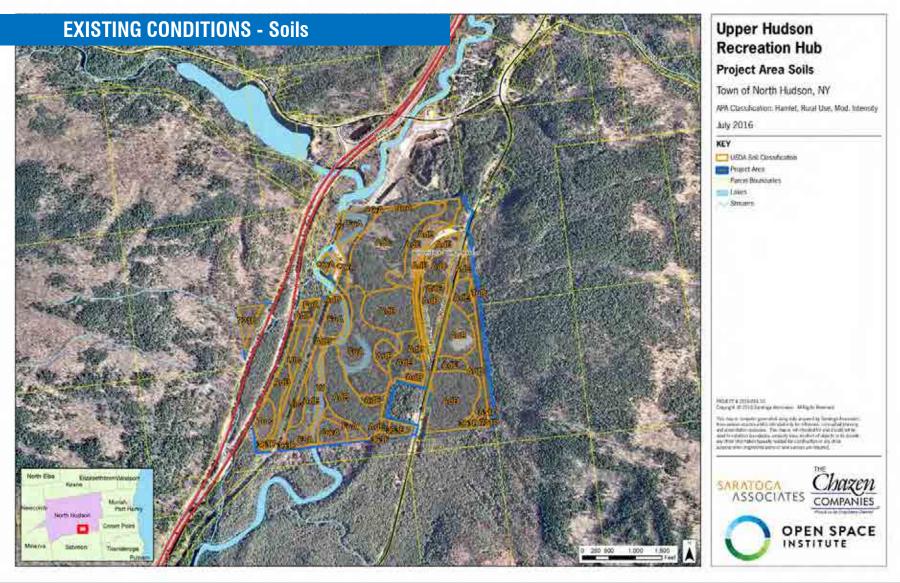








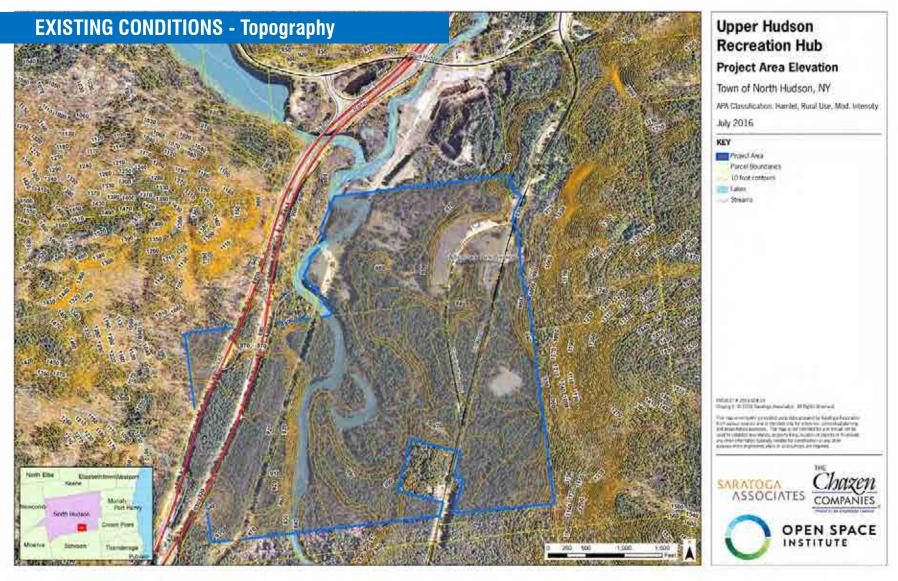








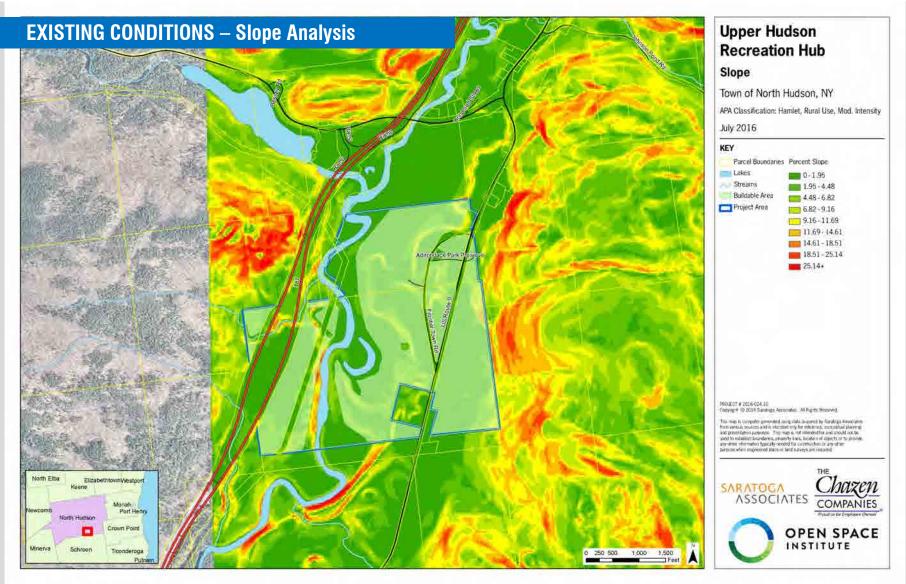








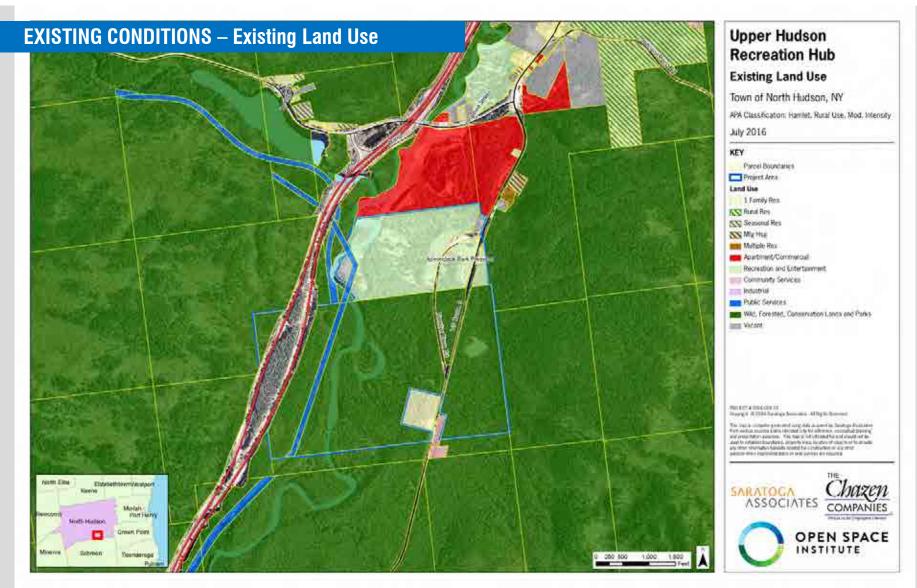








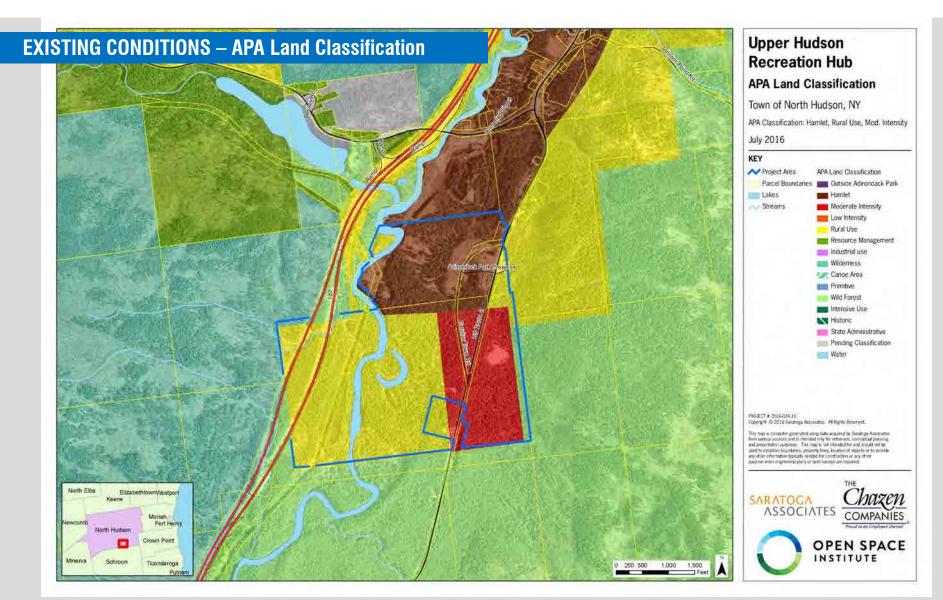








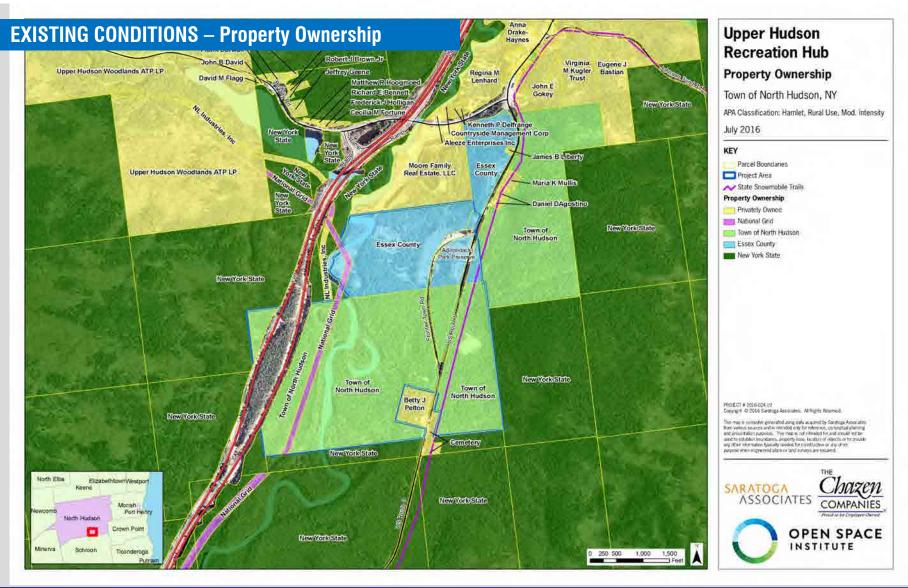










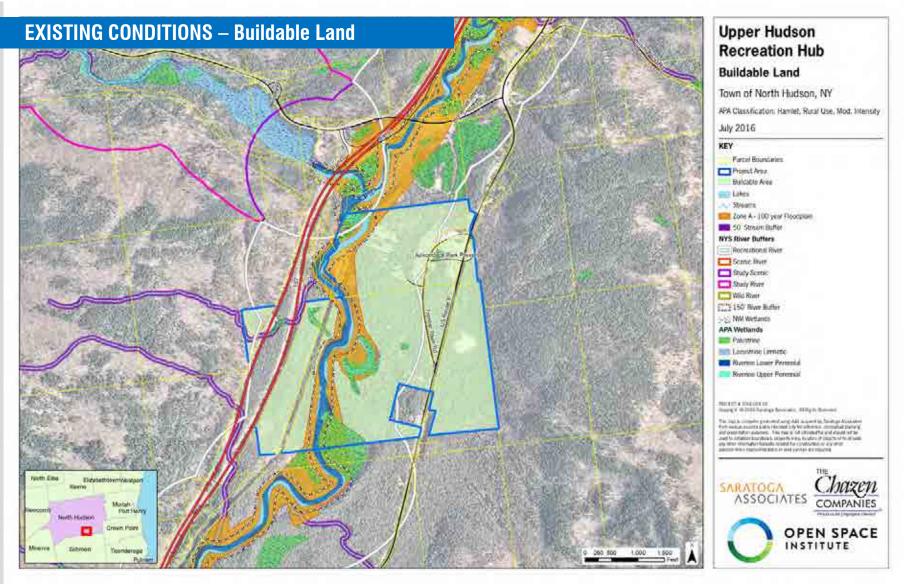


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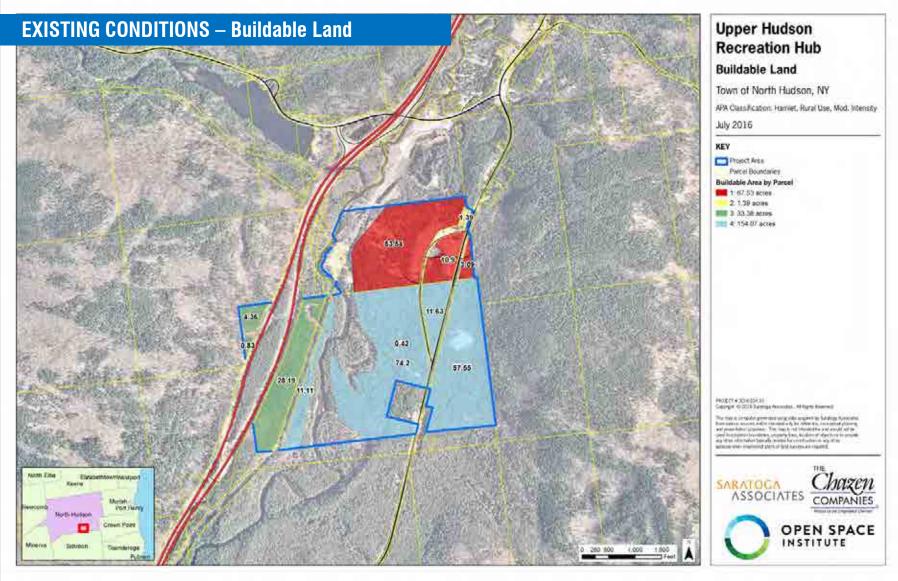


















SITE HISTORY







SITE HISTORY – Frontier Town









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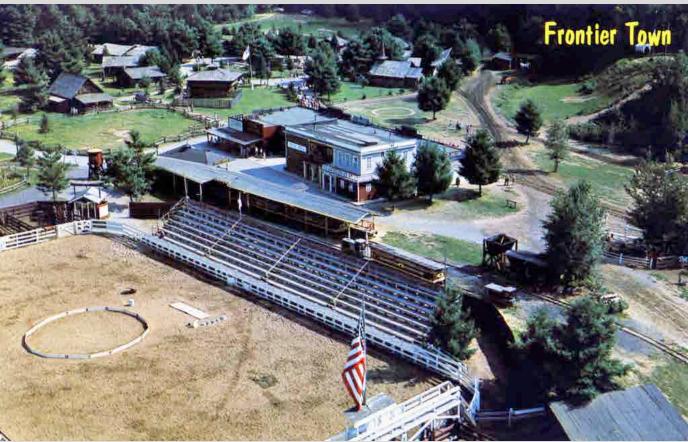
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SITE HISTORY – Frontier Town















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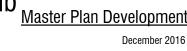
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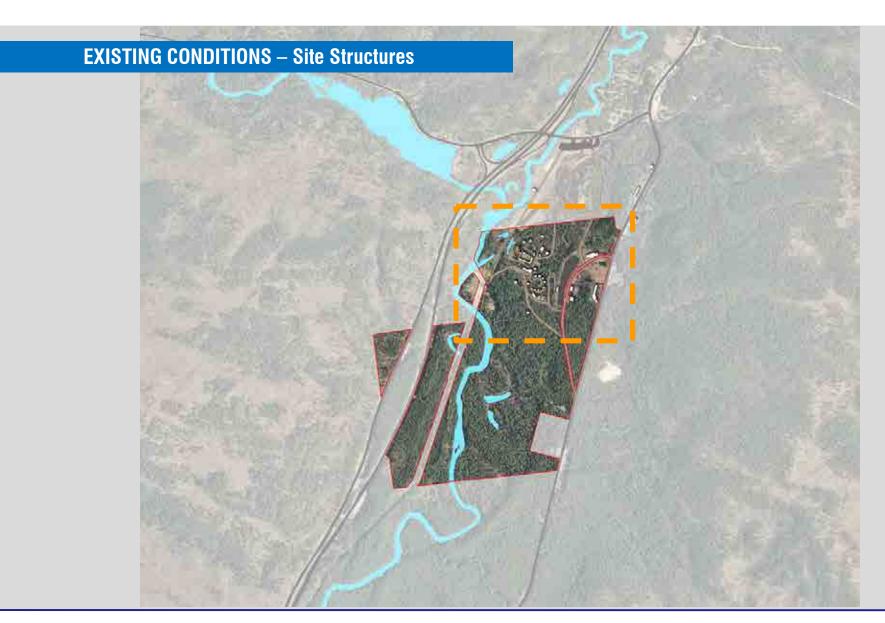


EXISTING STRUCTURES





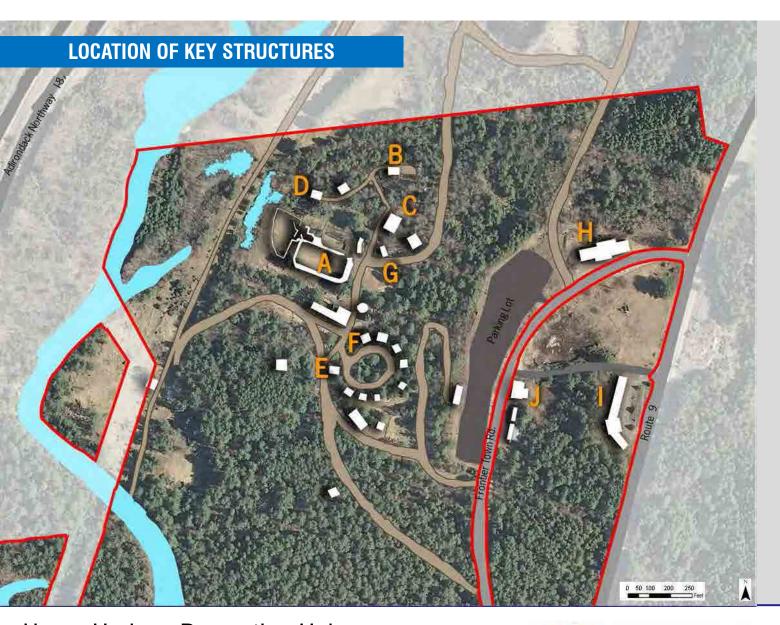












	STRUCTURE
Α	Rodeo
В	Grist Mill
C	Saw Mill
D	Ice House
Е	Chapel
F	Fort
G	Covered Bridge
Н	Restaurant on Frontier Rd
I	Hotel
J	Store

All other structures are recommended to be demolished. Refer to Facilities Assessment dated December 2016 for additional information.

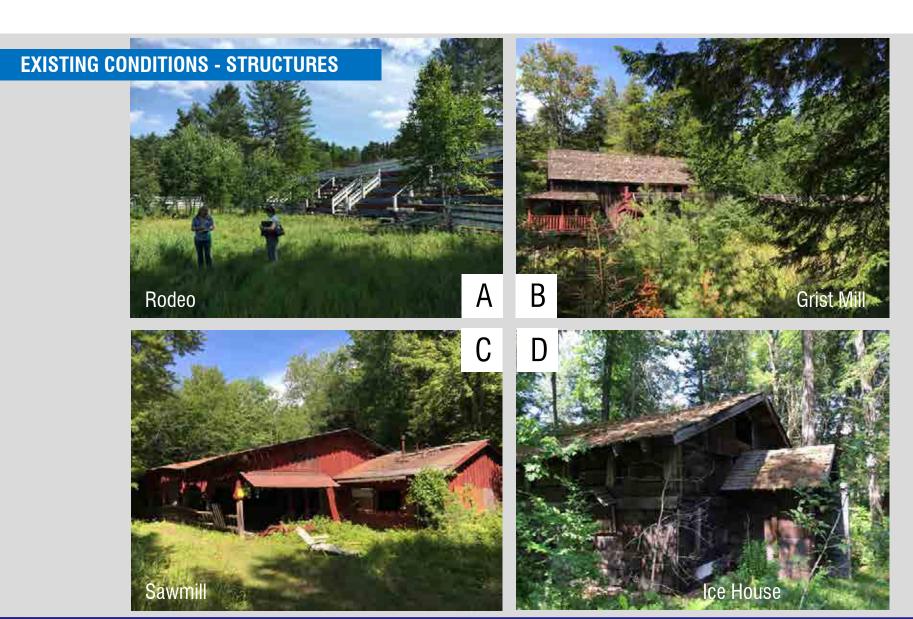
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OPEN SPACE SARATOGA
INSTITUTE ASSOCIATES















December 2016





EXISTING CONDITIONS - STRUCTURES Hotel - Route 9









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PREVIOUS & RELEVANT PLANNING STUDIES







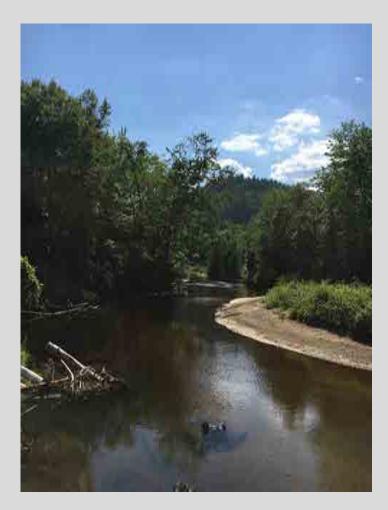
PREVIOUS / RELEVANT PLANNING STUDIES

- Hut to Hut Study prepared by Leading E.D.G.E LLC for the 5 Towns
- Sustainable Tourism Study prepared by ROOST
- **DEC Unit Management Plans**
- Five Towns Equine Hub Implementation Strategy Case
- North Country Destination Master Plan and other REDC Strategic Plans
- Sewer Infrastructure Study/Infrastructure Phasing Plan by MJ Engineering
- Community Connector Trail Plan prepared by DEC















PROGRAMMING







STAKEHOLDERS & PARTNERSHIPS

Regional & Local Stakeholders:

- Hiking groups
- Equestrian groups
- Mountain bikers
- Snowmobiling
- Local & Regional Products/Artisans
- **Guide Services**
- Fishing Groups
- Chamber of commerce
- Tourism Local/Regional/State
- Local & Regional Businesses
- **Business Associations**

Potential Partnerships & Collaboration:

- Vintners and Wine Trail
- Adirondack Brewers
- Equestrian oriented suppliers including stables and rentals
- Convenience and grocery with a focus on locally grown products
- Recreational outfitters
- German tent company with HQ in Saranac Lake (yurts)
- Locally made products including Adirondack artisans
- **Artists**

Regional Efforts:

- Adirondack Regional Tourism Council
- National North Country Scenic Trail
- Trail Towns (Roost/Hamilton County)
- Snowmobile Trail Plans



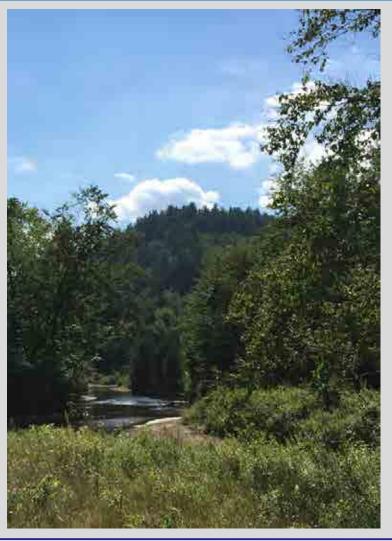




THEMATIC CONSIDERATIONS

Strategic Implementation Considerations

- Position the project to compete with other national ecotourism venues like NPS
- Provide a level of service and amenities not currently supplied in the ADK Region
- Local Community and Region is lacking in quality overnight accommodations
- Provide for High Intensity / Low Impact Recreation and Tourism
- Program and implement attractive facilities to achieve a successful critical mass
- Provide facilities appropriate to a targeted demographic and desired user
- Consider Costs of site infrastructure needs (5-6 wells and electric available)
- Identify appropriate support businesses and services
- Consider short and long term property management needs
- Initiate early dialogue with vested local and regional stakeholders
- Property ownership considerations: acquire, sell, subdivide, and easements









INFLUENTIAL CONSIDERATIONS



Guiding Principles:

- Create a family oriented complex that provides multi-generational amenities
- Provide a welcome experience that orients visitors and showcases the region's world class recreation offerings
- Create a transportation hub for parking, motor coach parking, and shuttle service to/from key destinations
- Prioritize access to/from the Schroon River
- Provide for outfitter and vendor services that offer a full range of rentals and experiences
- Multi use trails and specialty trails should showcase the site's natural beauty and features
- Consider existing site roads and trails for the initial phases of the project

Upper Hudson Recreation Hub Master Plan







PRELIMINARY PROGRAM CONSIDERATIONS

Potential Programs and Facilities:

- Visitor Center
- Camping, Glamping, Cabins and Hotels
- **Equestrian Facilities**
- Day Use Area and Amenities
- **Outdoor Recreation Areas**
- Multi Season Facilities
- **Snowmobile Facilities**
- Patron Services and Amenities
- Parking Various
- Trails and Trail Connections
- **Education and Interpretation**
- **Existing Site Structures**
- Venue for Local Products & Artists
- Venue for Regional Organizations
- Commercial Services & Businesses
- Rentals
- Showcase Site's Natural Beauty
- Infrastructure and Utilities
- **River Access**



Existing Site Features to be preserved:

- Preserve the land around the gravel pit for Town use
- Preserve the large parking area off of Frontier Road for appropriate uses
- Utilize the floodplain for low intensity uses/day use/open space/festivals
- Rehabilitation of viable existing structures







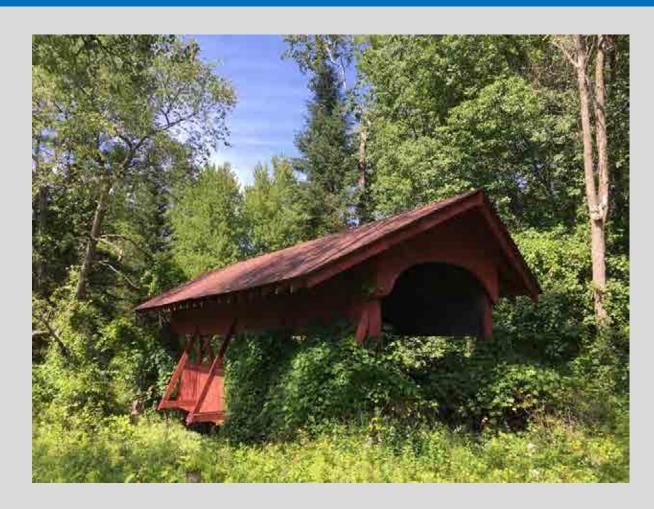
CAMPING

Primary Amenities:

- Parking: Car/Trailer/RV
- Cabins/Yurts/Tents/Glamping Units
- **Rustic and Primitive Sites**
- Restrooms, Showers and Laundry
- Picnic shelters and fire pits
- Supplies/Provisions
- **Equipment Rentals**
- Lighting, Safety and circulation
- Trails & Trailhead Kiosk
- Open space recreation area
- Waste Management
- Utilities: potable water, septic, stormwater, electric, lighting

Parameters:

- Types of Accommodations
- Scale of Development
- Management









EQUESTRIAN HUB

Primary Amenities:

- Parking: Truck/Trailer & passenger
- Camping, restrooms and showers
- Picnic shelters and fire pits
- Trails & Trailhead Kiosk
- **Outdoor Riding Arenas**
- **Events Space**
- Commercial & Services
- Waste Management
- Manure Pits
- Short Term Use Covered Stalls & tie stalls
- **Boarding**
- Turn-out areas
- Utilities: potable water, septic, stormwater, electric, lighting

Parameters:

- Event Types & Specialty programs for kids/adults
- Special interest groups
- Stable Vendor & Guide Services









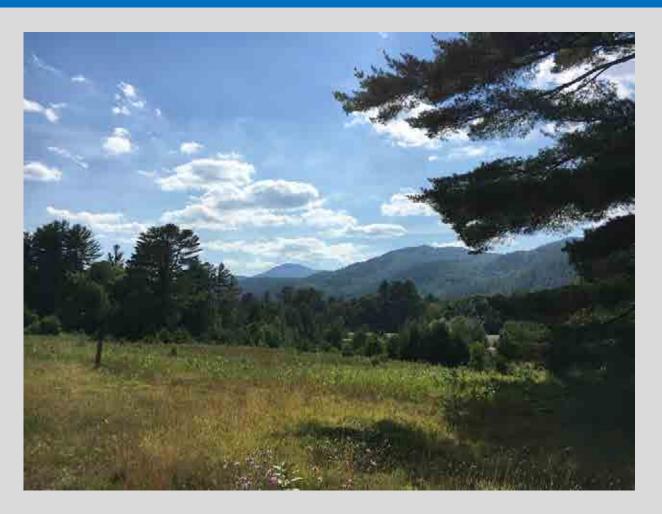
VISITOR CENTER

Preliminary Programs and Facilities:

- Welcome, Orientation and Information
- Venue for Regional Organizations
- Venue for Local Products & Artists
- **Education and Interpretation**
- Patron Services and Amenities
- **Restrooms & Services**
- Parking Various
- Multi Season Facilities
- Access to Day Use Area and Amenities
- Access to Trails and Trail Connections
- Commercial Services & Businesses
- Views to Showcase Site's Natural Beauty
- Infrastructure and Utilities

Parameters:

- **Benchmark Similar Facilities**
- **Architectural Theme**
- Scale of Development
- Management









RECREATION AMENITIES

Preliminary Programs and Facilities:

- Welcome, Orientation and Information
- Day Use Areas
- Open Space
- Trails
- Schroon River Amenities
- Swimming: river, pond, pool
- **Education and Interpretation**
- Multi Season Facilities
- **Restrooms & Services**
- Parking Various
- Views to Showcase Site's Natural Beauty

Parameters:

- Level of Service
- Scale of Outdoor Spaces
- Management & Maintenance









ROUTE 9 MIXED USE DEVELOPMENT

Primary Amenities:

- **Accommodations**
- Restaurants
- Commercial, Service and Supplies
- Parking: Truck/Trailer & passenger
- Trails & Trailhead Kiosk
- **Events Space**
- Utilities: potable water, septic, stormwater, electric, lighting

Parameters:

- Zoning
- **Market Success**
- Mix of Uses
- Scale of Development
- Infrastructure







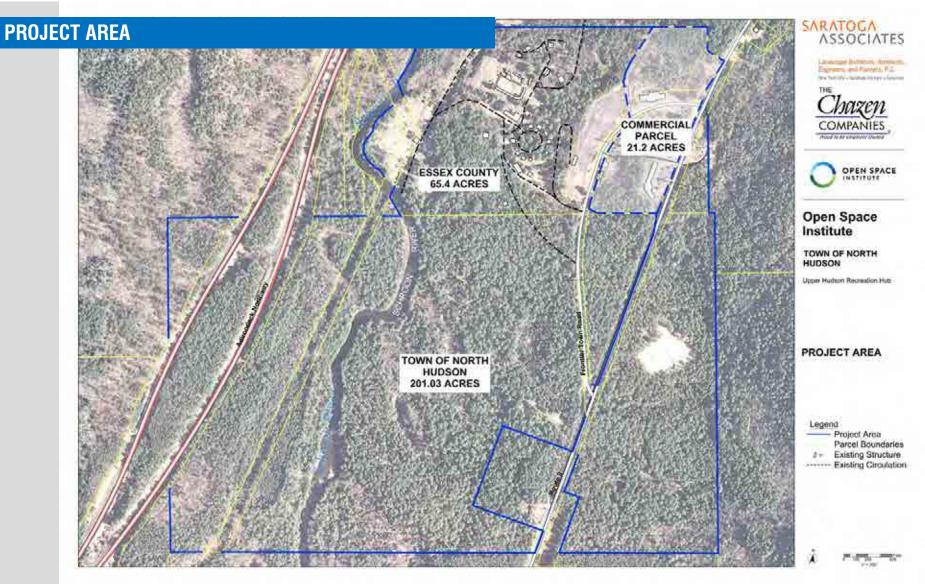


DESIGN AND CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT





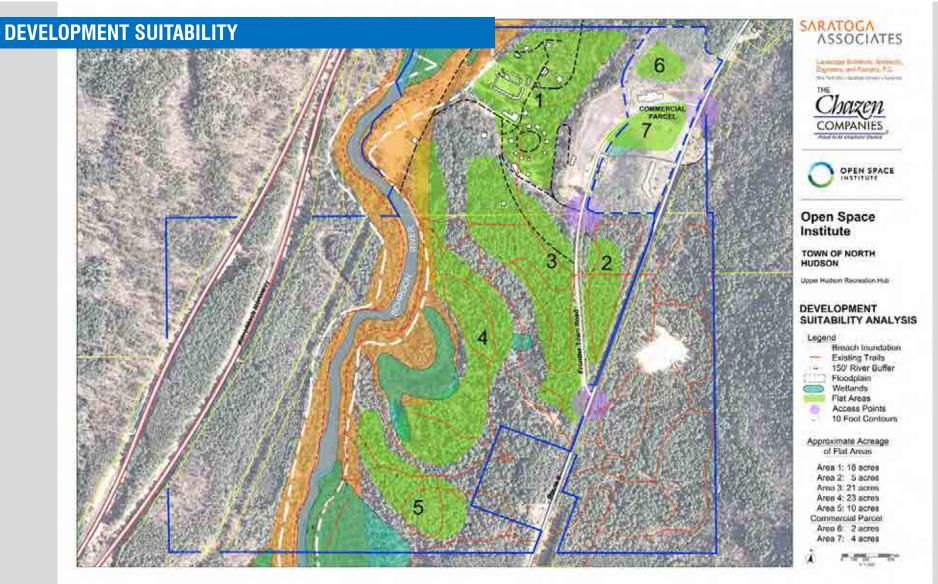








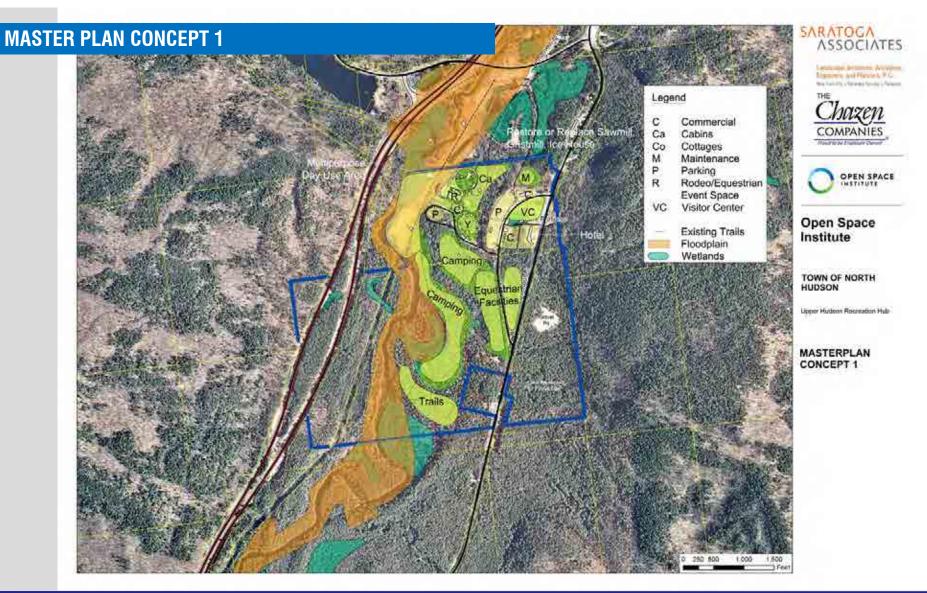








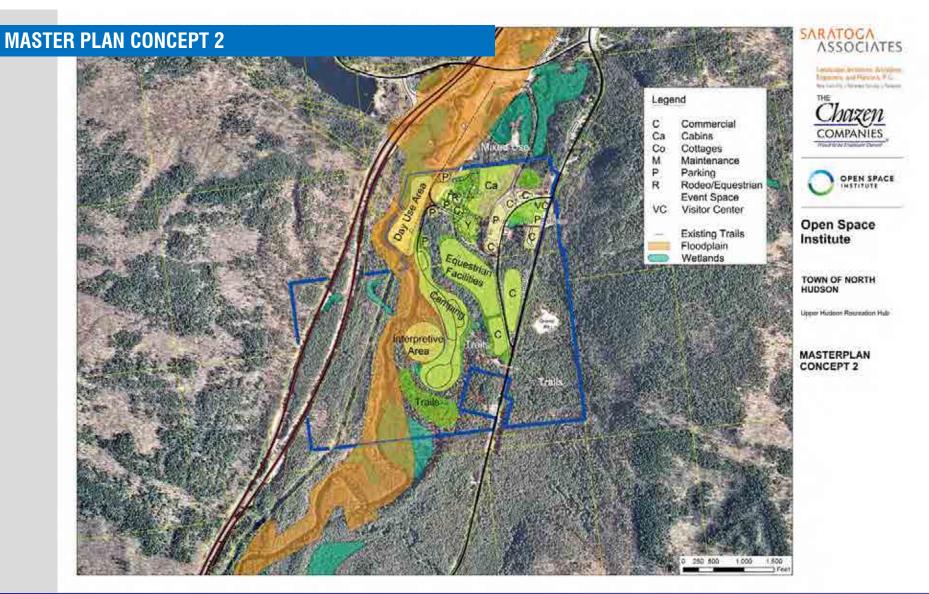








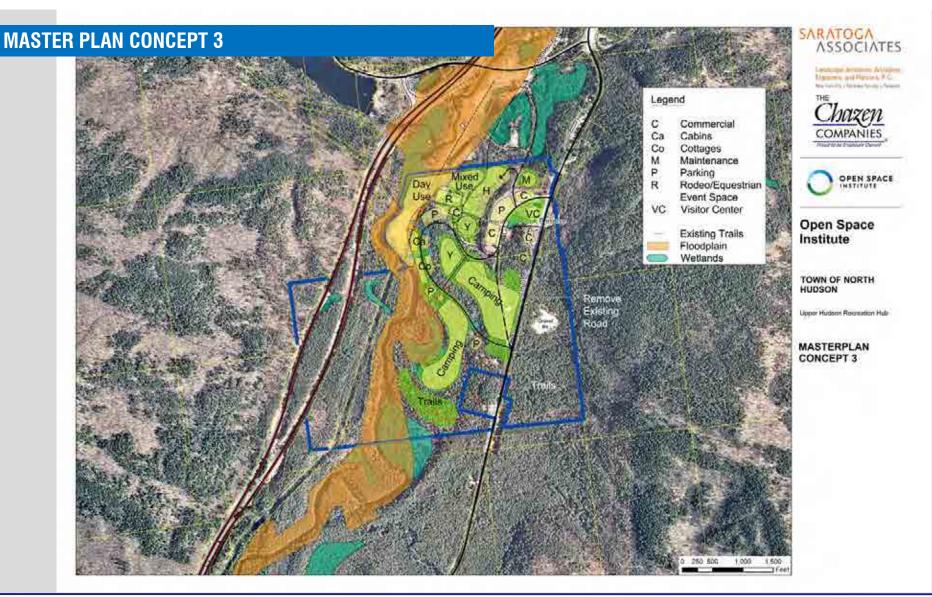








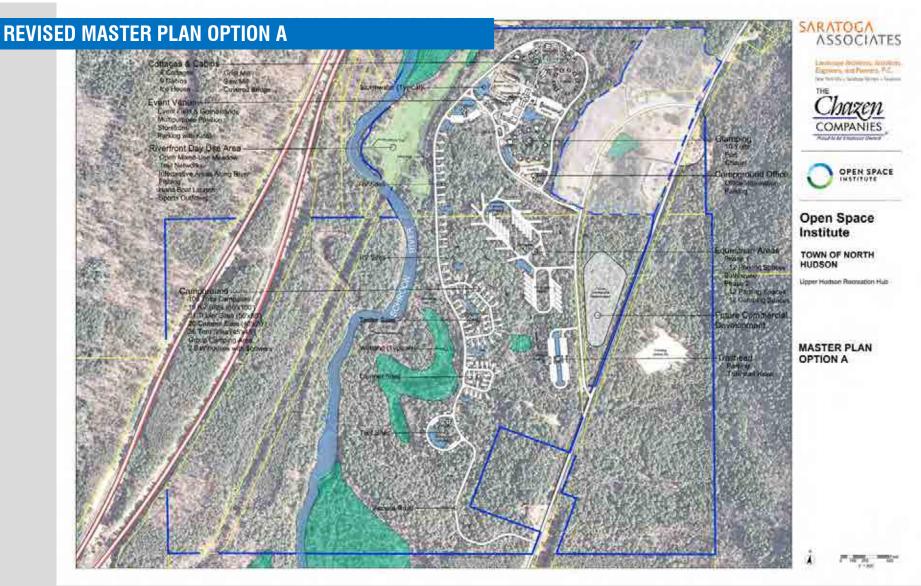








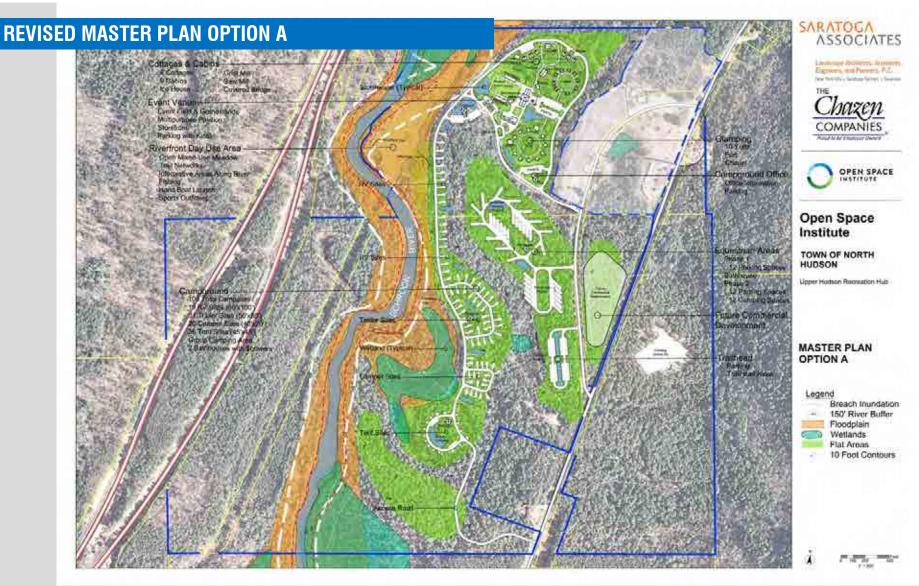








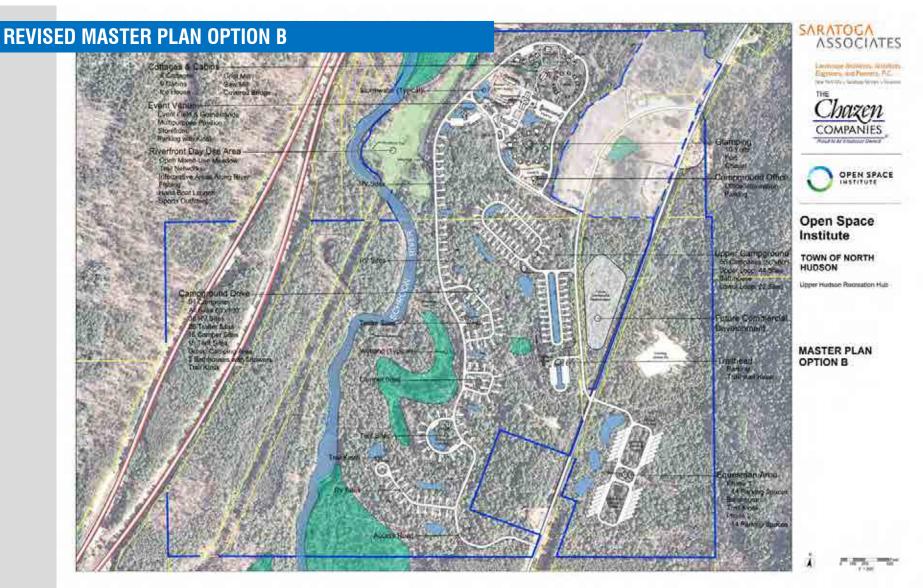








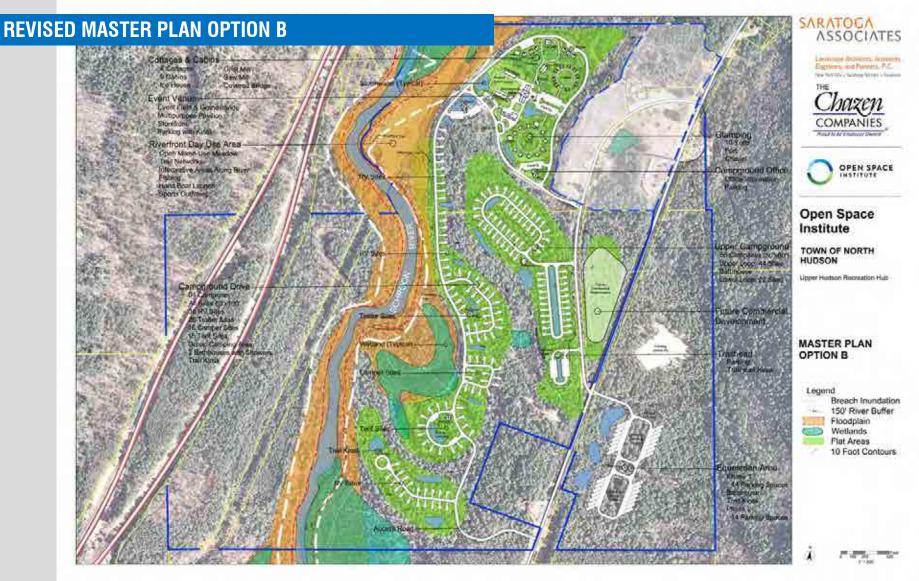








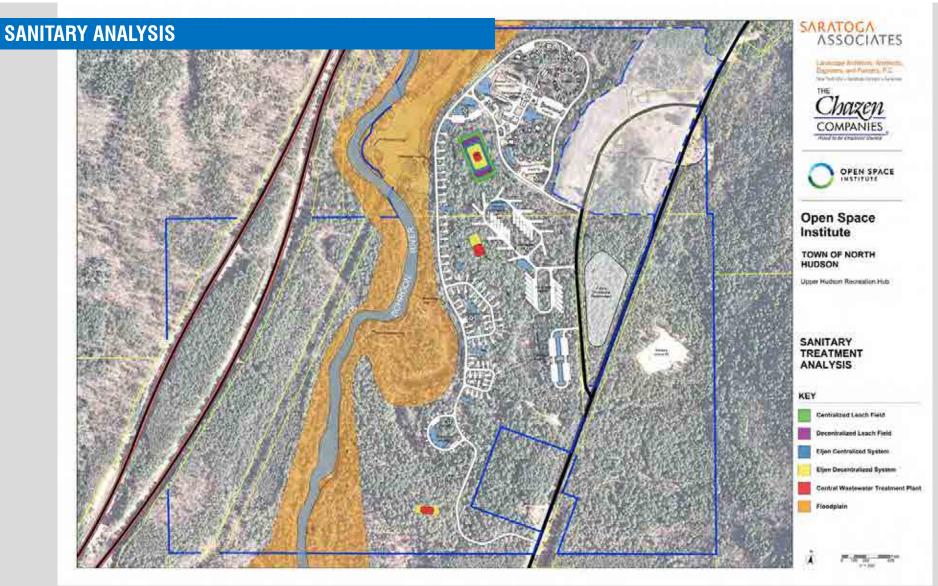








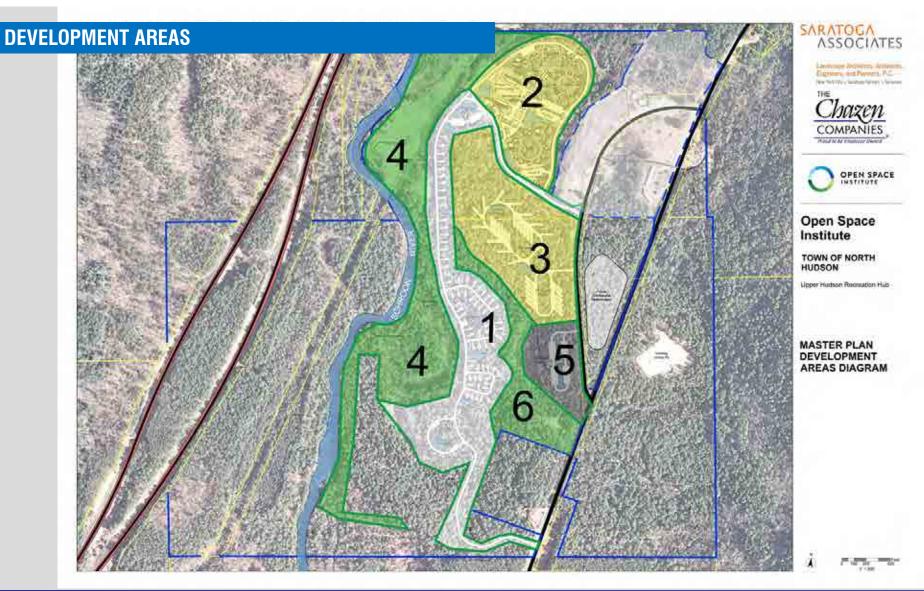








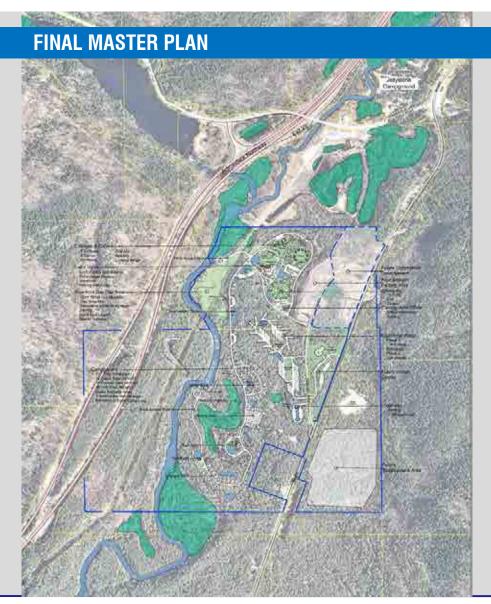














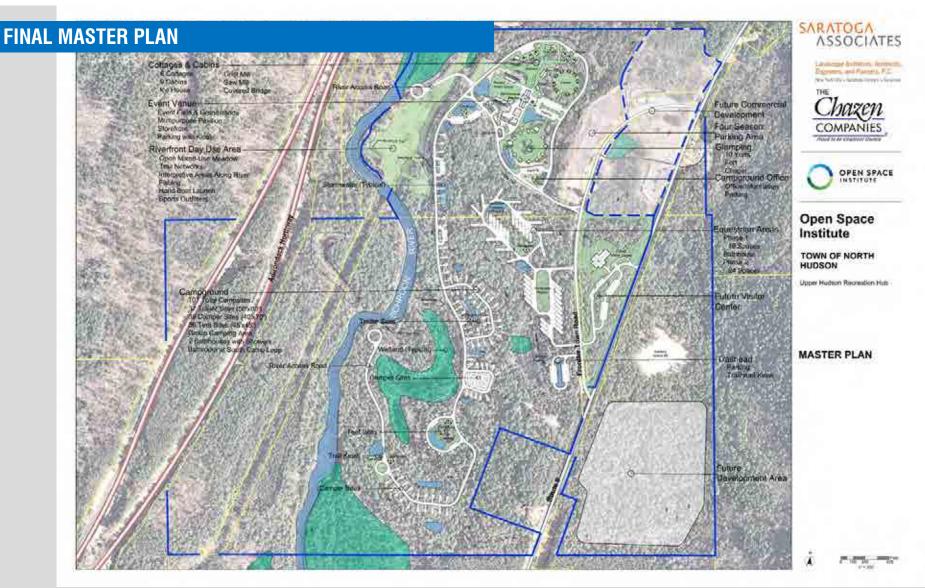


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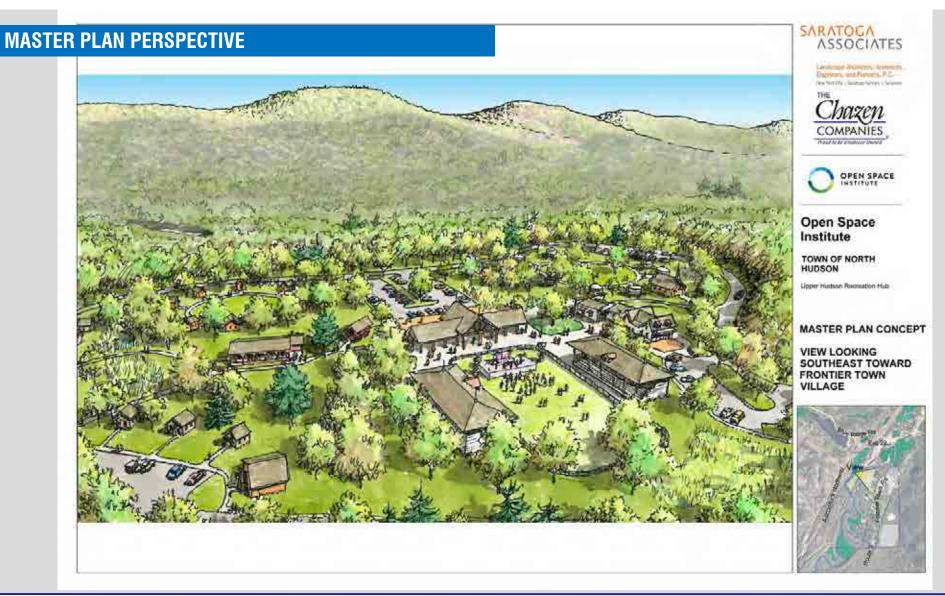


























ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Advancing the Plan:

- **Regulatory Considerations**
- Improved Understanding of Site Conditions
- Viability of Existing Structures
- Regional Stakeholders
- **Relevant Local Amenities**
- Funding & Implementation Strategies
- **Partnerships**





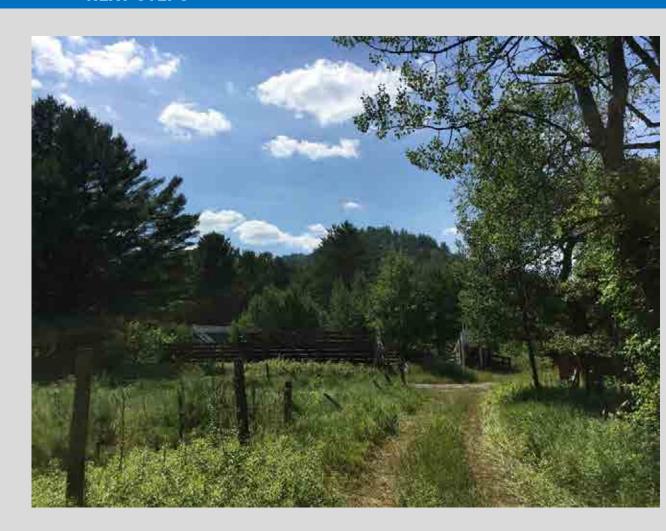




NEXT STEPS

Refine Programs, Site Evaluations, Plans and Budgets:

- Refine the configuration and scale of the individual development programs, facilities and amenities based on detailed site investigations
- Develop preliminary development plans that further test the following:
 - Identify and Address Site Conditions challenges and opportunities
 - Refine the programs relative to funding and phasing probable construction estimates
 - Identify priority projects and establish implementation timeline











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