



TOWN OF AMHERST

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

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THOMAS C. KETCHUM, P.E.
Commissioner of Building

DATE: July 2, 2015

TO: All Building and Plumbing Inspectors

FROM: Thomas C. Ketchum, P.E., Commissioner of Building *TCK*

RE: Additional Construction Requirements for Structures Located Above the National Gypsum Mine Area

This memorandum serves to supersede my previous memorandum, dated January 5, 1995.

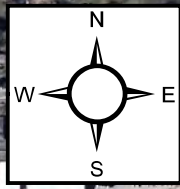
The following requirements are applicable to all new structures or additions to structures located above the area known as the National Gypsum Mine Area along with a 200-foot wide buffer area that follows the perimeter of the mine area. The attached map shows the National Gypsum Mine and buffer areas.

1. All foundations walls shall be constructed of poured concrete and shall contain both horizontal and vertical reinforcing with a maximum of 24" spacing horizontally and a minimum of four rows vertically.
2. All foundation footings shall contain a minimum of two rows of horizontal reinforcing.
3. All footings shall be connected to the foundation walls with reinforcing bars spaced no more than four feet apart.
4. Basement/cellar floor slabs and other slabs-on-grade shall be constructed of concrete with a minimum thickness of 4" and shall contain woven wire mesh, fiber-mesh or structural reinforcing.
5. All foundation designs shall be prepared, sealed and signed by a Professional Engineer or Architect licensed to practice in New York State. Furthermore, all foundation plans shall contain a statement from the engineer or architect that he/she is aware of the potential existence of the mines beneath the structure and that the attendant design takes this issue into consideration.



Compliance with applicable New York State Building Codes and this memorandum must be provided prior to the issuance of any permit that includes a foundation. Alternative designs will be considered. Field inspections of foundation work shall be conducted in accordance with the approved permit plan.

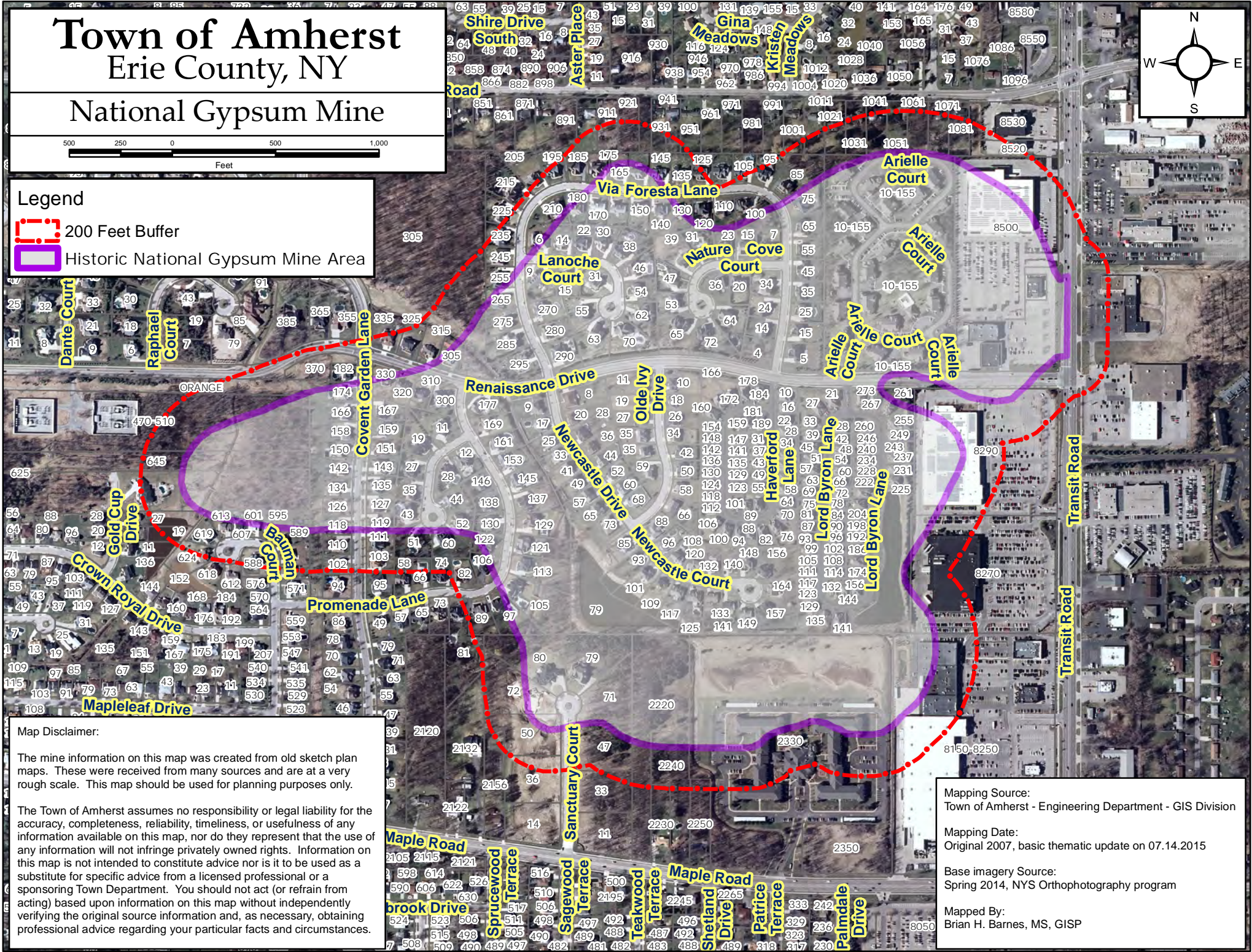
Please contact me if you have any questions regarding these requirements.

Town of Amherst Erie County, NY National Gypsum Mine



Legend

-  200 Feet Buffer
-  Historic National Gypsum Mine Area



Map Disclaimer:

The mine information on this map was created from old sketch plan maps. These were received from many sources and are at a very rough scale. This map should be used for planning purposes only.

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Mapping Source:
Town of Amherst - Engineering Department - GIS Division

Mapping Date:
Original 2007, basic thematic update on 07.14.2015

Base imagery Source:
Spring 2014, NYS Orthophotography program

Mapped By:
Brian H. Barnes, MS, GISP