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ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
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CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION OF ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM

Date:	09/27/2016	Record ID:	EH-OW-16-0141
Owner's Name:	Benson, Casey		
Property Location:	1632 TRUMANSBURG Rd, ITHACA, NY 14850		
Municipality:	Ulysses		
Tax Map Number:	503689-34.-3-15		
Design Basis:	<u>330</u> gallons per day	Equivalent to:	<u>3</u> bedrooms
Construction Type:	OWTS Replacement Permit		
Contractor:	Kirksway Farm*		
Inspection Date:	09/27/2016		
Notes:	Conversion to low-fixtures required		

The individual onsite sewage treatment system installed at the above noted premises has been constructed in general conformity with the requirements of the Tompkins County Health Department and as described on the Permit to Construct a Sewage Treatment System.

To help extend the useful life of your sewage treatment system, the septic tank should be pumped every 2 to 4 years depending upon the amount of solids such as greases, soap scum, toilet wastes, and other solid materials discharged to the tank. When combined depth of sludge and scum in the tank equals or exceeds 1/4 of the total liquid depth, pumping is necessary. Checking the scum and sludge depth should be performed by a professional or someone familiar with septic tanks. Tanks are best pumped in the spring or summer as they readjust more readily in warm weather. Inlet and outlet baffles in the tank should be checked at the time of pumping.

A list of authorized pumpers may be obtained from the Health Department. It will be to your advantage to insist on a fixed cost for pumping or at least to obtain a definite maximum estimate before engaging a septic tank pumper.

Normal use of household detergents and chemicals will not harm your system. Do not discard non-household substances into your system, such as motor oil, antifreeze, etc. This is illegal, will contaminate ground water and will ruin your system. Contact the Tompkins County Solid Waste Division for information on discarding or recycling toxic chemicals not intended for your sewage system.

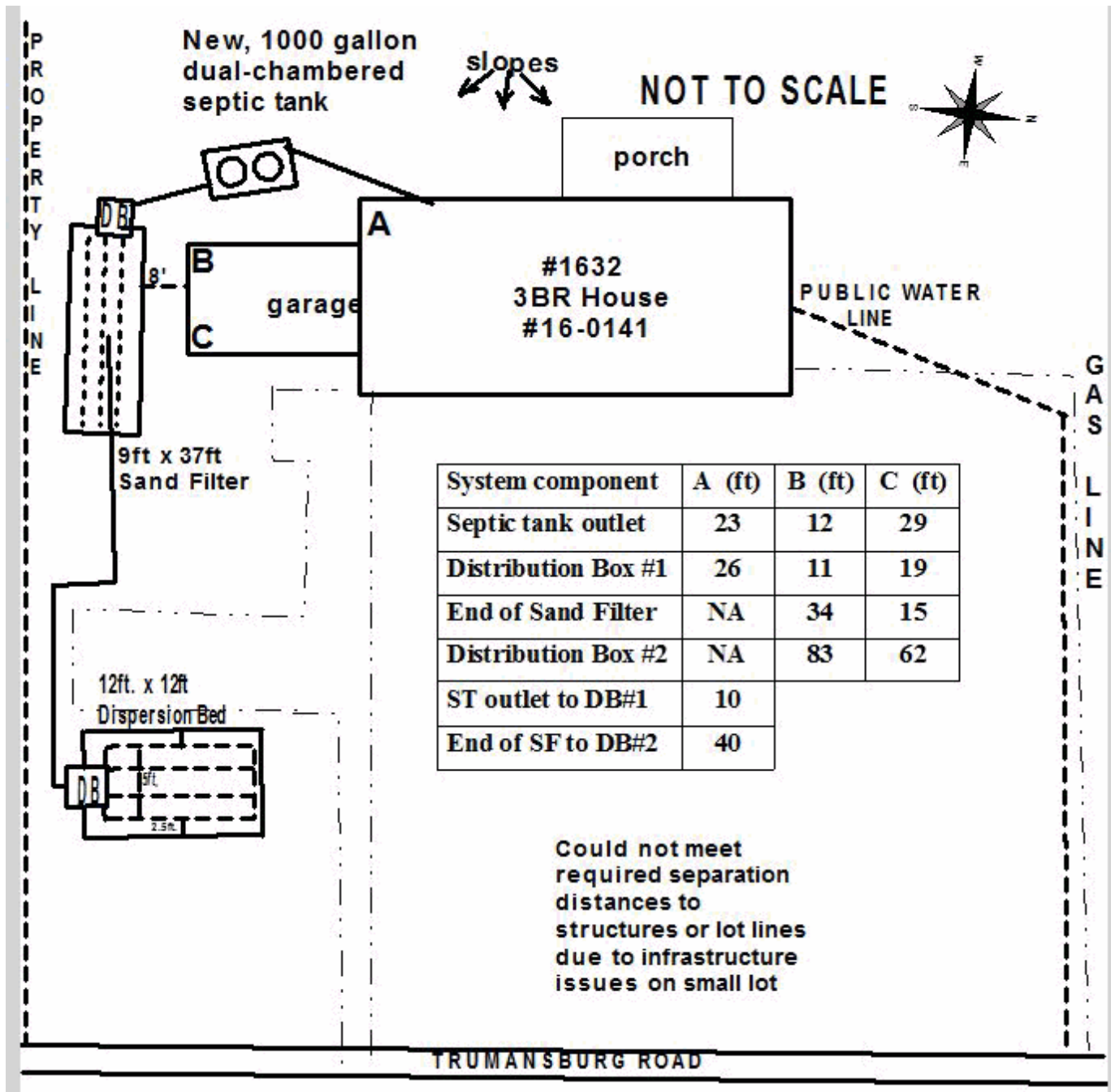
If triangulation distances to the septic tank and distributions boxes could be obtained, they will be noted on the back of this sheet. These measurements will help find the tank pumping, and the distribution box should the system need troubleshooting in the event of failure or poor performance.

Inspected or Reviewed by: Cindy Schulte

CC: Town of Ulysses CEO

▼ SEE AS BUILT SKETCH ON THE REVERSE SIDE ▼

▼ ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM AS BUILT SKETCH ▼



1632 Trumansburg Rd CC.JPG -

▼ SEE REVERSE FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION ▼

As Built Notes:

Conversion to low-fixtures required

Sewage System Maintenance:

Myths and Facts

- Myth:** A septic tank needs to be pumped only after it fills up with solids.
- Fact:** Not all solids will bio-degrade completely in a sewage system. If the tank gets too full of solids, they will pass into the system downstream from the tank and cause failure. Septic tank pumping is needed when the combined depth of scum and solids equals $\frac{1}{4}$ of the total depth. Normally, this means that after 2-4 years of use the tank should be pumped.
- Myth:** If the Soil where a sewage system is located is permeable (well-drained) the septic tank will never need to be pumped.
- Fact:** No matter how well drained the soil is the sewage system will eventually become clogged by overflowing solids and scum if the septic tank is not pumped periodically.
- Myth:** Adding septic tank additives (such as cleaners, conditioners, or yeast) eliminates the need for pumping the tank, and will help the sewage system operate better.
- Fact:** Septic tank additives have not been shown to be beneficial and may result in actual harm to the system or groundwater. In any case, additives are no substitute for pumping.
- Myth:** Seepage pits and absorption fields will function well in any type of soil.
- Fact:** These types of systems are not suitable where the soil is poorly drained, the water table is high, or bedrock is close to the ground surface.
- Myth:** Septic Tank Effluent ("treated" sewage from a septic tank) is harmless.
- Fact:** Septic tank effluent contains potentially dangerous pathogens and other harmful substances.
- Myth:** The treatment field requires no maintenance.
- Fact:** Tree roots, ponding surface water, heavy equipment over the system, covering by a driveway, leaking faucets, or excessive water use can affect the system's operation. These factors must be avoided.
- Myth:** Flushing cigarette butts, grease, disposable diapers, sanitary napkins, food, transmission oils, etc. down the toilet or drains will not harm the system.
- Fact:** Since these items do not readily decompose, they could contribute to rapid failure (clogging) of the sewage system and in addition can cause blockage in your plumbing or contaminate groundwater.

Other Information That You Should Know:

A properly functioning sewage system does not just “get rid of” the wastes, but uses physical and biological processes to “treat” the wastewater and eliminate harmful substances and pathogens. These processes ensure that water eventually entering the soil from your system does not contaminate the ground water from which you draw your drinking water.

The Tompkins County Sanitary Code requires that a Construction Permit be obtained prior to construction or enlarging any building, or replacing an existing system. The permit process includes soil tests; a sewage system design based on soil conditions and the anticipated quality and quantity of sewage and inspections during construction.

The staff of the Environmental Health Division will be pleased to address any questions regarding sewage systems, maintenance, construction, etc.

Helpful Hints

Installing water saving fixtures on faucets and showerheads will reduce overloading the system.

DO NOT plant a garden over the disposal system.

DO NOT drive over the septic tank or the disposal system (absorption field, bed, or sand filter)

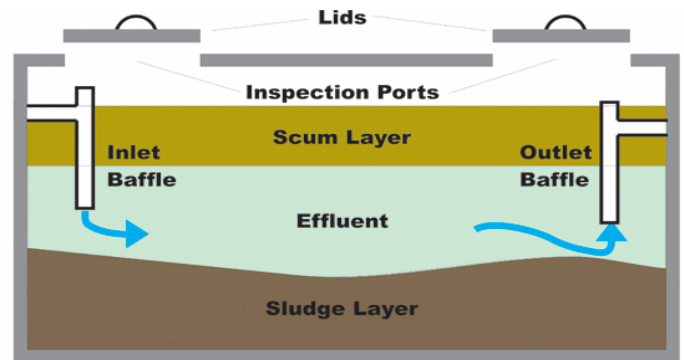
When the septic tank is pumped, have the contractor check the septic baffles to make sure they are in place and not deteriorated.

A sewage system consists typically of a house sewer, septic tank, distribution box, and treatment field.

The septic tank traps solids by slowing the speed liquid wastes are traveling. The tank allows heavier solids to settle to the bottom of the tank forming “sludge” and lighter solids float to the top forming a “scum” layer. Bacteria biologically decompose the sewage. The septic effluent is mostly clarified sewage with some non-settable solids and plenty of bacteria. The effluent is hazardous and must be disposed of by a properly designed, sized, and functioning treatment field.

The distribution box distributes the effluent evenly into the disposal field.

The treatment field consists of either an absorption field or bed, sand filter, or seepage pit depending upon soil and other building conditions. The field, bed, or pit introduces sewage into the ground where final treatment by bacteria and other organisms occurs. Sand filters treat the sewage in layers of gravel and sand; the treated effluent is discharged to a downstream system.



Information sources:

“Waste Treatment Handbook Individual Household Systems”, NYS Health Department

“Consumers Guide to Home Water Supply Systems and Home Sewage Disposal Systems”, Tompkins County Health Dept.

“Septic Systems- Operations and Maintenance”, NYS Health Department