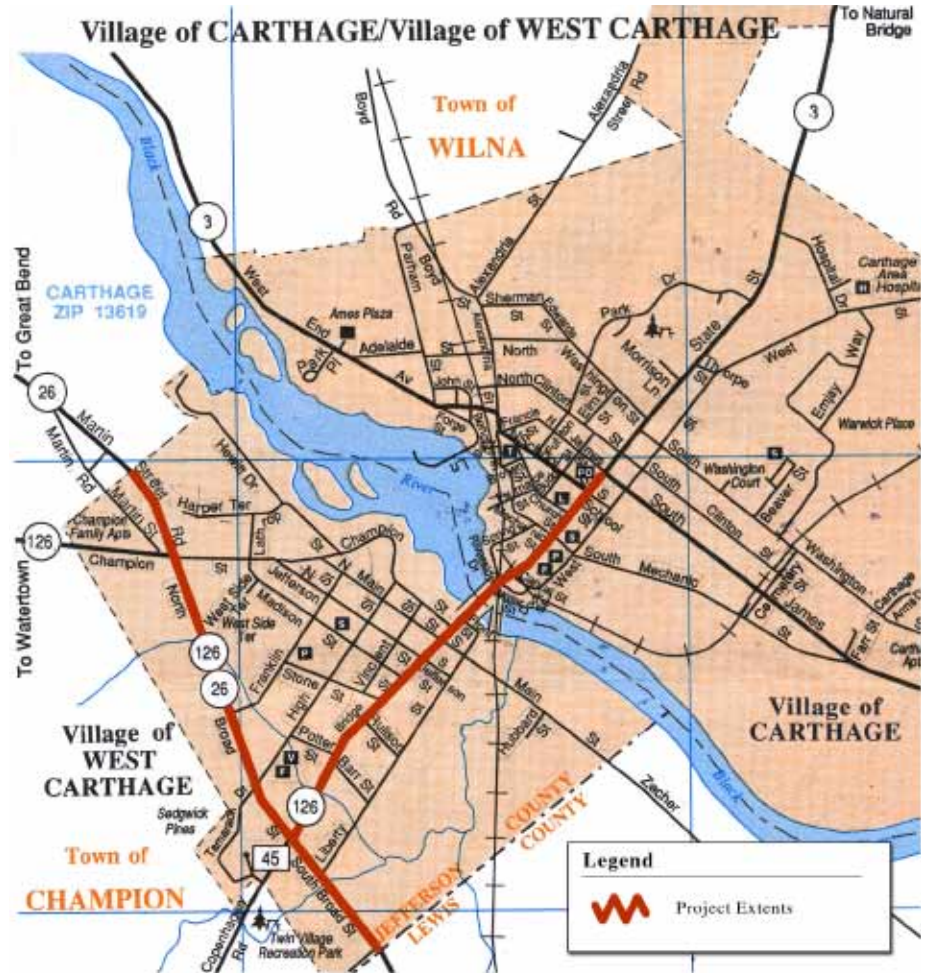


This report summarizes the downtown revitalization plan for the “Main Street” areas of the Villages of Carthage and West Carthage. The revitalization plan is intended to assist property owners, merchants, residents, planners, review boards, developers, and designers with the identification, development, and implementation of a community vision for the two villages.

The Revitalization Plan specifically examines the contiguous “Main Street” corridor that follows along State Street in Carthage from its intersection with James Street, across the Black River, and down Bridge Street in West Carthage to its intersection with Broad Street (NYS Route 126 in West Carthage, which runs perpendicular to Bridge Street). Discussion of the Broad Street section within the West Carthage Village limits is included. The plan focuses on the needs of local businesses and adjacent neighborhoods and builds upon the existing sense of community, drawing on and engaging the history of the area, and identifies opportunities for rebuilding and strengthening the physical fabric of the villages.

The foundation of this community vision is supported by New Urbanism principals that emphasize mixed use, rehabilitation of existing historic buildings, and a renewed focus on pedestrian circulation. These principles are also promoted by the New York State Quality Communities program, which funded this project. This report specifically identifies those principles that directly relate to the challenges facing the villages. Ultimately, the implementation of these principles will help improve the villages’ marketability and quality of



life.

This report is broken down into five main sections:

- 1) History & Background
- 2) Observations & Comments
- 3) Design Guidelines
- 4) Recommendations
- 5) Implementation

The history section of this report provides a brief summary of the physical development of the two villages over the last two centuries. The second section identifies significant observations about the villages’ existing conditions from an “outsider’s” point of view. More importantly, the second section identifies the major com-

ments and suggestions provided by the villages’ political leaders, residents, business owners, and other interested parties during two public meetings. The third section identifies design guidelines specific to the main street corridor. The fourth section concentrates on the improvement plans for the main street neighborhood centers. The final section consists of implementation strategies and preliminary cost estimates.

