

SUMMARY OF INFLUENCES AND RESPONSES THAT SHAPE THE CHARACTER OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

ECOLOGICAL INFLUENCES

- The area has a cold climate with a short growing season.
- Summer is lush and green accented by the whiteness of birch tree trunks.
- The landscape is relatively flat, with many lakes and bogs.
- The groundwater table is high.
- Coniferous forests prevail over deciduous forests.
- In winter, frost depth ranges from 4 feet to 8 feet.
- Snowfall can reach 100 inches.
- Snow stays on the ground all winter.
- Prevailing winds are from the northwest.
- The landscape is intimate, with most views closed off by trees.
- The summer climate is muggy and buggy.
- Lakes and wetlands provide the main openings for views.
- Riparian zones protect the integrity of lakeshores and water quality.

