The Hydrologic Impacts of the Vermont Interstate Highway System Ana Vang

LS00376_001 South Burlington-1961

Outline

- Project Goals
- Interstate History
- Vermont Interstate
- Build-out and Impervious Surface
- Vermont's Exits and Study Site Selection
- Aerial and Ground Based Rephotography
- Summer 2012 Fieldwork
- Hydraulic Modeling

Landscape Change Program

- Funded by NEH
- Documents change in Vermont
- Interstate photos
- Summer team of 4



Goals

Determine how the building of the interstate has changed the hydrology of Vermont

Hypothesis: I will test whether construction of the interstate and the associated build-out increased the amount of impermeable surface sufficient to change peak flow and run off volume, and if so whether I can relate this to changes in stream planform, incision depth, and bed material.

Interstate History

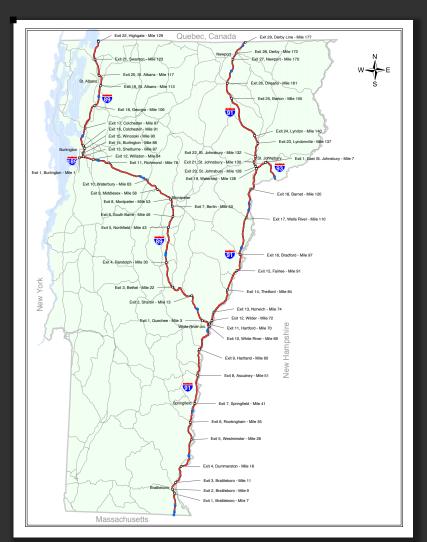
- Federal-Aid Highway and Highway Revenue Acts of 1956
 - 75440 km long
 - ->170 km² paved area
 - 32 billion m³ moved
 - \$215 billion (2012)



Kaszynski, 2000; Missouri Department of Transportation, 2012; Obenberger and DeSimone, 2011

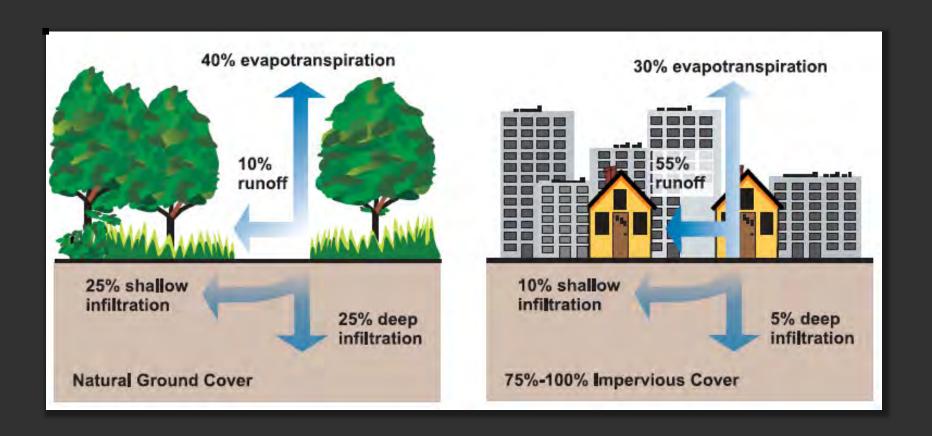
Vermont Interstate System

- Constructed from 1958-1983
- 516 km long
- 12 km² area
- 53 exits



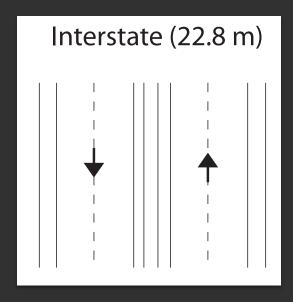
Smith, 2006; Vermont Department of Highways, 1965; Vermont Agency of Transportation, 2012

Impervious Surface



US EPA: 2003

Vermont's Impervious Surface



Normal Road (9.6 m)

↓ | **↑**

Interstate: 516 km

Area/km: 22,800 m²

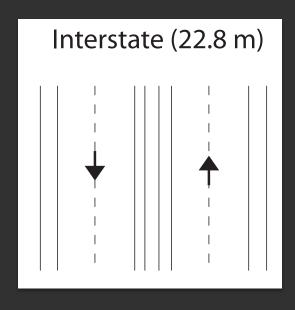
Total Area: 11.8 km²

Paved Road: 10,878 km

Area/km: 9600 m²

Total Area: 92.2 km²

Vermont's Impervious Surface



Normal Road (9.6 m)

↓

Interstate: 516 km

Area/km: 22,800 m²

Total Area: 11.8 km²

Paved Road: 10,878 km

Area/km: 9600 m²

Total Area: 92.2 km²

The interstate is 4.5% of paved roads by length but 10% by area

Interstate Build-Out

- Catalyzed build-out
- Increased impervious surface





Why do we care?

Changes in:

- Flow paths
- Flood peak
- Streammorphology
- Water quality
- Ground water recharge

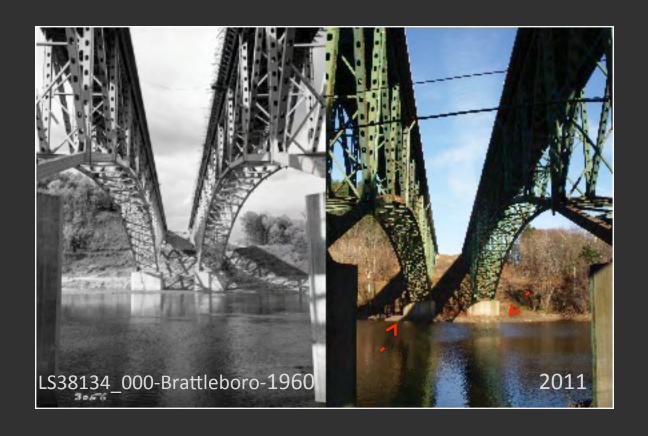


Increased impervious area = Landscape change

USFWS: 2011 Bethel

- Rephotography
- Fieldwork
- Hydraulic Modeling





Ground Based Rephotography

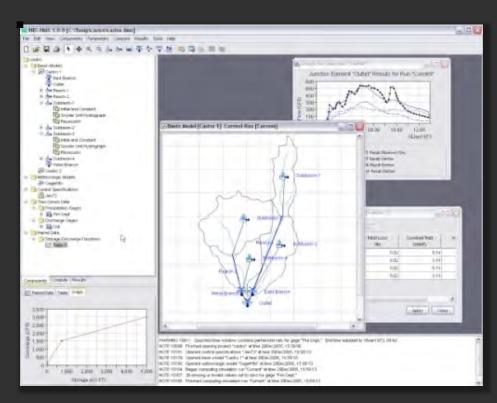


Aerial Rephotography



HEC-HMS

- Inputs
 - Drainage area
 - % Impervious
 - Precipitation
- Outputs
 - Hydrograph data
 - Time to peak discharge
 - Runoff contribution



How does this all work together?

Aerial Rephotography - > Hydraulic Model - > Hydrograph, run off, peak discharge data (% impervious) Hydrograph, run off, peak discharge data Test Hypothesis Aerial Rephotography (stream planform) Ground Based Rephotography

I will test whether construction of the interstate and the associated build-out increased the amount of impermeable surface sufficient to change peak flow and run off volume, and if so whether I can relate this to changes in stream planform, incision depth, and bed material.

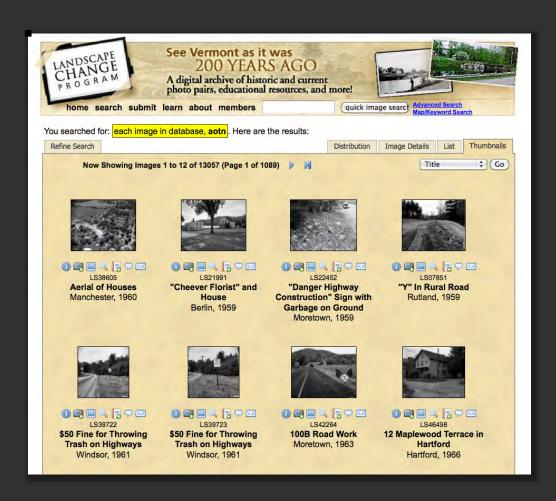
(incision, aggradation, etc)

Work Completed

- Photo processing
- Interstate exit classification
- Site selection

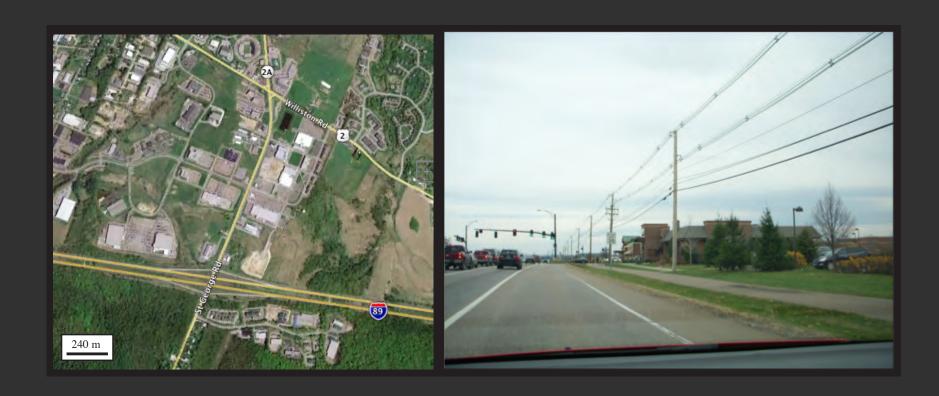
Vermont Interstate Photos

- 50,000 images
- >13,000 PublicInterstate Images
- >36,000 Interstate Collection

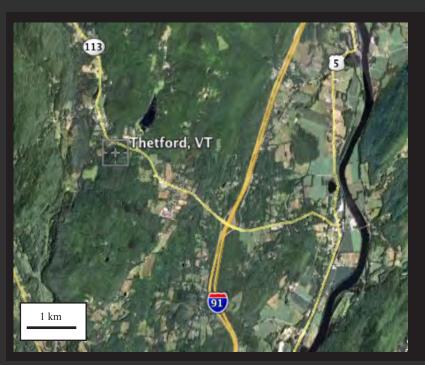




Undeveloped/Basic Services



Commercial



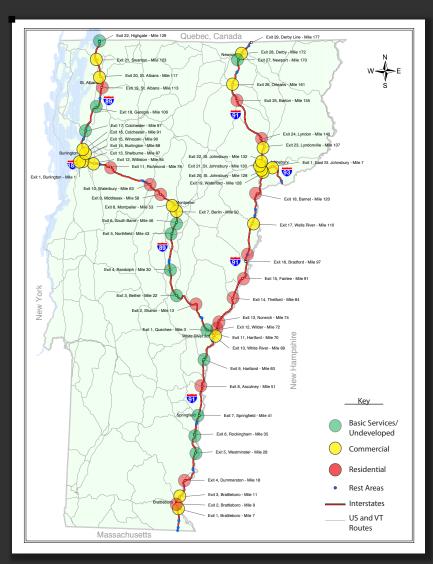


Residential

Undeveloped/BasicServices: 14

• Commercial: 21

• Residential: 16



Town	Current Development	Change in Development	
Barton*	Residential	Little change	
Bethel*	Undeveloped/Basic	Little change	
Brattleboro	Commercial (Exit 1)	Little change	
Brattleboro	Residential (Exit 2)	Little change	
Brattleboro	Commercial (Exit 3)	Drastic change	
Burlington	Commercial	Drastic change	
Dummerston*	Residential	Little change	
Lyndonville*	Commercial	Little change	
Montpelier*	Commercial	Little change	
Orleans	Commercial	Little change	
Richmond*	Residential	Some change	
Sharon	Residential	Little change	
Springfield*	Undeveloped/Basic	Little change	
St. Albans	Residential (Exit 19)	Some change	
St. Albans*	Commercial (Exit 20)	Drastic change	
Thetford*	Residential	Some change	
Waterbury	Residential	Little change	
Westminster	Undeveloped/Basic	Little change	
White River Junction	Commercial	N/A	
Williston*	Commercial	Drastic change	
Winooski*	Commercial	Drastic change	
Georgia	Undeveloped/Basic	Some change	
Hartford*	Commercial	Some change	
Vermont	-	-	

^{*}Indicates chosen field site

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Vermont	-	-	

^{*}Indicates chosen field site

Basic Services/Undeveloped:

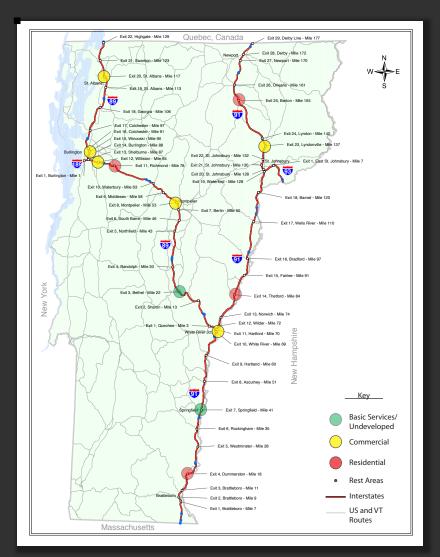
- Bethel
- Springfield

Commercial:

- Hartford
- •Lyndonville
- Montpelier
- •St. Albans
- •Williston
- •Winooski

Residential

- Barton
- Dummerston
- Richmond



Summer/Fall Work

- Ground based rephotography
- Fieldwork
- Final study site selection
- Aerial rephotography
- Hydraulic modeling

Ground Based Rephotography



LS00376_000/LS00376_003-South Burlington-1961/1964

Ground Based Rephotography



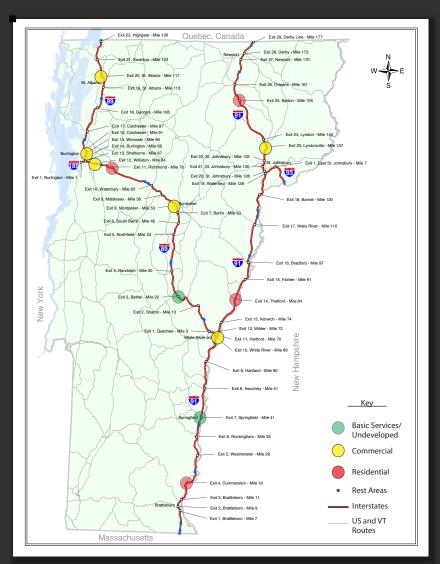
Fieldwork

- Rephotography
 - Bridge piers
 - Near slopes
 - Drainage
- Walking stretches
 of river with air
 photos in hand
 - Scour
 - Aggradation

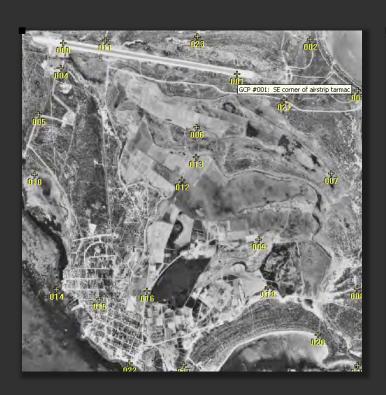


Final Study Sites

- 4 Sites
- Spectrum of variables
- Placement within watershed



Aerial Rephotography





Aerial Photo Availability

Bailey Howe Map Library

Year	Coverage	Туре	Source Scale
1937	Most of Chittenden County	Panchromatic	1:20,000
1939-1942	Fragmentary Coverage of Vermont	Panchromatic	-
1962	Statewide	Panchromatic	1:18,000
1962	Select Town Centers	Panchromatic	1:6,000
1968	Central and Southern Vermont	Panchromatic	1:24,000
1974	Northern Half of the State	Panchromatic	1:20,000
	Southern Half of the State	Panchromatic	1:62,500
1977	Statewide	CIR	1:80,000
1980	Statewide	Panchromatic	1:40,000
1988	Most of Chittenden County	Panchromatic	1:7,800

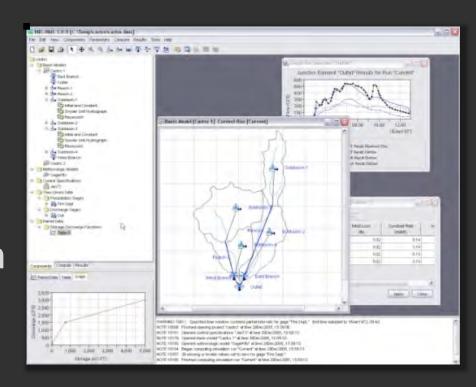
VCGI - Select Datasets

Year	Coverage	Туре	Source Scale
2003	Statewide	Truecolor	1:40,000
2004	Most of Chittenden County	Truecolor	1:1,250
2004	Most of Chittenden County	Color IR	1:1,250
2004	Chittenden County	Panchromatic	1:1,250
2008	Statewide	Truecolor and Infared	1:40,000
2009	Statewide	Truecolor	1:40,000
2006-2010	Statewide	Panchromatic 1:5,000	

Hydraulic modeling: HEC-HMS

Input:

- Delineate subbasins
- Impervious % from aerial photos



Compare model outputs to field data

Thesis Outcomes

- Quantify amount impervious surface, over time, at 4 study sites of varying character
- Document current conditions in streams with summer fieldwork
- Document change in conditions with aerial and ground rephotography
- Model the effect of increased impervious on surface hydrology
- Attempt to link the amount and type of impervious change with channel change

Timeline

ੂ. Timing	Task
Spring 2012	-Contact local historical societies, town clerks, and listers -Determine method for quantifying imperviousness in historical photos
Summer 2012	-Photograph and enter ground-based rephotography in LSC Database -Choose 4 final study sites -Learn to use HEC-HMS model
Fall 2012	-Write introduction/methods -Rectify and analyze rephotographs -Rectify and analyze aerial photographs -Run HEC-HMS model for final study sites -Prepare and present progress report
Spring 2013	-Finish running models -Compare model results to field data -Write results/conclusions and defend thesis



Town	Current Development	Mean Income	Change in Development
Barton*	Residential	43711	Little change
Bethel*	Undeveloped/Basic	54092	Little change
Brattleboro	Commercial (Exit 1)	53184	Little change
Brattleboro	Residential (Exit 2)	53184	Little change
Brattleboro	Commercial (Exit 3)	53184	Drastic change
Burlington	Commercial	56707	Drastic change
Dummerston*	Residential	79071	Little change
Lyndonville*	Commercial	37397	Little change
Montpelier*	Commercial	63892	Little change
Orleans	Commercial	36889	Little change
Richmond*	Residential	83703	Some change
Sharon	Residential	64034	Little change
Springfield*	Undeveloped/Basic	53392	Little change
St. Albans	Residential (Exit 19)	52557	Some change
St. Albans*	Commercial (Exit 20)	52557	Drastic change
Thetford*	Residential	81975	Some change
Waterbury	Residential	75150	Little change
Westminster	Undeveloped/Basic	63222	Little change
White River Junction	Commercial	48297	N/A
Williston*	Commercial	109121	Drastic change
Winooski*	Commercial	54001	Drastic change
Georgia	Undeveloped/Basic	80398	Some change
Hartford*	Commercial	64520	Some change
Vermont	-	78467	-
*Indicates chosen field site			

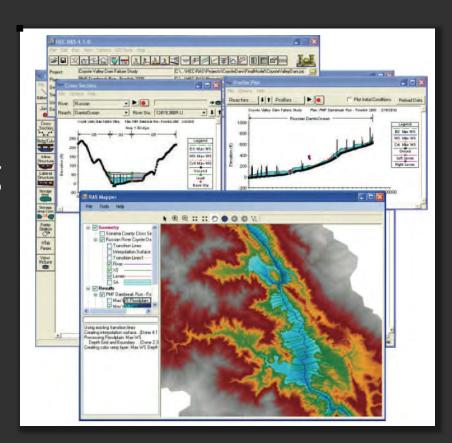
Hydraulic modeling: HEC-RAS

Sediment transport/movable boundary

computation

Range of simulation times

- Simulate hydraulic sorting
- Estimate scour in floods
- Estimate sedimentation



Other slide ideas

- Expand on summer work
- Expand on modeling
- In summary
- Comments from presentation
 - Stream geomorphology, exp pics, list exactly what data I'm looking for. Go over how I'm surveying
 - Go over inputs and outputs of models
 - Go over method for quantifying impervious space
 - Break up writing thesis along the way
 - Data flow diagram for numerical inputs
 - Split up fieldwork slide