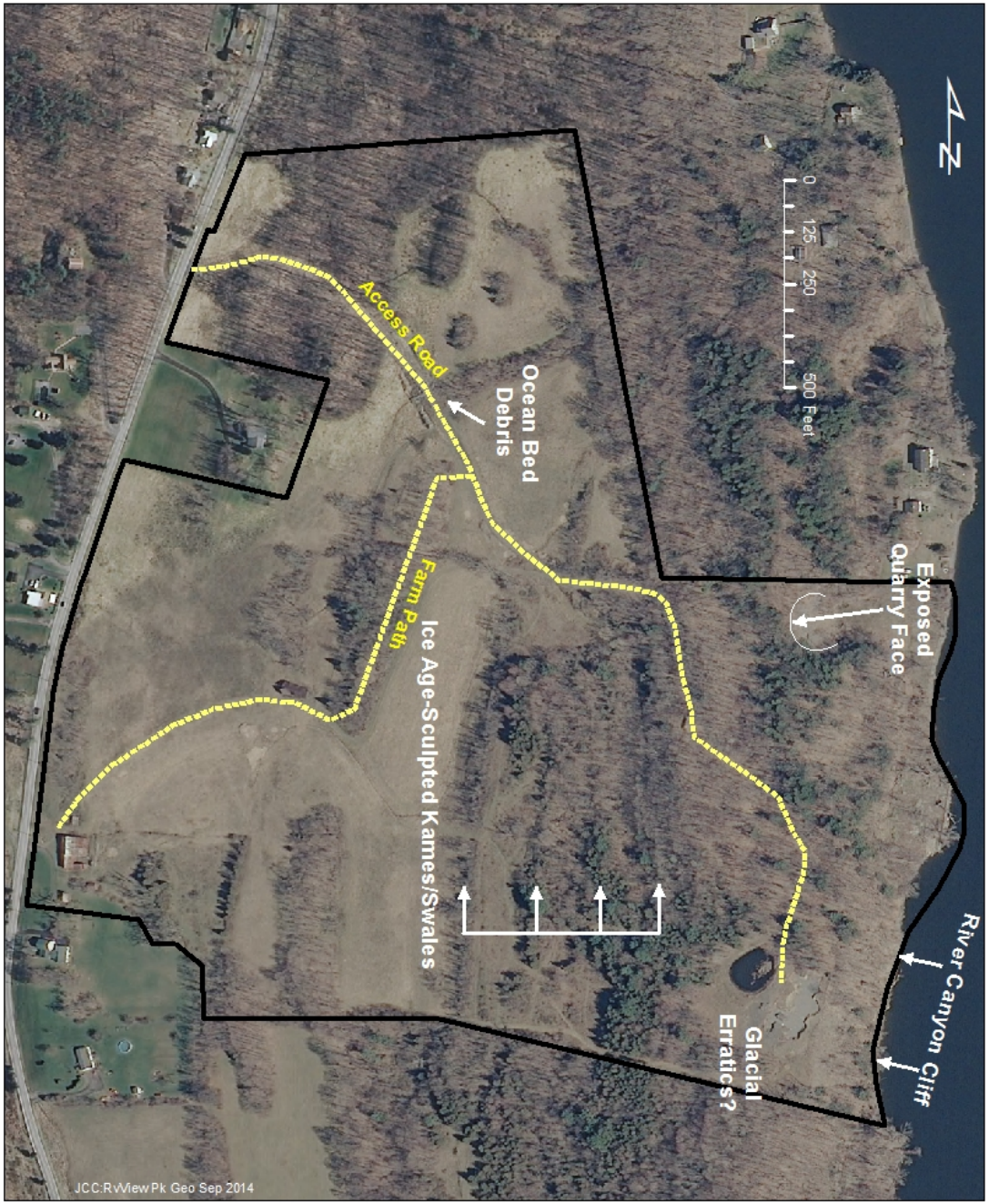

New Baltimore Conservancy

GEOLOGY of

SCENIC HUDSON's

LONG VIEW PARK

New Baltimore NY

Taken from 9 Article Series

By **Johanna & Robert Titus**

Posted under 'Nature' on:

newbaltimoreconservancy.org

DISTANT PAST [465 Million Years Ago]

The geology underlying Scenic Hudson's Long View Park is the ancient *Austin Glen Formation*, sediments which accumulated at the bottom of the Iapetus Sea or the Proto-Atlantic Ocean. Sediment layers alternate between *Greywacke* 'dirty' sandstone & *black shale*:

The sediments, lying in the foreland basin adjacent to the uplifting formation of the nearby line of *Taconics,* were subject to submarine landslides, evident from '*flute castes'*:

Specimens are found in the '**OceanBed Debris**' pile or the '**Exposed Quarry Face**' shown on the map.

MORE RECENT PAST [15,000 Years Ago]

The site was covered for centuries by the Hudson Valley glacier during the Ice Age. Kame and kettle formations, sculpted by the retreating glaciers, underlie the gently rolling, scenic landscape we find today:

Retreating glaciers scarred bedrock and dropped 'erratics' at locations far-removed from where the masses originated:

HUDSON RIVER CANYON FORMATION

The Long View site was again deluged when the ice dam holding back the Glacial Lake Iroquois, ice-melt from the huge glaciers covering the North East, collapsed ~13,000 years ago. For ~80 days, torrential flows blasted by New Baltimore, beginning the 'carving out' of the Hudson River Canyon which continues today through ongoing erosion of the soft, sedimentary cliffs. The west face of the canyon, onsite, ~100' above the Hudson, lies approximately 1 mile west of the opposite east cliff face: