Summary Report

Bayside 2 Sewer Segment
Warwick, Rhode Island

Machine-Assisted Phase I(c) Archaeological Survey

Evaluation and Mitigation Plan

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Submitted to:
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Introduction

The Warwick Sewer Authority is planning and coordinating the construction of sewer lines within the Warwick Neck- Bayside community of the City of Warwick, Rhode Island (Figure 1). The funding for the Warwick Sewer projects includes federal monies. Accordingly, the undertakings are subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and subject to review by the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). The firm of Gordon R. Archibald, Inc, (GRA) contracted with PAL for a cultural resource management survey to consider potential historic properties within the undertaking's Area of Potential Effect (APE), pursuant to requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

PAL completed the Phase I(a) Archaeological Assessment survey in June 2008. Areas of high and moderate sensitivity to contain archaeological deposits in meaningful contexts were recommended for further investigation. PAL recommended a Phase I(c) archaeological survey to sample areas of assigned sensitivity, refine the assigned sensitivity if necessary, and determine the presence/absence and range of features and site types that may exist within the planned sewer easements. PAL conducted the Phase I(c) survey between July 14 and July 23, 2008. Because the sewer lines will be constructed beneath existing roadways, the proposed survey included excavations with a flat-bladed backhoe. This summary report details the methodology, results, interpretations of those results, and recommendations for further considerations of cultural resources identified during the survey.

Native American Context

The first Europeans arrived in Warwick between 1638 and 1640. They encountered at least four major subdivisions of the larger Narragansett tribe: Shawmets, Potowomuts, Cowesetts, and Pawtuxets. Each group was led by a sachem. Pomham ruled the Shawomets, Taccoman ruled the Cowesetts and Potowomuts, and Saconoco presided over the Pawtuxets. Native American settlement at the time of European contact focused upon near-coastal and coastal confluences of

rivers and streams. Relatively large concentrations of dwellings were surrounded by a network of fields and collecting territories. The importance of waterways in Native landscape perspectives is reflected in their use as territorial and boundary markers as lands were transferred from Native to European possession.

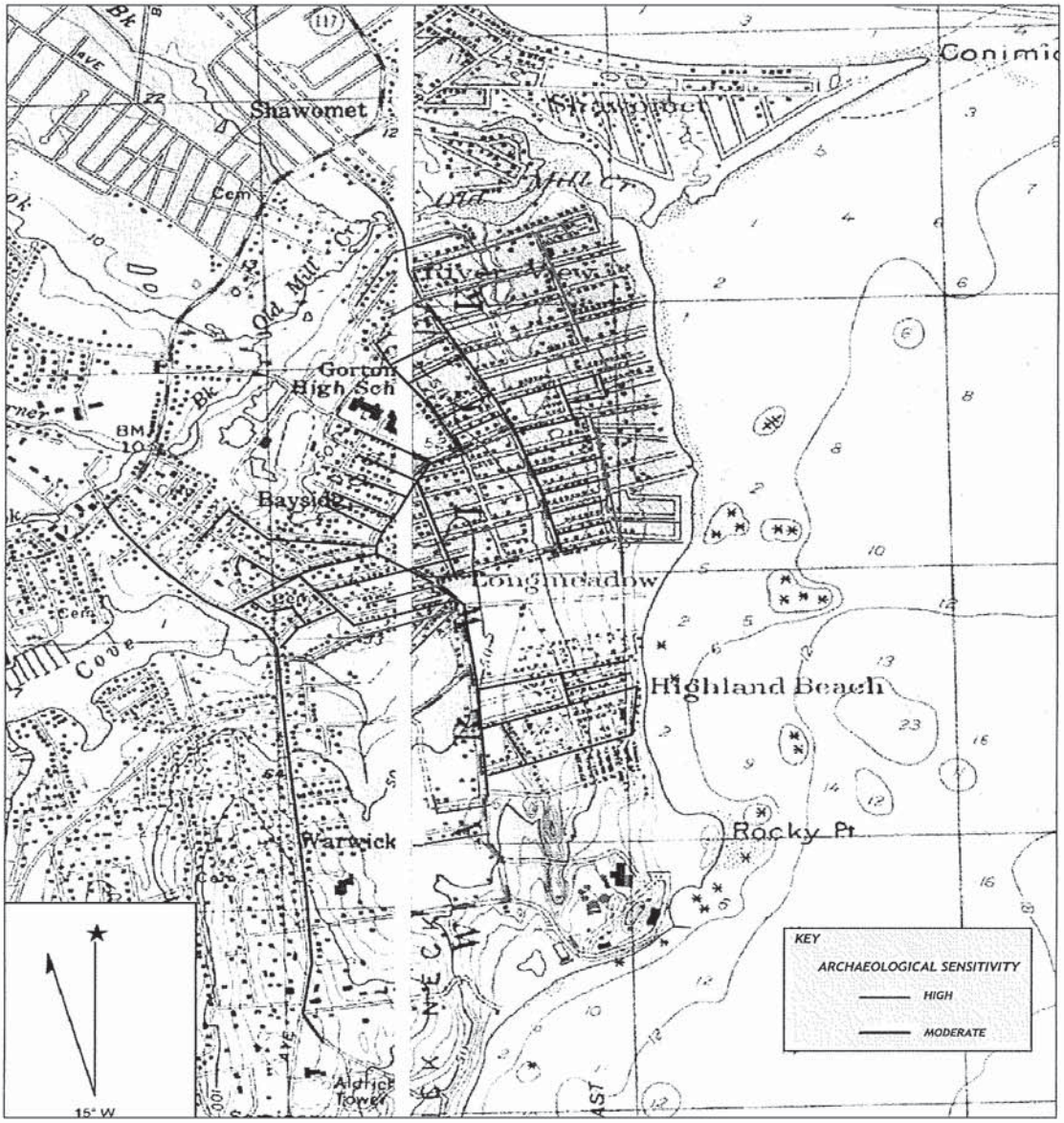

Figure 1. Bayside Sewers Segment: areas of high and moderate sensitivity.

The Native American settlement and subsistence patterns observed by arriving Europeans can be traced archaeologically to at least the Transitional Archaic Period (3,800- 2,800 B.P.[years before present]), when pre-contact populations began to optimize marine resources and focus occupations and exploitative forays within the coastal margin of Narragansett Bay. Occupation as early as 8,000 years ago, is suggested by bifrucated projectile points found in Apponaug, at the multi-component Sweet Meadow Brook Site (Fowler 1956). Stark-like and Neville-like points,

chronologically diagnostic of the Middle Archaic Period (7,000-5,500 B.P.), have also been found along western Narragansett Bay. Local Native American land use prior to the Transitional Archaic Period is characterized by relatively limited occupations and activities that focused on inland-based floral and faunal resources along river and stream drainages. Evidence of PaleoIndian (10,000-8,500 B.P.) occupation is rare, but interpretation of the limited data indicates a focus on glacial lake shores that once existed in the present-day Wickford Cove area, long since inundated by rising sea levels following glacial retreat.

Excavations in Warwick along Potowomut, and at the Maskerchugg Site, Lambert Farm, Sweet Meadow Brook, Locust Spring, and Greenwich Cove indicate long-term semipermanent, perhaps seasonal, settlements along the near-interior and coast, with significant populations occupying them. Sites include evidence of domestic structures, processing and storage areas, individual and collective burial locations, and lithic processing workshops. Surface finds at numerous locations along the coast (Goddard Park, Nausauket) and along near-interior bodies of water (Gorton Pond, Three Ponds) indicate the intensity of site densities along this section of the Bay. Fishing supplemented hunting, collecting, and planting with particular population concentrations at the falls (Pawtuxet) of rivers during spring fish runs. Inland and coastal ponds were fished in the winter while shell fish beds in sheltered coves could be exploited year-round. Archaeological evidence of campsites, habitations, and burials has been found throughout Warwick, and confirmed through survey within other sewer segments.

State site files housed at the RIHPHC record numerous Native American archaeological sites within or in immediate proximity to the Bayside sewer segment. These include rockshelter and shoreline sites within the former Rocky Point Amusement Park, RI 1584, on Old Mill Creek, to the north. Late Archaic and Woodland Period cultural materials including projectile points and several pottery fragments were collected from the site. Furthermore, a Middle Archaic radiocarbon date of 7170±205 B.P. was produced from charcoal collected from the site. Native American cultural materials have also been collected from the Elkhound Site (RI 1718) located nearby, on Warwick Neck. Lithic debitage and Late Archaic Squibnocket triangle projectile points were recovered, and radiocarbon analyses on charcoal collected from the site produced Late Woodland dates of 600±80 and 710±130 radiocarbon years B.P. Similar Late Archaic Squibnocket Complex and Woodland Period occupations were recently identified at the Wickes Site situated along the north side of West Shore Road between Oakland Beach Avenue and Warwick Avenue (Leveillee and Waller 2001). Native American chipping debris was collected south of the Conimicut West Sewer System project area from the Warner Homestead Site, located west of West Shore Road between Buckeye Brook and Sandy Lane (Waller and Leveillee 2002). Remnants of a seventeenth-century Narragansett Indian burial ground have been rediscovered in the Horse Neck section of the city (Leveillee 2001).

Historic Context

Historically, Warwick includes the original Shawomet Purchase lands, executed in January 1642 (43?) between Samuel Gorton and eleven followers and the Narragansett Indian sachem Miantonomi, with the sub-sachem Pomham witnessing the deed. Shortly after the Shawomet Purchase, William Arnold and other Pawtuxet settlers attempted to drive Gorton and his followers from the area, and convinced Pomham to place his lands under the jurisdiction of the Massachusetts Colony. Massachusetts sent troops to seize the cattle of the Gortonists, arrested Gorton and six followers, and took them to Boston for trial on counts of heresy and sedition. After being put in irons and forced to work in various towns throughout the colony for a winter Gorton and his followers were set free, but were banished from all territory under the jurisdiction of the

Massachusetts and Plymouth Colonies. Gorton lived briefly on Aquidneck Island, and in 1644-45 sailed to England to petition Parliament to secure his Shawomet lands. In 1646 Massachusetts was ordered by Parliament to reinstate the Shawomet purchasers their lands and was barred from further attempts to exercise jurisdiction over them. In gratitude Gorton changed the name of the settlement to Warwick, commemorating the supportive Earl of Warwick.

During the time that Gorton was being held prisoner in Massachusetts, the Narragansett Sachem Miantonomi was murdered by rival Mohegans, probably with the support of Massachusetts Colony political factions. When the Narragansetts saw that Gorton was freed by Massachusetts they believed he had powerful allies in England and placed themselves under the"protection of the English", seeking relief against Massachusetts Colony. Pomham however, remained allied with Massachusetts and refused to leave his Shawomet territory, located at today's Warwick Neck. He asked Massachusetts for assistance against the Gortonists and protection from the Narragansett Indians, fearing reprisals from them for his role in the killing of Miantonomi. Massachusetts Colony sent eleven men to help Pomham erect a fort. Today's Paine Street and Fort Street intersection is the reputed site of the fortification, known historically as Pomham's Fort.

In 1665, after constant conflicts between the Shawomets and the Gortonists, the King's Commissioners ordered that Pomham and his people remove themselves. They remained however until more widespread hostilities broke out during the King Philip's War (1675-76).

In July 1676, a force of approximately 80 Narragansetts, who had joined King Philip's struggle against the English, were camped on Warwick Neck, awaiting coordination for an attack on Newport. A force of 300 Colonial soldiers and Indian auxiliaries marched under the leadership of John Talcott and killed or captured 67 of the Narragansetts. By August of 1676, Philip had been killed and the Native attempts to regain their former holdings had ceased. In the spring of 1677, Gorton and his followers returned to Warwick Neck.

Warwick grew quickly in the years following King Philip's War. Without the threat of Indian attack, settlers moved to the more remote parts of the town. In Buttonwoods, James Greene, Jr., of Potowomut, built a two-room farmhouse, between 1687 and 1710, with a brick-end chimney. The bricks are said to have been made on the premises from Warwick Cove clay and mortared with shells burnt to produce lime (D'Amato1992). The house still stands as one of the oldest in the city. By 1715, a school house stood at the southwest corner of West Shore Road and Sandy Lane. The Quakers built a meetinghouse on West Shore Road opposite Warwick Neck Avenue in 1716. Mills were built along the Pawtuxet River and in Apponaug through the late seventeenth century, and Inns and taverns were established along Post Road.

During the Revolutionary War, fortifications were set up at the head of Brush Neck Cove near Tuskatucket Brook on present day West Shore Road (D'Amato 1992:76).

The nineteenth century was an era of industrial expansion throughout much of Warwick, particularly in the western sections, along the Pawtuxet (today's West Warwick). By the late nineteenth century, the Bayside area was sparsely populated with isolated farms (Beers Atlas 1870). In the last half of the nineteenth century, Rocky Point became Rhode Island's premiere summer resort and amusement park, following a national trend of beach and coastal leisure time activity. It operated through the nineteenth century and into the last decades of the twentieth, becoming regionally famous as an amusement park and shore dinner hall. The Rocky Point property changed hands several times with new owners adding attractions to the resort and park. By the end of the century, many of Rhode Island's mills would close for two weeks in the summer and provide transportation to Rocky Point to their employees, for what Warwick historian Don D'Amato

describes as "the most enjoyable day of the year" (1992:76). In 1883, a fire destroyed the hotel, the shore dinner hall, boathouse, and much of the amusement park. The property changed owners in 1888, and Col. Randall A. Harrington rebuilt the park through the first two decades of the twentieth century. It continued to grow and prosper until September 1938, when the region was devastated by one of the most severe hurricanes of the century. After the storm swept through the state, the *Providence Journal* reported that "Rocky Point, the Mecca of politicians and shore dinner consumers, fell like a house of cards before the southeast fury. The roller coaster was shattered, the great dining hall ...was a soggy mass of lumber.... and the oldest and most famous shore resort of the state was no more" (D'Amato 1992:140). The resort was rebuilt through the middle twentieth century, and was again reduced by Hurricane Carol in 1954. It remained a smaller-scale amusement park, dining hall, and local recreational center until its permanent close in the last decades of the twentieth century.

The building of electric trolley lines through Warwick, between 1892 and 1910, opened Warwick to residential development. The automobile then transformed what had been agricultural land and resort communities into suburbs of greater Providence.

The Bayside Sewer II Segment is planned within residential neighborhoods east of West Shore Road, south of Mill Cove, and north of Rocky Point. The neighborhoods are characterized as a twentieth-century residential community. The dwellings along the streets in the greater project area include mid to late-twentieth century modest contemporary single family dwellings, apartments, light industry and commercial centers, punctuated by isolated remnant late nineteenth and early twentieth farm houses.

Predictive Statement prior to the Phase I(c) Survey

As noted in the contexts above, the coast and near-interior of Warwick have been focal points of human activity for over 5,000 years. It was an area rich in shellfish, attracting Native Americans beginning in the Late Archaic Period and continuing into the seventeenth century. The Sweet Meadow Brook Site, immediately west of the West Shore Road and Long Street junction in Apponaug, was a large multi-component site, and a core of population, possibly a village, in the Late Woodland Period. The Gallo Collection, from Nausauket Point Beach, contains projectile points from the Laurentian, Susquehanna, and Small Stemmed lithic traditions. Archaeological investigations of sewer-related work in the Horse Neck section of the city resulted in the identification of a 17th Narragansett burial ground. Archaeological survey of the Bayside I sewer segment, in 2006, resulted in the identification of the Mill Cove Brook Site, a Native American Archaic and Woodland period site focused on the Mill Cove Brook drainage.

In the historic period, the greater project area has supported agricultural subsistence farms, residential subdivisions, light industry, and commercial growth as the landscape character shifted from historic farms to suburbs. It is likely to encounter archaeological evidence resulting from all of the land uses that occurred here. The principal question will be the integrity of the deposits. It will be a goal of the assessment survey to determine the likely places where disturbances are minimal and recommend further action for those sections which are determined likely to retain good stratigraphic integrity and are likely to have archaeological sites within meaningful contexts.

Summary and Recommendations following the Phase I(a) Survey

Based upon the Phase I(a/b)assessment survey, we assigned moderate archaeological sensitivity to the following roadways and recommended they be investigated at the Phase I(c) survey level:

Shore Avenue
Longmeadow Avenue
Ocean Avenue
Riverside Avenue
Grove Street

Phase I(c) Machine Trenching

Figure 2 illustrates selected representative segments within areas of assessed sensitivity that we targeted for machine-assisted removal of road surfaces, and excavation to below the roadbed/soil interface to search for archaeological materials and/or features. This method has been successfully employed in other sewer segments throughout the city (Warwick Vets, Conimicut West, Warwick Cove, Bayside I).

Five machine trenches were dug. Figure 2 illustrates the areas where PAL completed machine-assisted testing in the Bayside 2 Sewer Segment. For the machine testing, a flat-bladed backhoe was used to remove the asphalt and topsoil strata in approximately 75 foot (ft) sections in representative areas along the sewer easements within areas earlier assessed as sensitive to contain archaeological deposits. The topsoil/subsoil interface was exposed to determine the presence/absence of features and anomalies. Exposed features were documented in plans and digital images. Each area of testing is discussed below. Cultural materials were not collected from units. Exposed anomalies were further investigated to determine if they represented natural processes or cultural activity. In cases where they were considered to be cultural, they were drawn and/or photographed, but not excavated further. Their locations were mapped; they were covered, and remain in situ following filling and resurfacing with gravel.

Figure 2. Location of Machine Trenches in the Bayside 2 Sewer Segment.

Machine Trench 1 was excavated along Shore Avenue. One small soil anomaly, a possible post hole, was discovered 8m from the west end of this trench (Figure 3). The soils and subsoil strata were natural, with oxidation in the subsoil. Approximately ¾ of the western section of this trench were disturbed by a previously excavated utility pipe trench.

Figure 3. Machine Trench 1, Feature 1 on Shore Avenue.

Machine Trench 2 was excavated along Longmeadow Avenue. Intact soils characterized this trench, and they contained features. One 35cm round feature was found 7m from the west end of the trench, and an additional 7 features and 12 post holes were located in the eastern ½ of the trench:

Feature 2-1 is a 35cm round possible post feature with some charcoal fragments.

Feature 2-2: a large (2 m diameter) stain with shell, fire-cracked, and charcoal fragments. As many as twelve post holes are located to the south of this feature.

Feature 2-3: a 1-meter diameter feature bisected by Feature 2–2 to the west.

Feature 2-4: a 30 cm round post hole feature east of Feature 2–3 (Figure 4).

Feature 2-5: a 20 x 45cm stain possibly 2 adjoining posts.

Feature 2-6: a small 12cm post hole stain.

Feature 2-7: a 55cm oval feature with two 15cm post like stains within the feature fill, on the south side.

Feature 2-8: an 80cm round feature in the far eastern section of the trench. This feature contains some fragments of shell and charcoal (Figure 5).

Feature 2-9: a 155cm poorly defined feature (or possibly overlapping smaller features) along the southeast side of the trench.

Figure 4. Features 3 and 4 in Machine Trench 2, Longmeadow Avenue.

Figure 5. Features concentrated in the eastern limits of Machine Trench 2, Longmeadow Avenue.

Machine Trench 3 was excavated along Ocean Avenue. This trench was extremely rocky at the north end of the trench. In the southern extent of the trench, bone fragments were discovered at a depth of 30 to 40 cmbs, immediately below the road bed. The deposits surrounding the bone appeared to have been truncated and compressed by the construction of the road and the noted bone is fragmented into small pieces. This deposit is a very strong candidate for a burial feature. It was immediately covered with plastic and then resurfaced with gravel pending further considerations by Warwick Sewer Authority, PAL, RIHPHC, and the Narragansett Indian Tribal Historic

Preservation Office. Quartz and Attleboro red chipping debris and some shell were also observed in this feature. Designated Machine Trench 3, Feature 1, this feature is of serious concern as a ceremonial deposit.

Figure 6. Feature 1 in Trench 3, Ocean Avenue (multiple smears surrounding the trowel are small bone fragments).

Trench 4 was excavated along Riverside Avenue. Two 35cm post holes were discovered 4.5m from the west end of this trench, at depth of 30cmbs in partially disturbed natural soils. Shell fill from an old beach road bed was in evidence in upper levels of the trench.

Machine Trench 5 was excavated along Grove Street. This trench encountered wetland gley soils at 60-80 cmbs. By 1m to 1.2m water was filling trench. No features were observed within Machine Trench 5 on Grove Street.

Interpretations and Recommendations for Further Archeological Survey within the Bayside 2 Segment

Machine-assisted Phase I(c) survey within the Bayside 2 Sewer Segment has resulted in the identification of archaeological deposits that reflect Native American occupation and activity within the project area. Specifically, features have been documented in Machine Trench 2, on Longmeadow Avenue and Machine Trench 3, on Ocean Avenue.

A single, relatively small post hole was noted in Machine Trench 1 on Shore Avenue, and two possible post hole soil impressions were observed on Riverside Avenue. Their temporal and cultural affiliation(s) are unknown. There were no other spatially related anomalies in these two

trenches. In that the anomalies are spatially limited (isolated) deposits with no associated cultural materials, we do not believe they are indicative of a potentially significant site, or sites, within the defined limits of planned sewer line installation along Shore Road and/ or Riverside Avenue.

Machine Trench 2, on Longmeadow Avenue contained multiple features resulting from Native American occupation and activity. Nine features including a shell midden and post molds constitute an archaeological site, or likely the continuation of the Mill Cove Site, identified within the Bayside I Sewer Segment, to the north. Further excavations will be necessary to evaluate the concentration of materials that constitute the site within the construction easement of the sewer along Longmeadow Avenue that could be affected by the planned construction.

The greater Mill Cove Site, which extends from Mill Cove south and includes the landscape surrounding the Mill Cove Brook drainage is a potentially significant cultural resource in terms of National Register criteria in that it may have potential to add data relative to dates of occupation, target floral and faunal resources, and specifics of settlement and site types within the larger Greenwich Bay and Narragansett archaeological context. The site exists in the Bayside 1 and Bayside 2 sewer segments (Figure 7). Any undiscovered elements of the site within the planned sewer easement should also be documented, evaluated, and if necessary excavated, as a mitigation strategy of the undertaking.

Feature 1 in Machine Trench 3 on Ocean Road is a highly significant feature and needs to be taken into further consideration as plans for new sewers move forward. It is important as a ceremonial feature which we believe will prove to be a burial, likely including more than one individual. The feature has been impacted by previous construction and the degree of disturbance is presently unknown. It is not known if this represents a spatially isolated feature or is an element of a larger surrounding burial ground. To date three such areas are suggested to exist within and surrounding the Mill Cove Site, now demonstrated to extend from the Bayside 1 sewer segment into the Bayside 2 sewer segment.

Suspected burial features (3 to date) within and in proximity to the Mill Cove Site may be associated with armed conflicts referenced in local histories. Prior to English settlement of Warwick Neck, the Narragansett sub-sachem Pomham and his (Shawomet) peoples occupied the area. Shortly after initial Euro-American settlement by Gorton and his followers, the English King's Commissioners, in 1665, ordered that Pomham and his peoples remove themselves from Warwick. The Shawomets remained however until more widespread hostilities broke out during King Philip's War of 1675-1676.

Figure 7. Estimated limits of the Mill Cove Archaeological Site (boundaries are uncertain).

Following the December 1675 attack and massacre at the Narragansett fortifications in the Great Swamp, the Narragansett joined the Wampanoag against the English. The hostilities associated with King Philip's War resulted in the burning of nearly 100 wigwams of the Shawomets on Warwick Neck in December 1675 by a force of combined colonial troops. Most of the Warwick's settlers fled to Portsmouth at that time as the fighting escalated, leaving behind a small garrison at the Stone Castle on West Shore Road (RIHPHC 1981). The Narragansett retaliated for the colonial strike in the Great Swamp and on Pomham's Warwick Neck settlement by burning virtually every house and bridge down in Warwick on March 17, 1676, with the exception of the Stone Castle (armed garrison at the time).

A force of approximately 80 Narragansett was camped on Warwick Neck in July 1676, awaiting coordination for an attack on Newport. Three hundred Colonial soldiers and Indian auxiliaries under the leadership of John Talcott marched on Warwick Neck and killed or captured 67 of the encamped Narragansett. The archaeological deposits that PAL has identified during the Phase I(c) machine-assisted surveys of the Bayside 1 and Bayside 2 sewer segments may date to the period of hostilities between Native Americans and English vying for cultural and political hegemony of 17th century Warwick Neck.

Proposed Evaluation and Mitigation Methods

Consultation and Coordination with the Narragansett Indian THPO and RIHPHC

The role and responsibility of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) relative to the Section 106 Process and consultation with the Narragansett Indian Tribal Historic Preservation and WSA during this project are subjects of ongoing discussion. PAL has proceeded with investigations to date with the understanding that the installation of the sewers constitutes an undertaking. Accordingly we have communicated with the SHPO and THPO during the course of our assessment surveys and Phase I(c) surveys. We have now reached a point in the archaeological investigations where further excavation, evaluation, analyses and interpretation would require the on-site presence and active participation of representatives of the NITHPO.

The remainder of this document is the recommended plan to further identify, document, evaluate, and recover significant data from features identified to date and as yet undiscovered features associated with the Native American occupation of the Mill Cove Site within the Bayside 2 sewer segment; features that could be affected by planned construction. It includes recommendations for further systematic machine trenching and exposure of subsoils to determine the extent to which the site exists and extends along the planned construction easement along Longmeadow Avenue and Ocean Drive. And it details the research design for excavation of exposed features to document their morphology, determine their function, sample and analyze their contents, and interpret the behavior that resulted in their origins.

Following saw cutting of asphalt and removal of the road and gravel bed, a flat-bladed backhoe will be used to open / reopen Longmeadow Avenue Trench 2, and expand it to include any areas that could be affected by new sewer installation. Similarly, Machine Trench 3 on Ocean Drive will be expanded north and south to determine the extent of the feature of serious concern observed there.

In the expanded Longmeadow Avenue Machine Trench, the subsoils will be exposed to revisit already known features and extend the search for as yet undiscovered features where the planned sewer will be installed. Any exposed features or suspected features will be further investigated by hand to verify if they are cultural. Confirmed features will be documented in plans and digital photography. They will be inventoried by shape, color, size in plan, and content. In cases where multiple similar features are present, a representative sample of the feature type will be selected for further excavation. Excavated features will be sectioned to provide plans and profiles, and to collect chronological and/or culturally diagnostic data.

Excavations will be coordinated with RIHPHC and NITHPO. Any features that are considered potential ceremonial or burial-related deposits will be identified as such and in those cases, excavation will be suspended pending further consultation with RIHPHC and NITHPO.

Laboratory Processing and Analyses

All cultural materials and information recovered from the project area during the field investigations will be returned to the PAL facility for laboratory processing and analyses. These activities will include:

- cleaning, identification, and cataloging of any recovered cultural materials;

- analysis of spatial distributions of cultural materials;
- map and graphics production.

Appropriate conservation measures of artifacts will be taken when necessary. These conservation measures will be in accordance with the RIHPHC's *Standards for Storage and Custody of Archaeological Collections* (RIHPHC 1986).

Work Products

An analytical and technical report for the Bayside 1 and 2 segments will be prepared after laboratory processing and analyses are completed. The report will detail the results and interpretations of the evaluation/mitigation of specific features, as they relate to the significance of the Mill Cove Site, and will conclude with recommended protocols to be followed relative to unanticipated archaeological discoveries during construction.

Project Schedule

PAL will submit this scope of work to RIHPHC with a request to expand the duration and parameters of the existing archaeological permit. Upon receipt of the permit, fieldwork will be scheduled to begin within two weeks, dependant on weather conditions. The fieldwork will be completed within two weeks. A technical report will be submitted within 45 days after the completion of fieldwork.

Project Personnel

The archaeological investigations will be overseen by a principal investigator. The fieldwork will be supervised by a project archaeologist. All PAL project personnel meet the qualifications set by the National Park Service (36 CFR Part 66, Appendix C). Project archaeologists have at least two years of supervisory experience and two years of field experience in New England.

Cost

An effort and cost proposal will be generated following review and comment of this report.

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