Phase I(c) Archaeological Survey
Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) Project Corridor
and
Phase II Site Examinations
Comstock Farmstead (RI 2361),
Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363),
Quarry Site 3 (RI 2366), Quarry Site 4 (RI 2368),
and Foster's Ledge Quarry (RI 2367).

Coventry, Rhode Island

PREPARED FOR
Rhode Island Department of Transportation
United International Corporation

UNDER:
Archaeological Permit No. 04-32, issued November 5, 2004
Archaeological Permit No. 2006-23, issued June 30, 2006

SUBMITTED TO:
Prime Engineering, Inc.
142 Putnam Avenue
Johnston, Rhode Island 02919

BY
Timothy H. Ives, Ora Elquist, Project Archaeologists
Kristen Heitert, A. Peter Mair, II, Co-principal Investigators
PAL, Inc.

January 2012
(Revised October 2014)

PAL Publications

AUTOCAD SPECIALIST/CARTOGRAPHER
Dana M. Richardi

GIS SPECIALISTS
Jane Miller
Diana Brennan

EDITOR
Cathy Coffin

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Gail M. Van Dyke

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT
Hannah Lum

MANAGEMENT ABSTRACT

PAL has completed a Phase I(c) archaeological survey and Phase II archaeological site examinations within the proposed Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project area in Coventry, Rhode Island. The proposed project entails re-use of the abandoned rail bed of the former Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad from Log Bridge Road (western terminus) east to the vicinity of Town Farm Road. the scope of the archaeological survey and subsequent site examinations included research, subsurface testing, and the examination of recovered material to identify and evaluate potentially significant historic properties. A total of 457 50-x-50-centimeter (cm) shovel test pits were excavated during the Phase I(c) survey in areas of moderate to high archaeological sensitivity, as assessed during a walkover of the project corridor prior to subsurface archaeological testing. An additional 84 50-x-50-cm shovel test pits and 12 larger 1-x-1 meter (m) excavation units were excavated during the site examination.

Subsurface investigations identified two pre-contact Native American sites: the Trestle Trail Overlook Site and the Coventry Center Pond Site. Post-contact period sites indentified included: several small granite quarrying activity areas (1, 2, and 5); features or site elements associated with the historic Foster Ledge Granite Quarry, including an access road (Ledge Road) and a granite loading platform along the north side of the former railroad bed; granite quarrying trim piles (Quarry Site 3); a boulder quarry field (Quarry Site 4); and, a previously unknown historic farmstead complex (Comstock Farmstead Site). Quarry sites 1, 2, and 5 contained limited archaeological information and are not potentially significant archaeological sites. A redesign of the project to address wetlands issues resulted in avoidance of the Trestle Trail Overlook Site. Quarry sites 3 and 4, the Comstock Farmstead Site, and the Coventry Center Pond Site fall within the limits of disturbance and Phase II site examinations were conducted to define the physical attributes of each site and to collect sufficient information to evaluate the significance of each site.

The Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363) is a small and diffuse, low-density artifact scatter, approximately 20-x-10 m, representing a short-term, limited-use episode of stone tool maintenance and/or manufacture. The presence of rhyolite and chert chipping debris suggests the possibility that the site is associated with the Transitional Archaic Susquehanna Tradition. However, no diagnostic artifacts or features were identified. **The Coventry Center Pond Site does not meet the eligibility criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) and no further work is recommended.**

The Quarry Site 4 (RI 2368) consists of several quarry features comprised of pit depressions, and drilled and split granite boulders covering an area approximately 70-x-45 m. The relative lack of artifacts throughout the area, the relatively small amount of features, the topographic setting, and the archival data all suggest that the Quarry Site 4 was not part of a commercial operation or a small-scale farm quarry, but an expedient quarrying site associated with the construction of the railroad. **The Quarry Site 4 does not meet the eligibility criteria for listing in the National Register and no further work is recommended.**

The Quarry Site 3 (RI 2366) consists of an area measuring approximately 90-x-70 m, though elements associated with the site continue farther to the north where large, split boulders quarried from nearby boulder fields underwent final shaping and processing as part of a commercial operation. The Quarry Site 3 was part of the larger Foster Ledge granite quarry operation to the north. The property was used for rough finishing granite blocks in preparation for rail shipment from at least as early as 1862 and well into the mid-twentieth century. The low density of cultural materials recovered from the site and the largely surficial nature of the surviving structural components indicate that additional archaeological work is unlikely to yield new or substantive information about the site. **The Quarry Site 3 does not meet the eligibility criteria for listing in the National Register and no further work is recommended.**

The core of the Foster Ledge Quarry (RI 2367) lies to the north of the project corridor. This quarry provided stone for the construction of many mills in the Pawtuxet Valley, including the Centerville Mill in West Warwick. Central elements of this quarrying complex include numerous tailing and trim granite debris piles located north and outside of the limits of the project corridor. The remains of a cut-granite stone retaining wall that served as a loading platform is located within the project corridor, as is a dirt path that linked the Foster Ledge Quarry with the railroad.

The Comstock Farmstead Site (RI 2361) is a former agrarian complex consisting of several major structural elements including a house, barn, an artificially ponded area, and at least one, and possibly up to four, outbuildings. Numerous rock piles and stone walls are also present on the farmstead. The core of the site measures approximately 100-x-75 m, although some of the peripheral features such as the rock piles and the stone walls extend well beyond those limits. The Comstock Farmstead Site provides information about the spatial organization of a small nineteenth-century agrarian complex located in a comparatively isolated rural context. The presence of a man-made impoundment and raceway suggests an earlier industrial use of the site, such as a sawmill. However, available archival sources did not provide any information about this aspect of the site and archaeological investigations did not produce any data confirming the presence of a mill. **The Comstock Farmstead Site may be eligible for listing in the National Register pending further research. As an archaeological site the information potential of the site, has been exhausted and no further work is recommended.**

The Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) follows the original path of the Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad (RI 2356). Numerous telegraph poles were documented within and along the project corridor right-of-way, paralleling the northern side of the abandoned railroad easement. Thirteen granite and concrete culverts run beneath the rail bed. One masonry and concrete bridge, the Quidnick Reservoir Bridge (ca. 1920) and three masonry and steel girder bridges, the Quidnick Brook Bridge (ca. 1920), the Coventry Center Pond Bridge (ca. 1920), and the Flat River Reservoir Bridge (ca. 1904) were identified. The Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad was determined eligible for listing in the National Register through consensus between the Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission and the Federal Highway Administration on February 3, 1998. The features related to the rail line documented along its course are consequently contributing elements to the significance of the railroad and efforts should be made to preserve them.

PAL recommends that the design of the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) take into consideration and incorporate the visual elements (features) of the Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad, the Comstock Farmstead Site, and the Foster Ledge Quarry, including Quarry sites 3 and 4 in the interest of historic stewardship. Each of these sites, though not significant archaeological resources, provide visual evidence of the historic development of central Coventry. Each site forms the basis for potential interpretive stations that could enhance the experience of patrons of the shared-use path.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

Prime Engineering, Inc. (Prime), under a contract with the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM), and in cooperation with the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is currently designing a multi-use bicycle, pedestrian, and equestrian path known as the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) in Coventry, Rhode Island (Figure 1-1). The RIDOT Cultural Resources Unit reviewed project plans and determined that the project area is sensitive for archaeological sites associated with pre- and post-contact Native American and Euro-American activities, and concluded that a Phase I(c) archaeological survey was required to identify potentially significant archaeological properties that may be impacted by the proposed undertaking. In response to a request from Prime and RIDOT, PAL has completed a Phase I(c) archaeological survey and Phase II site examinations for the proposed Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East). The archaeological survey and subsequent site examinations involved archaeological excavation within areas of proposed project impacts and the examination and assessment of the recovered material assemblage. The following report summarizes the goals, methodologies, and results of the archaeological surveys and offers recommendations based upon the results of the survey.

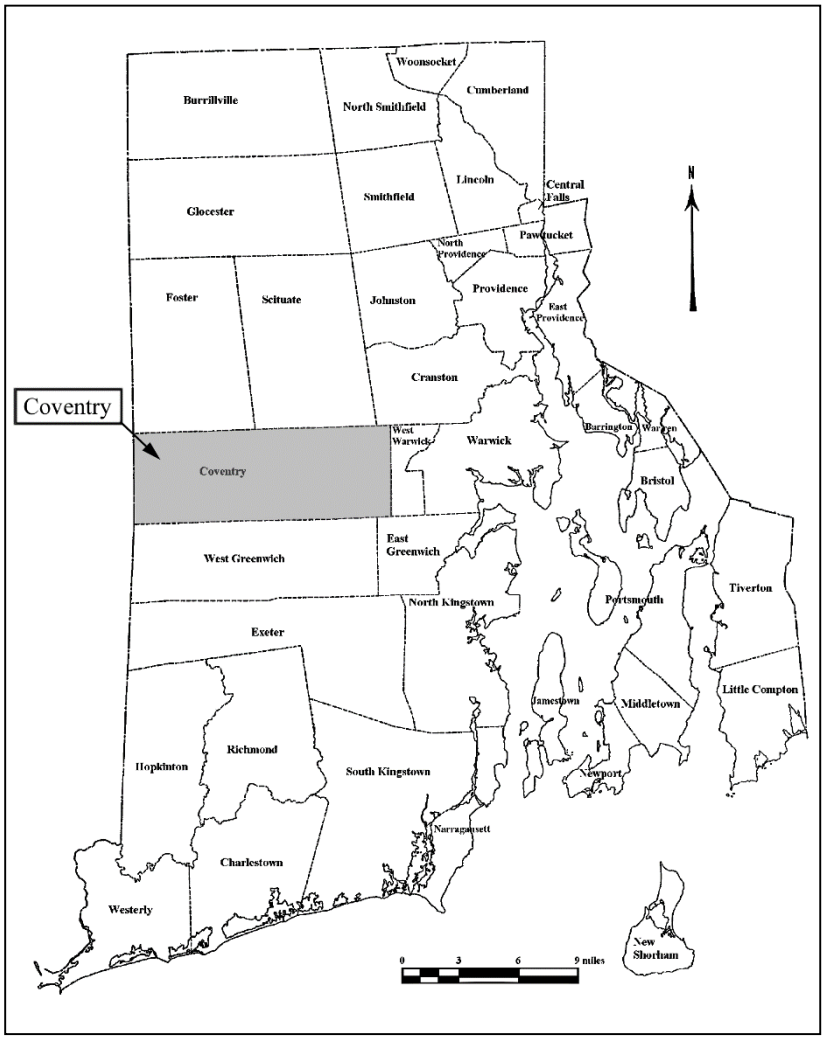


Figure 1-1. Location of the Town of Coventry within the State of Rhode Island.

Project Description and Scope

The Town of Coventry is part of Kent County and includes the west-central portion of the State of Rhode Island from West Warwick to the Connecticut/Rhode Island state line. The Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project corridor extends approximately 4.8 miles or 8.04 kilometers (km) from Log Bridge Road (western terminus) east to the vicinity of Town Farm Road (Figure 1-2). The project corridor traverses river valleys, upland terrain, and several wetlands

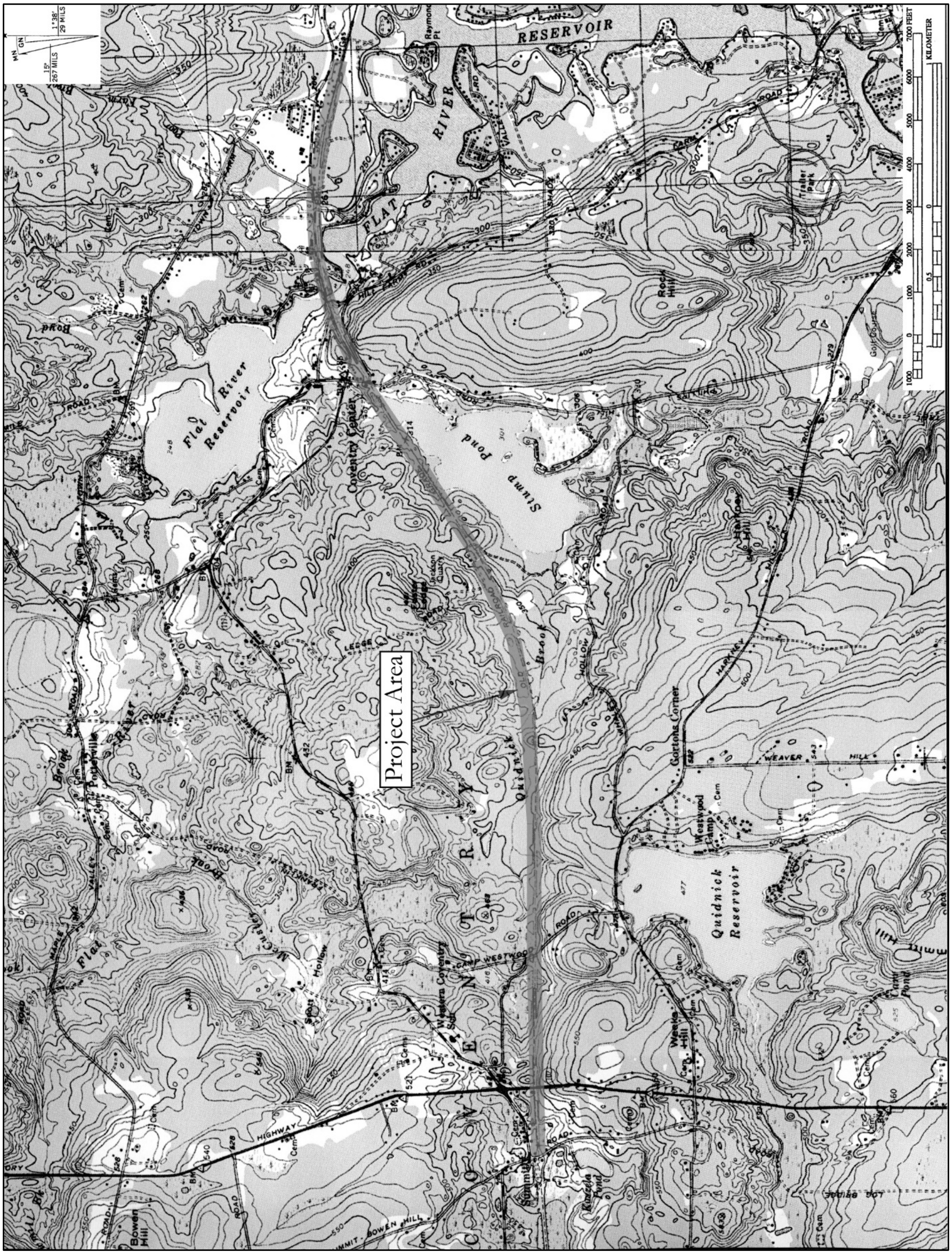


Figure 1-2. Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) Project Corridor on the Crompton and Coventry Center, RI USGS topographic quadrangles.

associated with Flat River, Stump Pond, and Quidnick Brook. The trail will be located within the existing New York, New Haven, and Hartford Railroad Company right-of-way (formerly the Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad) through central Coventry. Elements of the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project include:

- Construction of a 10-foot (ft)-wide paved bicycle/pedestrian path on the existing rail bed.
- Clearing of an 8-ft-wide trail within the existing railroad corridor right-of-way, but not on the rail bed. This unpaved, equestrian trail will meander on a course running generally parallel to the paved path and will occasionally cross or run directly alongside the path, especially at crossings and bridges.
- Rehabilitation/construction of bridge crossings using existing abutments and superstructures.
- Construction of parking areas for path/trail users, a canoe portage and a small maintenance building.
- Installation of landscaping, signage, safety rails and fencing, and minor drainage improvements.

The proposed impacts associated with the project will be limited to the existing railroad corridor right-of-way and no right-of-way acquisition or permanent easements will be required for this project.

The Phase I(c) archaeological survey involved subsurface archaeological excavation within areas of proposed project impacts and the examination of the recovered material assemblage. PAL staff completed fieldwork for the project on January 14, 2005 under archaeological permit number 04-32 issued by the Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission (RIHPHC) on November 5, 2004. The Phase I(c) archaeological survey resulted in the identification of two potentially significant pre-contact Native American archaeological resources, the Trestle Trail Overlook Site (RI 2362) and the Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363), and four post-contact period sites, the Comstock Farmstead (RI 2361), Quarry Site 3 (RI 2366), Quarry Site 4 (RI 2368), and the stone features associated with the former Foster Ledge Quarry (RI 2367). Design modifications to address RIDEM comments resulted in avoidance of the Trestle Trail Overlook Site. However, project plans indicate that the remaining five sites would be impacted by proposed construction and Prime contracted with PAL to conduct Phase II site examination studies. The Phase II site examinations were conducted in 2006 under archaeological permit number 06-23 issued June 30, 2006.

Implementing Authority

The Phase I(c) archaeological survey and Phase II site examinations were conducted in compliance with relevant federal and state regulations, including Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR § 800) and the Rhode Island Historic Preservation Act of 1968 (R.I.G.L. 42-45). All tasks associated with this project were undertaken in accordance with the standards outlined in the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation (48 FR 44716, 1983) and the Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission's Performance Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Projects (RIHPHC 2003).

Project Personnel

Fieldwork for the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project corridor was coordinated by A. Peter Mair, II (project manager and principal investigator for Phase I(c) and the pre-contact period site

examinations). Kristen Heitert served as co-principal investigator for the post-contact period site examinations. Anna Graves, Timothy H. Ives, and Ora Elquist (project archaeologists) supervised the fieldwork carried out by Weston Davey, Mike Duffin, Melvin Faris, Erin Flynn, Donna Ingham, Mark Lance, Gregg Laskoski, Phillip Mendenhall, Wendi Murray, Colin Porter, Kirk Van Dyke, and Carrie Zwang (archaeologists). Timothy Ives conducted the analysis of the artifacts for the Phase I(c) survey. Erin Kuns supervised the processing and analysis of the Phase II cultural material. Processing was carried out by Tyler Beebe, Michael Duffin, Michael Hubbard, Kristen Jeremiah, Phillip Mendenhall, Brian O'Donnchadha, and Billie Seet. Loren Sparling and Jennifer Macpherson performed the analysis.

Disposition of Project Materials

All recovered cultural materials are stored in acid-free Hollinger boxes with box content lists and labels printed on acid-free paper. These boxes are stored at PAL according to curation guidelines established by the Secretary of Interior's standards found at 36 CFR § 79, and RIDOT and RIHPHC guidelines. PAL serves as a temporary curation facility until all project materials are transferred to the RIDOT Archaeological Collections Center at the Woonsocket Depot for permanent curation.

CHAPTER TWO

RESEARCH DESIGN AND FIELDWORK METHODS

The archaeological investigations conducted within the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project corridor were designed to collect specific types of information that assist in the identification, evaluation, and management of cultural resources present within proposed impact areas. The following chapter presents the research and field methodologies developed for the Phase I(c) survey and the Phase II site examinations.

Study Objectives

The goals of the Phase I(c) archaeological survey of the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project corridor were to locate and identify any potentially significant cultural resources that could be threatened by project activities. To accomplish this objective, three research strategies were used:

- archival research, including a review of literature and maps;
- field investigations, consisting of a "walkover" visual reconnaissance survey and subsurface testing; and
- laboratory processing and analyses of recovered cultural materials.

The archival research and walkover survey provided the information needed to develop environmental and historic contexts for the project area and develop a predictive model for archaeological sensitivity. Archaeological sensitivity is defined as the likelihood for belowground cultural resources to be present and is based on various categories of information:

- locational, functional, and temporal characteristics of previously identified cultural resources in the project area or vicinity; and
- local and regional environmental data reviewed in conjunction with existing project-area conditions documented during the walkover survey, and archival research about the project area's land use history.

Subsurface archaeological testing was conducted in areas determined during the sensitivity assessment to have high or moderate potential for containing archaeological deposits. Cultural materials recovered during the survey were processed in the laboratory and analyzed to interpret the nature of past human activities they represent. The artifact analyses were correlated with other field survey data and the resulting information was interpreted within the environmental and historic contexts developed for the project area. The result was an assessment of potentially significant archaeological resources and their eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register).

The goal of a Phase II site examination (36 CFR 800/4(c)) is to evaluate the eligibility of a site for listing in the National Register. A site examination investigation is designed to collect information about a site's boundaries, physical integrity, density, complexity, and age. Research questions are formulated to address the site's role in local and regional land use and settlement patterns, and its importance within larger Native

American contexts. Sufficient information should be obtained from a site examination to make a determination of significance and to develop a mitigation plan, if necessary.

Evaluating Significance and Historic Contexts

The different phases of archaeological investigation (survey, evaluation, and data recovery) reflect preservation planning standards for the identification, evaluation, registration, and treatment of archaeological resources (National Park Service [NPS] 1983). An essential component of this planning structure is the identification of archaeological properties that are eligible for inclusion in the National Register, the official federal list of properties that have been studied and found worthy of preservation. Archaeological properties can be a district, site, building, structure, or object, but are most often sites and districts (Little et al. 2000). The results of professional surveys and consultation with Native American or other ethnic communities are used to make recommendations about the significance and eligibility of archaeological properties.

An archaeological property may be pre-contact, post-contact, or contain components from both periods. Pre-contact (or what is often termed "prehistoric") archaeology focuses on the remains of indigenous American societies as they existed before substantial contact with Europeans and resulting written records (Little et al. 2000). In accordance with the NPS guidelines, the term "pre-contact" instead of "prehistoric" is used unless directly quoting materials that use the term "prehistoric." The date of contact varies across the country and in the New England region. There is no single year that marks the transition from pre-contact to post-contact. Post-contact (or what is often termed "historical") archaeology is the archaeology of sites and structures dating from time periods since significant contact between Native Americans and Europeans. Documentary records as well as oral traditions can be used to better understand these properties and their inhabitants (Little et al. 2000). Again, for reasons of consistency with the NPS guidelines, the term "post-contact" instead of "historical" is used when referring to archaeology unless directly quoting materials that use the term "historical."

The NPS has established four criteria for listing significant properties in the National Register (36 CFR 60). The criteria are broadly defined to include the wide range of properties that are significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture. The quality of significance may be present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The criteria allow for the listing of properties:

A. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or

B. that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or

C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or

D. that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history.

Archaeological properties can be determined eligible for listing in the National Register under any one or all four of the established criteria (Little et al. 2000; Parker and King 1998). Significance under any of these criteria is determined by the kind of data contained in the property, the relative importance of research

topics that could be addressed by the data, whether these data are unique or redundant, and the current state of knowledge relating to the research topic(s). A defensible argument must establish that a property "has important legitimate associations and/or information value based upon existing knowledge and interpretations that have been made, evaluated, and accepted" (McManamon 1990:15).

The criteria are applied in relation to the historic contexts of the resources. A historic context is defined as follows:

> A historic context is a body of thematically, geographically, and temporally linked information. For an archaeological property, the historic context is the analytical framework within which the property's importance can be understood and to which an archaeological study is likely to contribute important information (Little et al. 2000).

The formulation of historic contexts is a logical first step in the design of an archaeological investigation and is crucial to the evaluation of archaeological properties in the absence of a comprehensive survey of a region (NPS 1983:9). Historic contexts provide an organizational framework that groups information about related historic properties based on a theme, geographic limits, and chronological periods. A historic context should identify gaps in data and knowledge to help determine what is significant information that may be obtained from the resource. Each historic context is related to the developmental history of an area, region, or theme (e.g., agriculture, transportation, waterpower), and identifies the significant patterns of which a particular resource may be an element. Only those contexts important to understanding and justifying the significance of the property must be discussed.

Historical contexts are developed by:

- identifying the concept, time period, and geographic limits for the context;
- collecting and assessing existing information about these limits;
- identifying locational patterns and current conditions of the associated property types;
- synthesizing the information in a written narrative; and
- identifying information needs.

"Property types" are groupings of individual sites or properties based on common physical and associative characteristics. They serve to link the concepts presented in the historical contexts with properties illustrating those ideas (NPS 1983; 48 FR 44719).

The following historic research contexts have been developed to organize the data relating to the archaeological resources identified within the greater Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project area:

1. pre-contact and contact land use and settlement in Narragansett Country and the Pawtuxet River Drainage, circa (ca.) 12,500 to 300 radiocarbon years before present (B.P.); and
2. post-contact period land use and settlement patterns of central Rhode Island and Coventry, ca. A.D. 1650 to present.

Historic contexts, along with expected property types and locational patterns, are discussed in detail in Chapter 4. The potential research value of the known and expected archaeological resources identified within the project area is evaluated in terms of these historic contexts. This evaluation, along with management recommendations, is presented in Chapter 7.

Archival Research

The development of a historic context and a predictive model of expected property types and densities within the project area began with archival research, consisting of an examination of primary and secondary documentary sources. These sources include written and cartographic documents relating both to past and present environmental conditions as well as documented/recorded sites in the general project area. The information contained in archival sources formed the basis of the predictive models developed for the project area, and were an integral part of the archaeological survey.

Specific sources reviewed as part of the archival research for the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project area include:

State Site Files, Artifact Collection Reports, and Town Reconnaissance Surveys

The state site files at the RIHPHC were reviewed to locate any recorded archaeological sites in or close to the project area. These inventories include archaeological resources listed or eligible for listing in the National Register.

Cultural Resource Management Reports

Reports documenting cultural resource management (CRM) investigations conducted within the project vicinity were reviewed. These included reports of investigations in nearby areas and in ecological settings similar to those for Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East). These studies by PAL and others included Davin (1987), Fowler (1952, 1962, 1964, 1968, 1974-1975), Institute for Conservation Archaeology (ICA 1978), King and Ritchie (1986), Macpherson and Ritchie (2000), McBride (1984a), and Waller and Mair (2005).

Histories and Maps

Primary and secondary histories and historical maps and atlases were examined to assess changes in land use, to locate any documented structures, and to trace the development of transportation networks, an important variable in the location of post-contact period archaeological sites. Town, county, state, and regional histories, and historical maps and atlases (Beers 1870; Everts and Richards 1895) were consulted to locate sites dating to this period within and close to the project area.

Rhode Island Geographic Information Systems Data

Supplemental data about localized topography, geology, environment, drainage, and historic properties were provided using a combination of the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation and University of Rhode Island's online Rhode Island Geographic Information System (RIGIS) and ArcView computer software. Historical aerial orthophotographs available on line were also reviewed to track more recent changes along each corridor (RIGIS 1939, 1951, 1962, 1972, 1988, 1992).

Environmental Studies

Bedrock and surficial geological studies such as the Hermes et al. (1994) Bedrock Geologic Map of Rhode Island provided information about the region's physical structure and about geological resources near the project area. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Soil Conservation Service soil survey (Rector 1981) supplied information about soil types and surficial deposits within the project area and the general categories of flora and fauna that these soil types support. In addition, studies of past environmental settings of New England were consulted.

Walkover Survey

A walkover survey of the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) corridor right-of-way was conducted to document and assess present environmental conditions. Environmental information documented on the project maps during the walkover included the presence, types, and extent of fresh water; drainage characteristics; presence of bedrock outcrops and level terraces; and the angle of any slopes. The current physical condition of the project area is largely defined by the absence of or degree of natural or human disturbances to the landscape.

Typically encountered disturbances within a given project area may include those resulting from agricultural plowing, gravel or soil mining, or previous construction and site preparation activities. Extensive experience indicates that such disturbances can reduce the probability for encountering contextually intact archaeological sites. However, plowing, which can move artifacts from their primary vertical and horizontal contexts and is the most common type of disturbance in New England, does not necessarily compromise the physical integrity of all cultural deposits.

Another purpose of the walkover survey was to document surface indications of archaeological sites. While pre-contact sites in New England are most often found belowground, artifact scatters are sometimes exposed on the surface through cultural agents such as pedestrian and vehicular traffic, and natural processes such as erosion. Post-contact archaeological site types that might be visible include stone foundations, stone walls, and trash deposits. If the remains of a built resource such as a farmstead are present within a project area, it is likely that a cellar hole and associated landscape features such as stone walls, overgrown orchards and fields, and ornamental plantings may be visible on or above the ground's surface.

Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment

Information collected during the archival research and walkover survey was used to develop a predictive model of potential site types and their cultural and temporal affiliation. The development of predictive models for locating archaeological resources has become an increasingly important aspect of CRM planning.

The predictive model considers various criteria to rank the potential for the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project area to contain archaeological sites. The criteria are proximity of recorded and documented sites, local land use history, environmental data, and existing conditions. The project area was stratified into zones of expected archaeological sensitivity to determine which areas would be tested.

Pre-contact Period Archaeological Sensitivity

Archaeologists have documented 12,000 years of pre-contact Native American occupation of the region, and oral traditions of some contemporary tribes tell of a 50,000-year cultural legacy. Prior to 7,000 years ago, peoples focused primarily on inland-based resources, hunting and collecting along the Northeast's

waterways. After 7,000 years ago, settlement became more concentrated within the region's major river drainages. By 3,000 years ago, concurrent with a focus on coastal and riverine settlement, large populations were living in nucleated settlements and developing complex social ties, with language, kinship, ideology, and trade linking peoples across the Northeast. During the centuries prior to European contact, these groups began to coalesce into the peoples known as Pocumtucks, Nipmucks, Massachusetts, Wampanoags, Pokanokets, Mohegans, Pequots, and Narragansetts. The chronology of the pre-contact period is presented in detail in Chapter 4. Assessing the pre-contact archaeological sensitivity of any given project area depends on a consideration of past and present geographical and ecological characteristics, known site location databases, and knowledge of distinctive temporal and cultural patterns.

The choices that pre-contact Native Americans made about where they settled, how they organized themselves, and their technologies were all results of the dynamic relationship between culture and environment. Predictive modeling for larger-scale site location in southern New England has its roots in academic research including Dincauze's (1974) study of reported sites in the Boston Basin and Mulholland's (1984) dissertation research about regional patterns of change in pre-contact southern New England. Peter Thorbahn applied ecological modeling and quantitative spatial analysis, synthesizing data from several hundred sites in southeastern New England (Thorbahn et al. 1980), demonstrating that the highest concentration of pre-contact sites occurred within 300 meters (m) of low-ranking streams and large wetlands. The distribution of sites found along a 14-mile I-495 highway corridor in the same area reinforced the strong correlations between proximity to water and site locations (Thorbahn 1982). These and other large-scale projects provided data toward developing models of Native American locational and temporal land use (MHC 1982a, 1982b, 1984; RIHPC 1982) that became the foundation for site predictive modeling employed during CRM surveys through the next two decades.

Today, assessment of archaeological sensitivity within a given project area, and the sampling strategy applied to it, continues to take existing physiographic conditions into consideration but at multiple scales, from bedrock geology, to river drainages, to microenvironmental characteristics. These categories of data are used to establish the diversity of possible resources through time, the land use patterns of particular cultures, and the degree to which the landscape has been altered since being occupied (Leveillee 1999). Increasingly, social and cultural perspectives, as reflected in both the archaeological and historical records (Johnson 1999), and as expressed by representatives of existing Native American communities (Kerber 2006), are being taken into consideration when assessing archaeological sensitivity. Archaeological sampling strategies have also been evaluated and refined through applications of quantitative analyses (Kintigh 1992).

Geologic data provide information about lithic resources and current and past environmental settings and climates. Bedrock geology helps to identify where pre-contact Native Americans obtained raw materials for stone tools and gives indications of how far from their origin lithic materials may have been transported or traded. The variety and amount of available natural resources are dependent on soil composition and drainage, which also play a significant role in determining wildlife habitats, and forest and plant communities.

Geomorphology assists in reconstructing the paleoenvironment of an area and is particularly useful for early Holocene (PaleoIndian and Early Archaic Period) sites in areas that are different physically from 10,000 years ago (Simon 1991). Recent landscape changes such as drainage impoundments for highways and railroads, the creation of artificial wetlands to replace wetlands affected by construction, or wetlands drained for agricultural use, can make it difficult to assess an area's original configuration and current archaeological potential (Hasenstab 1991:57).

Beyond predicting where sites are located, archaeologists attempt to associate cultural and temporal groups with changes in the environmental settings of sites. Changes in the way pre-contact Native Americans used the landscape can be investigated through formal multivariates such as site location, intensity of land use, and specificity of land use (Nicholas 1991:76). However, distinguishing the difference between repeated short-term, roughly contemporaneous occupations and long-term settlements is difficult, and can make interpreting land use patterns and their evolution problematic (Nicholas 1991:86).

Contact Period Archaeological Sensitivity

The contact period in New England roughly dates from AD 1500 to 1650, and predates most of the permanent Euro-American settlements in the region. This period encompasses a time when Native and non-Native groups interacted with one another through trade, exploration of the coastal region, and sometimes conflict. While contact period sites are usually associated with Native American activity during this period, they can also include sites utilized by Native and non-Native groups such as trading posts.

Native settlement patterns during the contact period are generally thought to follow Late Woodland traditions, but with an increased tendency toward the fortification of village settlements. Larger village settlements are frequently expected along coastal and riverine settings, often at confluences. Inland villages are known to occur near swamp systems, which were exploited both as resource areas and as places of refuge in the event of attack. Such sites would likely contain material remnants reflecting the dynamics of daily life, trade, and a preparedness for defense.

The identification of contact period deposits is most frequently tied to the types of artifacts located within archaeological sites. Unfortunately, the majority of the archaeological data for this period in southern New England comes from the analysis of grave goods within identified Native American burial grounds, rather than from habitation sites and/or activity areas (Gibson 1980; Robinson et al. 1985; Simmons 1970). The available data suggest that sites dating to this period often contain traditionally pre-contact features and artifacts (e.g., storage pits, chipped-stone tools) as well as non-Native trade goods and objects (e.g., glass beads, iron kettles and hoes) (Bragdon 1996). The earliest contact period sites are often located at or near the coast and estuarine margin, since European visits to New England occurred via ship. Non-Native artifacts passed from the coastal region to the interior through trade and/or seasonal travel.

Post-contact Period Archaeological Sensitivity

The landscape of a project area is used to predict the types of post-contact period archaeological sites likely to be present. Major locational attributes differ according to site type. Domestic and agrarian sites (houses and farms) are characteristically located near water sources, arable lands, and transportation networks. Industrial sites (e.g., mills, tanneries, forges, and blacksmith shops) established before the late nineteenth century are typically located close to waterpower sources and transportation networks. Commercial, public, and institutional sites (e.g., stores, taverns, inns, schools, and churches) are usually situated near settlement concentrations with access to local and regional road systems (Ritchie et al. 1988).

Written and cartographic documents aid in determining post-contact period archaeological sensitivity. Historical maps are particularly useful for locating sites in a given area, determining a period of occupation, establishing the names of past owners, and providing indications of past use(s) of the property. Town histories often provide information, including previous functions, ownership, local socioeconomic conditions, and political evolution, which are used in the development of a historic context and to assess the relative significance of a post-contact period site.

The written historical record, however, tends to be biased toward the representation of Euro-American cultural practices and resources, particularly those of prominent individuals and families. Archival materials generally are less sensitive to the depiction of cultural resources and activities associated with socioeconomically or politically "marginalized" communities (MacGuire and Paynter 1991; Scott 1994). These communities may include, but are not limited to, Native Americans, African-Americans, and "middling" farming or working-class Euro-Americans.

Several archaeological studies conducted throughout New England have demonstrated the methodological pitfalls of relying exclusively on documentary or cartographic materials as a means to identify potential site locations associated with these types of communities. A large-scale archaeological study by King (1988) showed that in rural areas only 63 percent of the sites discovered were identifiable through documentary research. This suggests that approximately one-third of New England's rural Euro-American archaeological sites may not appear on historical maps or in town and regional histories.

More recent archaeological and ethnohistoric studies in the region have focused on the identification of other historically "invisible" communities, notably post-contact Native American communities. Several townwide surveys in southeastern Massachusetts have compiled archaeological and historical data about eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Native and African American communities that are poorly represented or are altogether absent in written town histories (Herbster and Cox 2002; Herbster and Heitert 2004). In central Massachusetts, active and influential Native Americans have been identified through archival research despite the recorded "disappearance" of this group in the early eighteenth century (Doughton 1997, 1999). The cultural continuity of groups such as the Aquinnah Wampanoag is more thoroughly documented in archival sources, but until recently archaeologists focused their attention on pre-contact archaeological deposits. Current studies include predictive models for distinctly Native American post-contact sites, as well as interpretations of eighteenth- through twentieth-century archaeological sites (Cherau 2001; Herbster and Cherau 2002).

Other archaeological investigations have focused on worker housing and landscape organization within mixed-cultural mining communities in northern New England (Cherau et al. 2003); the social and spatial organization of a mixed racial community in western Connecticut (Feder 1994); and material culture and architectural patterns among nineteenth-century mixed African-American and Native American households in central Massachusetts (Baron et al. 1996).

Information about post-contact period land use within a project area can also be collected through written and oral histories passed through family members and descendant communities. These types of information sources can often fill in gaps in the documentary record and provide details that are not available through more conventional archival sources. While informants and other oral sources are subject to contradictory interpretations just like the documentary record, this type of information can also provide important data for the identification and interpretation of archaeological sites. The sole use of and reliance on the written and oral historical records during archival research, however, can lead to an underestimation of the full range of post-contact period sites in any given region. Therefore, walkover surveys and subsurface testing, in conjunction with the critical evaluation of available documentary and cartographic resources, are required to locate and identify underdocumented post- contact sites.

Archaeological Sensitivity Ranking

The Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project area was ranked according to the potential for the presence of archaeological resources based on information collected during the archival research and walkover survey. Subsurface testing was planned for areas assigned high and moderate sensitivity rankings where project impacts will occur. Table 2-1 is a summary of the different factors used to develop the archaeological rankings.

Table 2-1. Archaeological Sensitivity Ranking.

Presence of Sites		Proximity to Favorable Cultural/ Environmental Characteristics			Degree of Disturbance			Sensitivity Ranking
Known	Unknown	< 150 m	≥ 150 ≤ 500 m	> 500 m	None/Minimal	Moderate	Extensive	
•		•			•			High
•		•				•		High
•		•					•	Low
•			•		•			High
•			•			•		High
•			•				•	Low
•				•	•			High
•				•		•		High
•				•			•	Low
	•	•			•			High
	•	•				•		Moderate
	•	•					•	Low
	•		•		•			Moderate
	•		•			•		Moderate
	•		•				•	Low
	•				•			Moderate
	•					•		Low
	•			•			•	Low

Numerous pre-contact Native American archaeological sites spanning the late Middle Archaic through Late Woodland periods are known in relatively close proximity to the project corridor. The inventory of recorded archaeological resources for Coventry demonstrates a clear settlement focus concentrated along the well-drained terraces of major rivers and tributary streams such as the Flat River/South Branch/Pawtuxet River and region's interior freshwater ponds. A walkover of the proposed project corridor confirmed that the former Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad easement cross areas that are considered sensitive for containing pre-contact Native American resources. Undisturbed sections of the construction envelope share characteristics that coincide with known Native American sites areas and as yet undiscovered pre-contact Native American resources were expected to be encountered during the Phase I(c) archaeological survey. Furthermore, nineteenth- through twentieth-century post-contact resources or cultural features associated with the railroads such as numerous telegraph poles, sections of existing rail lines and ancillary railroad features were observed during the walkover. These elements were considered to be potentially significant features that might contribute to the historical value of the Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad and additional features were expected within the project right-of-way. Consequently, the greater Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) was considered sensitive for containing pre-contact Native American and post-contact period cultural resources.

The key variable in extant archaeological sensitivity for the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) is the relative integrity of site area soils. Late-nineteenth- and twentieth-century disturbances associated with construction and maintenance of the Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad and granite quarrying activity are evident along the project corridor. The limiting factor influencing the possibility that intact archaeological deposits would be encountered was the degree to which the original lands surfaces have been modified or reshaped by ground surface alterations. The sequence of post-contact period changes along and beneath the former railroad easement may have resulted in disturbances and relative destruction of any extant archaeological deposits. The relative degrees of subsurface disturbances were assessed through a walkover and subsurface investigation of the project corridor. Considering the degree of previous disturbance to the project area, the greater project area was assessed as exhibiting moderate to high archaeological sensitivity.

Subsurface Testing

The goal of the Phase I(c) archaeological survey of the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) was to determine the presence or absence of potentially significant archaeological resources that could be affected by construction of the proposed shared-use path. Subsurface testing was conducted in project impact areas with moderate and high archaeological sensitivity to locate and identify any archaeological resources. A total of 457 50-x-50 centimeter (cm) shovel test pits were excavated along the project corridor. These test pits, 50-x-50 cm in size, were excavated as linear test pit transects, judgmentally placed test pits, and supplemental testing arrays within the project corridor right-of-way between project stations STA 500+00.00 and STA 768+81.69.

The goal of the Phase II site examination (36 CFR § 800.4(c)) is to determine the site's significance and eligibility for listing in the National Register. Field investigations entailed close-interval testing to determine the horizontal and vertical boundaries of each site and to further identify concentrations of cultural materials and features. An arbitrary N0E0 datum was established at a test pit previously excavated during the Phase I(c) survey that produced cultural material. The test pits, measuring 50-x-50 cm, were excavated at a 10 m interval using a coordinate grid expanding out from the datum. Once site boundaries were defined, additional testing at a 5-m interval was undertaken to complete the grid. Excavation units (EUs) measuring 1-x-1 m were excavated in the locations of any features or high-density artifact concentrations identified during test pit excavations, and/or to provide a more detailed evaluation of the vertical stratigraphy at the site. Table 2-1 provides a summary of subsurface testing at the Phase II site examination level.

All test pits were excavated by shovel in arbitrary 10 cm levels into sterile subsoil or to depths exceeding 50 cm below ground surface (cmbs), unless obstruction by natural elements such as rocks or roots impeded further excavation. Excavated soil was hand-sieved through ¼-inch mesh hardware screen, and all cultural materials remaining in the screen were bagged and tagged by level within each unit. The count and type of all recovered cultural material were noted. Soil profiles, including depths of soil horizons, colors, and textures, were recorded for each test pit on standardized PAL profile forms. All test pits were filled and the ground surface was restored to its original contour following excavation. Color digital images were taken of the general project corridor, identified site locales and railroad features, and fieldwork.

Laboratory Processing and Analyses

Cultural materials recovered during the Phase I(c) and Phase II archaeological surveys were organized by site and provenience, and recorded and logged in on a daily basis. Cultural materials were sorted by type and either dry-brushed or cleaned with tap water depending on the material or artifact type and condition. All cultural materials were cataloged using a customized computer program designed in Microsoft Access

2000. The program is a relational database, which provides the flexibility that is needed when cataloging archaeological collections that often contain disparate cultural materials such as stone, ceramics, and/or glass. Artifacts with similar morphological attributes are grouped into lots, which allows for faster and more efficient cataloging. The artifacts are stored in 2-millimeter thick polyethylene resealable bags with acid-free tags containing provenience identification information. The artifacts are placed in acid-free boxes that are labeled and stored in PAL's curatorial facility in accordance with current NPS standards.

Culturally modified lithic materials, such as stone tools and chipping debris, were identified in terms of material, size (0–1 cm, 1–3 cm, 3–5 cm, etc.), and color. A lithic-type collection, maintained at PAL and containing materials from various source areas in New England and nearby regions such as New York and Pennsylvania, was utilized in the identification of all lithic materials. Chipping debris was classified as either flakes or shatter. Pieces of debitage showing evidence of a striking platform, bulbs of percussion, or identifiable dorsal or ventral surfaces were called flakes. Debitage without these attributes, and exhibiting angular or blocky forms, were classified as shatter. Lithic debris was examined for edges that had been modified by use wear or intentional retouch.

Non-lithic artifacts were cataloged by material (e.g., ceramic, glass, coal, synthetic) and functional (e.g., plate, bowl, bottle, building material) categories. Artifacts having known dates of manufacture such as ceramics were also identified in terms of type (e.g., redware, pearlware, whiteware) when possible. In addition, ceramic sherds and bottle glass were examined for distinguishing attributes that provide more precise date ranges of manufacture and use. These included maker's marks, decorative patterns, and embossed or raised lettering. Tentative dating of post-contact archaeological resources was performed using ceramic indices according to Hume (1969), Miller (1990, 1991), Miller and Hurry (1983), and South (1977). An analysis of the different nail and bottle types was used to refine the tentative date ranges of historic occupation generated by the ceramic assemblages.

Curation

Following the laboratory processing and cataloging activities, all recovered cultural materials were stored in acid-free Hollinger boxes with box content lists and labels printed on acid-free paper. These boxes are temporarily stored at PAL according to curation guidelines established by the RIHPHC and RIDOT. All project materials will be transferred to the RIDOT Archaeological Collections Center at the Woonsocket Depot for permanent curation.

CHAPTER THREE

ENVIRONMENTAL AND GEOLOGICAL SETTING

Environmental features were important variables influencing Native American and post-contact period settlement and subsistence patterns throughout the past. Natural features and resources such as bedrock geology, soil drainage, vegetation, and location relative to major drainage systems and coastal bodies all affected past settlement location, type, and density, as well as the frequency of resettlement. Specific environments contained sets of natural resources while cultural and technological subsystems determined which of those resources past peoples could exploit. Knowledge of environmental data contributes to a clearer understanding of what natural resources were available to human groups and what the environment of Coventry was like in the past. The Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project corridor is generally situated along the Quidnick Brook and its intersection with the Flat River in central Coventry. Interior Rhode Island's streams, ponds, and wetlands supported a varied and reliable resource base that was periodically exploited and targeted by the region's indigenous peoples.

Rhode Island Physiography

Combined archaeological and ethnohistorical data for the region prompted the RIHPC (1986) to demarcate six distinct "physiographic zones" within Rhode Island's present-day geographical borders. RIHPC's physiographic distinctions were based on Roger Williams's description and account of Narragansett Indian land use and society during the early seventeenth century (Williams 1973). Williams' observations assist archaeologists in formulating predictions about the expectation for certain Native American site types to be present within a project area, based on a comparison of a project area's physiography with known seventeenth-century Narragansett Indian land use patterns. The combined physiographic contexts for Rhode Island include:

1. The Salt Pond Region
2. The Bay Area
3. The Near Interior
4. The Upland Interior
5. The Islands
6. Pre-5000 B.P. Context (RIHPC 1986).

The Salt Pond region is a group of low-lying estuaries along the southern coastline of the state. The Bay Area refers to an area of land less than 3 miles from the Narragansett Bay shoreline and an elevation of up to 100 feet, and roughly approximates the boundary between the mixed oak forest and the hemlock-northern hardwoods transition to the Near Interior. The Islands context is similar to both the Bay Area and Salt Pond Region physiographical contexts but pertains to landforms physically separated from the mainland and includes the Narragansett Bay islands (Aquidneck, Conanicut, Prudence, etc.) and Block Island.

The Near Interior physiographic zone is situated adjacent to the coastal zone and is analogous to the "thicke woodie bottomes" and valleys recorded by Williams (1973). The Near Interior does not exceed the 300-foot elevation around the coastal zone (Salt Pond, Bay Area, and Island contexts) and represents a transition zone between the coastal plain to the hemlock northern hardwoods forest. This area supports a high diversity of plant and animal species (RIHPC 1986). The Upland Interior physiographic context

is a line of the northern hardwood forests above the 300-foot contour elevation around the Near Interior context (RIHPC 1986). The Upland Interior is modeled to coincide with the area of hunting camps described by Williams (1973) in 1643. The Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project corridor is located near the transition from the Near Interior and Upland Interior physiographic zones of western Rhode Island (Figure 3-1).

The pre-5000 B.P. context is archaeologically underrepresented in the region. Recession of the glaciers, alterations of the landscape, successions in plant and animal communities, and subsidence of the coastline because of rising sea levels complicate the early archaeological record. Native American sites associated with the pre-5000 B.P. context are always found in one or more of the previously discussed physiographic zones. Their depth of time prevents archaeologists from irrefutably assigning these ancient sites to specific temporal environmental and biotic conditions given their alteration through time. General trends in animal and plant successions are known, but the resolution of scale necessary to determine Rhode Island's microenvironments during these time periods is presently lacking.

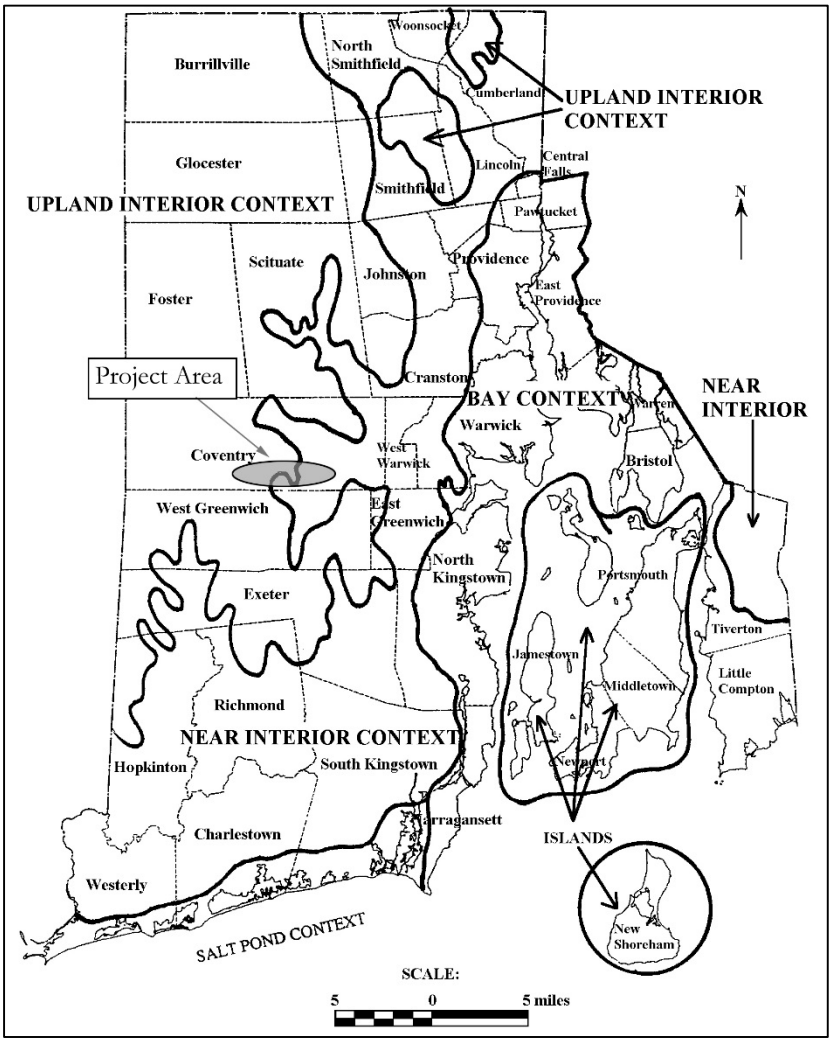


Figure 3-1. Physiographic zones of Rhode Island showing the location of the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project corridor at the ecotonal transition from the Near Interior and Upland Interior physiographic zones (source: RIHPC 1986).

Surficial Geology

The topography of southern New England is the result of glacial[1], fluvial, and coastal dynamics. Although the timing of the glacial maximum in southern New England is difficult to assess, it is likely that the Laurentide ice sheet reached its maximum between 25,000 and 21,000 years ago, covering all of Rhode Island south to the Ronkonkoma-Block Island-Martha's Vineyard Moraine (Lawson 1995). Following 21,000 years ago, glacial ice began its slow retreat inland resulting in the deglaciation of Rhode Island by ca. 15,000 years ago (Lawson 1995). The periodically advancing and receding ice sheet transported a dense assortment of silt, sand, gravel, and stone, known as glacial till. Ridges of till were deposited during the last glacial retreat

[1]The Narragansett Indian Tribal Historic Preservation Officer informs that Narragansett oral histories do not acknowledge glaciation of the region. The Narragansett Indian tribal position is one of continuous uninterrupted occupation of the region by the Narragansett extending back thousands of years.

forming the terminal moraine ridge of Charlestown along Rhode Island's southern coastline between 21,000 and 16,000 years ago (Lawson 1995).

The glacial advance and subsequent retreat eroded bedrock, realigned drainages, and deposited till, boulder erratics, and other material along its course. Flowing meltwaters and stationary blocks of ice created visible landforms such as glacial swamps, kames, eskers, terraces, moraines, and outwash plains. The erosional forces of wind and water continued to transform the southern New England surface as the glaciers slowly melted. Glacial meltwaters drained into the oceans resulting in the rise in sea level and transgression of the sea over the coastal sand and gravel outwash plain. A series of vegetative successions began by 14,000 years ago following soil deposition and development (Ogden 1977).

Glacial activity across Rhode Island resulted in four discrete topographic zones:

1. Upland till plains in the western part of the state away from the coast composed primarily of granite, schist, and gneiss rocks;

2. Narragansett till plains located primarily in Newport and the Narragansett Bay islands composed of glacial till from sedimentary rock, shale, sandstone, conglomerates, and coal;

3. Charlestown and Block Island moraines along the southern Rhode Island coastline marking the glacier's terminal southern extent; and

4. Outwash deposits of broad level plains of gravel, sand, silt, and clay along the western edge of Narragansett Bay (Rector 1981).

The Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project corridor is situated within an area of sandy outwash straddling the Flat River Reservoir and extending westward to the village of Summit. The project corridor generally parallels a transition from the outwash to an area of glacial till to the north.

Bedrock Geology

A description of a project area's underlying bedrock geology and regional stone outcrops is useful in addressing a project area's potential for containing Native American and/or post-contact period cultural resources. Stone and boulder outcrops were valuable commodities periodically exploited by the region's indigenous inhabitants, as well as by post-contact farmers for economic purposes.

The Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project corridor is situated within the Scituate Igneous Suite of the West Bay Area. Bedrock underlying the project area consists of Devonian age granite (Dsg). Scituate Igneous Suite granite is a gray to pink coarse-grained porphyritic to subporphyritic subsolvus granite (Hermes et al. 1994). This granite has been quarried during the post-contact period to provide building material for both local and non-local construction.

Preferred lithic materials for the manufacture of chipped-stone tools included quartz, quartzites, fine-grained rhyolites, and argillaceous mudstones. Rhyolites were either acquired regionally from lithic source outcrops located in Cumberland, Warwick, or southeastern Massachusetts or were gathered as cobbles from the local till, streambeds, or coastal margins of Narragansett Bay. Some of these stones include cobbles of red rhyolite derived from the Wamsutta formation (Schafer 1961) that was commonly used by Native American people to manufacture chipped-stone tools. Argillite outcrops are found on Aquidneck and Conanicut islands in Narragansett Bay. This material was quarried and utilized for stone toolmaking by Native Americans beginning around 5,000 years ago. Quartz and quartzites were commonly collected as cobbles from riverine or coastal margins, which are ubiquitous in the region.

Soils

Soils are the product of "physical and chemical processes acting upon geological material" (Rector 1981:57). Glacial ice picked up and ground bedrock, fragments of which were then transported and deposited as a mixture of unweathered rock particles of various sizes. These sediments were separated and sorted by glacial meltwater. Strong winds distributed fine eolian (windblown) particles over the southern New England landscape. Vegetation became established, chemical processes of weathering increased, and rock sediments and decomposed vegetation developed into soils. The soils in the region have developed since the retreat of the glaciers (Rector 1981).

The Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project corridor traverses multiple soil types classified by the USDA Soil Conservation Service (USDASCS) (Rector 1981). These soils include mixed gravel, cobble, sand, and silt outwash. Representative soil series are presented in Table 3-1. However, the greater project corridor itself consists primarily of soils that have been disturbed or filled upon, due to nineteenth- through twentieth-century rail line construction and maintenance. Consequently, the proposed bike path that will be located within the center of the former rail bed are likely developed Udorthents (UD) or Urban land complex (Ur) soil types.

Local Drainage Patterns

The Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project corridor is situated within the greater Pawtuxet River Drainage Basin of central Rhode Island (Figure 3-2). The greater project area is contained within the Flat River sub-basin, which comprises a southern portion of the larger Pawtuxet River watershed. The western to central portion of the project corridor crosses a series of minor streams feeding into the Quidnick Brook. The central to eastern portion of the project crosses Coventry Center (Stump) Pond and the Flat River Reservoir. Generally speaking, all of the water bodies encountered in the project corridor drain from west to east, feeding into the Flat River Reservoir.

Existing Project Area Conditions

PAL staff conducted a walkover of the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project corridor to collect information about the project area's environmental attributes and to look for indications of existing archaeological sites. The project corridor follows the abandoned Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad bed. The corridor traverses environmental settings that are known to correlate with Native American site locales. These areas primarily included the well-drained margins of the Flat River, Coventry Center (Stump) Pond, and Quidnick Brook, and pre-contact Native American cultural resources were expected to be located at these locales. The margins of the former rail line where the equestrian path is proposed are typically populated by secondary growth forest of mixed deciduous species, with a predominance of oak.

The former Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad line has been cut and filled along much of its length, ranging between 20 ft above to 25 ft below original surface grade. The railroad bed consists of a series of bedding fills overlain by crushed blue stone. Nineteenth- and twentieth-century railroad features were also identified during the course of the walkover, and their positions were recorded on project plans. Extant elements of the former railroad operation include intact and sawn telephone/ telegraph poles, evenly spaced along the north side of the abandoned rail easement, and historical masonry drainage culverts and bridge crossings. Telegraph poles are a reminder of the importance of late-nineteenth- to early-twentieth-century communication networks in Rhode Island. The proposed Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project corridor also traverses the villages of Summit and Coventry Center, observed features associated with the late-nineteenth-century Foster Ledge granite quarrying industry were witnessed along the project corridor.

Table 3-1. USDASCS (Rector 1981) soil types identified within the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) Project Corridor.

Soil type	Slope	Topographic features	Drainage/permeability characteristics
Aa: Adrian muck	0-2 percent	Depressions and small drainageways of glacial till uplands and outwash plains	Very poorly drained/rapid permeability
CeC: Canton and Charleton fine sandy loams	3-15 percent	Side slopes and crests of glacial upland hills ands ridges	Well drained/moderately rapid to rapid permeability
ChB: Canton and Charlton very stony fine loams	3-8 percent	Side slopes and crests of glacial upland hills and ridges	Well drained/moderately rapid to rapid permeability
CkC: Canton and Charlton extremely stony fine sandy loams	3-5 percent	Side slopes of glacial upland hills and ridges	Well drained/moderately rapid to rapid permeability
EfA: Enfield silt loam	0-3 percent	Terraces and outwash plains	Well drained/moderate to very rapid permeability
HkA: Hinckley gravelly sandy loam	0-3 percent	Terraces and outwash plains	Excessively drained/rapid to very rapid permeability
HkC: Hinckley gravelly sandy loam, rolling	3-15 percent	Terraces, outwash plains, kames, and eskers	Excessively drained/rapid to very rapid permeability
HnC: Hinckley-Enfield complex	3-15 percent	Hills and ridges of recessional moraines, kames, and eskers	Excessively drained/moderate to very rapid
MmA: Merrimac sandy loam	0-3 percent	Outwash plains and terraces	Somewhat excessively drained/moderately rapid to rapid permeability
MmB: Merrimac sandy loam	3-8 percent	Undulating terraces and outwash plains	Somewhat excessively drained/moderately rapid to rapid permeability
MU: Merrimac-Urban land complex	0-15 percent	Terraces and outwash plains in populated areas	Well drained/moderately rapid to rapid permeability
NaA: Narragansett silt loam	0-3 percent	Glacial till upland hills and till plains	Well drained/moderate to rapid permeability
NcC: Narragansett extremely stony silt loam	3-15 percent	Side slopes of glacial till upland hills	Well drained/moderate to rapid permeability
Rf: Ridgebury, Whitman, and Leicester extremely stony fine sandy loams	0-3 percent	Drainage ways and depressions in glacial till uplands	Poorly drained/moderately rapid to very slow permeability
UD: Udorthents-Urban land complex	--	Areas disturbed by cutting or filling or covered with buildings	Moderately well drained to excessively drained/variable permeability
WoB: Woodbridge very stony fine sandy loam	0-8 percent	Side slopes and crests of upland hills and drumlins	Moderately well drained/slow to very slow permeability

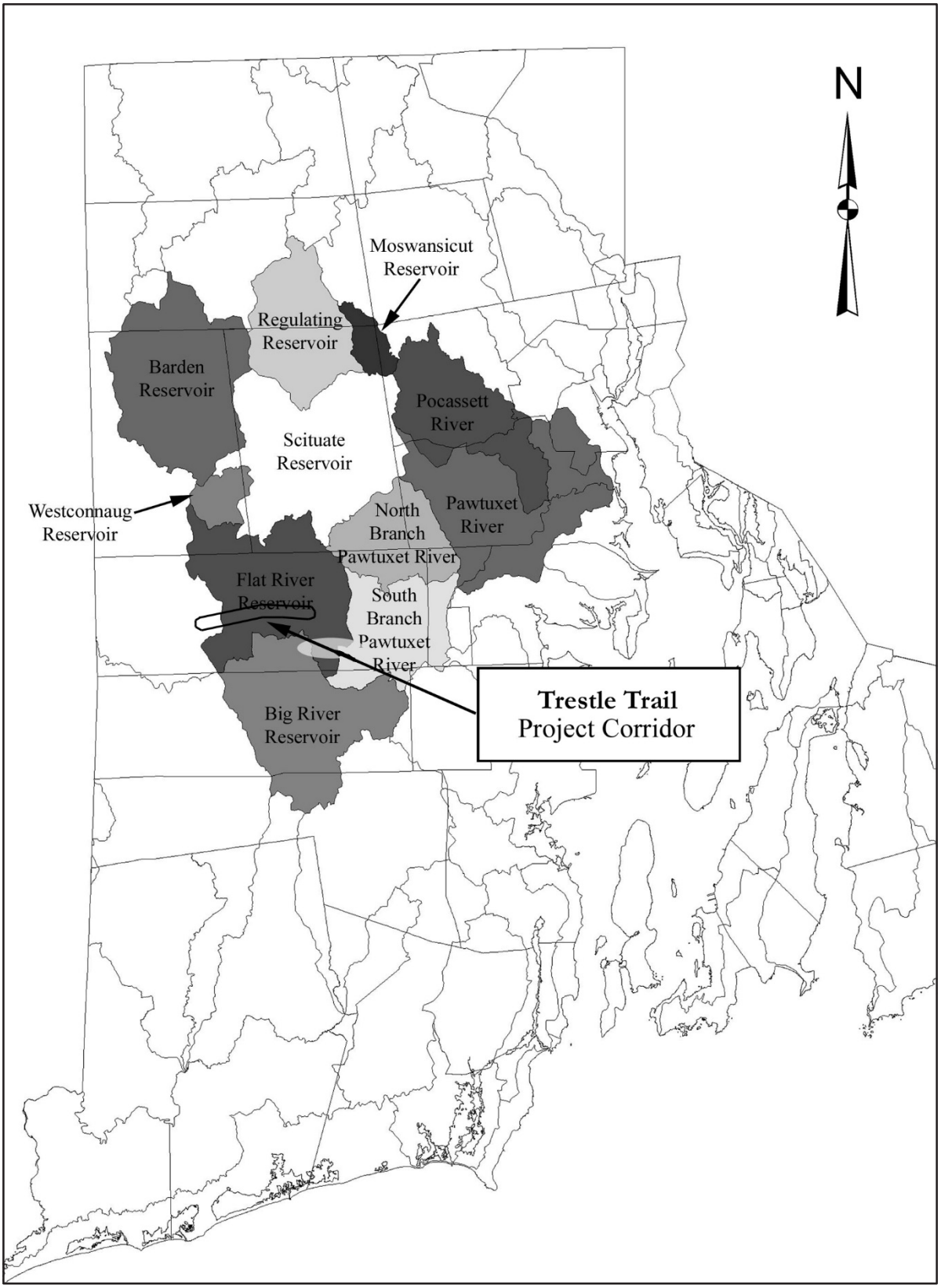


Figure 3-2. Location of the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) Project Corridor within the Pawtuxet River Drainage of central Rhode Island.

CHAPTER FOUR

CULTURAL CONTEXT

In order to gain an understanding of the history of human occupation of the project area it is necessary to have an understanding about the general history, settlement, and subsistence patterns of the Rhode Island region, with a particular focus on the territory encompassed within the town of Coventry. Accordingly, this chapter provides a brief overview of the history of the Rhode Island region during the pre-contact and post-contact periods, with a particular focus on territory encompassed within the town of Coventry. The information in this chapter is drawn from the results of professional CRM surveys, and through a review of state site files at the RIHPHC, pre-contact and post-contact period culture histories, and site-specific histories. A general pre-contact period cultural chronology for southern New England is presented in Table 4-1 and a post-contact period cultural chronology for Rhode Island is presented in Table 4-2.

Pre-contact Native American[2] Cultural History and Land Use Patterns for Rhode Island

Model development of pre-contact Native American land use and settlement patterns for southern New England and Rhode Island has benefited from the efforts of interested laymen, amateur societies, professional archaeologists, and the resident Native American peoples. Cultural preservation movements supported by municipal, state, and federal legislation document nearly 12,000 years of human occupation in the region. Prior to 7,000 years ago, peoples appear to have focused primarily upon inland-based resources, hunting and collecting along and across the Northeast's waterways, inland ponds, or interior postglacial swamps and wetlands. After 7,000 years ago, settlement became more concentrated along the region's major river drainages. Following 3,000 years ago, concurrent with a focus on coastal habitation, large populations began living in more nucleated settlements and developing complex social ties, with language, kinship, ideology, and trade linking peoples across the Northeast. During the centuries prior to European contact, these groups began to coalesce into the peoples known as the Narragansett, Wampanoag (Pokanoket), Massachusett, Mohegan, Nipmuc, and Pequot.

The database of recorded archaeological sites in the region permits an evolving reconstruction of past Native American remnant settlement systems and subsistence strategies. Unfortunately, recession of the glaciers, alterations of the landscape, successions in plant and animal communities, and subsidence of the coastline because of rising sea levels complicate the interpretation of the region's early archaeological record. Furthermore, settlement system information is biased in favor of durable material types, such as stone artifacts and sites that have resisted destruction. Consequently, the types of data available for study provide only a partial and incomplete view of past Native American lifeways. Nevertheless, a cultural history developed from the study of preserved archaeological data sets provides the basis and temporal framework in which Native American sites discovered during archaeological surveys can be interpreted.

[2] While a range of cultural identifiers exists in the literature including prehistoric, indigenous peoples, first peoples, Native Americans, and Indians, there is no universally accepted term. Until consensus is reached, PAL retains the use of the term Native American, without intended bias, in an attempt to acknowledge any and all Indian peoples, past and present, upon whose ancestral lands we conduct research. The Narragansett Indian Tribe prefers the use of the term Narragansett Indian, citing tribal oral histories that tell of an unbroken chain of Narragansett Indian traditions linking all of the time and cultural periods identified, and separated, by archaeologists. The tribe responds to the use of the term Native American as inappropriate.

Table 4-1. Native American Cultural Chronology for Southern New England.

Period	*Years*	*Identified Temporal Subdivisions*[1]	*Cultural Aspects*
PaleoIndian	12,500 - 10,000 B.P.[2] (10,500 - 8000 B.C.)	• Eastern Clovis • Plano	Exploitation of migratory game animals by highly mobile bands of hunter-gatherers with a specialized lithic technology.
Early Archaic	10,000 - 7500 B.P. (8000 - 5500 B.C.)	• Bifurcate-Base Point Assemblages	Few sites are known, possibly because of problems with archaeological recognition. This period represents a transition from specialized hunting strategies to the beginnings of more generalized and adaptable hunting and gathering, due in part to changing environmental circumstances.
Middle Archaic	7500 - 5000 B.P. (5500 - 3000 B.C.)	• Neville • Stark • Merrimack • Otter Creek • Vosburg	Regular harvesting of anadramous fish and various plant resources is combined with generalized hunting. Major sites are located at falls and rapids along river drainages. Groundstone technology first utilized. There is a reliance on local lithic materials for a variety of bifacial and unifacial tools.
Late Archaic	5000 - 3000 B.P. (3000 - 1000 B.C.)	• Brewerton • Squibnocket • Small Stemmed Point Assemblage	Intensive hunting and gathering were the rule in diverse environments. Evidence for regularized shellfish exploitation is first seen during this period. Abundant sites suggest increasing populations, with specialized adaptations to particular resource zones. Notable differences between coastal and interior assemblages are seen.
Transitional	3600 - 2500 B.P. (1600 - 500 B.C.)	• Atlantic • Watertown • Orient • Coburn	Same economy as the earlier periods, but there may have been groups migrating into New England, or local groups developing technologies strikingly different from those previously used. Trade in soapstone became important. Evidence for complex mortuary rituals is frequently encountered.
Early Woodland	3000 - 1600 B.P. (1000 B.C. - A.D. 300)	• Meadowood • Lagoon	A scarcity of sites suggests population decline. Pottery was first made. Little is known of social organization or economy, although evidence for complex mortuary rituals is present. Influences from the mid-western Adena culture are seen in some areas.
Middle Woodland	1650 - 1000 B.P. (A.D. 300 - 950)	• Fox Creek • Jack's Reef	Economy focused on coastal resources. Horticulture may have appeared late in period. Hunting and gathering were still important. Population may have increased from the previous low in the Early Woodland. Extensive interaction between groups throughout the northeast is seen in the widespread distribution of exotic lithics and other materials.
Late Woodland	1000 - 450 B.P. (A.D. 950 - 1500)	• Levanna	Horticulture was established in some areas. Coastal areas seem to be preferred. Large groups sometimes lived in fortified villages, and may have been organized in complicated political alliances. Some groups may still have relied solely on hunting and gathering.
ProtoHistoric and Contact	450 - 300 B.P. (A.D. 1500 - 1650)	• Algonquian	Groups such as the Wampanoag, Narragansett, and Nipmuck were settled in the area. Political, social, and economic organizations were relatively complex, and underwent rapid change during European colonization.

[1] Termed Phases or Complexes
[2] Before Present

Table 4-2. Post-Contact Period Cultural Chronology for Rhode Island.

General Period	Cultural Aspects/Diagnostic Cultural Material
Contact & Plantation 1500 - 1675 native	Initial European exploration and contact with Native American population. Native core areas established along major river drainages connected by extensive overland trail system. Increasing interaction introduced European diseases and material culture, altered native culture and society, and led to encroachment on native lands. Increasing numbers of Native Americans abandoned traditional lifestyles, many living in John Eliot's "praying towns." Extensive immigration of Puritan settlers to newly established permanent settlements beginning with coastal towns (e.g., Plymouth 1620, Boston 1630, Rehoboth 1645, Swansea 1668). Agriculture, fishing, and small local industry formed basis of economy. Early ironworks erected (e.g., Raynham ca. 1656; Saugus ca. 1645). Waterways and trails provided major transportation routes. Majolica, early tin-glaze earthenware, Rhennish and Bellarmine stonewares predominate the ceramic assemblage. Pipestems with mean bore diameter of 7-9/64ths-inch. Handwrought nails only. Freeblown glass bottles, pontil scar, no mold mark.
Colonial 1675 - 1775	European settlement and expansion, curtailed by Native American conflicts (especially King Philip's War 1675-76), continued after cessation of hostilities. Agriculture and raw material collection remained principal economic activity in peripheral areas. Industrial and commercial pursuits (e.g., distilling, shipbuilding, crafts, trade) focused in urban and coastal areas. Boston developed as emerging regional core. Intracoastal and international trade with other colonies, Europe, Africa, and West Indies (i.e., "triangle trade" in sugar and molasses, rum and slaves) prospered. Massachusetts colonists, angered by British economic restrictions (e.g., Stamp Act 1770, Townshend Acts 1767), rebelled in Boston Massacre (1770), Boston Tea Party (1773), and finally started fighting at Lexington and Concord (April 1775). Imported tin-glaze earthenware, white salt-glaze, English brown, Westerwald and scratch-blue stonewares. Imported and domestic redwares. Mean pipestem bore diameter of 4-6/64ths-inch. Handwrought nails only. Freeblown and molded glass bottles.
Federal 1775 - 1830	Maritime commerce increased following Peace of Paris (1783) ending Revolutionary War, including development of trade with China. Trade and economy suffered due to Embargo Act (1807) and War of 1812. Agriculture remained basis of rural economy. Shift from agriculture to industrial based economy began with improvements of water power technology and development of new mill privileges. Villages grew around rural mills to house workers. Development of road networks with advent of turnpikes. Coastal and riverine routes remained important transportation linkages. Construction of canals, such as Middlesex Canal in 1790s which provided additional ransportation link between Boston and Merrimack Valley. Creamware and pearlware predominate the ceramic assemblage. Handpainted and transfer print decorated. Small bore diameter (4/ inch) pipestems. Both hand-wrought and machine-cut nails. Post-1810 3-piece molded bottles introduced. First tin cans (post 1819).

(continued on next page)

Table 4-2. Post-Contact Period Cultural Chronology for Rhode Island. (continued)

General Period	Cultural Aspects/Diagnostic Cultural Material
Early Industrial 1830 - 1870	Introduction of railroads (ca. 1835) revolutionized transportation network. Small lines consolidated during period, carrying passengers and freight throughout region. Decline in agriculture linked to emigration of farmers to newly opened western territories and to factory and mill jobs, and due to decline in market caused by arrival of western produce via railroads. Civil War (1861-1865) generated major expansion of manufactures, including textiles, metal working, machinery, and shoe and boot industry. Decline in cotton supply due to war embargoes caused many mills to close or convert to manufacture of woolen goods or worsteds. Large scale immigration (especially from Ireland and Germany) generally to work in mills. Shift from whale oil to petroleum led to decline in whaling fisheries. Pearlware, hard white earthenware, yellowware, and domestic stoneware most common. Transfer print design technique predominates. Machine-cut nails predominate. 2-piece mold bottles replace 3-piece mold bottles (post 1840). Snap-case bottle bottom finish, no pontil scar (post-1857). Mason jar patented 1858. 1867 lettered panel bottles introduced. Pressed or sandwich-type glass (post-1827). Condensed milk can patented 1856. Vulcanization process patented by Goodyear (1839) resulted in increased production of rubber products.
Late Industrial 1870 - 1915	Technological developments resulted in major changes (e.g., steam power, electrification, gas lighting, etc.). Development of urban and interurban mass transportation, street railways and elevated lines (i.e., Boston subway system 1895-1912), resulted in growth of suburban communities. Arrival of large numbers of immigrants, especially Eastern and Southern Europeans and French Canadians. Expansion and development of large scale industrial concerns (e.g., Lowell and Fall River mills). Introduction of cranberry cultivation, primarily in Plymouth County (ca. 1878). Beginnings of summer and resort development in coastal areas. Hard white earthenware predominates the ceramic assemblage with yellowware and domestic stoneware. Machine-made bottles most common. Semi-automatic bottling machine (post-1881);replaced by fully automatic machine-made bottles (post-1903). Hutchinson stopper (post-1872/9); canning jar closure (post-1875); crown bottlecap(post-1892). 1904 double-seamed tin can introduced.
Modern 1915 - present	Decline of mill industry during Great Depression (1930s), temporarily reversed by World War II; decline continued following war. Introduction of automobile and major improvements in automobile transportation network (e.g., Interstates 84, 90, 95, and 495 and Route128). Agriculture remains important in rural economy with market gardens shipping produce to urban areas. State's textile and shoe industry decline after World War II offset by growth of professional and service industries (e.g., banking, computer, defense-related, etc.), mainly located along improved transportation corridors. Gradual decline of urban core areas with suburbanization of hinterlands. Hard white earthenware, stoneware, porcelains, and melamine (post-WWII). All bottles fully automatic machine-made. Purple manganese glass. Beer can introduced 1935. Pull-tab can opening introduced 1962. Plastic products (post-1900).

Data acquired from newly discovered pre-contact sites, when considered in appropriate cultural, temporal, and environmental contexts, can aid in a further refinement of current models that explain or describe cultural institutions and larger-scale social change through time.

The reconstructed Native American culture history of southern New England divides the past into specific temporal periods (see Table 4-1). Each of these periods is distinguishable on the basis of material culture, specific patterns of land use, and occasionally by other indications of social organization such as mortuary/burial practices or traditions. The patterns associated with cultural and temporal periods for southern New England are presented sequentially. The cultural and temporal groupings listed below are intended to serve as a generalized organizational framework only.

PaleoIndian Period (12,500–10,000 B.P.[3])

Southern New England was populated by bands of mobile people collectively referred to as PaleoIndians following the retreat of glacial ice between 21,000 and 16,000 years ago. The timing of the initial population of the Eastern Seaboard is presently debated by archaeologists with the discovery of cultural strata and artifacts apparently predating the PaleoIndian "Clovis Culture" or fluted point tradition in South Carolina, Virginia, and Pennsylvania. Nevertheless, the earliest unequivocal evidence for human occupation in New England is associated with the Clovis Culture and dates to 11,120 ± 180 radiocarbon years B.P. at the Vail Site in Maine (Gramly 1982). The presence of thick glacial ice in New England until roughly 16,000 years ago makes any discussion of a pre-Clovis occupation of the region largely academic.

Archaeologists have traditionally interpreted PaleoIndian settlement systems as involving mobile hunters exploiting large migratory game such as mastodon, caribou, bison, or elk (Dragoo 1976; Kelly and Todd 1988; Snow 1980). Some Western and Midwestern PaleoIndian sites, which have produced clear evidence for the exploitation of large, now extinct, animal species (mammoth/mastodon) by humans, have contributed to the acceptance of this specialized PaleoIndian subsistence model. However, the absence of extinct animal remains and associated PaleoIndian artifacts in Northeastern archaeological contexts has caused some to question a specialized PaleoIndian subsistence model for southern New England (Dincauze 1993; Ogden 1977). For example, Dincauze (1990) argues that the southern New England PaleoIndians were generalized in their subsistence regimes, opportunistically hunting and gathering available animal and plant species for consumption and use. Similarly, Jones and Forrest (2003) suggest the relatively higher regional occurrence of small PaleoIndian encampments as compared to larger base camps may be evidence for a PaleoIndian settlement system whereby mobile foragers adjusted to resource unpredictability. Following this line of thinking, small groups could and were better equipped to opportunistically exploit available resources, as opposed to larger groups. Alternatively, recent studies about PaleoIndian subsistence data (Waguespack and Surovell 2003), as well as available PaleoIndian settlement and subsistence information derived from the New England- Maritimes (Meltzer and Smith 1986; Spiess et al. 1998) and the Great Lakes regions (Stothers 1996), support the specialized subsistence hypothesis arguing that the PaleoIndians did indeed exploit large, migratory game, namely caribou.

Resource-rich freshwater glacial ponds and wetlands, which were widely distributed across the recently deglaciated New England landscape and likely supported a diversity of plant and animal species available for human consumption, may have enticed transient PaleoIndians to the southern New England area. Documented PaleoIndian materials from Rhode Island (Fowler 1952; George et al. 1993; Leveillee and Van Couyghen 1990; Rhode Island Historical Society 1936; Turnbaugh 1980) suggest that PaleoIndian settlement and/or exploitation was focused along postglacial wetlands, glacial lakes, and riverine settings.

[3] Dates presented in this chapter refer to radiocarbon years before present (B.P.) (1950) unless stated otherwise.

The Archaic Period (10,000–3000 B.P.)

The Archaic Period was a time of familiarization and settlement of the Eastern Woodlands and is subdivided into Early, Middle, and Late periods. Paleoenvironmental and archaeological evidence from the Archaic argues in favor of increased diversification of food resources, the generalized exploitation of faunal and floral species, and the establishment of tribal territories. In general, Archaic Period peoples are conceptualized as having a primarily hunting and gathering subsistence economy with a settlement pattern characterized by wandering or seasonal relocations within circumscribed territories.

Early Archaic Period (10,000–7500 B.P.)

The Early Archaic Period coincided with the commencement of the Holocene epoch, approximately 10,000 years ago. The early Holocene was marked by warmer and drier conditions than the preceding Pleistocene epoch. Early Archaic peoples continued to generalize in their subsistence base, hunting available game and harvesting available woodland and wetland vegetation and nuts (Dumont 1981; Forrest 1999; Kuehn 1998; Meltzer and Smith 1986; Nicholas 1987). Identifying Early Archaic archaeological deposits in southern New England and Rhode Island has typically relied on the recovery of bifurcate-based lithic projectile points. Concentrations of Early Archaic bifurcate-based projectiles have been identified around the perimeters of ponds, marshes, and wooded wetlands, and at the headwaters of major rivers in southeastern Massachusetts (Taylor 1976) and Connecticut (Pfeiffer 1986). Low-density recoveries of bifurcate-based point recoveries have also been reported from similar environmental settings in Rhode Island. The proximity of Early Archaic sites to wetland locations implies that wetland resources became increasingly important during the Early Archaic Period (Jones and Forrest 2003; Nicholas 1987).

A virtually exclusive reliance on non-local and extra-regionally available lithic materials for the production of Early Archaic bifurcate-based projectiles in the region suggests a highly mobile subsistence strategy for the Early Archaic bifurcate-based producers (Waller and Leveillee 2002). However, recent archaeological data from Connecticut (Forrest 1999) and the Gulf of Maine region of northern New England (Robinson 1992) suggests that some southern New England early Holocene populations utilized a distinct quartz lithic technology producing quartz "microliths" for use in composite tools (Forrest 1999). The ubiquitous nature of quartz in regional artifact assemblages raises the possibility that some Early Archaic sites and materials may be difficult to differentiate from those of other periods.

The settlement system associated with the microlith manufacturers appears markedly different from that of the bifurcate-based producers, consisting of "residential" base camps with subterranean pit houses occupied for extended periods of time (Forrest 1999; Jones and Forrest 2003). Small, short-duration sites resulting from logistical forays undoubtedly supplemented larger residential sites in the Early Archaic settlement system. Jones and Forrest (2003) interpret this Early Archaic semi-residential settlement pattern evidenced with the Pequot Cedar Swamp in southeastern Connecticut as an adaptive response to predictable, readily abundant resources. However, the identification of a semi-subterranean pit house associated with a LeCroy Bifurcate complex at the Weilnau Site in Ohio (Stothers 1996) may imply a previously unknown degree of sedentism for the Early Archaic bifurcate producers in portions of the Northeast and Great Lakes. The apparent difference in identifiable artifact assemblages (quartz microlith composite tools vs. bifurcate-based projectile points) and settlement systems suggests the possibility that two distinct Early Archaic populations may have occupied the southern New England landscape during the early Holocene (Forrest 1999). The plethora of wetland tubers and flora from the Sandy Hill Site in Connecticut attests to the importance of wetlands to semi-sedentary Early Archaic populations (Forrest 1999).

Middle Archaic Period (7500–5000 B.P.)

An increase in the frequency and visibility of identified Middle Archaic sites in southern New England suggests that colonizing peoples were firmly established in the region by 7500 B.P. Resident populations continued to generalize in their subsistence regimes throughout the Middle Archaic. Regionally, Middle Archaic sites are common around waterfalls, river rapids, major river drainages, wetlands, and coastal settings (Bunker 1992; Dincauze 1976; Doucette and Cross 1997; Fowler 1968, 1974–1975; Maymon and Bolian 1992) with large base camps being established along extensive wetland systems (Doucette and Cross 1997). Smaller logistical camps and exploitation sites supplemented base camps within the Middle Archaic settlement system. Subsistence activities reflected at these sites included the harvesting of anadromous fish, hunting and foraging, as well as fishing and shellfish collection. An increase in the complexity of seasonal rounds is conjectured on the broad range of resources available throughout the period (McBride 1984b).

Middle Archaic components at southern New England sites are typically identifiable through the presence of Neville, Neville-variant, Stark, and Merrimack-style projectile points (Dincauze 1976; Dincauze and Mulholland 1977). A preference for regionally available lithic raw materials, such as quartzite and rhyolite, with lesser amounts of locally available materials, namely argillite, is reflected in the collective archaeological site database. The correlation of regional lithic material types and Middle Archaic site distributions has led Dincauze (1976) to theorize that Native American band or tribal territories might have been established within major river drainages by this time. The recovery of relatively few Middle Archaic cultural materials of lithic materials predominantly derived from outside the present-day geopolitical borders of Rhode Island indicates a Middle Archaic settlement system that involved small, limited duration logistical camps by individuals (Waller and Leveillee 2002). The location of many of Rhode Island's documented Middle Archaic sites demonstrates a strong focus within the region's interior wetland environs. A wetland focus for the Middle Archaic Period is similarly represented in nearby Connecticut and Massachusetts.

Late Archaic Period (5000–3000 B.P.)

Numerous Late Archaic Period archaeological sites have been identified in Rhode Island. The density of Late Archaic sites and the almost exclusive reliance on locally available lithic materials (quartz and argillite) in the region suggests increased Native American residency for the period (Dincauze 1975). Three archaeological traditions, Laurentian, Small or Narrow Stemmed, and Susquehanna, are identifiable in the regional archaeological record for the Late Archaic Period. Each tradition is associated with specific periods of time, distinct lithic technologies, and/or ceremonial or cultural practices that can be discriminated archaeologically. Seasonal and multi-occupation Late Archaic campsites were associated with procurement of multiple resources. For example, shellfish exploitation, first observed during the Middle Archaic, intensified as the rate of coastal inundation decreased and estuaries, salt marshes, and tidal mud flats were established (Braun 1974; Lavin 1988). The high density of Late Archaic sites in a wide range of habitats, coupled with the large number of artifacts attributed to the period, is suggestive of a large population exploiting an extremely broad spectrum of resources (Dincauze 1975; McBride 1984b).

The database of Late Archaic sites in Rhode Island is quite extensive, consisting of thousands of Small Stemmed projectiles. The distribution of these points suggests that the Small Stemmed producers occupied an environmental niche focused on the region's interior wetlands (Waller and Leveillee 2002). The Small Stemmed Tradition remnant settlement pattern is consistent with that described by McBride (1984b) for Connecticut, with large base camps concentrated along the well-drained, resource-rich banks of streams, ponds, and interior wetlands, supplemented by task-oriented, short-duration sites that targeted specific resources (Waller and Leveillee 2002). The common occurrence of Narragansett Bay

argillite, some of which outcrops on southern Conanicut Island, at Small Stemmed Tradition Native American archaeological sites in the region indicates the importance that this lithic raw material played in the Late Archaic Small Stemmed settlement system.

Transitional/Terminal Archaic Period (3600–2500 B.P.)

The Transitional Archaic Period bridges the Archaic and Woodland periods and represents a time of changing culture dynamics. An extensive trade network, increased burial ceremonialism, and the development of technologies markedly different from the antecedent Late Archaic traditions characterized the Transitional Archaic. The Transitional Archaic settlement pattern was essentially oriented toward coastal or riverine settings with a subsistence base focused on the acquisition of riverine or estuarine flora and fauna that included fish, nuts, and small- to medium-sized mammals (Pagoulatos 1988). Susquehanna Tradition sites are markers of the Transitional Archaic Period and are best known from regional cremation cemetery complexes such as the Vincent, Watertown Arsenal, and Millbury III sites in Massachusetts (Dincauze 1968; Leveillee 2002) and the Bliss and Griffin sites in Connecticut (Pfeiffer 1980). Regionally, evidence for Susquehanna Tradition mortuary ritual has been documented in Charlestown (Fowler 1964), at the Flat River Site in Coventry (Fowler 1968), and at the West Ferry Site in Jamestown (Simmons 1970).

New technological developments associated with the Susquehanna Tradition included the manufacture of steatite vessels and diagnostic tool forms (Atlantic, Susquehanna Broad, Coburn, and Orient Fishtail projectile points or knives) that either developed out of the local populations or were introduced to the region by peoples immigrating to New England. Susquehanna Tradition chipped-stone tools were commonly manufactured from a variety of lithic materials that included rhyolite, quartzite, and non- local cherts. A reliance on readily available lithic materials such as quartz, argillite, and some rhyolites is apparent by the final Orient Phase of the Susquehanna Tradition. The apparent hybridization of Orient projectile points with Small Stemmed basal attributes may represent a merging of Susquehanna and Small Stemmed lithic technologies in southern New England by the end of the Transitional Archaic Period (Leveillee and Waller 1999).

Steatite bowl use peaks between 3400 and 2900 B.P. and fell into disuse by the end of the Orient Phase of the tradition, concurrent with the adoption of ceramic technology (Sassaman 1999). Regionally available steatite outcrops included the Oaklawn Steatite Quarry in Cranston, the Manton Avenue Quarry in Providence, and the Ochee Springs Steatite Quarry in Johnston. The manufacture and use of heavy steatite vessels by Susquehanna Tradition peoples may imply a trend toward increased sedentism by resident populations. However, the predominance of non-local lithic materials in Susquehanna Tradition cultural assemblages implies a relatively mobile settlement strategy. Steatite quarries, however, continued as important sources of raw material for the manufacture of smoking pipes, pendants, and beads well into the contact period.

The Woodland Period (3000–450 B.P.)

The Woodland Period was a time of dynamic development for local indigenous peoples. The archaeological record documents a continued diversification of food resources, an increased reliance on shellfish, the refinement of pottery manufacturing, the establishment or maintenance of long-distance trade and exchange networks, and eventually year-round coastal or riverine settlement with limited horticulture. In general, the Woodland concept involves the transition from a foraging way of life toward a more sedentary existence associated with the introduction of plant domestication and the manufacture of ceramic vessels. Like the Archaic Period, the Woodland Period can be subdivided into Early, Middle, and Late periods.

Early Woodland Period (3000–1600 B.P.)

Early Woodland cultural deposits have traditionally been diagnosed through the presence of Meadowood, Lagoon, and Rossville projectile points, as well as grit-tempered, cord-marked Vinette I ceramic styles in the absence of radiocarbon assays. Early Woodland settlement patterns were characterized by limited use of upland areas and more intensive use of coastal and estuarine resources and locales. Coastal habitation sites and shell midden deposits along the margins of Narragansett Bay and the saltwater estuaries of southern Rhode Island reflect the increasing dependence on shellfish and other marine resources during the Early Woodland Period. Interior site locations that contain artifacts diagnostic of the Early Woodland Period are not as numerous as the preceding periods. This may be related to the problem of determining what constitutes diagnostic artifact assemblages for the period.

The Early Woodland Period is generally under-represented in the regional archaeological record. This has led to speculation that there was a population decline for the period (Dincauze 1974; Lavin 1988). Fiedel (2001) hypothesizes that either climatic or environmental changes, sociocultural change, or epidemics may have contributed to the so-called "Early Woodland collapse." Conversely, others argue that the apparent underrepresentation of Early Woodland sites may stem from the difficulty in determining what constitutes diagnostic artifact assemblages for the period (Juli and McBride 1984). The positive association of some Small Stemmed projectile points with Early Woodland radiocarbon dates indicates that some Early Woodland assemblages are being misidentified as older Late Archaic materials. Nevertheless, the regional database appears to argue in favor of a population decline for the period (Fiedel 2001).

Middle Woodland Period (1650–1000 B.P.)

Middle Woodland site distributions suggest a continued focus on coastal ecosystems for southern New England Native Americans. The earliest evidence of domesticated agricultural products in the region dates to around A.D. 1000, coincident with the end of the period (Bendremer and Dewar 1993). Traditional interpretations of Middle Woodland subsistence and settlement strategies hold that the introduction of horticulture began to supplement and later supplant the preexisting pattern of hunting and gathering subsistence activities in the Northeast. Artifacts diagnostic of the period include Jack's Reef Pentagonal and Corner-Notched and Fox Creek-type projectile points, and rocker and dentate-stamped ceramics. Middle Woodland occupations in southeastern New England are commonly marked by a high occurrence of non-local chert, jasper and various amounts of hornfels from the Blue Hills area south of Boston (Luedtke 1987; Ritchie and Gould 1985). The relative frequency of "exotic" raw materials from Middle Woodland sites implies the existence of long-distance exchange networks extending from Labrador to Pennsylvania and beyond (Dragoo 1976; Fitting 1978; Snow 1980). Through established trade networks the southern New England Native American cultures remained peripheral to, though influenced by, the prominent Hopewell culture situated in the Midwest (Kostiw 1995).

Late Woodland Period (1000–450 B.P.)

The Late Woodland Period is associated with an improvement in ceramic technology and production. Social complexity, the formation of political alliances, and the establishment of tribal territories appear to have developed during the period (Mulholland 1988). The Midwestern trade in cultural items continued into the Late Woodland. However, the importance of the Late Woodland's Midwestern trade had certainly diminished as compared with that of the preceding Middle Woodland Period. Traditional views hold that the adoption of horticulture eventually led to changes in the Native American subsistence base, population growth, the organization of labor, and even social stratification (Snow 1980). Others argue that increased sedentism and aggregated settlements could have occurred independently of the

adoption of horticulture, especially in coastal or estuarine environments, which supported a rich and reliable fish and shellfish base (McBride and Dewar 1987). Bendremer (1993) argues that village formation and intensive maize horticulture were essentially riverine developments during the Late Woodland Period.

Late Woodland artifacts represented in the regional archaeological record include triangular Madison and Levanna-type projectile points, cord-wrapped, stick-impressed, and incised ceramics. Diagnostic Levanna projectile points were most often manufactured out of quartz, argillite, as well as rhyolites derived from the Lynn Volcanic Suite and Blue Hills Area of northeastern Massachusetts and the Boston Basin, respectively or coastal cobbles. The distribution of Late Woodland Period archaeological deposits appears to be a continuation of the Middle Woodland pattern with Late Woodland archaeological deposits common within coastal environments, around interior freshwater ponds and wetlands, and adjacent to large tributary streams.

Post-contact Period Development of Coventry, Rhode Island

Native American settlement and subsistence patterns established during the Late Woodland were disrupted beginning in the early sixteenth century by initial and later sustained contact with Europeans. Early contact period Native American settlements continued to focus within traditional tribal territories that developed prior to and during the Late Woodland Period. Aspects of the Native culture patterns remained unchanged, some intensified, while others were adapted from European practices as a result of historic contact (Robinson et al. 1985; Rubertone 1989, 2001). The subsistence economy of the resident Native American tribes eventually changed as a result of the increasing influence of, and partial adaptations to, the European commodity-based economic system (Turnbaugh 1993a, 1993b). Local Natives began to sell off their land or the rights to their resources as they became increasingly reliant upon items of European origin and were involuntarily coerced into a "life of enforced dependency" (Bourne 1990:135).

Protohistoric/Contact Period: European Exploration and Initial Settlement (A.D. 1524–1637)

Throughout the seventeenth century the Narragansett and their subtribes occupied most of the present-day geopolitical boundaries of Rhode Island and exerted their influence over the tributary tribes of the Manissee on Block Island and the Eastern Niantics along the southern coast of the state. The Nipmuck and Massachusett bordered the Narragansett to the north, while the Pokanoket (Wampanoag) and Pequot bordered the Narragansett to the east and west, respectively. The Narragansett settlement system involved seasonal relocations related to the cultivation of corn, beans, the hunting of game in wooded valleys of the interior, and the seasonal harvesting of maritime and freshwater species (Simmons 1978:191). They were distinguished from other New England tribes by their political structure, religious beliefs, and their ability to participate in trade with the Europeans. A dual sachemship, involving two leaders of succeeding generations, with inheritance passing through patrilineal bloodlines, was in place as early as the sixteenth century (Boissevain and Roberts 1974; Simmons 1978).

The coastal areas of southern Rhode Island were focal points of seventeenth-century European contact and settlements that initially established the Puritan foothold in Narragansett territory. Narragansett access to the coast afforded them the opportunity to produce wampum, which was readily adopted as a storable medium of exchange by both the Dutch and English. The wampum trade had brought great wealth and power to the Narragansett and the Pequots who controlled its production along the Connecticut coast. Narragansett control of wampum production and distribution contributed to their domination over surrounding groups, such as the Eastern Niantic who were settled along the coastal lagoons of southern Rhode Island. Hostilities between the Pequots and the Connecticut settlers led to a declaration of war by the English court at Hartford in May 1637. Captain John Mason and 90 men proceeded down the Connecticut River with a band of Mohegans under the Sachem Uncas toward the Pequot territory. The Niantics at Fort Ninigret in Charlestown, at first reluctant to join the war, sent

approximately 150 Niantics with Mason's army after receiving instructions from Narragansett Sachem Miantonomi (Chapin 1931). The combined Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts colonial forces and the Narragansett, Mohegan, and Eastern Niantic contingent assaulted the Pequot's fort in Mystic on May 26. The result of hostilities directed at the Pequots during the Pequot War of 1636–1637 effectively neutralized the Pequot's influence in the region.

European Settlement and Expansion (1637–1775)

The first European settlers to arrive in the area encountered at least four major subdivisions of the larger Narragansett Tribe: Shawomets, Potowomuts, Cowesetts, and Pawtuxets. Each of these groups was led by a sachem. Pomham ruled the Shawomets, Taccoman ruled the Cowesetts and Potowomuts, and Saconoco presided over the Pawtuxets. Seventeenth-century Native American settlement was focused on the near-coastal and coastal confluences of rivers and streams. A network of fields and collecting territories surrounded relatively large concentrations of dwellings. 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.

Samuel Gorton and about a dozen of his followers known as Gortonists purchased a portion of Shawomet lands on January 12, 1642, following their banishment from the Massachusetts Bay Colony. The purchase included portions of present day Warwick, West Warwick, and Coventry. The Gortonists established a settlement at the north end of Warwick Neck along what is now West Shore Road (RIHPC 1981). The Massachusetts Bay Colony was hostile toward the exiled Gortonists, and William Arnold, along with some other English settlers at Pawtuxet, attempted to drive them from the area shortly after the Shawomet Purchase. The Massachusetts Bay Colony, claiming jurisdiction over the western shore of Narragansett Bay in the mid-seventeenth century, sent troops to seize the cattle of the Gortonists and arrested Gorton and six followers on counts of heresy and sedition. Gorton and his followers were set free following a period of arrest but were banished from all territories of the Massachusetts and Plymouth colonies. Gorton then sailed to England in 1644–1645 to secure his Shawomet lands from the English Parliament. Gorton and his followers returned to Shawomet in 1647 and changed the name of the Shawomet settlement to Warwick, commemorating the supportive Earl of Warwick. Warwick was granted a charter by the General Assembly in 1648 becoming one of the four original Rhode Island colonies.

Coventry, originally a part of the Warwick settlement, remained peripheral to the concentrated settlement areas focused along the margins of Narragansett Bay. Warwick lands were divided into two large tracts in 1672. The dividing line, known as the "Seven and Ten Line," resulted in the division of the property between seven of the original Shawomet purchasers on one tract and 10 purchasers on the second tract (Gustafson 1976). Warwick's greatly expanding population during the first quarter of the eighteenth century resulted in the division of the town into 18 lots with many of the Warwick settlers moving into the Coventry area. Approximately 100 families occupied the wilderness area of Coventry by 1741 (Gustafson 1976). The numerous brooks and waterways of Warwick's western lands proved a good power source for grist- and sawmills. Population growth along with Warwick's seat of government located more than 20 miles away from the Coventry settlement led to the petition of the Coventry inhabitants to separate from Warwick; a petition that was granted in the summer of 1741.

Early-eighteenth-century settlement in the town consisted mainly of dispersed farmsteads with the town's inhabitants primarily engaging in an agricultural subsistence economy. Coventry farms produced surplus grain, lumber, and dairy products for the large Providence markets (RIHPC 1978). Settlement was concentrated along the major thoroughfares, such as the Great North Road (presently RT 114), and Eight Rod Highway (present-day Nooseneck Hill, Harkney Hill, Perry Hill and Sand Hill Roads),

begun in 1728. The latter served as an East Greenwich/Hartford stagecoach line. Roadside farms were dotted with cooperages and tanneries while various mills (fulling, carding, cider, etc.) were situated along the region's waterways. Early industry included a forge on the banks of the Pawtuxet River between Anthony and Quidnick. James Green who, in 1791, petitioned to build a dam and erect a works to refine iron established the forge. Iron was extracted from bogs, in particular Maroon Swamp near Coventry Center, which was owned by the Greenes and manufactured into anchors. By 1765, Nathanael Greene and his brother became involved in the business and a second forge was established on the opposite bank. At the close of the eighteenth century, Coventry was comprised of a series of rural settlement clusters linked together by the two major east-west roads.

Federal Period (1775–1830)

The success of the textile industry in Pawtucket contributed to Coventry's prosperity during the opening years of the nineteenth century giving Coventry its "mill town" character. Coventry, with its abundance of water sources, was particularly well positioned to take advantage of the new opportunities the textile industry afforded. Unlike the largely seasonal eighteenth-century saw-, grist-, and fulling mills, the nineteenth-century textile mills required an established population of workers. Mill villages, including Anthony (1806); Arkwright (1809); Shoethread [Coventry Center] (1809); Washington (1818); Taftville [Quidnick] (1811); and Harris (1821), developed in the eastern portions of the town while the western part of town remained primarily rural and agriculturally based. Mill villages became self-sufficient communities with stores, farms, schools, and places of worship organized by the mill owners who owned the housing and ordered the workers' daily lives.

Coventry's development was aided by the improvements of the highways throughout the area. In 1794, the Great North Road was repaired and taken over by a turnpike company. The Providence-Norwich Turnpike (presently Plainfield Turnpike) became the second toll road in Rhode Island (RIHPC 1978). In the 1850s, the Flat River Reservoir was established in Coventry to provide water for mills located downstream. All these new mill villages exhibited a conscious effort at organized town planning, with uniform, company-owned housing, company stores, farms, schools, and places of worship. The most prosperous, and only ones to sustain non-company housing, were Quidnick, Anthony, and Washington.

Industrial Period (1830–1915)

Both Coventry's and greater Rhode Island's increasing economic success in the milling industry necessitated the development of an extensive transportation system in the nineteenth century to distribute the town's product to regional and extra-regional markets. As early as 1846, the Rhode Island General Assembly approved the incorporation of the Providence and Plainfield Railroad and inception of the Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill rail line through Coventry (Hebert n.d.). The Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad was completed in 1856, providing a link for the transportation of raw materials and finished goods to the large markets of Hartford, Providence, Boston, and New York (Figure 4-1). Upon completion the railroad measured approximately 120 miles, with almost 24 miles of the railroad being in Rhode Island (Hebert n.d.). Little over a year later, the rail line was conveyed to the Boston, Hartford, and Erie Railroad Company and ultimately to the New Haven Railroad. Settlements such as Greene and Summit in western Coventry, which began simply as railroad stations, grew to commercial centers (RIHPC 1978) (Figure 4-2). Farmsteads were abandoned during this time of economic change with villages such as Rice City and Hopkins Hollow being reduced to little more than quiet crossroads. The new commercial and social centers shifted to Greene, Summit, and Coventry Center by the end of the period.

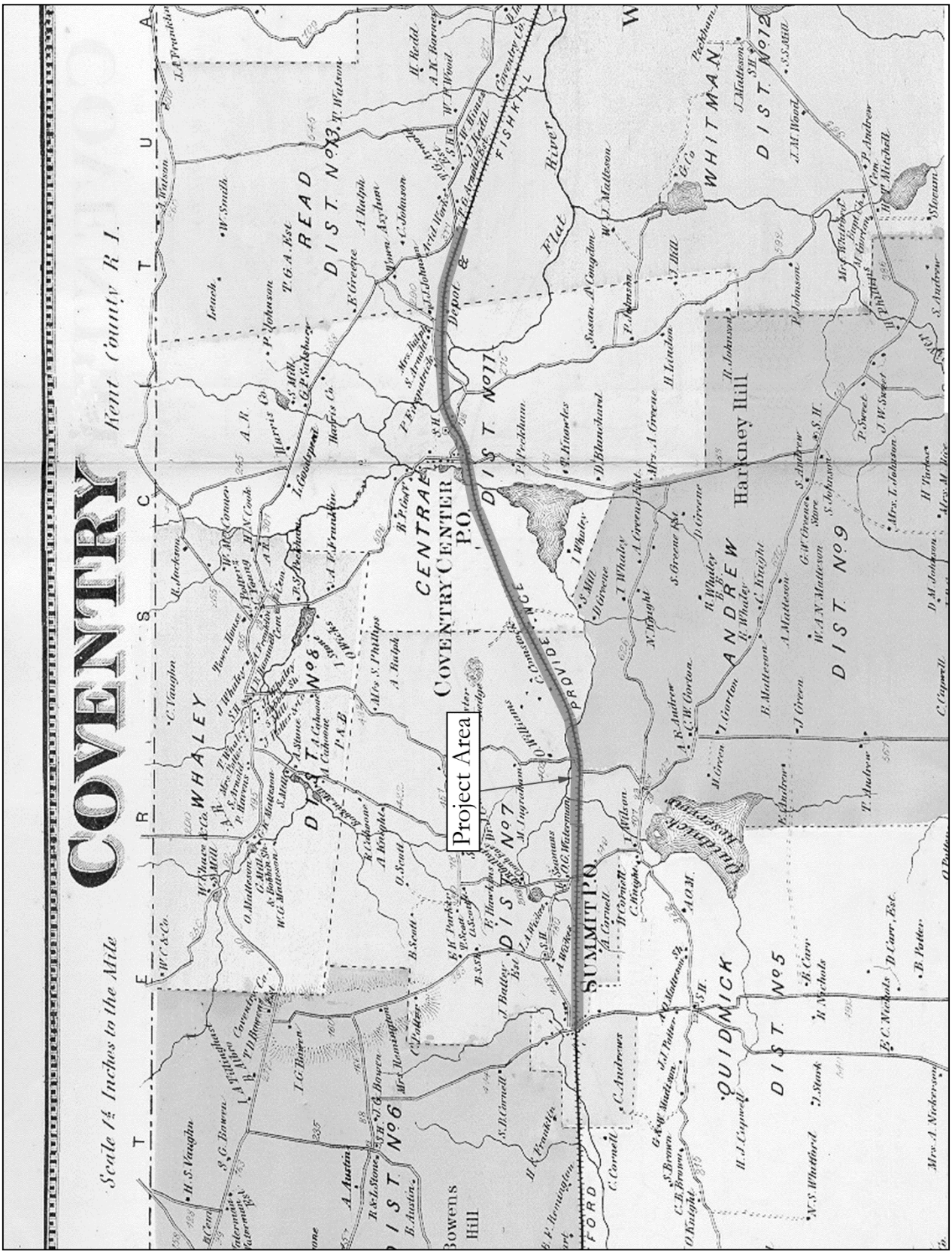


Figure 4-1. Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project corridor on the Beers 1870 map of the Town of Coventry (source: Beers 1870).

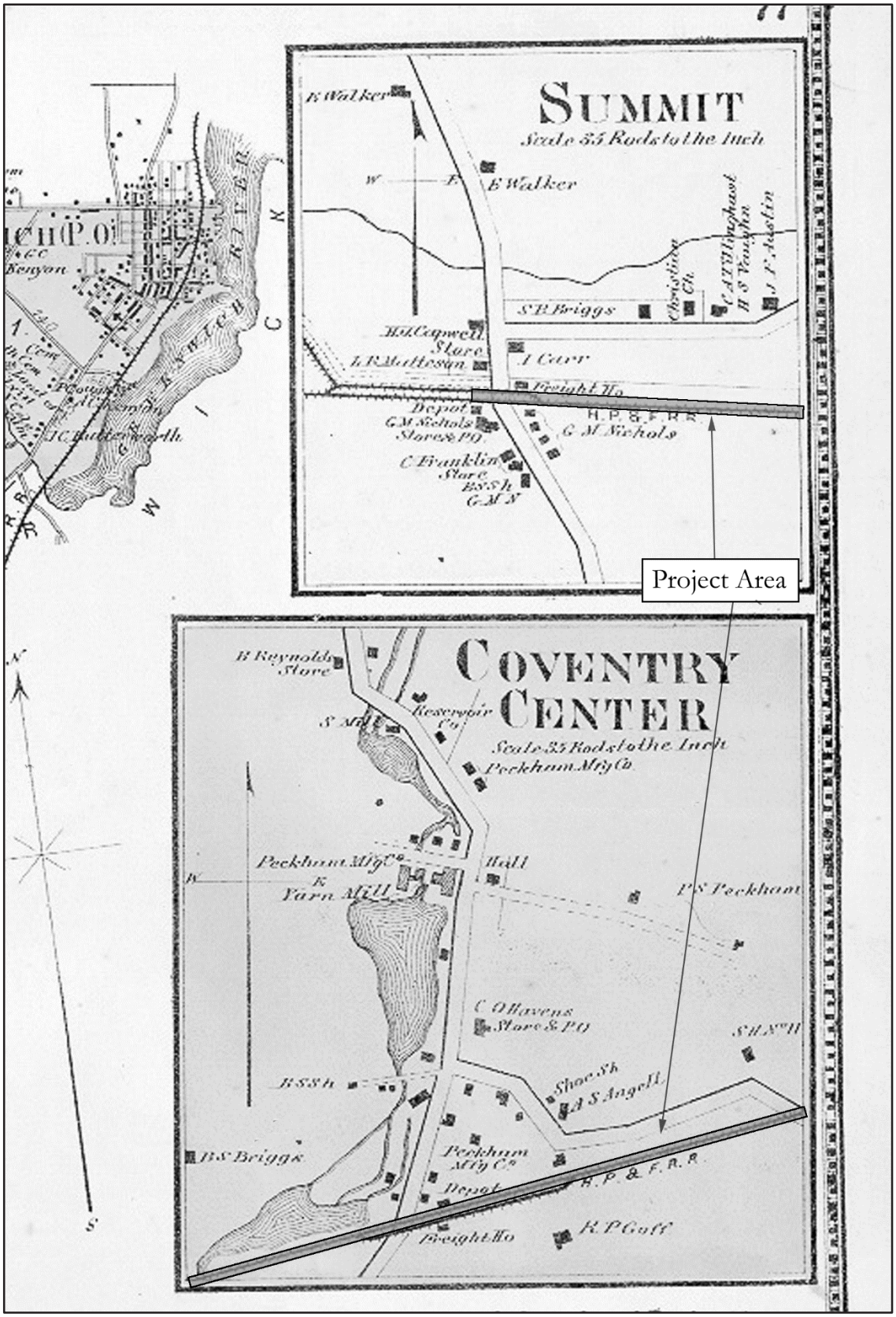


Figure 4-2. Detail of Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project corridor within the villages of Summit and Coventry Center, Town of Coventry (source: Beers 1870).

Coventry's textile mills remained an economic mainstay until the early twentieth century, with the railroad facilitating the expansion of Coventry's industrial base beyond the limits of streams. The railroad supplied coal to fuel steam engines, augmenting the already plentiful waterpower base (RIHPC 1978). At the opening of the twentieth century Coventry's textile industry suffered an extensive decline and many businesses relocated to the South. Many of Coventry's mills closed at this time. The railroad also facilitated the transport of Coventry's valuable granite, which was used in such nineteenth century constructions as the Tiogue Reservoir dam, the Harris Mill at Riverpoint, and the state institutions at the Howard Complex in Cranston (RIHPC 1978). Horace Foster commenced boulder and ledge quarrying at Foster Ledge situated off Ledge Road in 1862. Here he constructed two stone structures within the site of the Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill rail line to house the quarry workers (RIHPC 1978). Large granite blocks were quarried by hand from the exposed granite "motions" (small quarries) and boulders and were then trimmed into desired shapes and sizes. Finished quarry blocks were eventually loaded onto stationary rail cars waiting along the Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill rail line via a stone platform. From here, Foster granite was shipped to the desired markets in Rhode Island. Remnants of the Foster Ledge granite quarry operation, which includes trim piles, abandoned granite blocks, and the loading platform itself, remain extant along the northern margin of the former Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill railroad easement within and within sight of the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project corridor.

Coventry began to institutionalize its social services by acquiring the Briggs Farm near Potterville for use as the Town Asylum and Poor Farm in 1835 (RIHPC 1978). Located along the Great North Road in Potterville, it was built on the site of several eighteenth-century small pox hospitals. The latter nineteenth century saw the construction of a new Town House in Coventry Center in 1879. It was hoped that this location, as well as local accessibility to the railroad, would promote the centralization of town government in Coventry Center. The attempt failed and Washington village soon became the town's center (RIHPC 1978) (Figure 4-3).

With the upgrading of state roads such as Routes 102 and 117 in the 1920s, and more recently the construction of a connector from Route 3 to Interstate 95, Coventry has been brought increasingly closer to the Providence metropolitan area (RIHPC 1978). Flat River developed as a small-scale seasonal resort area with many cottages being constructed there in the early modern period. In 1966, the 8,500- acre Big River Reservoir area in the towns of Coventry, West Greenwich, and Exeter was taken by eminent domain by the state of Rhode Island.

Modern Period (1915–present)

The improved road systems and the growing number of privately owned automobiles accelerated the spread of suburban development throughout the twentieth century, providing easy access for the Coventry inhabitants to all parts of the state. The former Hartford, Providence and Fishkill Railroad was abandoned in 1968 and was eventually acquired by the RIDOT in 1996 (Hebert n.d.). Presently, the eastern half of town is experiencing rapid development particularly in the form of residential and suburban housing while western portions of the town remain less developed.

Pre-contact Native American Cultural Resources in Proximity to the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East)

The Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project corridor is contained within the Flat River Reservoir sub-drainage basins of the Pawtuxet River watershed. Most of the extant information about pre-contact Native American settlement and resource use in this section of the interior of Rhode Island has been derived from investigations by avocational archaeologists. The Massachusetts Archaeological Society has published some of the information collected from pre-contact sites along the Flat River drainage and in hilly upland

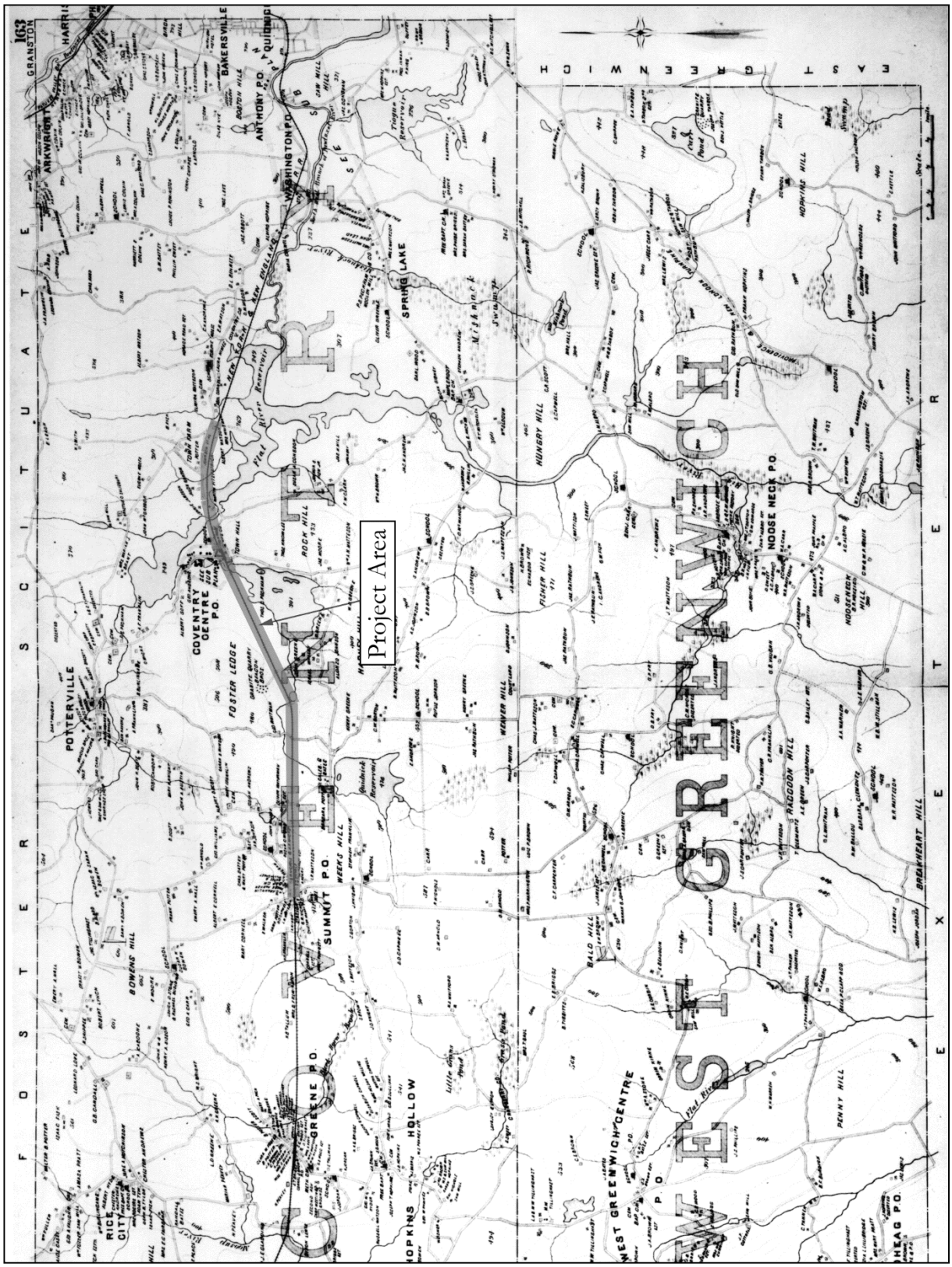


Figure 4-3. Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project corridor on the 1895 map of Coventry and West Greenwich (source: Everts & Richards 1895).

areas (Fowler 1962, 1968, 1974–1975). Over the last two decades, surveys by professional archaeologists of the Route 102 highway corridor (Institute for Conservation Archaeology 1978), the proposed Big River Reservoir project area (King and Ritchie 1986), the Oneco and Coventry Center quadrangles (McBride 1984a), and the Kent County Water System (Macpherson and Ritchie 2000) have added much new information about the distribution and characteristics of pre-contact sites in this interior, non-coastal area. The combined results of avocational and professional surveys indicate that the Big River/Flat River section of the upper Pawtuxet drainage was a core area of Native American settlement.

Archaeological evidence indicates that Coventry has been occupied for at least 10,000 years. Numerous archaeological sites (RI 1134, RI 1135, RI 1136, RI 1137, and Flat River [RI 29]) are located within relative close proximity to the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project corridor. Unfortunately, detailed information about all but one of these sites is lacking. Excavations by amateur archaeologists of the Flat River Site, near the eastern portion of the project corridor, resulted in the recovery of few lanceolate projectile points of possible PaleoIndian origin (Fowler 1968). An Early Archaic bifurcate-based projectile point from the Elmdale Rockshelter in Scituate suggests some sporadic use of upland interior environments around 8,500 to 8,000 years ago.

The distribution of Middle Archaic sites in the region is suggestive of a significant increase in settlement following 7,800 years ago. Neville and Stark-type points, drills, flakes, knives, and choppers have been recovered from the Flat River and Wilcox Brook sites in Coventry (Fowler 1968, 1974–1975). Avocational archaeologists have collected similar projectiles from along the upper Flat River Reservoir. The Sheep Rockshelter in Scituate and Rattlesnake Rockshelter in West Greenwich (Fowler 1962) also appear to have been occupied by Middle Archaic Period hunter-gatherer groups.

An expansion of settlement in the upland interior of Rhode Island by people affiliated with the Laurentian Tradition is evident approximately 5,500 years ago. Most of the known sites affiliated with these groups consist of small camps and a few rockshelters. Diagnostic Vosburg and Brewerton projectile points, as well as small eared triangular points have been found on a number of sites in the towns of West Greenwich and Coventry. Laurentian Tradition components with Brewerton points and bifacial point preforms of quartzite have been identified at Site RI 1528 near Sweet Sawmill Road and the Harkney Hill Site (RI 1540). The Wilcox Brook Site near the Route 102 corridor in Coventry contained a significant Laurentian Tradition component with Brewerton and Vosburg-like points, bifacial tool blades, and drill/perforators of quartzite and argillite (Davin 1987).

Small Stemmed Tradition sites are well represented within the upper Pawtuxet/Big/Flat River drainage basin. Riverine zone sites such as Flat River, Wilcox Brook, and Harkney Hill (RI 1540) in Coventry were intensively used and could have functioned as local base camps. Various rockshelters throughout the hilly interior of central Rhode Island investigated by avocational archaeologists were found to contain tool assemblages with Squibnocket Triangle and Small Stemmed projectile point variants. The results of archaeological survey in the Big River Reservoir project area indicate that many small upland zone sites were used by Small Stemmed Point tradition groups. Examples of this are the Bear Brook (RI 1515) and Camp Bosco (RI 1538) sites, which are located along tributary streams and wetlands.

Transitional Archaic Susquehanna Tradition components have been identified in the upper Pawtuxet/Big River area by both avocational and professional archaeologists. Avocational archaeologists investigated a cremation burial deposit at the Flat River Site in Coventry. The identified burial was radiocarbon dated to 3430 B.P. Charcoal-filled pits in this complex contained burned Susquehanna Broad/Wayland Notched projectile points and bifacial tool blade/preforms of non-local rhyolite, chert, local argillite, and quartzite (Fowler 1968:24–28). Several sites in the Big River Reservoir project area include RI 1523, where a probable Susquehanna Tradition point of argillite and steatite vessel sherds were found.

An Atlantic point and bifaces of argillite were found on Site RI 1532 near Capwell Mill Pond. At sites RI 1533 and 1539 along the upper section of the Big River, small Susquehanna Tradition components with Wayland Notched point and Mansion Inn blade/preforms of non-local rhyolite were found.

Woodland settlement in the upper Pawtuxet/Flat River area appears to be sporadic in comparison to the much more intensively used coastal zone around Narragansett Bay, and there is little evidence of sites dating to this period. This area probably formed the interior periphery of territories focused on coastal zone estuaries and tidal flats. Jasper chipping debris and ceramic sherds recovered from several sites along the Big River (RI 1555, RI 1512) suggest a Middle Woodland occupation. The Tarbox Pond Rockshelter (RI 206) appears to have a Middle to Late Woodland component based on the attributes of ceramic sherds found during a survey of the Big River Reservoir project area. Fragments of deer bone and other faunal remains indicate this location was used for a hunting camp. The Flat River Site in Coventry may have been an interior base camp in the Late Woodland Period based on the presence of Levanna points, whelk shell awls, and ceramic vessel sherds (Fowler 1968:29).

Post-contact Resources in the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) Project Corridor

The greater Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project corridor follows the former Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Rail line from the village of Summit into the village of Coventry Center in Coventry, Rhode Island. A National Register Determination of Eligibility (DOE) for the railroad compiled by Michael Hebert (n.d.) of RIDOT records the presence of multiple features within the project corridor associated with the nineteenth- through twentieth-century railroad. Recorded bridge feature types include a masonry arch and culverts, and steel deck plate girders.

Additionally, the project corridor traverses the Summit and Coventry Center villages. In the eighteenth century, the area now called Summit was known as Perry's Hollow, and it encompassed a sawmill, gristmill, store and approximately five houses (RIHPHC 1978:43, 44). The Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad established a station here in 1856, and Summit developed into a railroad village and commercial center. The village became known as "Summit" because it was the highest point on the railroad line. Historic village architecture survives here, including the Summit Baptist Church (ca. 1865), the Summit Free Library (1885), and nineteenth-century houses.

Coventry Center is centered on the Flat River, where it descends from what is now the Flat River Reservoir (RIHPC 1978:22). This area was originally referred to as "Maroon Swamp," where the Greene family smelted bog iron to produce anchors for ships during the Revolutionary War (RIHPC 1978:22). A cotton mill was established here in 1809, which seeded the development of a village – first referred to as Shoethread and later Central Factory. Subsequent mills included the Whipple Cotton Mill (est. 1845) and the Peckham Manufacturing Company (est. 1859). Historic village architecture survives here, including lower and upper mill structures, former mill housing, and the old railroad depot. Another historically prominent industry in Coventry Center was the Foster Ledge Quarry (est. 1862), which provided stone for the construction of many mills in the Pawtuxet Valley, including the Centerville Mill in West Warwick. Physical remnants of this quarry, including quarry worker's housing, are still extant. The project corridor passes through the catchment areas of prominent historic sites in Coventry Center, including the Foster Ledge Quarry and the Peckham Manufacturing Company Upper Mill. These sites are still clearly visible, and are physically linked by the former Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill railroad bed.

Consequently, known and other railroad features, as well as additional evidence for historic sites, were expected to be encountered along the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project corridor during the Phase I(c) intensive archaeological survey.

CHAPTER FIVE

RESULTS OF THE PHASE I(C) ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historical Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and the Rhode Island Historic Preservation Act of 1968 (R.I.G.L. 42-45), PAL conducted a Phase I(c) archaeological survey of the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) within the project corridor right-of- way from Log Bridge Road to the vicinity of Town Farm Road (project stations STA 500+00.00 to 768+81.69). Archival research conducted as an element of the Phase I(c) survey established that the terraces of Coventry's major rivers and tributary streams, such as the Flat River, and the margins of its freshwater ponds were focal areas for Native American settlement, resource acquisition, and burial beginning as early as the Middle Archaic Period (7500–5000 B.P.). Additionally, the project corridor follows the abandoned rail line of the mid-nineteenth- through twentieth-century Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad, traversing the historic villages of Summit and Coventry Center. Consequently, cultural and environmental features indicated the possibility that potentially significant pre-contact Native American and/or post-contact period archaeological resources would be located within the project corridor, and an archaeological survey was warranted.

Subsurface Archaeological Investigations

PAL conducted subsurface testing within the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) in areas of apparent stratigraphic integrity adjacent to wetlands and rivers, areas of historic activity, and at specific locations along the easement to assess the degree of disturbances within proposed project impact areas. Subsurface testing within the project corridor involved the excavation of 457 50-x-50 cm test pits along 33 linear transects. Test pits were evenly spaced at 10 m intervals in areas of moderate to high archaeological sensitivity, and at 20 m intervals in areas of low archaeological sensitivity. Twenty-seven judgmentally placed test pits (JTPs) were excavated within areas too small for testing transects, or to test the integrity of site-specific soils. Four testing arrays provided supplemental testing around test pits that produced low to moderate densities of Native American cultural materials (see below). Test pit arrays involved the excavation of a 50-x-50 cm test pit at each of the cardinal directions (magnetic) surrounding the original find spot at 1-m and/or 5 m intervals.

A summary of archaeological sensitivity ranking and subsurface archaeological testing by project station is presented in Table 5-1. Detailed discussions of tested locations by project station location follow below. A catalog of cultural materials collected from the project area is presented in Appendix A, and representative soil profiles are presented in Appendix B.

STA 500+00 (Western project terminus) to 504+00 (Log Bridge Road): General Plan and Profile No. 1

This segment of the project area (STA 500+00 to 504+00) falls within the paved surface of Log Bridge Road and a graded parking lot. Project impacts associated with the proposed Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project call for the upgrades to the gravel parking facilities between the former railroad easement and Railroad Street between project stations STA 501+50 and 502+75 (Figure 5-1). Archival research and a walkover survey established that this segment of the project corridor is located within Summit Village and several historical structures are situated in proximity to the project corridor right- of-way. These include a general store that once served as a railroad freight house (Photo 5-1a) and a nineteenth-century dwelling

Table 5-1. Subsurface Archaeological Sensitivity and Testing within Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) ROW.

Segment	Gen. Plan/ Profile No.	ROW Topographic Character	Arch. Sensitivity	# of Test Pits Excavated
STA 500+00 to 503+00	1	graded area at intersection of Log Bridge Road	Yes	6 (Transects AU, AW)
STA 503+00 to 509+00	1-3	raised up to 15 ft above original surface grade	No	0
STA 509+00 to 511+00	3	shares topographic intersection with surrounding terrain	Yes	3 (Transect AT)
STA 511+00 to 518+50	3-5	cut to depths of up to 25 ft below original surface grade	No	0
STA 518+50 to 530+00	5-7	cut to depths of up to 25 ft below original surface grade	No	0
STA 530+00 to 533+00	7-8	shares topographic intersection with surrounding terrain	Yes	10 (Transect AS)
STA 533+00 to 546+00	8-11	raised up to 15 ft above original surface grade	No	0
STA 546+00 to 548+00	11	shares topographic intersection with surrounding terrain	Yes	3 (Transect AX)
STA 548+00 to 551+00	11-12	cut to depths of up to 7 ft below original surface grade	No	0
STA 551+00 to 560+00	12-14	traverses naturally contoured topography	Yes	35 (Transects AR, AY, AZ)
STA 560+00 to 565+00	14-15	raised up to 15 ft above original surface grade	No	0
STA 565+00 to 573+00	15-17	traverses naturally contoured topography	Yes	25 (Transect AQ [pits 18-42])
STA 573+00 to 581+00	17-19	traverses naturally contoured topography	Yes	30 (Transects BB, AQ [pits 01-17])
STA 581+00 to 588+00	19-20	traverses naturally contoured topography	Yes	19 (Transects AN, AO)
STA 588+00 to 594+00	20-21	raised up to 4 ft above original surface grade	No	0
STA 594+00 to 601+00	22-23	traverses naturally contoured topography	Yes	25 (Transect AP; Arrays 08, 09)
STA 601+00 to 611+00	23-25	raised up to 8 ft above original surface grade	No	2 (JTPs-06, 07)
STA 611+00 to 623+50	25-28	traverses naturally contoured topography	Yes	42 (Transects AH, AI; JTPs-08-13)
STA 623+50 to 651+00	28-34	traverses naturally contoured topography	Yes	84 (Transects AG, AK; JTPs-14- 17, 19-21, 24, 25)
STA 651+00 to 654+00	34-35	raised up to 7 ft above original surface grade	No	0
STA 654+00 to 668+50	35-38	traverses naturally contoured topography	Yes	46 (Transects AF, AL, AM)

Table 5-1 (continued). Subsurface Archaeological Sensitivity and Testing within Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) ROW.

Segment	Gen. Plan/ Profile No.	ROW Topographic Character	Arch. Sensitivity	# of Test Pits Excavated
STA 668+50 to 673+00	38-39	traverses naturally contoured topography	Yes	24 (Transects AE, BA; Arrays 06, 09; JTPs-22, 23)
STA 673+00 to 701+00	39-42	raised up to 10 ft above original surface grade; disturbed	No	0
STA 701+00 to 707+00	42-43	graded area at intersection of Phillips Hill Road	Yes	21 (Transects AA, AB, AC)
STA 707+00 to 729+00	43-48	raised up to 30 ft above original surface grade	No	9 (Transect AD; JTPs-01-05)
STA 729+00 to 738+00	48-50	raised up to 20 ft above original surface grade	No	4 (JTPs-24-27)
STA 738+00 to 742+00	50-51	raised up to 7 ft above original surface grade	No	15 (Transects BC and BD)
STA 742+00 to 746+50	51-52	raised up to 10 ft above original surface grade	No	10 (Transects AV and BE)
STA 746+50 to 768+81.69	52-57	traverses levels comparable with some surrounding topography	Yes	44 (Transects BF, BG, BH)

with a hipped roof (Photo 5-1b) to the north, and the multi-gabled former railroad depot (Photo 5-1c) to the south. The former railroad depot has been renovated and currently serves as a private residence. Culvert 1 is located at STA 504+60.

Six test pits organized within linear test pit Transects AU and AW were excavated in the proposed parking lot area between STA 500+00 and 504+00. The greater parking facility appears to have been graded and filled, with test pit soil profiles demonstrating the presence of two to four fill strata that extend to depths ranging between 12 and 76 centimeters below surface (cmbs). Impacted B Horizon and/or C Horizon subsoil remnants were observed in several of the test pits excavated within this section of the project corridor. A probable post mold was also observed in test pit TAU-02 (Photo 5-1d) (see Appendix B). The post, which penetrated two fill layers and the C soil horizon beneath, was truncated by an overlying fill episode and extended from 19 to 58 cmbs. The feature contained mottled soils and non-articulating wood fragments and measured roughly 5 cm in cross-section. A single machine- cut nail was recovered from this feature's soil (Appendix A).

STA 504+00 (Log Bridge Road) to 509+00: General Plan and Profile Nos. 1–3

No archaeological subsurface testing was conducted within this segment (Figure 5-2) because of low archaeological sensitivity.

STA 509+00 to 511+00: General Plan and Profile No. 3

In this segment of the project corridor, the former railroad bed shares a topographic intersection with surrounding terrain. Consequently, three test pits organized within Transect AT were excavated to investigate the potential presence of intact soils containing archaeological deposits along the north side of the former railroad easement at approximate project station STA 510+00 (Figure 5-3). Soils within Transect AT extended to the limits of hand excavation between 36 and 58 cmbs. A single railroad spike was noted in the uppermost fill in test pit TAT-02 but was not retained for analysis and archiving.

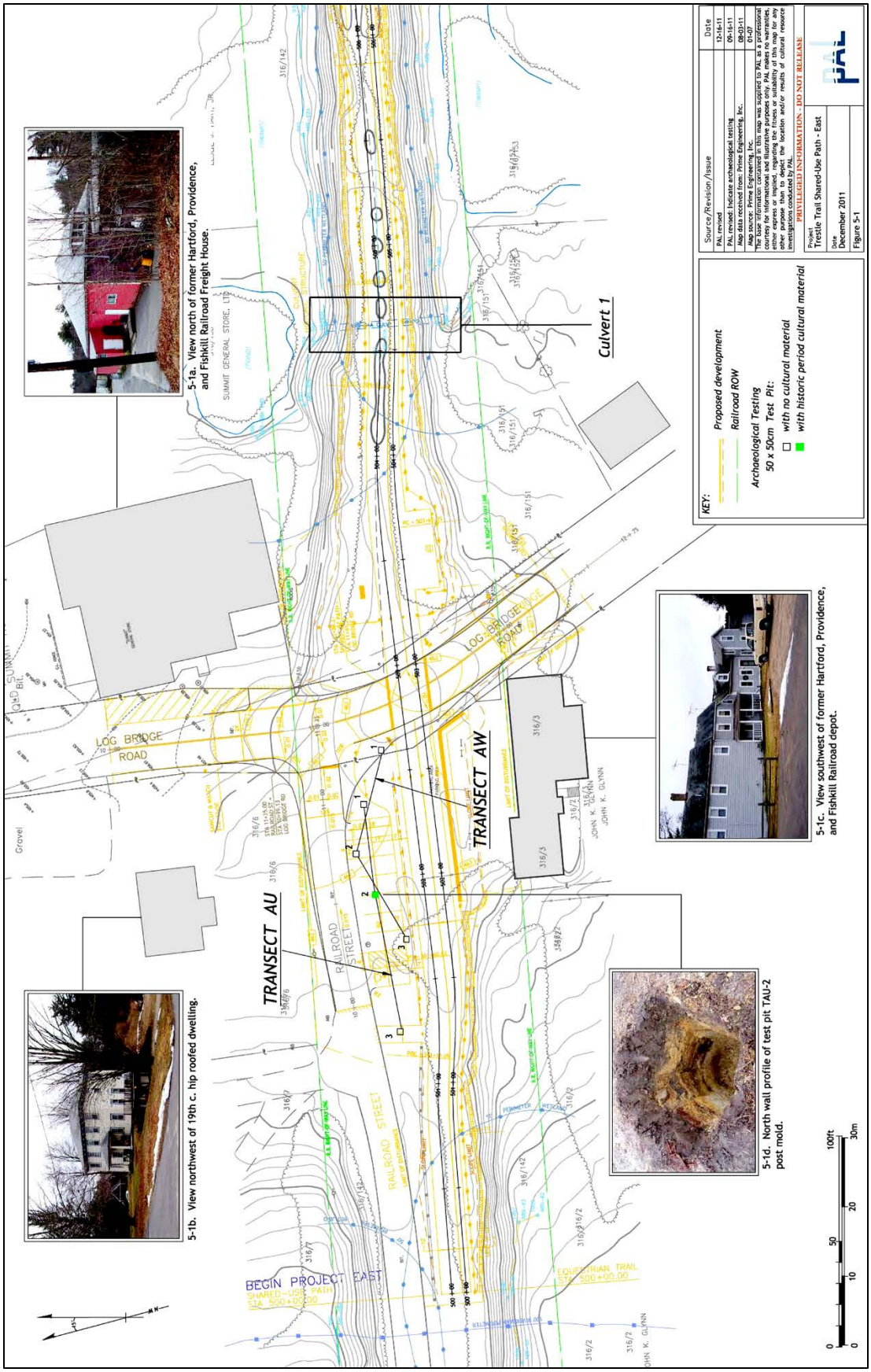


Figure 5-1. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing between Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project STA 500+00 and 504+00.

Figure 5-2. View east of Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) between Log Bridge Road and project STA 509+00.

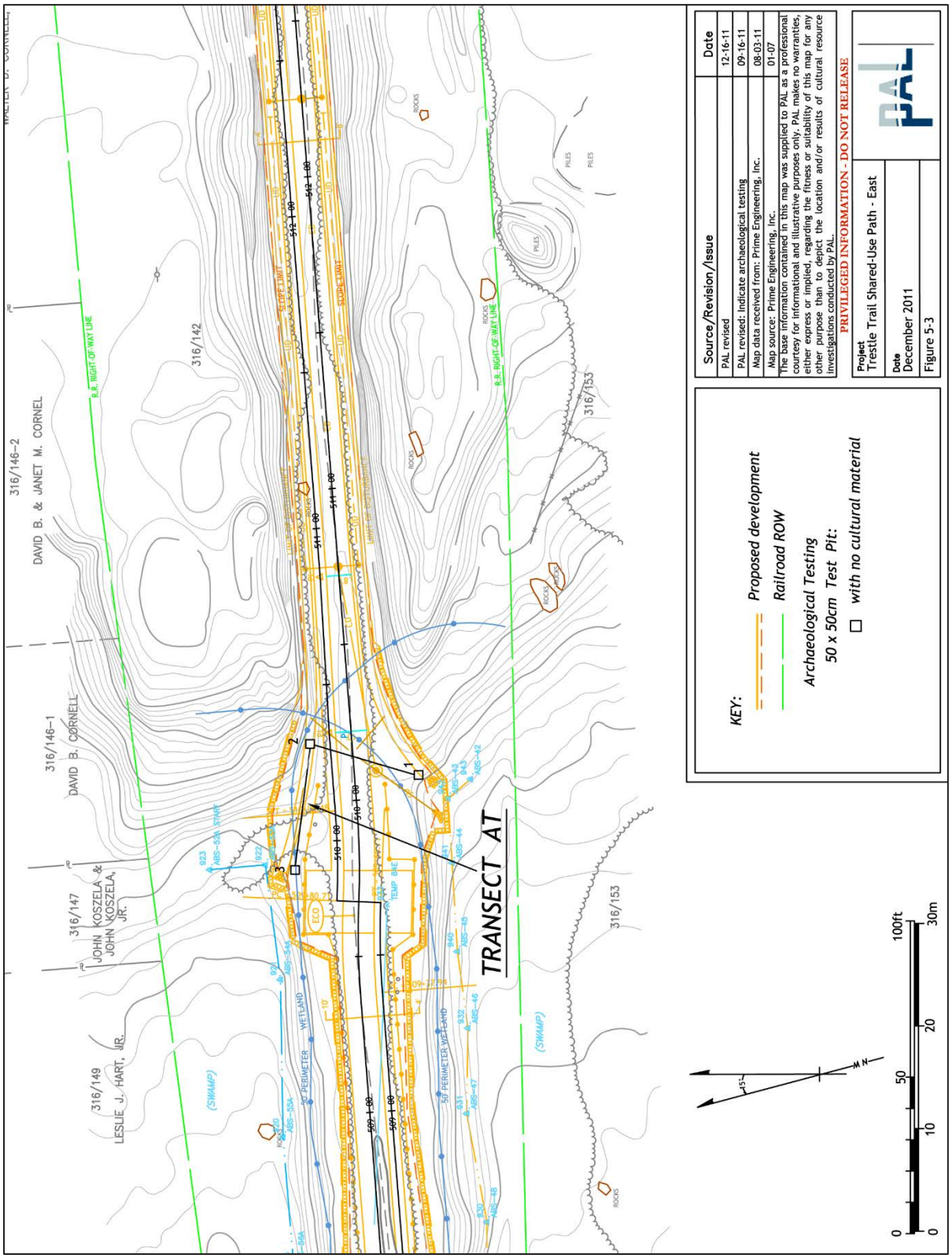


Figure 5-3. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing between Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at bike/pedestrian path STA 509+00 and 511+50.

STA 511+00 to 518+50 (Victory Highway/Route 102): General Plan and Profile Nos. 3–5

No archaeological subsurface testing was conducted within this segment (Figure 5-4) because of low archaeological sensitivity.

Figure 5-4. View west of Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) from STA 511+00 to Victory Highway/Route 102.

STA 518+50 (Victory Highway/Route 102) to 529+00: General Plan and Profile Nos. 5–7

No archaeological subsurface testing was conducted within this segment (Figure 5-5) because of low archaeological sensitivity.

The remains of a stairwell were identified at project station STA 522+25 to the east of the Route 102 (Victory Highway) overpass. This stairwell cuts a pathway into the incline on the north side of the railroad bed, ascending to the surface of ground-level terrain (Figure 5-6). The stairwell appears to have provided pedestrian access from the sunken railroad bed to the upper ground-level landscape. The interior retaining walls are approximately 3 vertical feet deep and are constructed of crude, dry-laid stone. No steps are visible, as they were likely of wood construction, or perhaps remain buried beneath soil overburden. This stairwell abuts the project right-of-way.

STA 529+00 to 534+00: General Plan and Profile Nos. 7 and 8

In this segment of the project corridor, the former Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad easement shares a topographic intersection with surrounding terrain between project station STA 530+00 and 534+00. Ten test pits, organized along Transect AS, were excavated along the northern edge of the abandoned rail bed east of STA 530+00 (Figure 5-7). Soils within test pit TAS-01 (see Appendix B) indicate the presence of intact topsoil and subsoil. Olive brown B1 subsoils underlay a very dark grayish-brown A Horizon, which extended to a depth of 26 cmbs. Soils within this segment of the project corridor were coarsely textured composites of sands and silts. Soil profiles for the remaining test pits excavated along Transect AS exhibited disturbed soil strata, as recorded in TAS-05 (see Appendix B). Two to three fill layers that generally consisted of dark gray brown to dark yellowish brown medium to coarse sand with gravel were identified in these test pits. No cultural materials were recovered from any of the Transect AS test pits.

A culvert (Culvert 2) drains a minor stream running from south to north beneath the Trestle Trail at STA 533+00 (see Figure 5-7). Culvert 2 is constructed of cut granite stone and concrete (Photo 5-7a) and likely corresponds with the mid-nineteenth-century 3-x-5-ft stone box culvert recorded in the "Materials Prepared for a Consensus Determination of Eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places" Inventory/Map No. 48 (Hebert n.d.).

Figure 5-5. View west of Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) from Victory Highway/Route 102 to STA 530+00.

Figure 5-6. View northeast of the stairwell identified east of Victory Highway at project station STA 522+25.

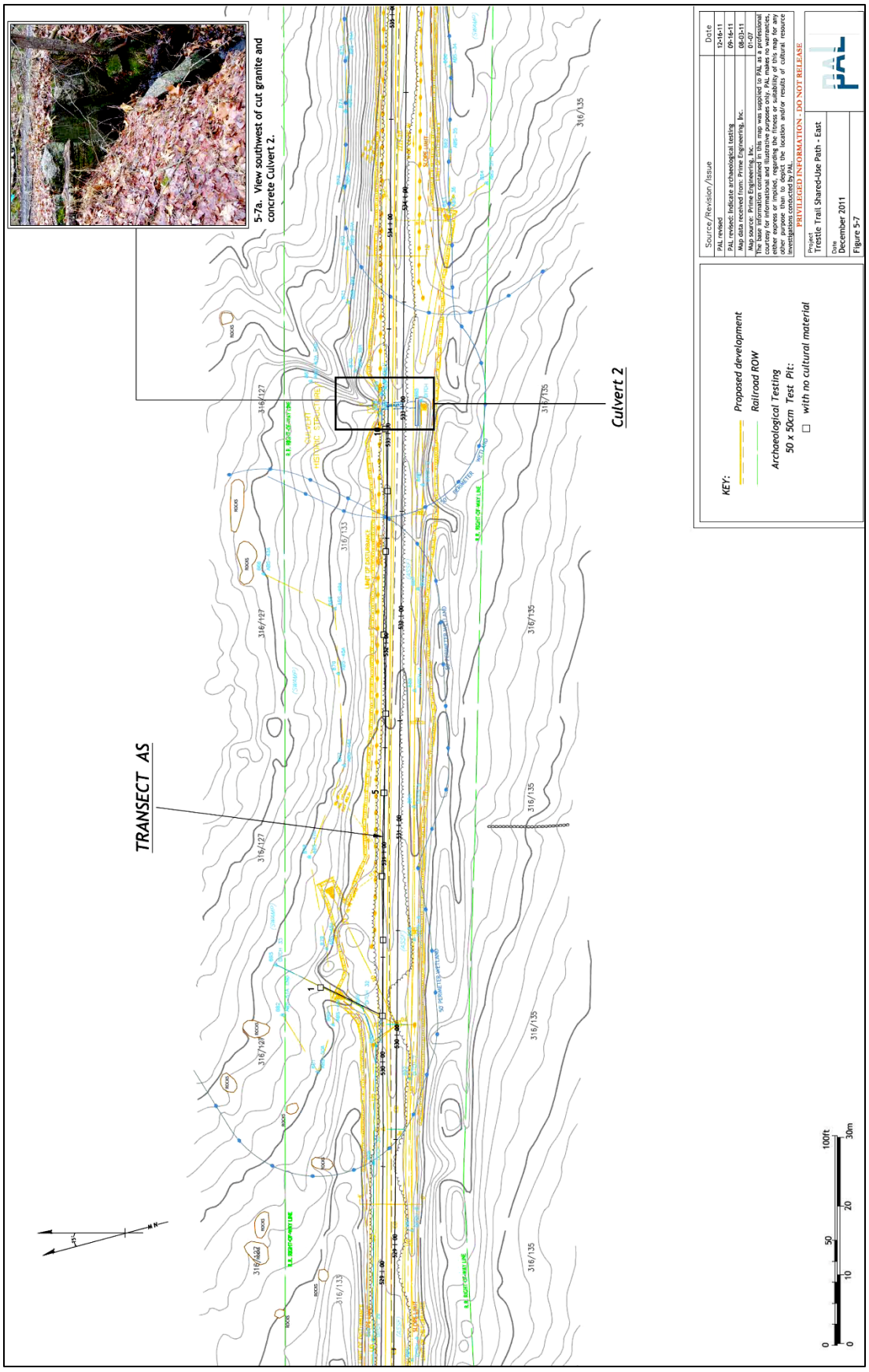


Figure 5-7. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing between Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 529+00 and 534+00.

STA 534+00 to 546+00: General Plan and Profile Nos. 8–11

No archaeological subsurface testing was conducted within this segment because of low archaeological sensitivity.

A 3-x-5-ft box culvert of granite (designated as Culvert 3) is buried deeply beneath the Trestle Trail at STA 542+30 (Figure 5-8). Culvert 3 provides south to north drainage for the immediately surrounding wetland terrain.

STA 546+00 to 548+00 (Camp Westwood Road): General Plan and Profile No. 11

The former railroad bed between STA 546+00 and Camp Westwood Road shares a topographic intersection with surrounding terrain grading from fill to original surface gradient. Three test pits, arranged within Transect AX, were used to test this segment of the project corridor because of the potential existence of intact soils containing archaeological deposits (Figure 5-9). Stratigraphic soil profiles for Transect AX test pits consisted of a disturbed very dark grayish brown A Horizon underlain by disturbed yellowish brown B Horizon subsoils, as recorded in TAX-02 (see Appendix B). Soil textures included silty medium-textured sands with gravel. No cultural materials were recovered from Transect AX.

STA 548+00 (Camp Westwood Road) to 550+00: General Plan and Profile Nos. 11 and 12

No archaeological subsurface testing was conducted within this segment (see Figure 5-9 and Photo 5- 9a) because of low archaeological sensitivity.

STA 550+00 to 560+00: General Plan and Profile Nos. 12–14

The proposed Trestle Trail project corridor from STA 551+00 to 560+00 is cut through ledge rock to depths of up to 25 ft below original surface grade (Photo 5-11a). The proposed shared-use path veers south of the Trestle Trail rail bed at approximate project station 552+00, with the diverted course of this segment being characterized by naturally contoured topography. Subsurface testing, consisting of 35 test pits organized within testing Transects AR, AY, and AZ, was conducted because of the potential for intact soils containing archaeological deposits to be present within this segment of the project corridor (Figures 5-10 and 5-11). Soil profiles for the majority of Transect AR test pits revealed natural soil stratigraphy, which consisted of grayish brown silty and sandy A Horizon underlain by a dark yellowish brown B1 subsoil, as recorded in TAR-16 (see Appendix B). Areas of disturbances were observed between test pits TAR-02 (see Appendix B) and TAR-04 and again in test pits TAR-24 and TAR-25. Transect AR test pits were typically shallow, terminating atop ledge rock at depths as shallow as 18 cmbs. Cultural materials from Transect AR were limited to the remains of a small iron drum from test pit TAR-04. The remains of the drum were recovered from disturbed fill deposits and were not retained for further analyses.

Transect AZ soils profiles revealed one or two overlying sand, gravel, and/or traprock fill strata, which overlie a silty medium textured sand B1 subsoil. Fills extended to depths of approximately 35 cmbs within this section of the project corridor, as recorded in TAZ-05 (see Appendix B). No cultural materials were collected from Transect AZ. Profiles from Transect AY also revealed disturbed soil stratigraphy, and no artifacts were collected.

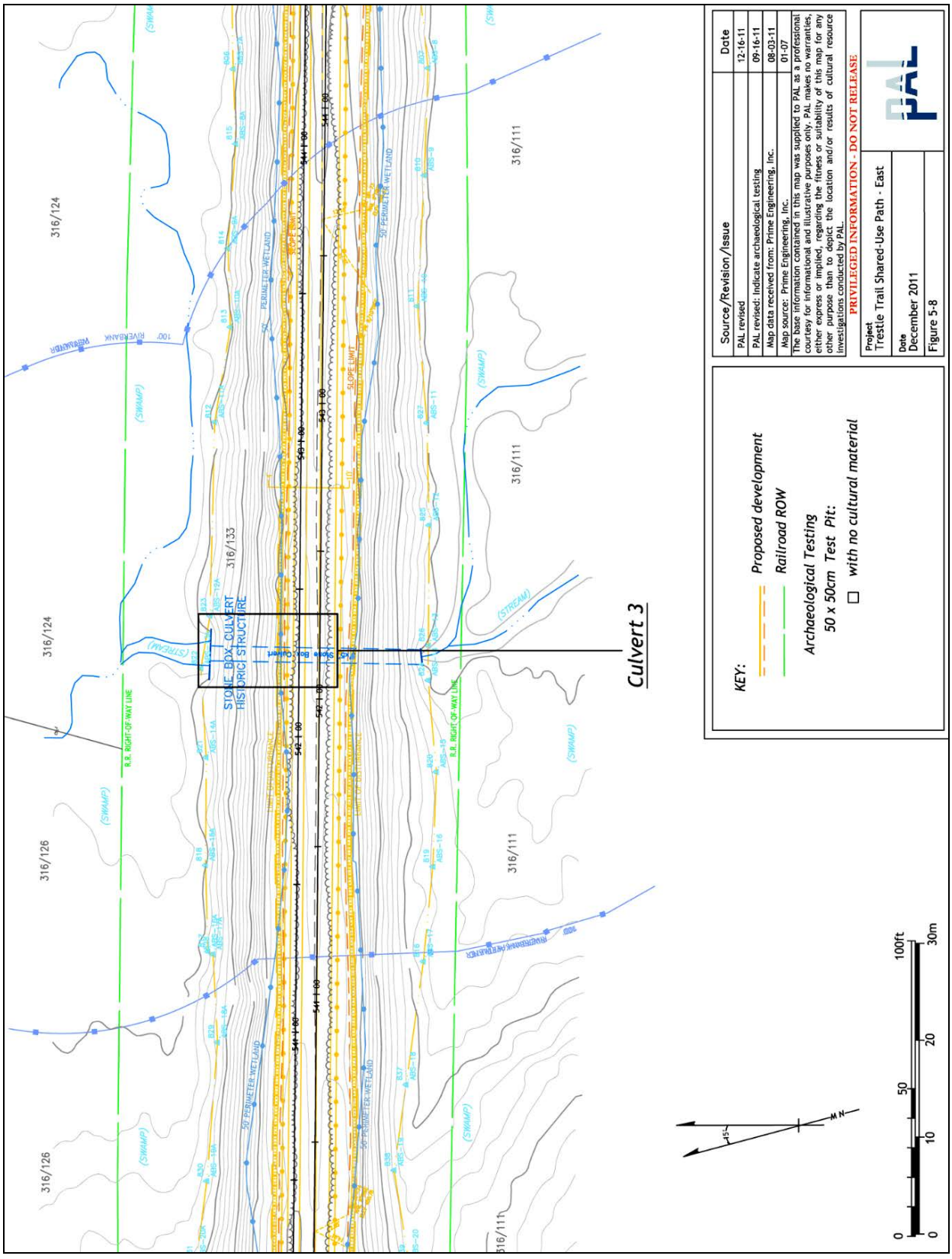


Figure 5-8. Location of Culvert 3 Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) as equestrian trail STA 542+30.

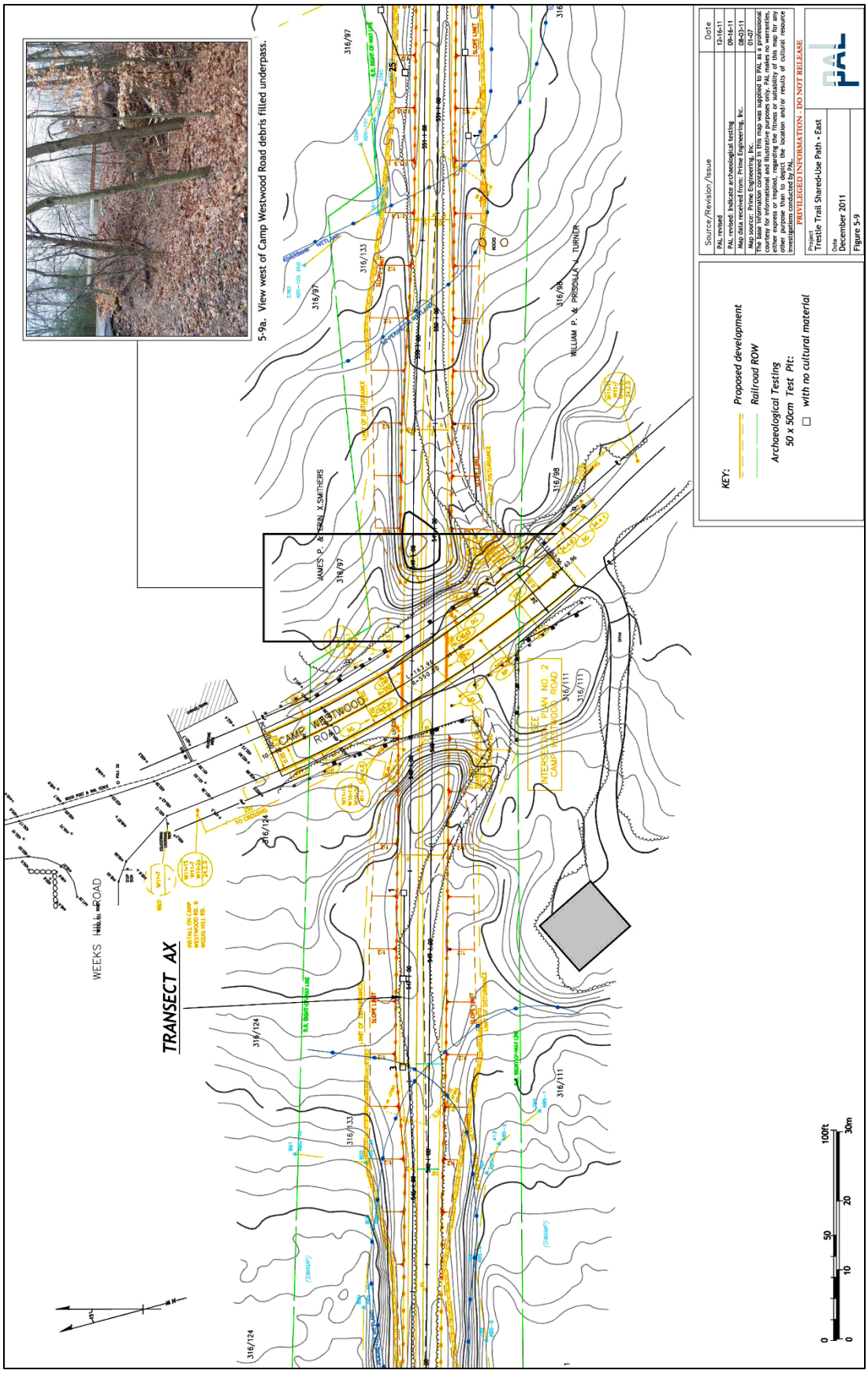


Figure 5-9. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 546+00 and 550+00.

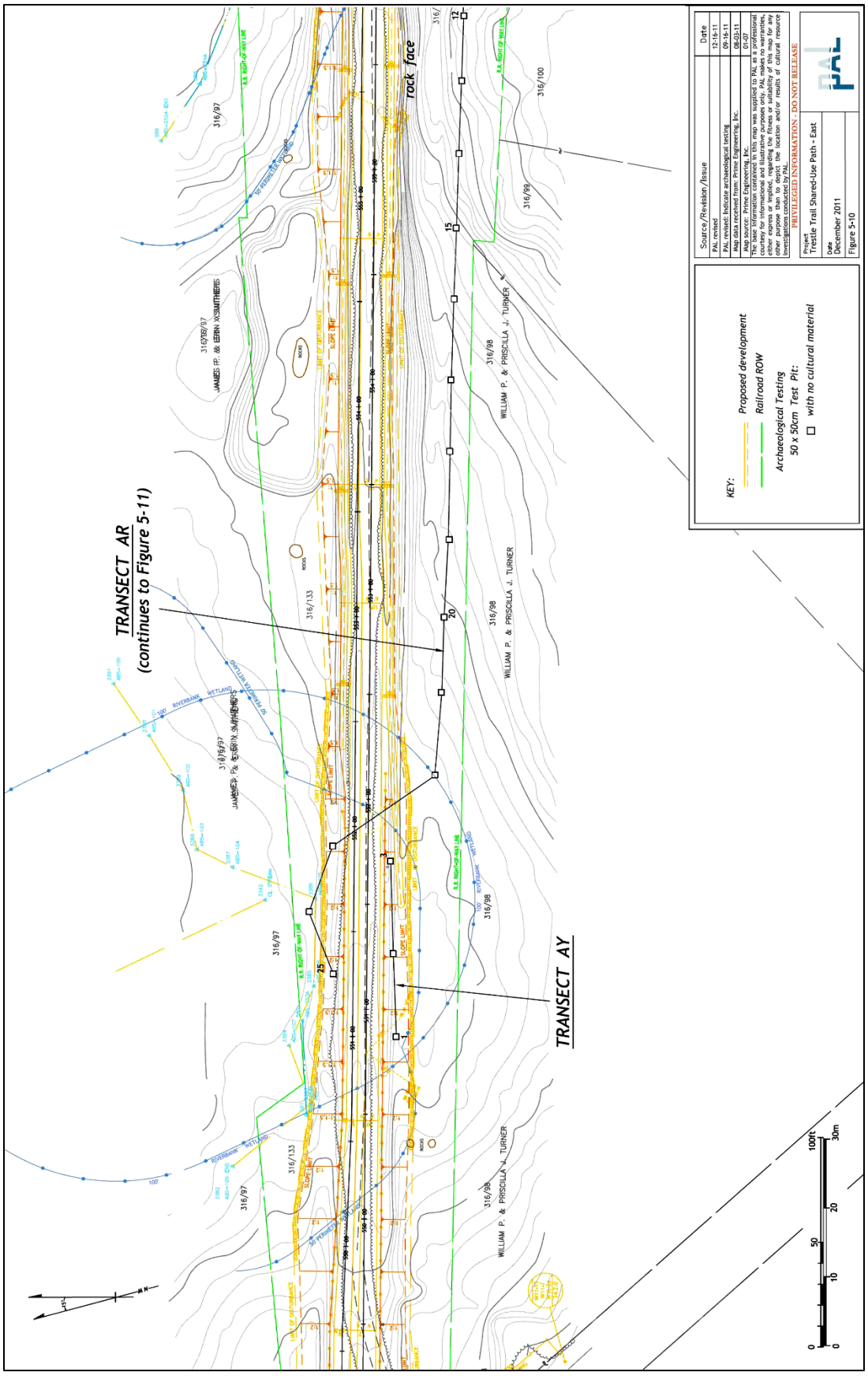


Figure 5-10. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 550+00 and STA 555+00.

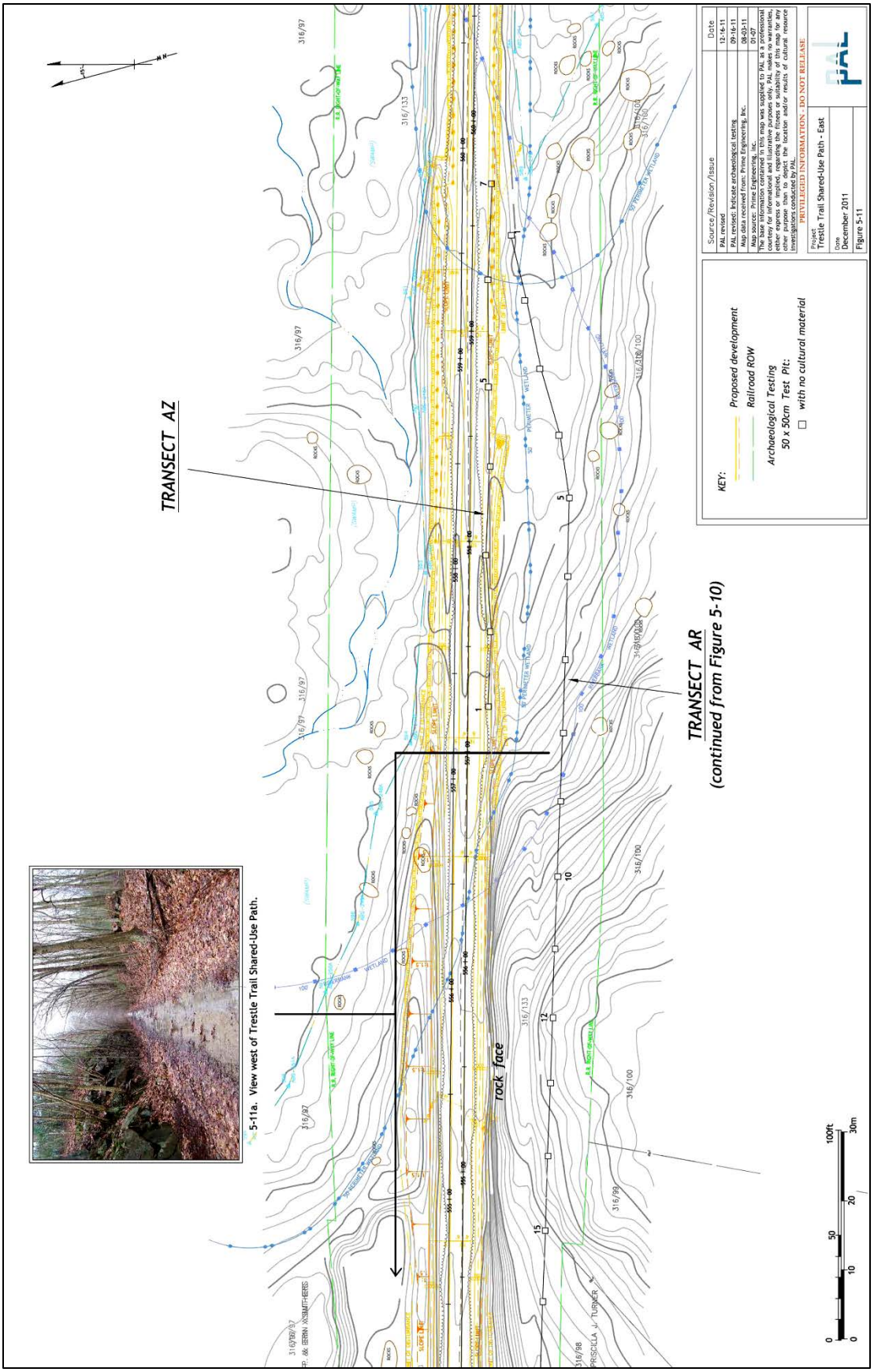


Figure 5-11. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 555+00 and 560+50.

STA 560+00 to 564+50: General Plan and Profiles Nos. 14 and 15

No archaeological subsurface testing was conducted within this segment (Figure 5-12) because of low archaeological sensitivity.

Figure 5-12. View east of Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) between STA 560+12 and STA 564+50.

STA 565+00 to 573+00: General Plan and Profiles Nos. 15–17

The proposed equestrian path for the Trestle Trail veers approximately 25 ft (11 m) to the south of the former rail bed at STA 564+50 (Figures 5-13 and 5-14). The equestrian path is raised up to 10 ft above the grade of the proposed bike path and is characterized by naturally contoured topography. Transect AQ (pits 20–42) soil profiles indicate the presence of natural soil stratigraphy, as recorded in TAQ-11 (see Appendix B). Soils included a shallow (approximately 20 cm deep) unplowed dark grayish brown to black silty and sandy A Horizon underlain by a yellowish brown to olive brown silty and sandy B Horizon subsoil. Transect AQ test pits typically terminated at shallow depths atop glacially deposited rocks or boulders.

The proposed shared-use path crosses the nineteenth-century Quidnick Reservoir Railroad Bridge, which crosses Quidnick Brook, at STA 570+60. Remains of the bridge include cut-stone abutments and an arch faced with concrete (Photo 5-14a). A small foot trail extending southeast from the vicinity of STA 573+00 was also observed and mapped on project plans (see Figure 5-14).

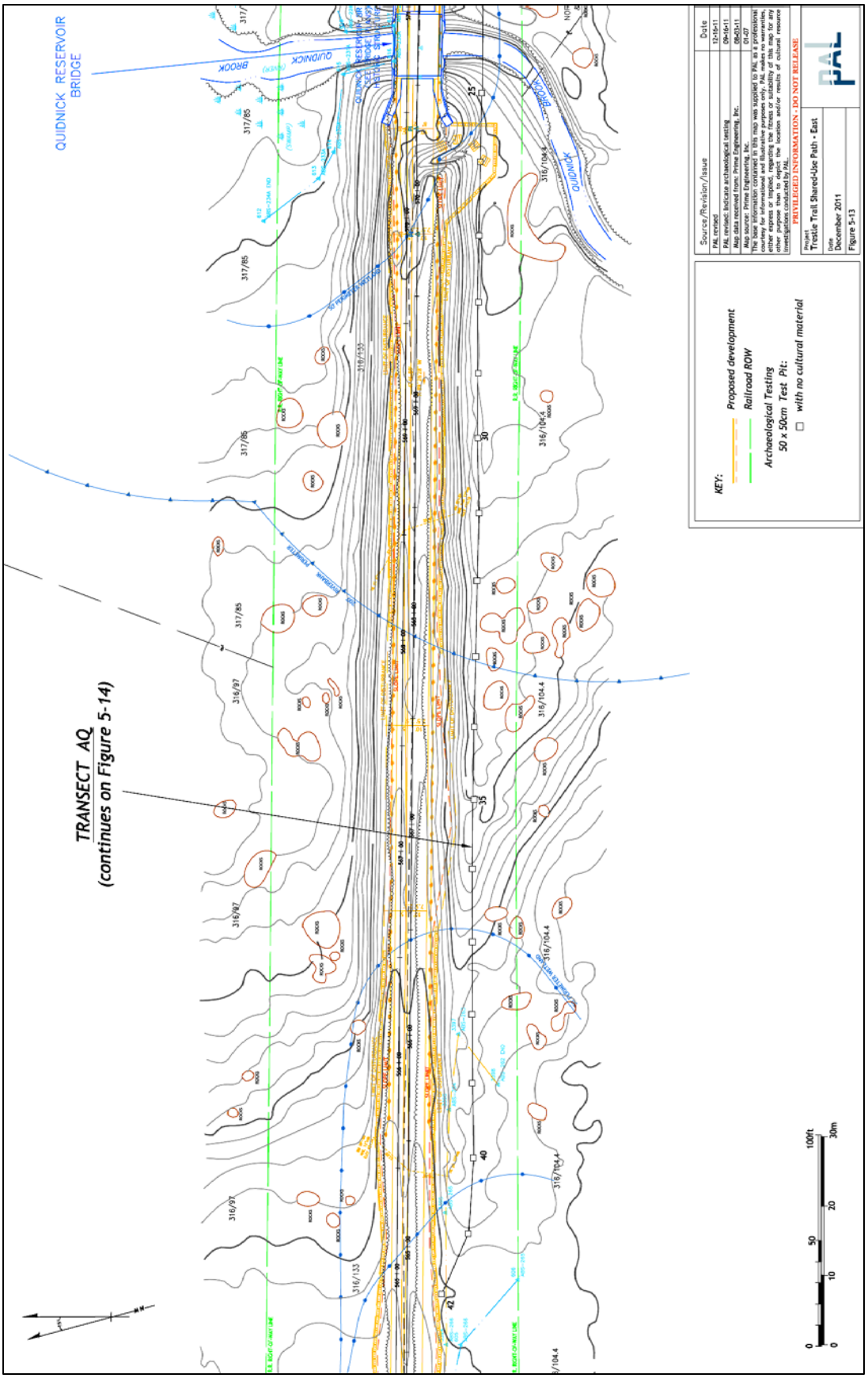
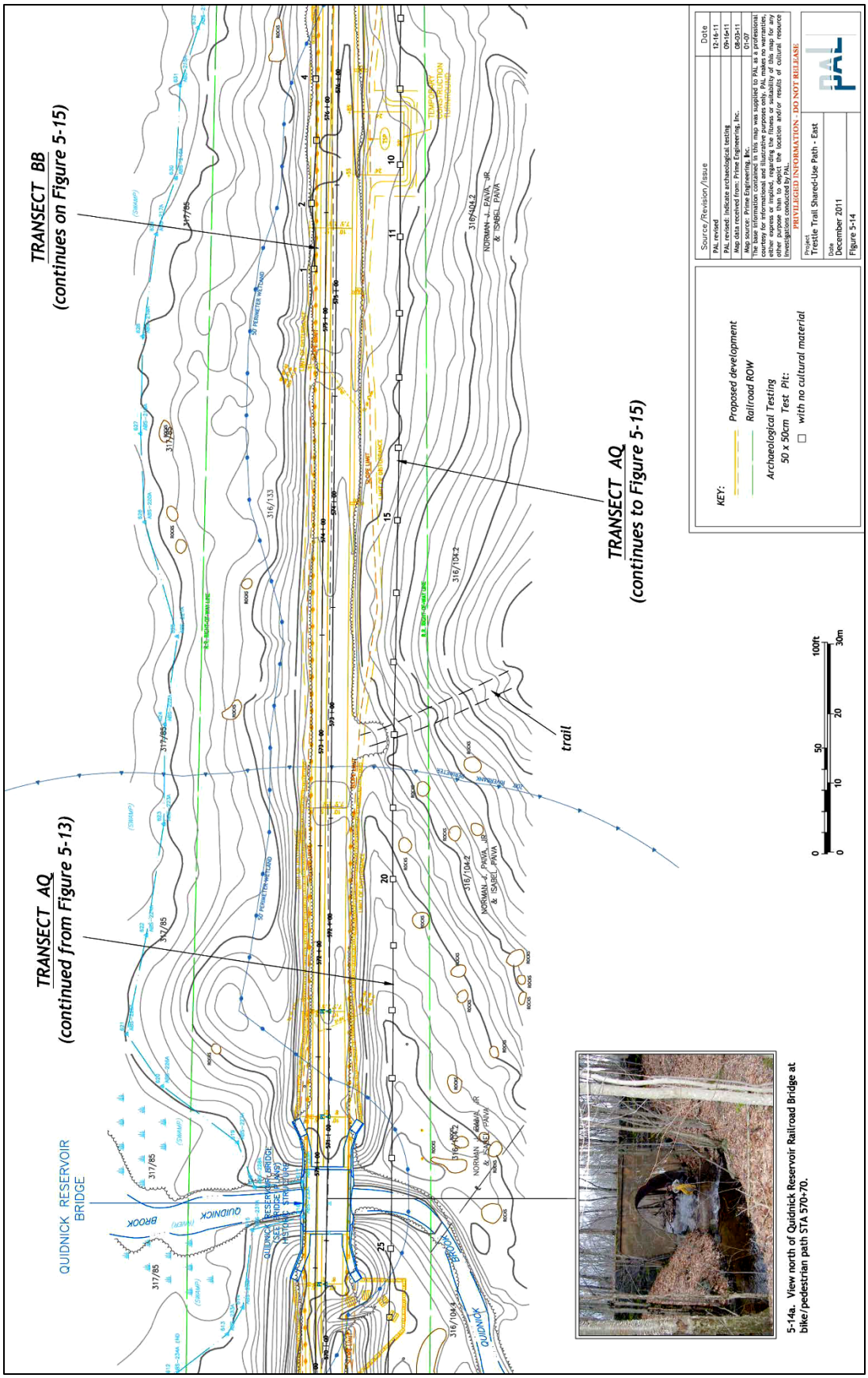


Figure 5-13. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 565+00 to STA 571+00.



5-14a. View north of Quidnick Reservoir Railroad Bridge at bike/pedestrian path STA 570+70.

Figure 5-14. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 571+00 and STA 576+00.

STA 573+00 to 581+00 (Williams Crossing Road): General Plan and Profiles Nos. 17–19

The proposed Trestle Trail from STA 573+00 to Williams Crossing Road reaches original surface gradient at STA 575+00. Subsurface archaeological testing was conducted within areas of apparent intact natural soils north of the proposed bike path using Transect BB and south of the bike path, along the proposed equestrian path, by continuing test pit excavation along Transect AQ (pits 01–19) (see Figures 5-14, Figure 5-15). Transect AQ soil profiles were of consistent character with those recorded in the previous segment (STA 565+00 to 573+00). Transect BB, which parallels the northern edge of the proposed bike path, was excavated in areas of pre-existing disturbances. Soil profiles exhibited multiple fill deposits created during initial railroad construction, as recorded in TBB-11 (see Appendix B). Cultural materials from either Transect AQ or BB were limited to few amber bottle glass shards and pieces of coal from upper fill deposits in test pit TBB-03. These materials were not retained in the field.

Late-nineteenth- or early-twentieth-century cultural resources including a drainage culvert (Culvert 4) and an informal granite quarry (Quarry Site 1) were identified along this segment of the project corridor at approximate project stations STA 579+40 and 576+00, respectively. Culvert 4 drains a south/north running minor stream that crosses beneath the Trestle Trail and is constructed of cut granite and concrete (Photo 5-15b). Culvert 4 likely corresponds with the 8 ft culvert recorded in the "Materials Prepared for a Consensus Determination of Eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places" Inventory/Map No. 46 (Hebert n.d.).

Granite Quarry Site 1 (RI 2364)

Granite Quarry Site 1, located outside the proposed shared-use project corridor approximately 35 m to the south of the proposed bike path, is characterized as a relatively small (approximately 5 m diameter) granite boulder quarry and pit (Photo 5-15a). A small foot trail links it to the Trestle Trail to the north.

STA 581+00 (Williams Crossing Road) to 588+00: General Plan and Profile Nos. 19 and 20

The proposed equestrian path portion of the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) veers south of the bike path element of the project at Williams Crossing Road and rejoins it at STA 587+75 (Figure 5-16). The bike path will be paved through a section of blasted ledge rock (Photo 5-16a). Cleared bedrock boulders line the northern edge of the Trestle Trail along its duration to STA 586+00. The diverted course of the equestrian path traverses a naturally contoured topography approximately 8 ft above the proposed bike path. Nineteen test pits, organized along Transects AN and AO, were used to investigate this segment of the project corridor.

Transect AN follows the proposed equestrian trail approximately 30 ft (10 m) south of the former Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad, while Transect AO parallels its northern edge between STA 585+00 and 586+30 (see Figure 5-16). Soil profiles generally indicate the presence of natural soil strata, as recorded in TAN-9 (see Appendix B). A grayish brown to dark grayish brown silty and sandy A Horizon topsoil generally overlaid yellowish brown silty and sandy B Horizon subsoils that also contained gravel and rocks. Many of the Transect AN and AO test pits terminated at shallow depths atop large rocks. Recovered cultural materials from this section of the project corridor were limited to a coal fragment and an iron nail from test pit TAN-10 and an electrical insulator fragment from test pit TAN-09 (see Appendix A).

STA 588+00 to 594+00: General Plan and Profile Nos. 20 and 21

No archaeological subsurface testing was conducted within this segment because of low archaeological sensitivity.

A masonry drainage culvert (Culvert 5) was identified during a walkover of the project corridor at STA 593+55, respectively (Figure 5-17). Culvert 5 provides south to north drainage of the surrounding wetland.

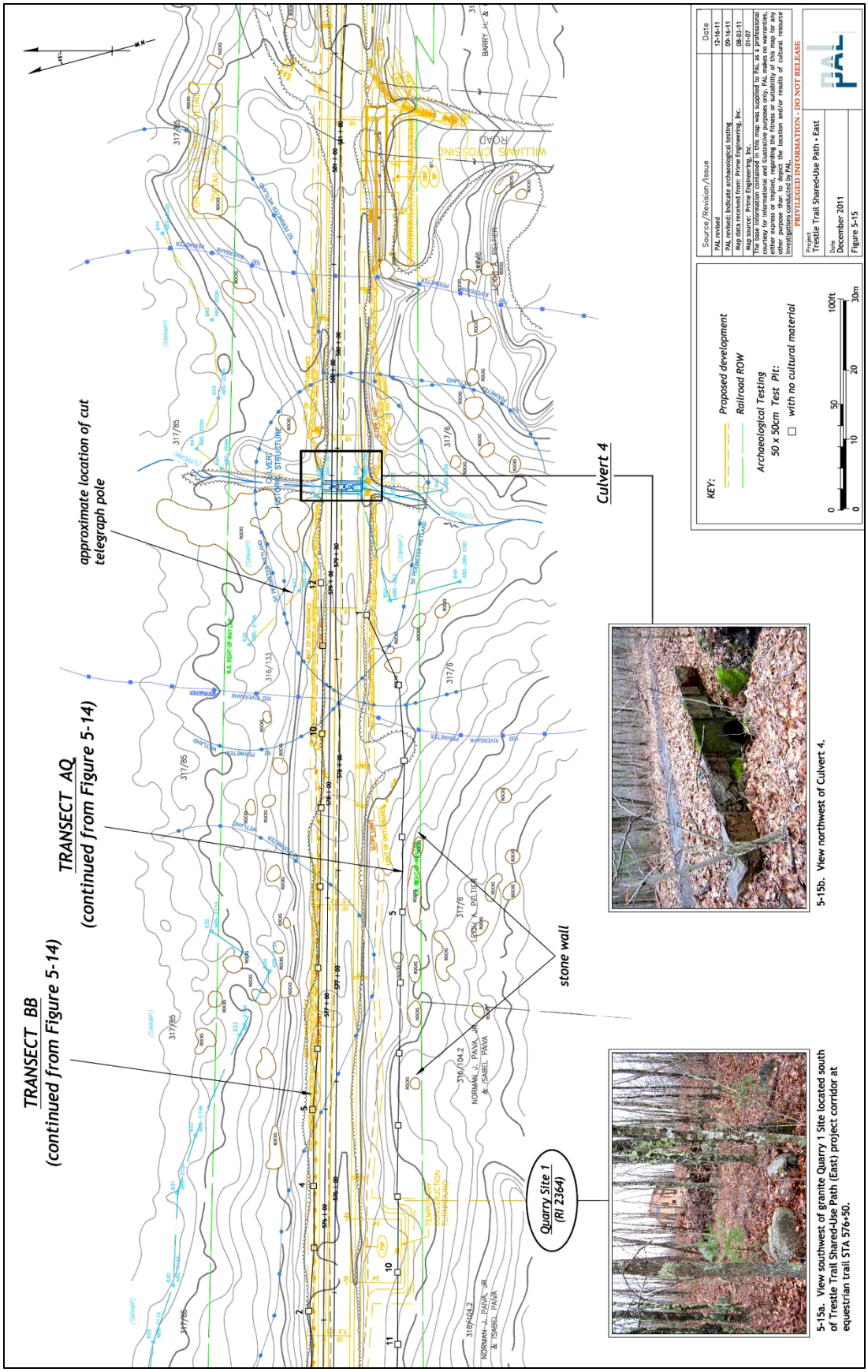


Figure 5-15. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 576+00 and STA 581+70.

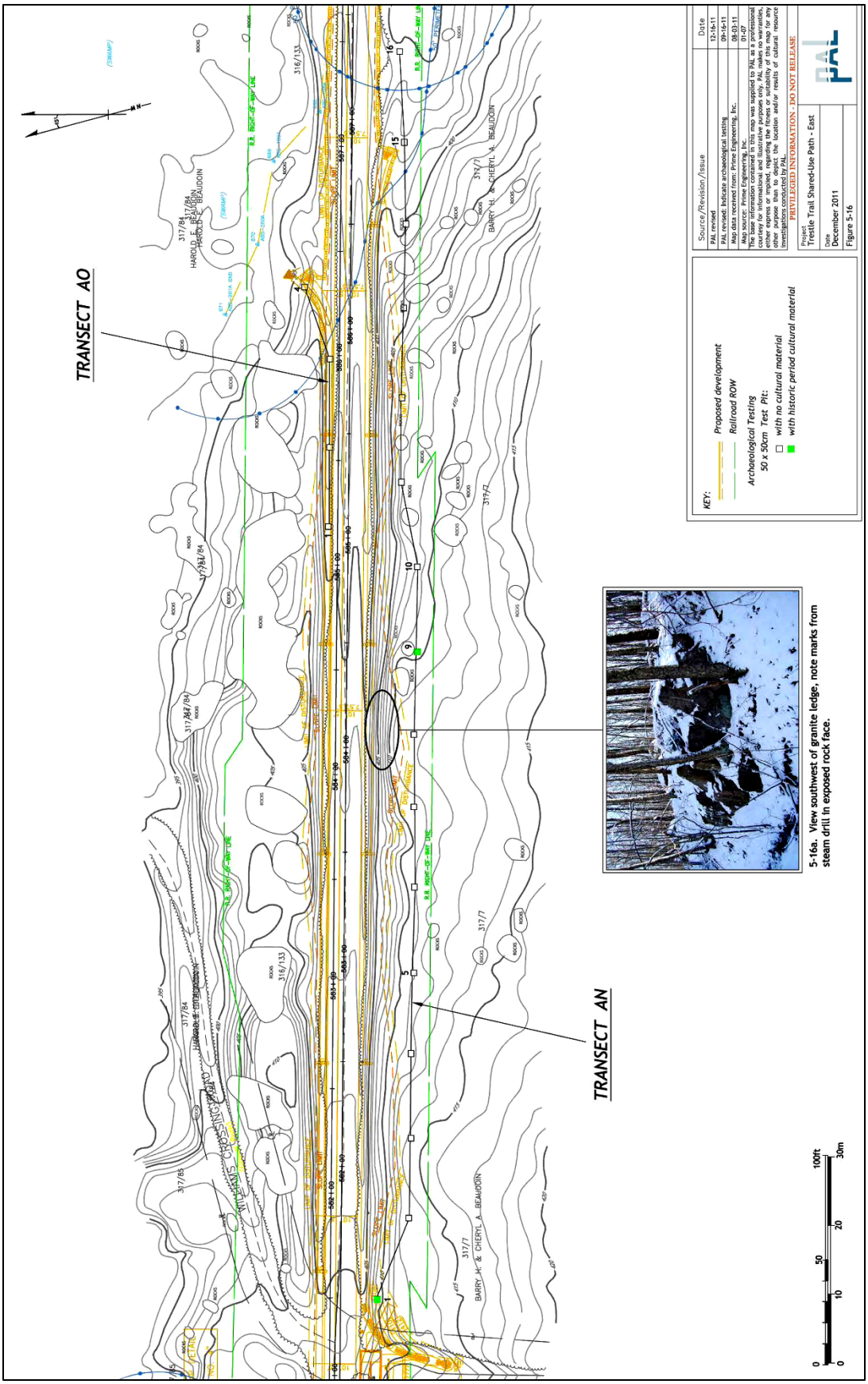


Figure 5-16. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 581+70 (Williams Crossing Road) to STA 587+50.

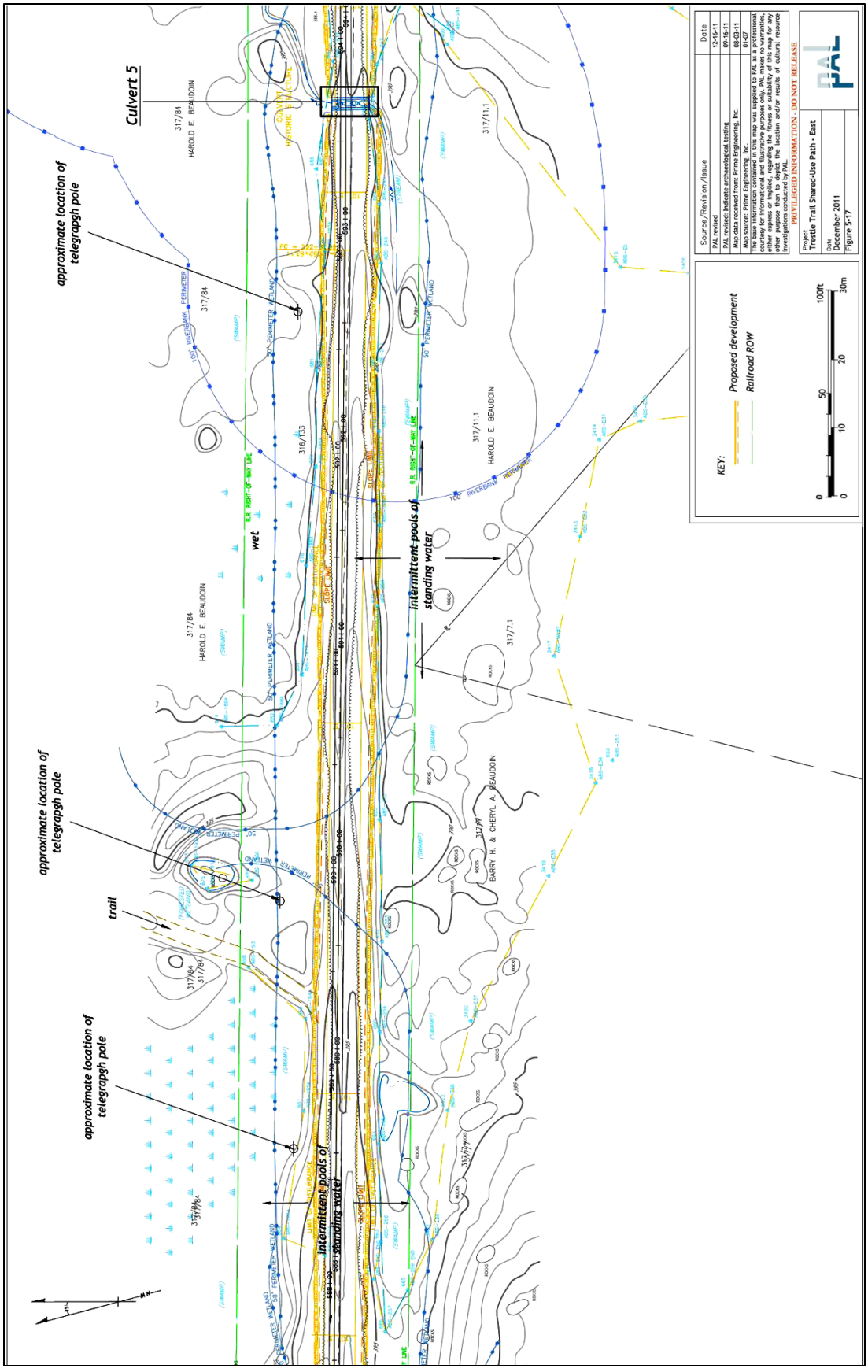


Figure 5-17. Post-contact period cultural resources identified within Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 588+20 to STA 594+00.

STA 594+00 to 601+00: General Plan and Profile Nos. 22 and 23

The proposed equestrian path portion of the Trestle Trail veers south of the bike path element at STA 594+00, turns north and crosses the bike path again at STA 595+15, and follows its north side until it again merges at STA 599+00 (Figure 5-18). The bike path within this section of the proposed shared- use path has been cut through existing ledge rock to a depth of up to 25 ft below original surface grade. The diverted course of the equestrian path will traverse the original, naturally contoured topography above the bike path.

Twenty-five test pits, organized along Transect AP and supplemental test Arrays 08 and 09, were used to investigate the equestrian segment of the shared-use project corridor. Soil profiles indicate generally undisturbed soil strata consisting of dark to very dark grayish brown A Horizon underlain by yellowish to dark yellowish brown B Horizon subsoils. Soils were generally mixtures of silts and sands with some gravel and rocks. Transect AP test pits typically terminated at shallow depths atop glacially deposited rocks or boulders. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing also resulted in the collection of pre-contact Native American cultural materials from test pits TAP-10 (see Appendix B) and A09-N (see Appendix B). The composite materials have been named the Trestle Trail Overlook Site.

Trestle Trail Overlook Site (RI 2362)

The Trestle Trail Overlook Site (RI 2362) is located on a rocky hill, approximately 65 ft (20 m) north of a deeply cut section of trestle bed at bike path centerline STA 597+10. Composite cultural materials consist of four rhyolite flakes from test pits TAP-10 and A09-N. Cultural materials were recovered between 10 and 30 cmbs from A1/B1 interface and B1 subsoil stratigraphic contexts (see Appendix A). These artifacts are indicative of stone tool production and/or maintenance. Charred wood fragments recovered from B1 subsoil contexts in test pit A09-S are possibly of cultural origin and could suggest the presence of a nearby cultural feature.

STA 601+00 to 611+00: General Plan and Profile Nos. 23–25

This segment of the proposed Trestle Trail project corridor has been raised up to 8 ft above the grade of Quidnick Brook and its associated wetland (Figure 5-19). The proposed shared-use path will be entirely contained within the former Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad rail bed. Consequently, the Phase I(c) investigation between STA 601+00 to 611+00 was limited to visual inspection, walkover, and the excavation of two judgmental test pits only.

Comstock Farmstead Site (RI 2361)

The walkover inspection resulted in the identification of post-contact period features between STA 603+00 and 608+00. These included the Quidnick Brook Bridge at STA 603+50 and the archaeological remnants of a former farmstead complex between STA 607+00 and 608+00, and Culvert 6 at STA 607+60. The Quidnick Brook Bridge spans the Quidnick Brook as it flows south beneath the Trestle Trail. The bridge's abutments are constructed of cut stone, and the steel beams that would have spanned it have been removed (Photo 5-19a). The major components of the Comstock Farmstead Site (RI 2361) are located outside of the railroad right-of-way and include a breached dam (Photo 5-19b), a dry-laid stone foundation to the south (Photo 5-19c), a large cellar hole with center chimney base (Photo 5-19d), and a smaller foundation (possible root cellar) (Photo 5-19e) north of the right-of-way. A footpath connects the elements of the site. The 1895 Everts and Richards atlas (see Figure 5-3) depicts a pond area of Quidnick Brook in the vicinity of the site. Additionally, historic aerial photographs from the RIGIS web site clearly depict a dam and millrace adjacent to the foundation south of the right-of-way (RIGIS 1939, 1951, 1961, 1972, 1988, 1992). The remains of this dam, which are still clearly visible, indicate that it is composed of fieldstone.

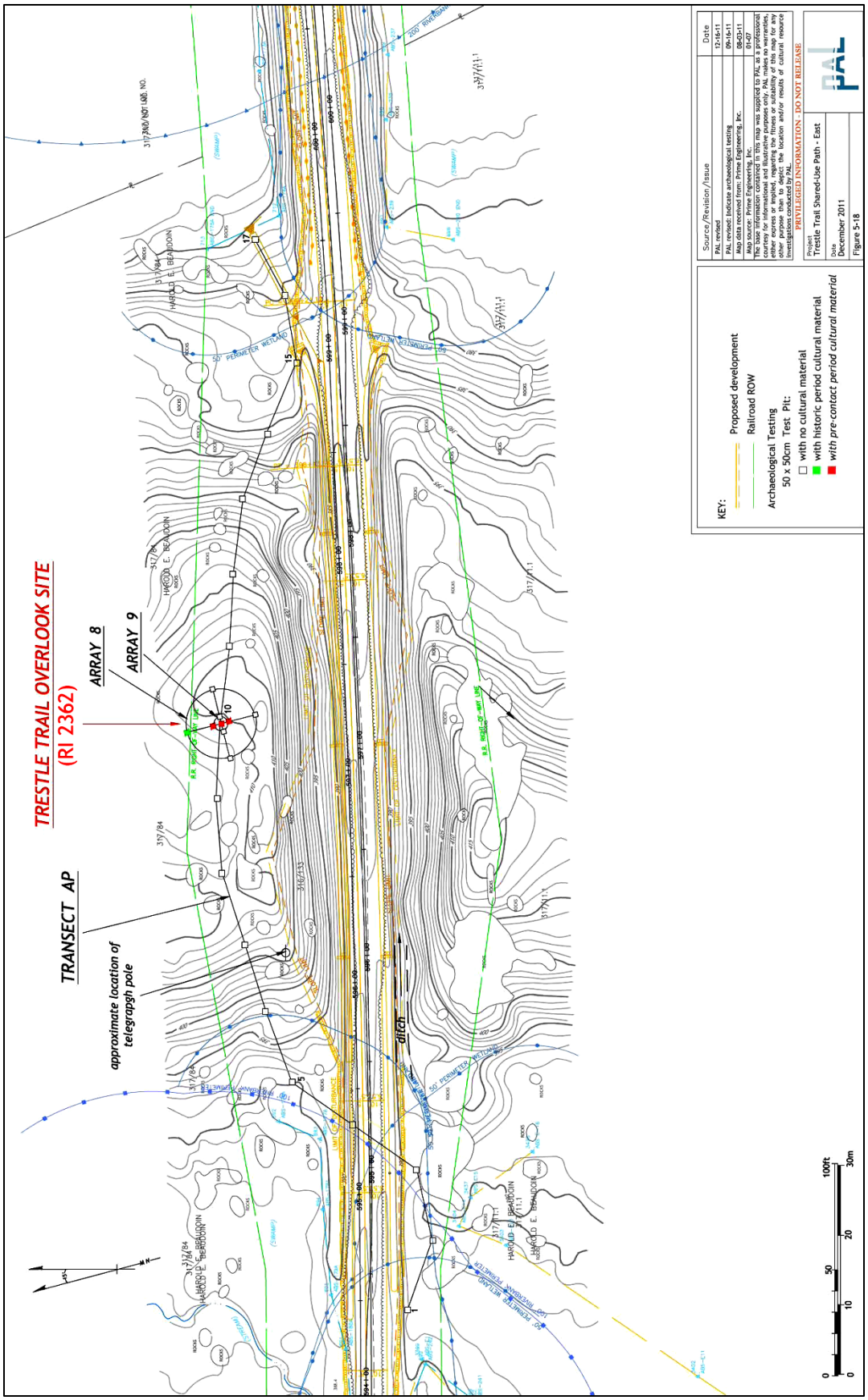


Figure 5-18. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 594+00 to 600+50.

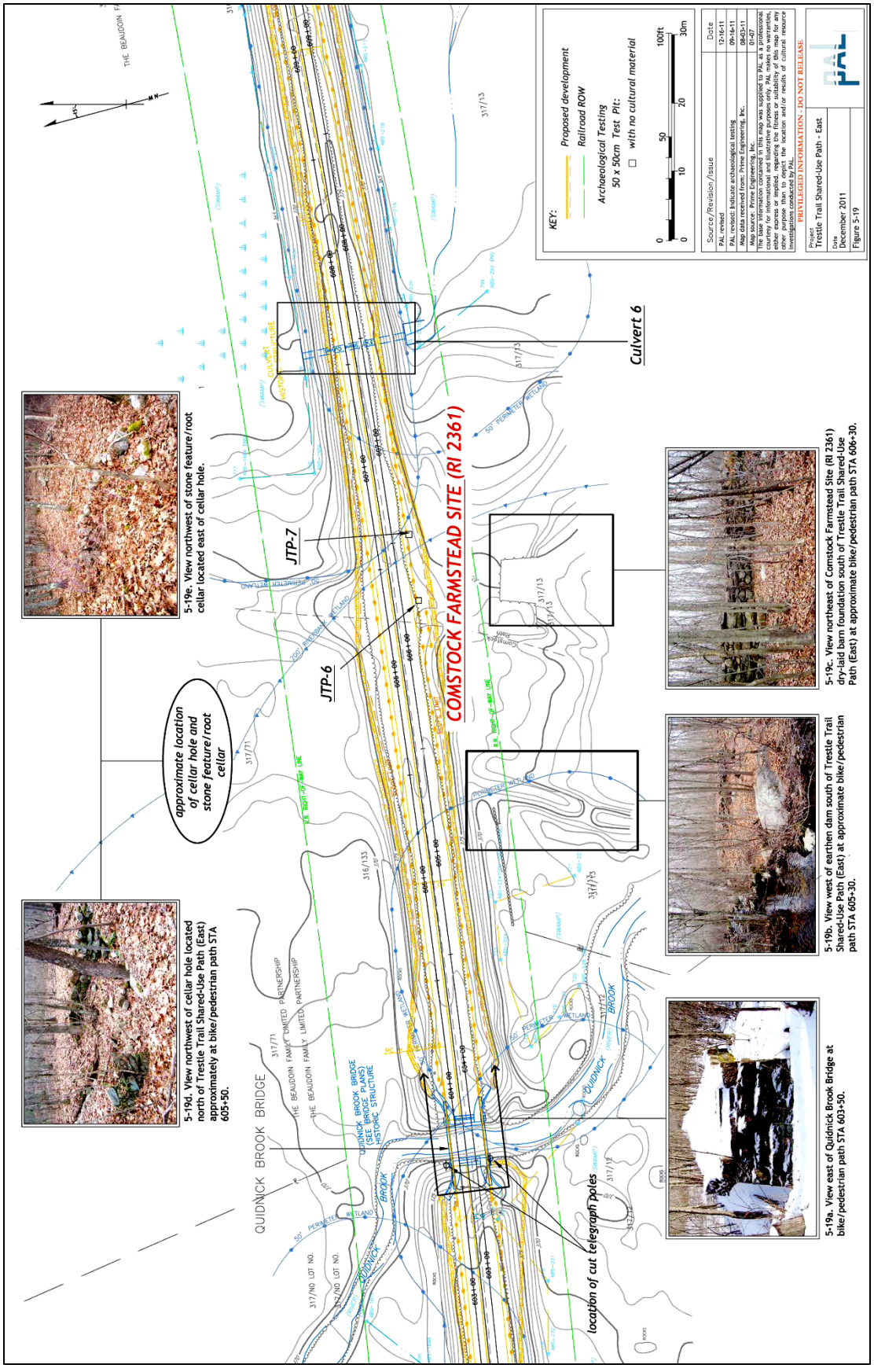


Figure 5-19. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at bike/pedestrian path STA 603+00 to 609+00.

Two test pits, JTPs 06 and 07, were excavated along the southern edge of the former Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad to test for the presence of intact soils or archaeological features associated with this complex that might be threatened by project construction (see Figure 5-19). Soil profiles, as recorded in JTP-06 (see Appendix B), indicated that this section of the project corridor has been severely disturbed by rail line construction, and no cultural materials were recovered from either JTP 06 or JTP 07.

STA 611+00 to 623+50: General Plan and Profile Nos. 25–28

The proposed bike path portion of the Trestle Trail project corridor from STA 611+00 to 623+00 runs through original soils and subsurface boulders to a depth of up to 8 ft below original surface grade. The proposed equestrian path veers north of the former Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill railroad bed at STA 611+35 and continues to parallel the former railroad easement through generally undisturbed soils until it rejoins the railroad right-of-way at STA 622+80. Subsurface archaeological testing within this section of the project corridor included the excavation of 33 test pits, organized within linear testing Transect AH along the northern equestrian alignment (Figures 5-20 and 5-21). Additionally, nine test pits (JTPs 08–13 and Transect AI) tested the stratigraphic integrity within the proposed bike path.

Transect AH soil profiles indicated relatively intact natural soil strata, as in TAH-09 (see Appendix B). Transect AH soils included grayish brown silty and sandy A Horizon topsoils underlain by dark yellowish brown and yellowish brown B1 and B2 subsoils, respectively. B Horizon subsoils were typically mixtures of silts, sands, gravels, and rocks, which oftentimes terminated at shallow depths atop large rocks. Profiles from JTPs 08–13 and Transect AI indicated highly disturbed soils and included multiple fills, as recorded in TAI-01 (see Appendix B). No cultural materials were collected from any of the test pits excavated between STA 611+00 to 623+50 within the project corridor right-of-way. However, a probable twentieth-century concrete box culvert (Culvert 7) was observed at the approximate project station STA 623+30.

STA 623+50 to 651+00: General Plan and Profile Nos. 28–34

The proposed equestrian path portion of the Trestle Trail veers north from the former Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad bed at STA 623+65. The equestrian path will parallel the bike path approximately 40 ft (12 m) to the north until it rejoins the path at STA 651+00, and Culvert 6 at STA 607+60 (Figures 5-22 through 5-26). The northern equestrian alignment was investigated through the excavation of 73 test pits organized along Transect AG. The proposed bike path element of the project, which will be contained within the abandoned rail bed, and associated project drainage extensions along its southern edge, were tested using Transect AK and judgmentally placed test pits at selected locations.

Transect AG soil profiles indicated relatively natural soil strata, and were similar in character to soils recorded in Transect AH (see Appendix B). Nineteenth- and twentieth-century cultural materials including brick fragments (n=4), glass bottle shards (n=7), a piece of window glass, coal (n=1), iron (n=1), the remains of a ceramic smoking pipe, machine-cut nails (n=9), and a redware ceramic sherd (n=1) were all collected from topsoil contexts within Transect AG (see Appendix A). Additionally, a heavy iron implement, which is likely the remains of a granite quarrying tool (see below), was collected from surficial contexts at test pit TAG-47. JTPs 14–21, 24 and Transect AK test pits, excavated along the proposed bike path, contained multiple fill layers indicated disturbed soil conditions, as recorded in JTP-14 (see Appendix A). No cultural materials were collected from any of these test pits.

Phase I(c) archaeological testing also resulted in the documentation of several railroad-related features. Identified cultural resources included three granite boundary markers and Culvert 8. The first marks the southeast corner of a tract currently owned by the Audubon Society of Rhode Island, where it meets the northern edge of the railroad right-of-way at STA 631+50 (see Figure 5-23). This marker is situated outside

the limits of the project corridor. The second and third granite bounds mark the northern edge of the railroad right-of-way at STA 641+30 and STA 647+40 respectively (see Figures 5-24 and Figure 5-25). Culvert 8 is located at 641+90 (see Figure 5-25).

Quarry Site 2 (RI 2365)

In addition to railroad related features, several nineteenth-century quarry resources associated with the Horace Foster's granite quarrying industry or perhaps quarry mining for railroad construction were also identified during the archaeological survey. Quarry Site 2 (RI 2365), situated immediately north of project station STA 628+50, consisted of an approximately 6 ft deep quarry cut into a small hillside north of the abandoned railroad bed (Photo 5-22a). Quarry Site 2 presently contains the remains of discarded or dumped granite stones. A dry-laid agricultural fieldstone fence is located to the immediate east of the quarry pit, and a portion of it is located within the proposed project corridor.

Quarry Site 3 (RI 2366)

Some 700 ft (210 m) east of the Quarry Site 2 is a second episode of more intense granite quarrying activity designated Quarry Site 3 (RI 2366). Quarry Site 3 parallels and is partially contained within the northern limits of the project corridor from approximately STA 635+00 to 637+00. Historic features associated with Quarry Site 3 include discarded cut trimmed granite blocks or boulders and several tailing or trim piles (Photo 5-23a). Furthermore, the remains of a cut granite stone retaining wall that likely served as a loading platform, associated with the Foster Ledge granite quarry industry that opened in 1862, is located within the project corridor between the proposed bike path and equestrian path from STA 633+30 to 635+00 (Photo 5-23b). A dirt driveway located at STA 633+00 linked the Foster Ledge Quarry (RI 2367) with the Trestle Trail railroad. Other identified elements of this quarrying complex including numerous debris piles immediately north, and out of the limits of the project area. All of this evidence for nineteenth-century granite quarrying occurs within site of the two cut granite quarry workers houses included in the inventory of Coventry's historic resources (RIHPC 1978) (Photos 5-24 a and b).

STA 651+00 to 654+00: General Plan and Profile Nos. 34 and 35

No archaeological subsurface testing was conducted within this segment because of low archaeological sensitivity. Culvert 9 is located at STA 654+05 (Figure 5-27).

STA 654+00 to 668+50: General Plan and Profiles Nos. 35–38

The proposed Trestle Trail project corridor from STA 654+00 to 668+50 was investigated using Transect AF (Figures 5-27 and 5-29). Archaeological testing was limited to the proposed equestrian path situated north of the proposed bike path. The equestrian path veers north of the former rail line at STA 654+20 and parallels it for approximately 40 ft (12 m) to the north. The equestrian path then turns south to intersect the Trestle Trail line at STA 668+50. The former railroad bed and proposed bike path within this section of the project corridor has been raised up to 25 ft above original surface contour, precluding any possibility that intact soils containing potentially significant archaeological deposits would be encountered. At the eastern limit of this segment, both the shared-use path and Trestle Trail railroad bed intersect original surface grade.

Transect AF contained 39 excavated test pits. Soil profiles demonstrated the presence of relatively intact soils, similar in character to soils recorded in Transect AH (see Appendix B). Seven test pits distributed between Transects AL and AM were excavated in areas that coincided with the original topographic contour within the eastern terminus of this project segment. Multiple layers of fill and disturbance

were observed in Transect AL and AM test pits, as recorded in TAM-03 (see Appendix B). Cultural materials including a coal fragment and two bottle glass shards were retrieved from a fill stratum in test pits TAM-03 (see Appendix A).

Quarry Site 4 (RI 2368)

Post-contact period cultural features identified between STA 654+00 and 668+50 during the archaeological survey included an episode of granite quarrying between STA 658+00 and 663+00. This site, designated as Quarry Site 4 (RI 2368), consisted of a boulder quarry field to the north and partially contained within the proposed equestrian path for the Trestle Trail Shared Use Path (East) project corridor (Photo 5-28a). Numerous split and drilled granite boulders, along with trimmed granite boulders and tailings, were observed within this segment of the project corridor.

Quarry Site 5 (RI 2369)

A second smaller episode of granite quarrying was observed between STA 666+00 and 666+75 to the north of the easement. This episode, designated as Quarry Site 5 (RI 2369), is situated immediately north of project station STA 664+60 and consisted of an approximately 6 ft deep quarry cut into a small hillside north of the abandoned railroad bed. Similar to Quarry Site 2, Quarry Site 5 contains the remains of discarded or dumped granite stones (Photo 5-29a). Quarry Site 5 is partially contained within the project corridor right-of-way. Composite granite quarrying activity was likely associated with the nineteenth-century Foster's Ledge quarrying activity known to the north. The archaeological survey also resulted in the identification of a late-nineteenth/early-twentieth-century drainage culvert (Culvert 10), which is deeply buried by as much as 23 ft of overlying fill beneath the former railroad bed at STA 659+80 (Figure 5-28). Culvert 10 provides north to south drainage for a minor wetland into Coventry Center Pond.

STA 668+50 to 673+00: General Plan and Profile Nos. 38 and 39

The proposed Trestle Trail project corridor appears to follow the original surface grade from STA 668+50 to 673+00 (see Figure 5-29, Figure 5-30). Transect BA and JTP 23 were excavated along the northern edge of the proposed bike path within this section of the project corridor. A proposed equestrian path veers south of the bike path alignment at STA 668+70 and again rejoins it at STA 670+50. This element of the project corridor crosses naturally contoured terrain that borders Coventry Center Pond and was investigated using Transect AE and JTP 22.

Soil profiles from test pits excavated along the northern edge of the former Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad bed indicated that this section of the project corridor has been cut and filled. Cultural materials recovered from these test pits included five fragments of a kaolin smoking pipe from fill deposits in test pit TBA-05 (see Appendix A). Smoking pipe fragments were re-fitted to form one pipe bowl bearing the impressed letters "TD."

Transect AE, JTP-22, and testing arrays A05 and A06 were excavated south of the former railroad bed, along the diverted equestrian path alignment. Generally intact soils consisting of dark yellowish brown A Horizon topsoils underlain by yellowish brown B1 and light yellowish brown B2 horizon subsoils characterized Transect AE, as recorded in TAE-02 (see Appendix B). Soils within this section of the project corridor included silty medium to coarsely textured sands. Phase I(c) intensive subsurface archaeological testing resulted in the collection of pre-contact Native American cultural materials from test pits JTP-22 (see Appendix A), A07-W, and A07-S (see Appendix A). The composite cultural materials have been named the Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363).

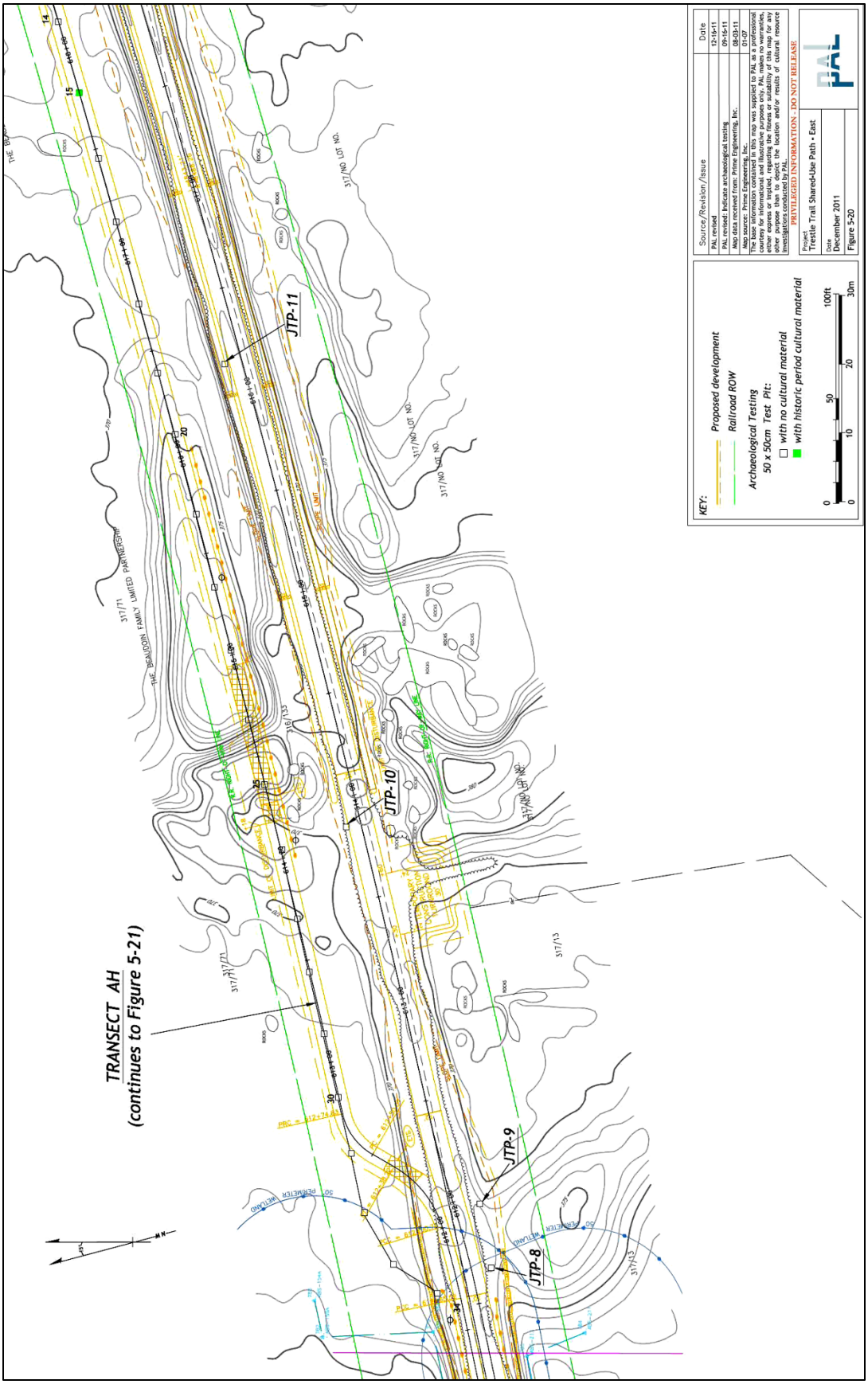


Figure 5-20. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 611+50 to 617+80.

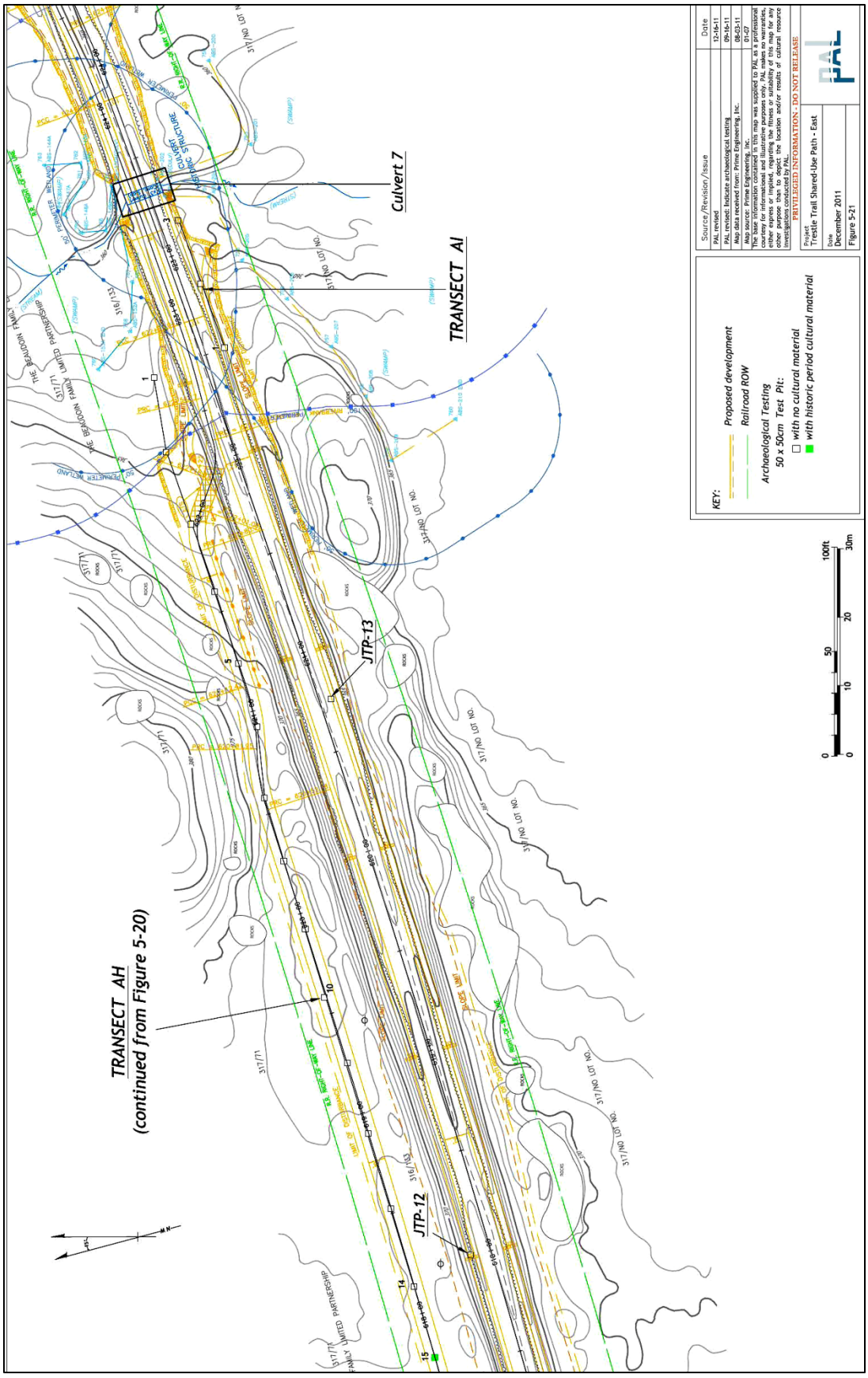


Figure 5-21. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 617+50 to 624+50.

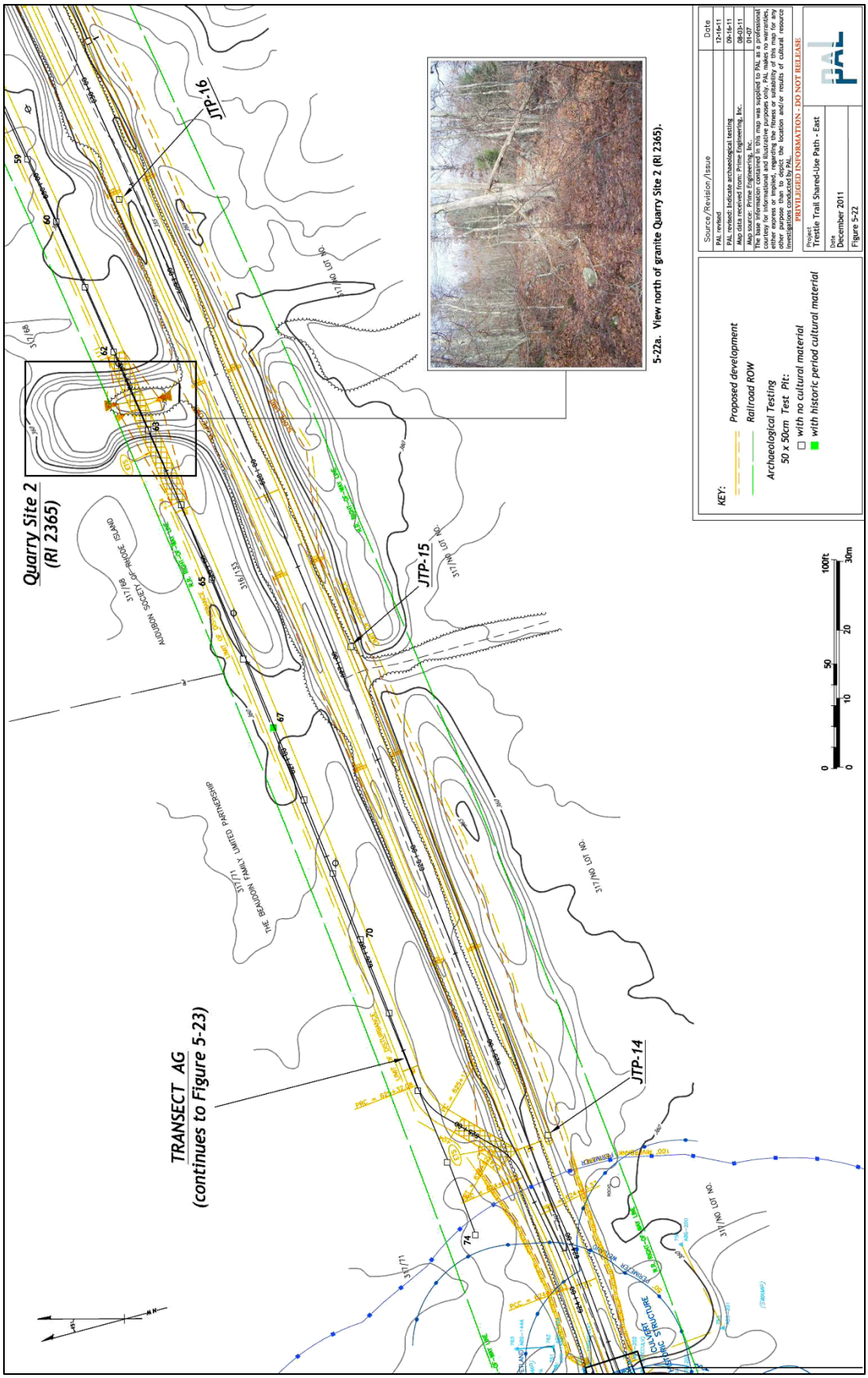


Figure 5-22. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 624+00 to 630+00.

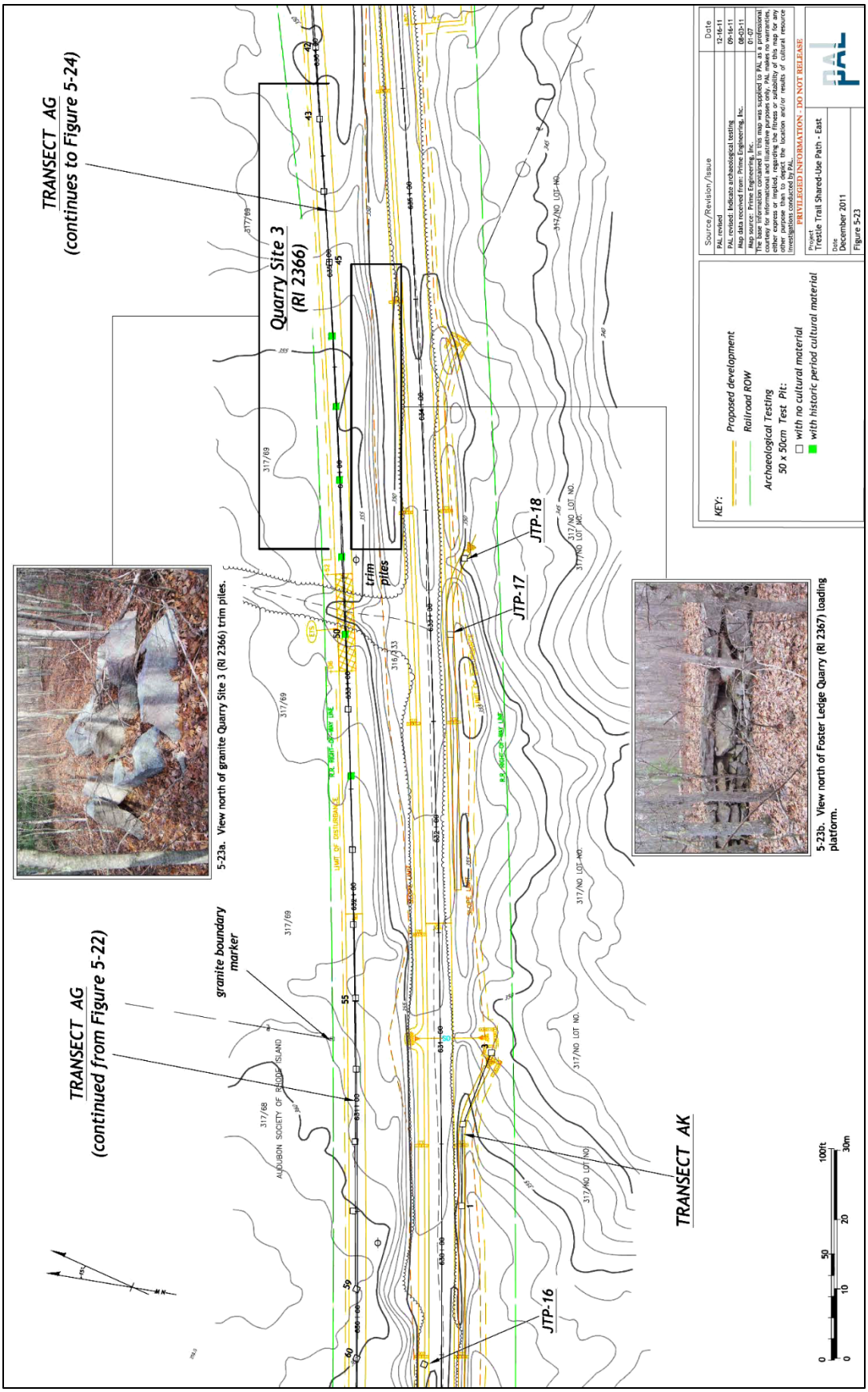


Figure 5-23. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 630+00 to 636+00.

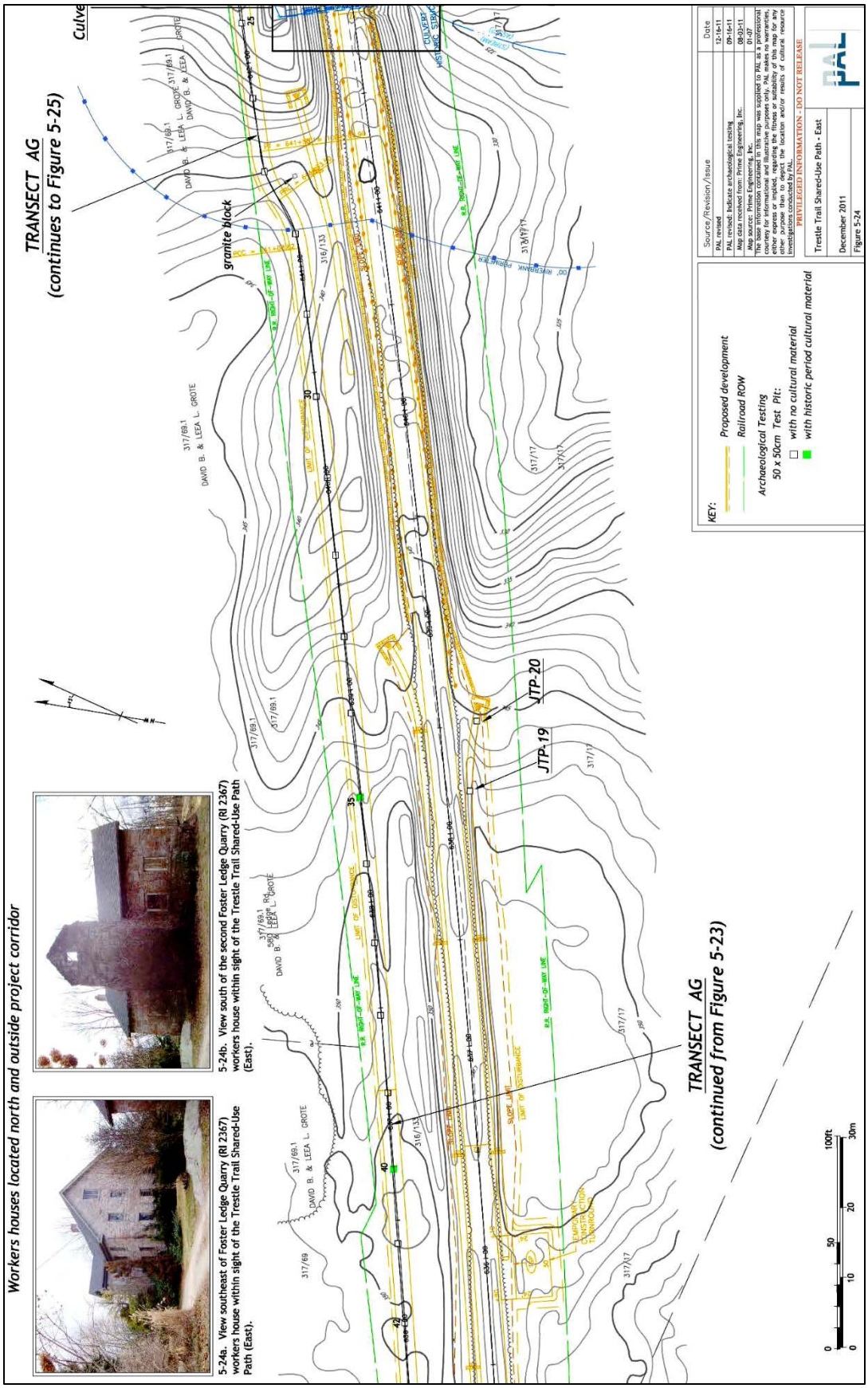


Figure 5-24. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) equestrian trail STA 636+00 to 642+40.

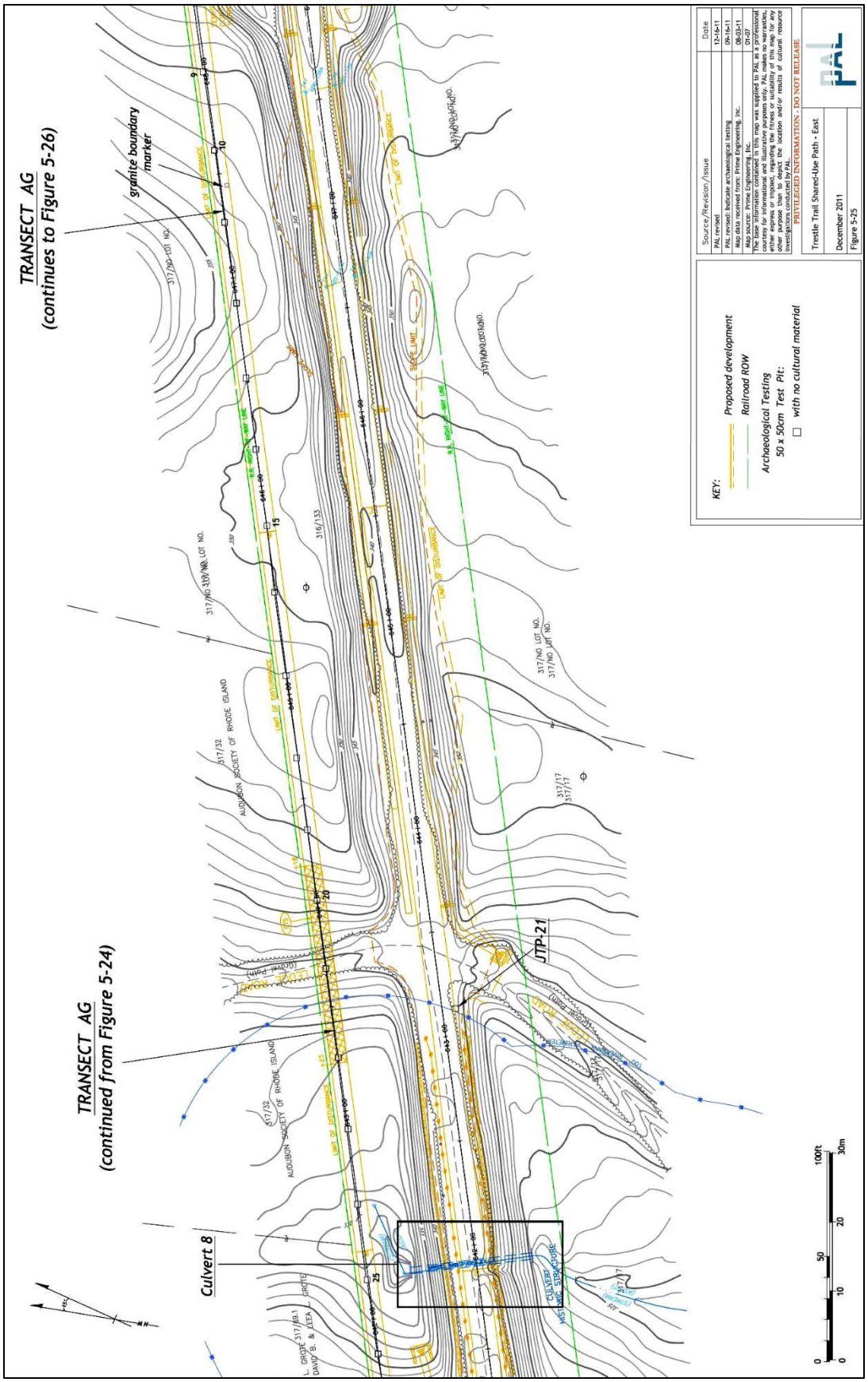


Figure 5-25. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 642+00 to 648+00.

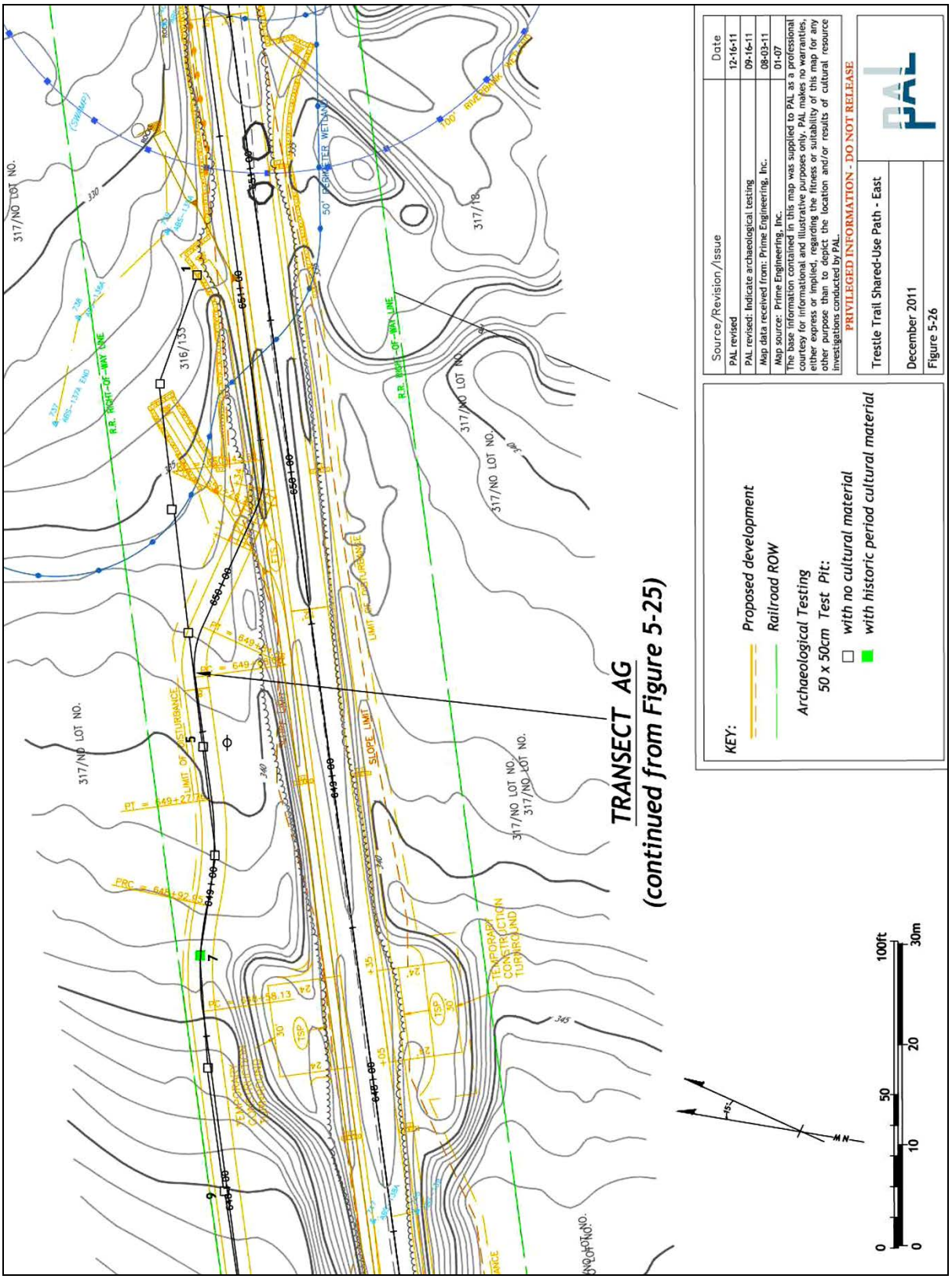


Figure 5-26. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 647+50 to 651+70.

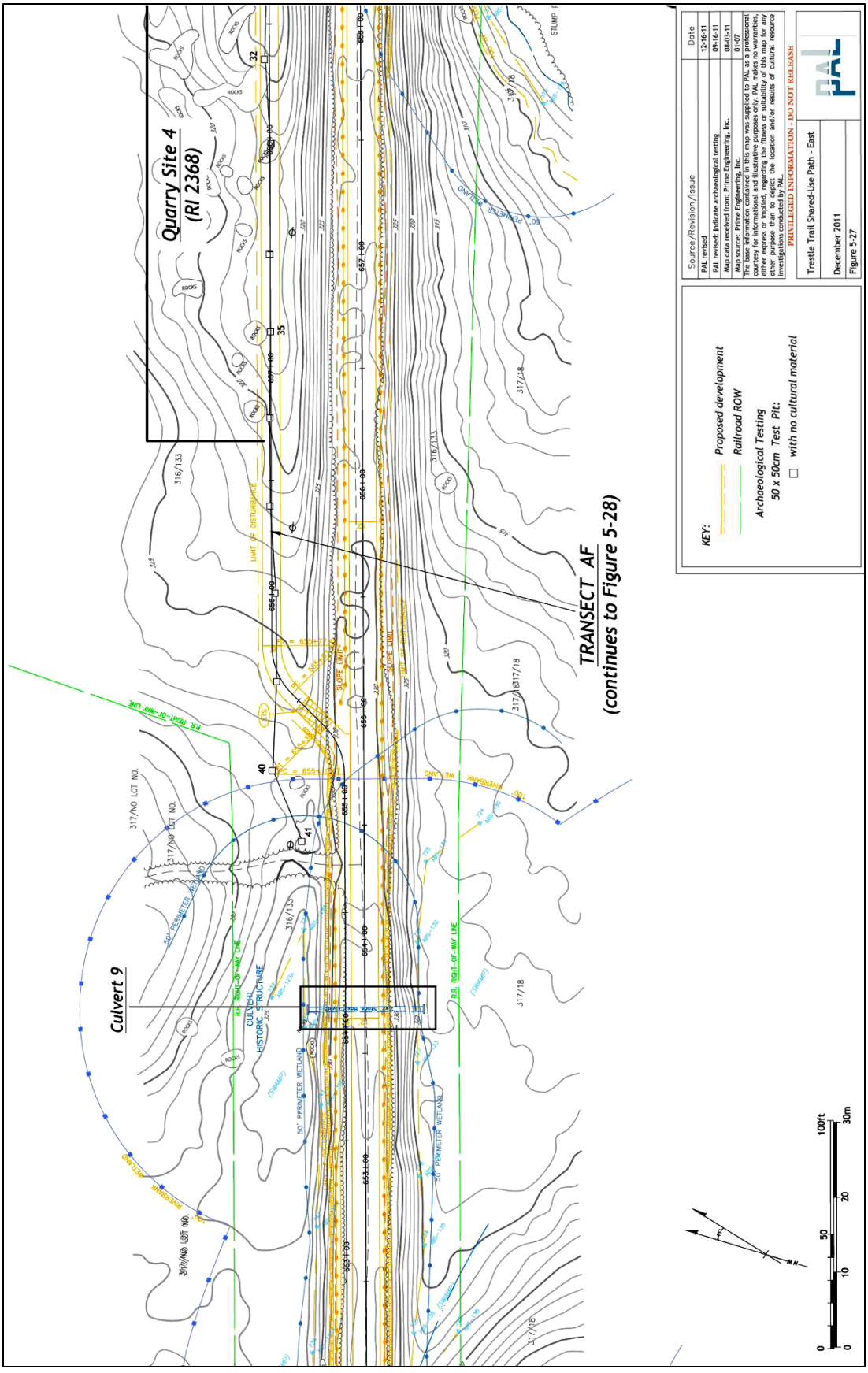


Figure 5-27. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing and a portion of granite Quarry Site 4 Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 652+50 to 658+60.

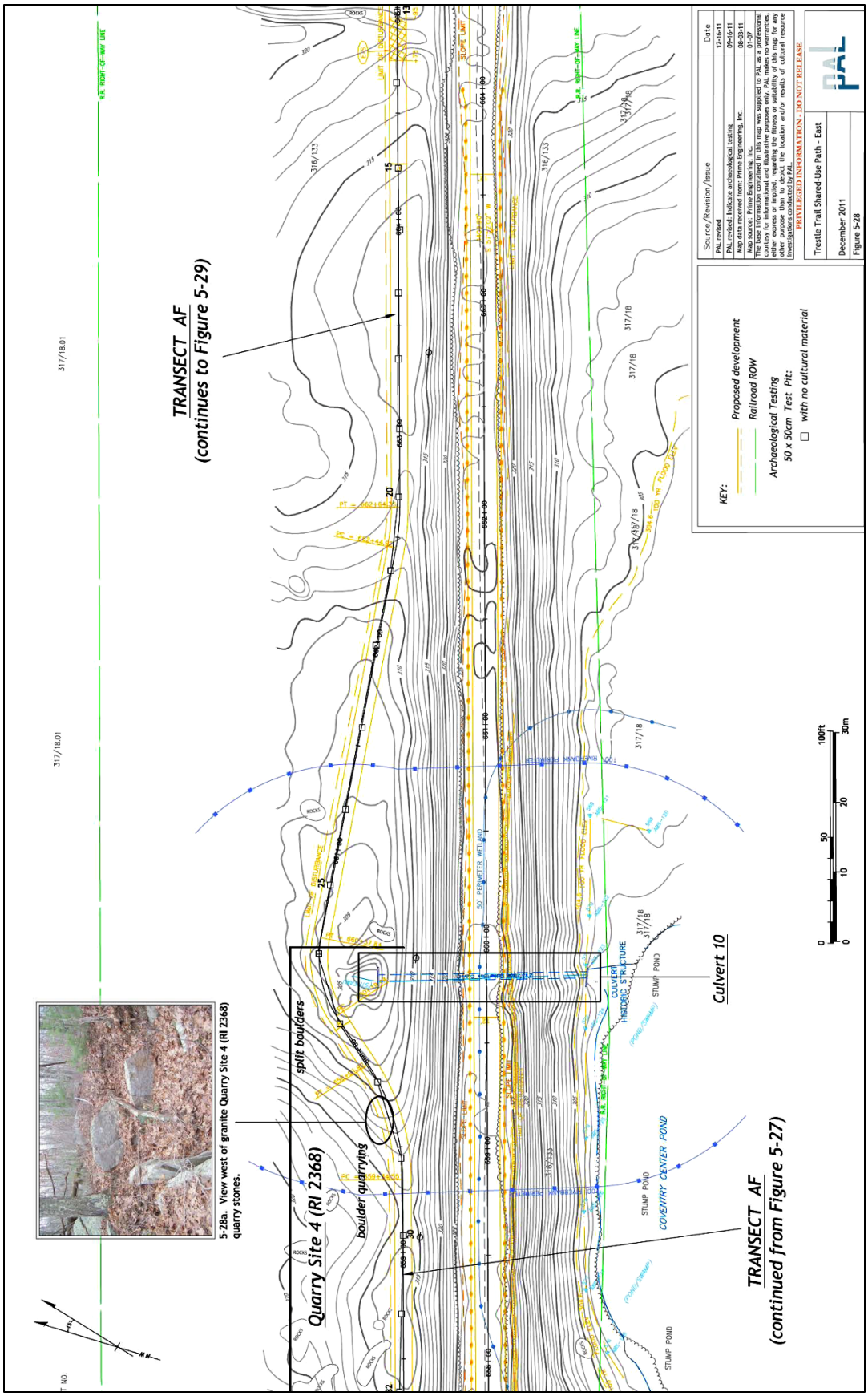


Figure 5-28. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing and Quarry Site 4, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 658+40 to 665+00.

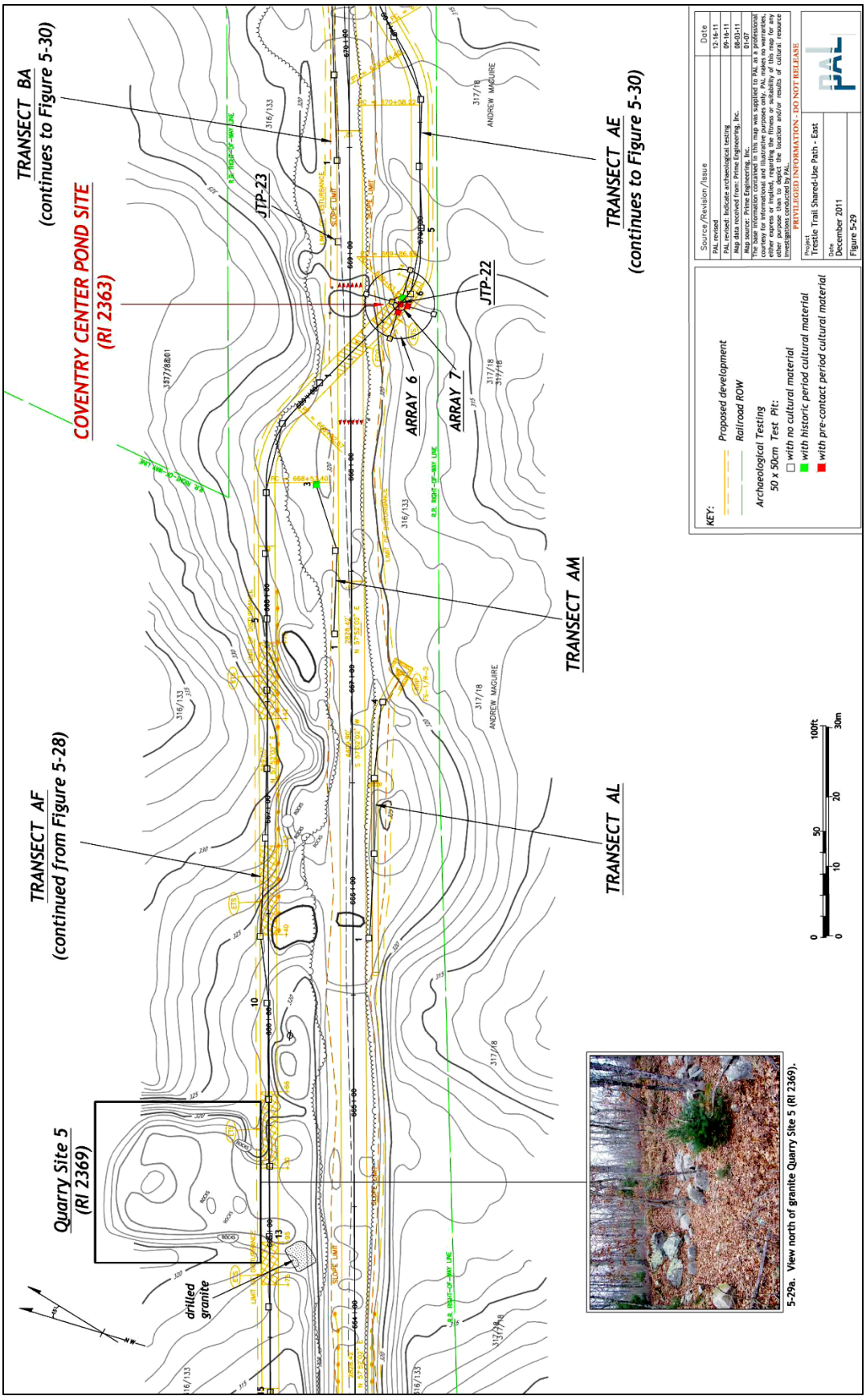


Figure 5-29. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 664+30 to 671+00.

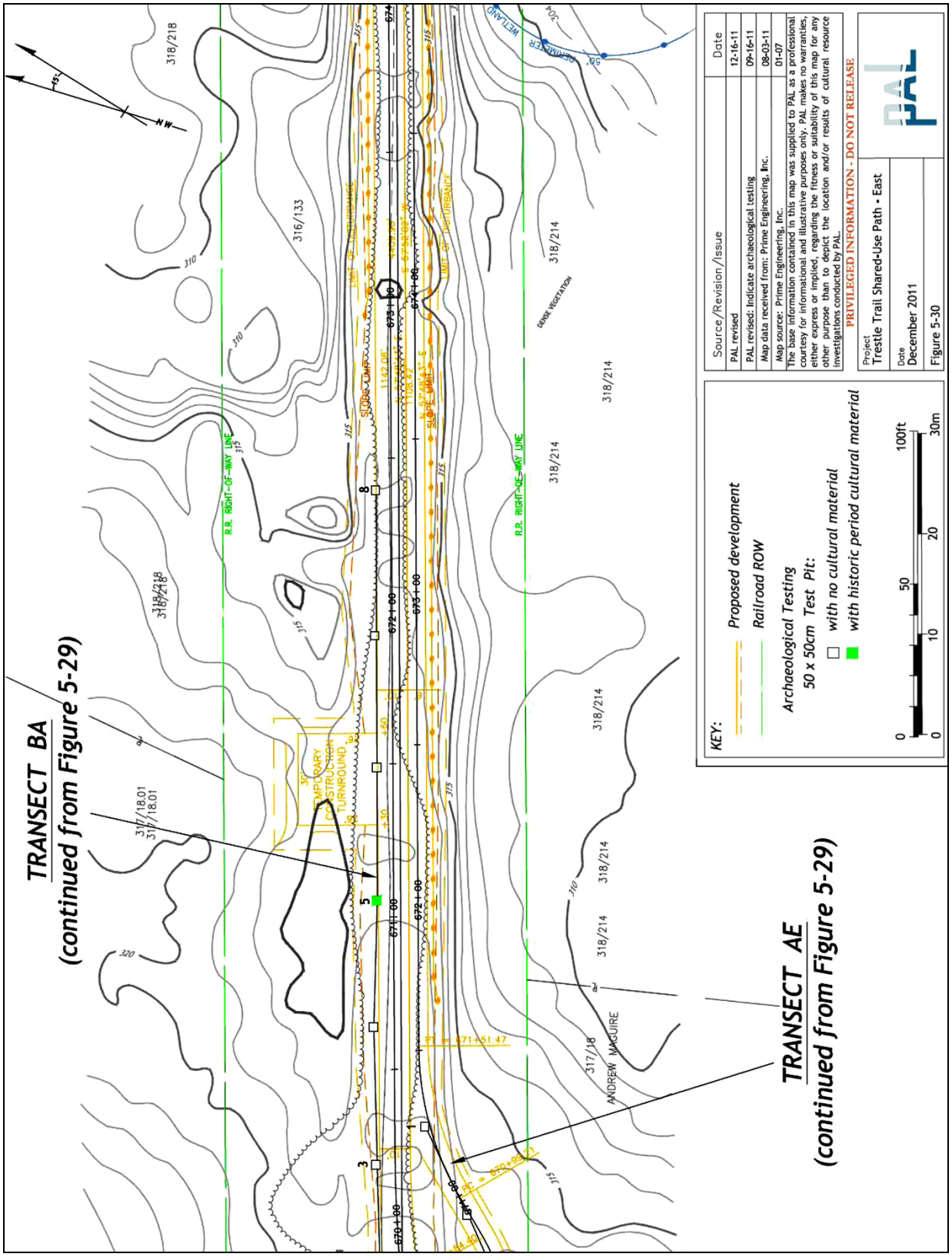


Figure 5-30. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 671+00 to 674+80.

Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363)

The Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363) is located on a south-facing slope leading to the bank of Coventry Center Pond, south of the proposed bike path at STA 668+80 (see Figure 5-29). Cultural materials associated with this site were recovered from test pits JTP-22, A07-W, and A07-S and included one rhyolite flake (possibly "Attleboro Red") and five chert flakes. Furthermore, a charred wood sample was recovered from B2 subsoils (30–40 cmbs) in test pit A06-N, suggesting the possibility that pre-contact Native American cultural features are present at the site. This isolated find may not be a cultural deposit, however, and has been cataloged as a non-site item (see Appendix A). Native American cultural materials were retrieved at varying depths between 10 and 40 cmbs (see Appendix A). The rhyolite flake was found in Ae horizon soil while the chert flakes were found in B1 subsoil. The presence of rhyolite and chert chipping waste suggests that the possibility for a Transitional Archaic Susquehanna Tradition component to the Coventry Center Pond Site.

STA 673+00 to 701+00 (Phillips Hill Road): General Plan and Profile Nos. 39–42

No archaeological subsurface testing was conducted within this segment because of low archaeological sensitivity (Figure 5-31). A proposed boat launch extends from Phillips Hill Road to the edge of Coventry Center Pond. Surface inspection revealed that this area has been cut/filled and otherwise disturbed, therefore, no subsurface testing was conducted at the location of the proposed boat launch.

The nineteenth/twentieth-century Coventry Center Pond Bridge (STA 681+00) exists along this segment of the proposed shared-use path at 681+50. The bridge spans the northeastern corner of Coventry Center Pond, as it flows north into the Peckham Manufacturing Company Pond impoundment (Figure 5-31b). Abutments associated with the bridge are constructed of cut stone (Figure 5-31c). Steel beams currently span the Coventry Center Pond Bridge. This portion of the project corridor depicted on General Plan and Profiles Nos. 41 and 42 is contained within the catchment area of the Peckham Manufacturing Company Upper Mill site. Although this ca. 1875 mill building is located outside of the project corridor right-of-way, as are some former nineteenth-century mill houses (Figure 5-32), portions of an earthen dam associated with the mill complex exist within or in relatively close proximity to the project right-of-way and extend north of Trestle Trail.

STA 701+00 (Phillips Hill Road) to 707+00: General Map and Profile Nos. 42 and 43

This section of the Trestle Trail project corridor from Hill Farm Road to STA 707+50 traverses an area of nineteenth-century historic development in Coventry Center and historic maps indicate that historical resources, including structures, may have once been located within the project corridor right-of-way. A proposed maintenance building and parking lot flank the shared-use path corridor between STA 702+00 and 704+50. Here, the project corridor is generally level with surrounding landscape indicating a possibility for the presence of subsurface archaeological deposits.

Archaeological testing between Philips Hill Road and STA 707+00 was accomplished using Transects AA, AB, and AC (Figure 5-33). Soils profiles for the excavated test pits consisted of multiple fill strata, as recorded in TAA-01 (see Appendix B). This indicates that the surrounding landscape has been severely disturbed by landscape alterations associated with construction/maintenance of the railroad, Hill Farm Road maintenance, and nineteenth-century structural development and subsequent demolition. No cultural materials were contained in any of the test pits excavated between Phillips Hill Road and STA 707+00.

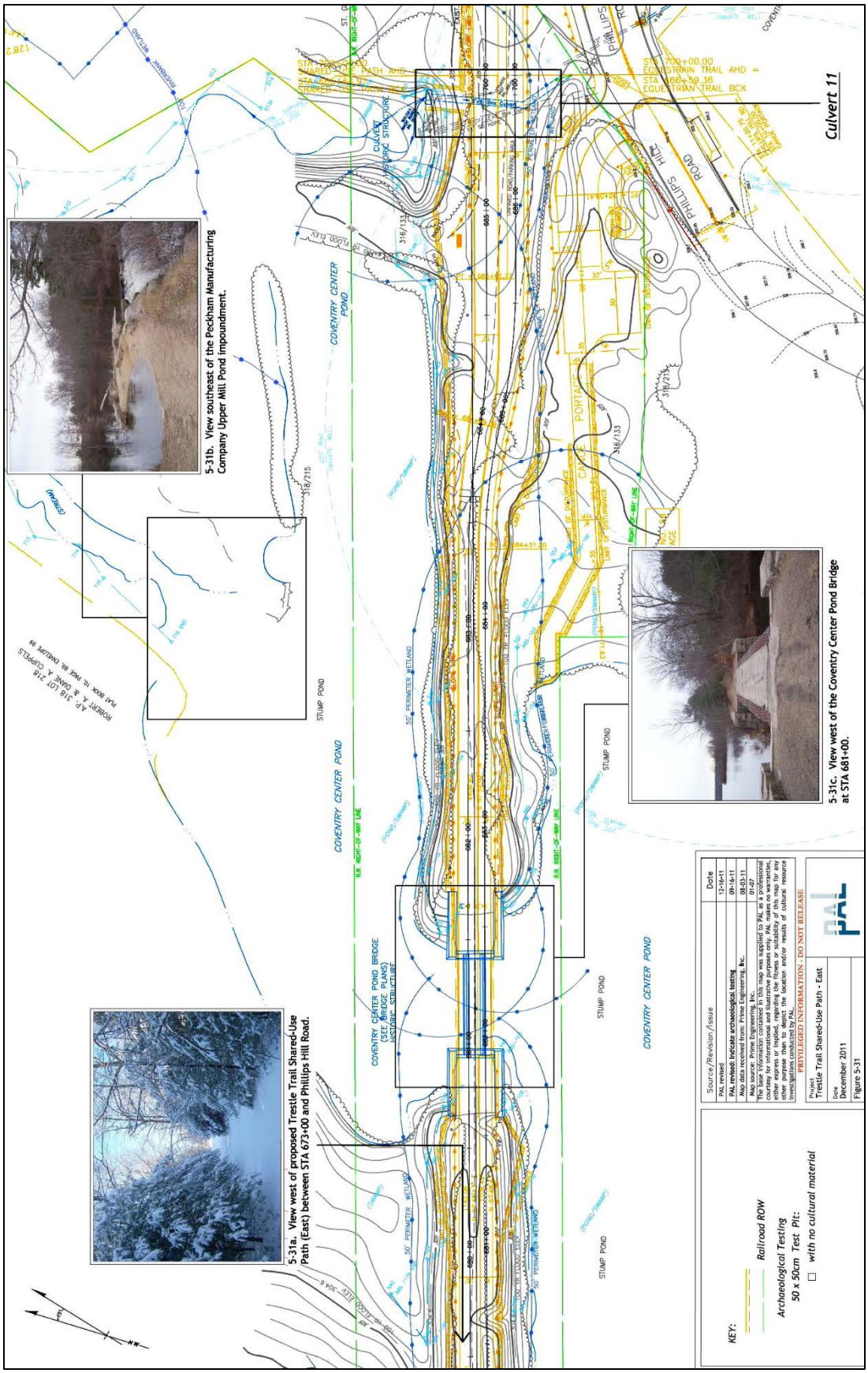


Figure 5-31. Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) STA 670+30 to STA 700+00.

Figure 5-32. View northeast of ca. 1875 mill housing situated at the northwestern corner intersection of Hill Farm Road and Phillips Hill Road.

STA 707+00 to 729+00: General Plan and Profile Nos. 43–48

A walkover of the Trestle Trail indicates that the former Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad has been excavated to depths of up to 6 ft below surface grade between STA 707+00 and 713+00. East of STA 716+00 the project corridor crosses a 100 ft (30 m) segment that approximates the original surface contour. East of STA 717+00 the shared-use path rises above surface contour at elevations ranging from a few feet to more than 30 ft to STA 29+00. Consequently, limited subsurface archaeological testing (nine test pits) was conducted along this segment of the project area because of the apparent absence of intact soils within the abandoned railroad bed south of Flat River Road. Excavated test pits were excavated in judgmentally selected locations (JTPs 01–05) and along Transect AD (Figures 5-34 and 5-35). Soil profiles for excavated test pits indicate that this section of the project corridor has been severely disturbed by railroad construction, with test pits bearing evidence for multiple fill layers, as recorded in TAD-01 (see Appendix B).

Although no cultural materials were collected from any of the test pits excavated between STA 707+00 and 729+00, the historic Flat River Reservoir Bridge was observed at project station STA 722+00 (Figure 5-36). Bridge abutments are constructed of cut stones and are bridged by a steel beam structure. A small amount of concrete is evident on the abutments immediately beneath the seat of the steel beams.

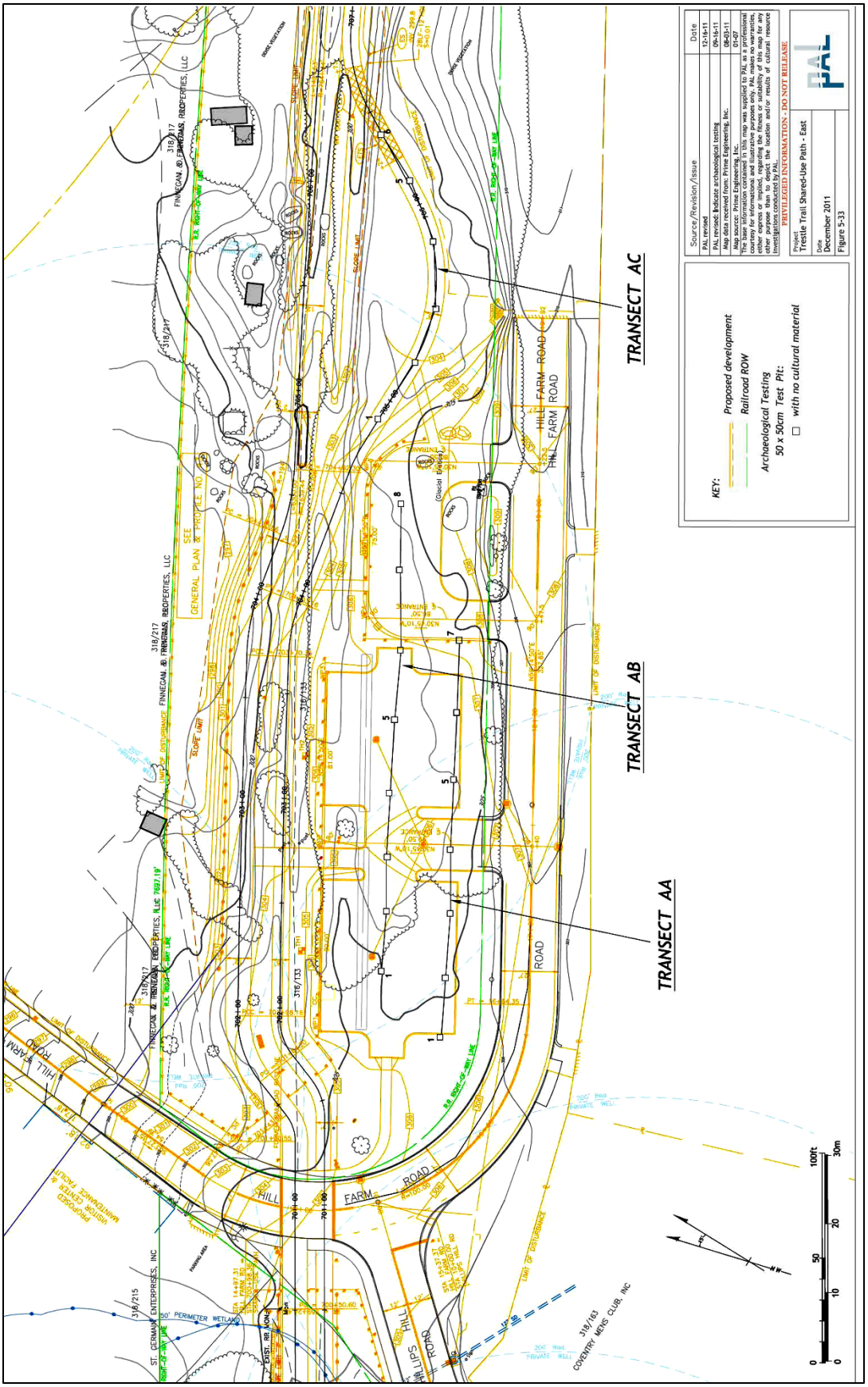


Figure 5-33. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project STA 700+00 (Hill Farm Road) to equestrian trail STA 707+00.

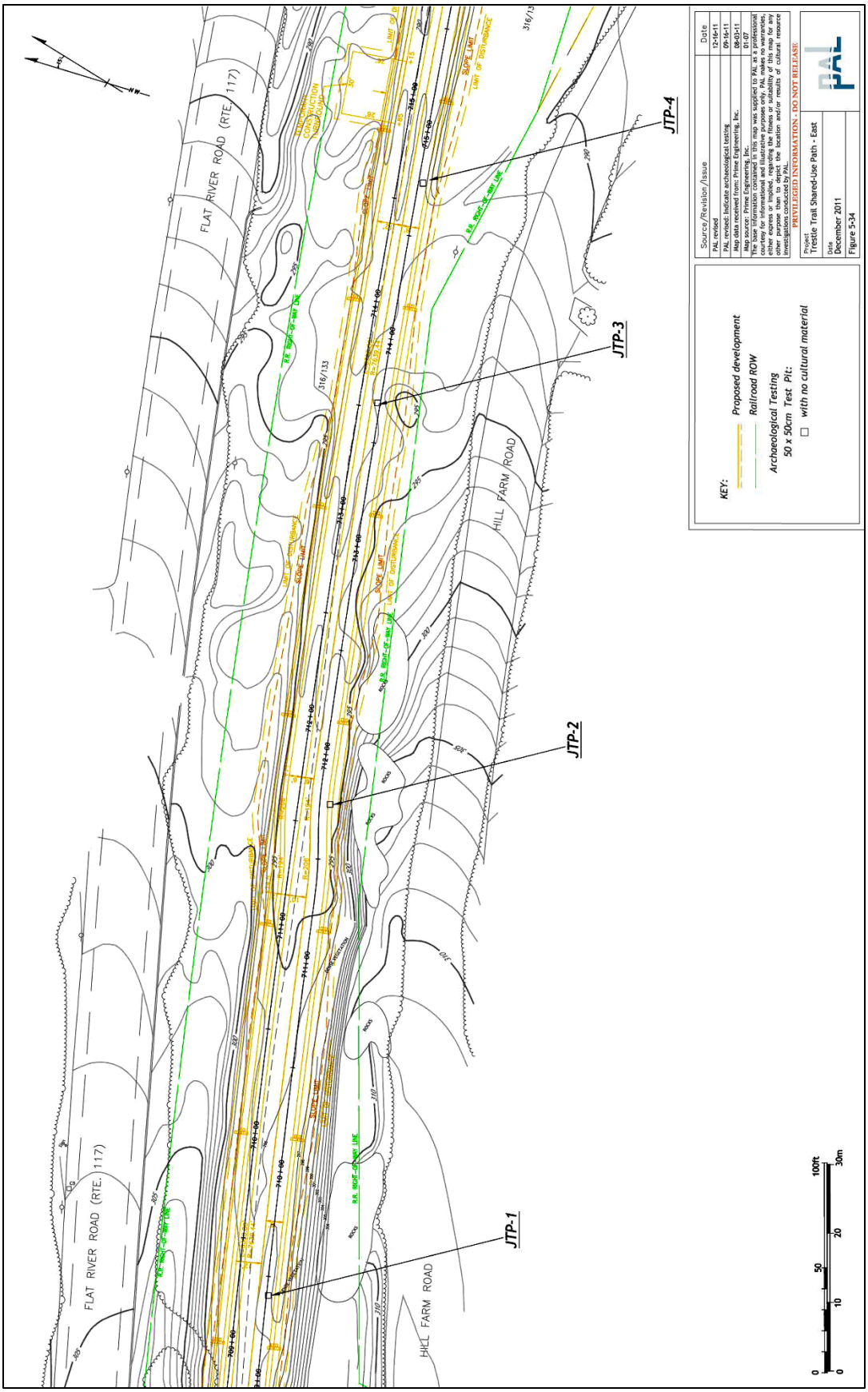


Figure 5-34. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 709+00 to 715+40.

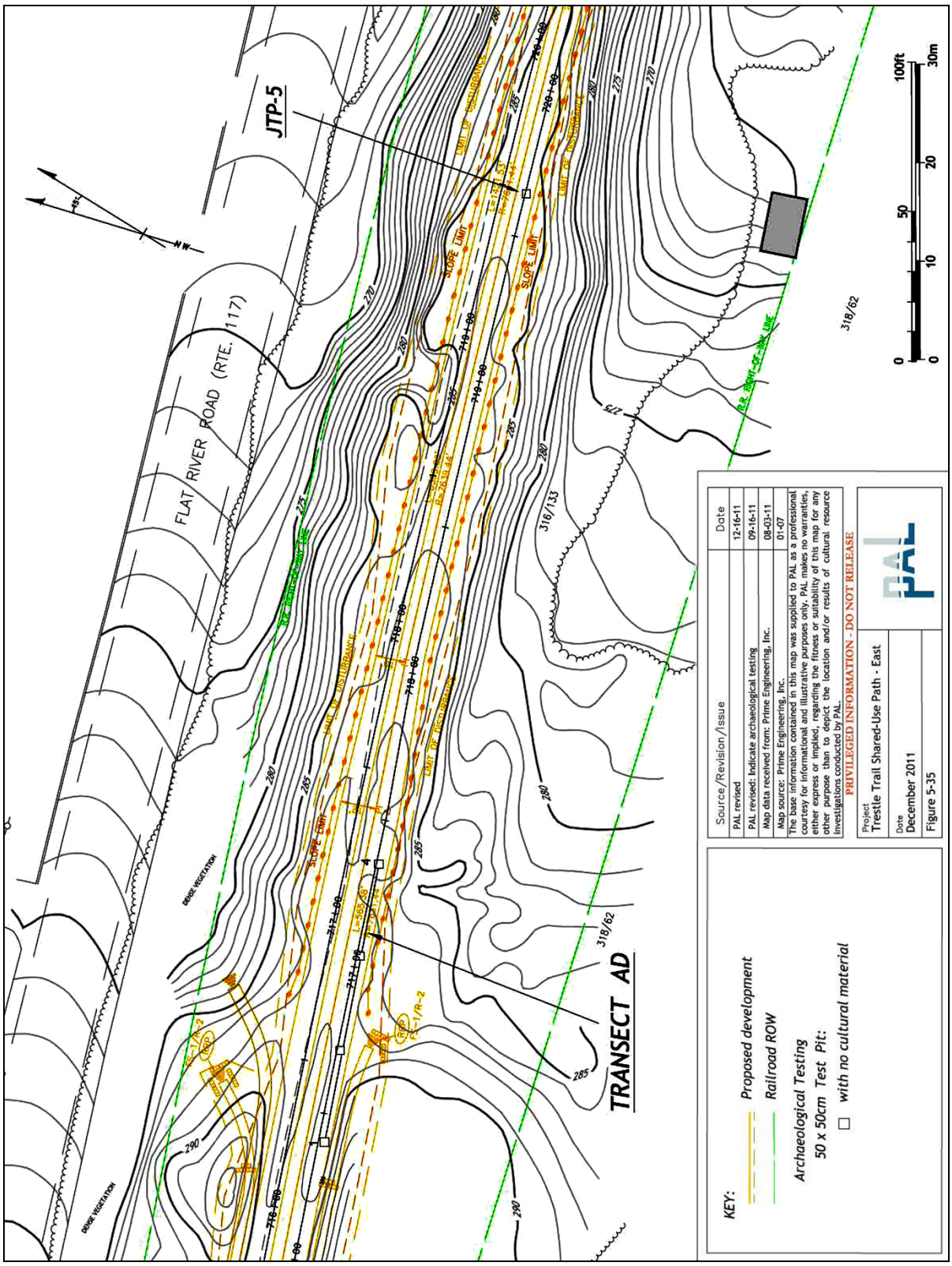
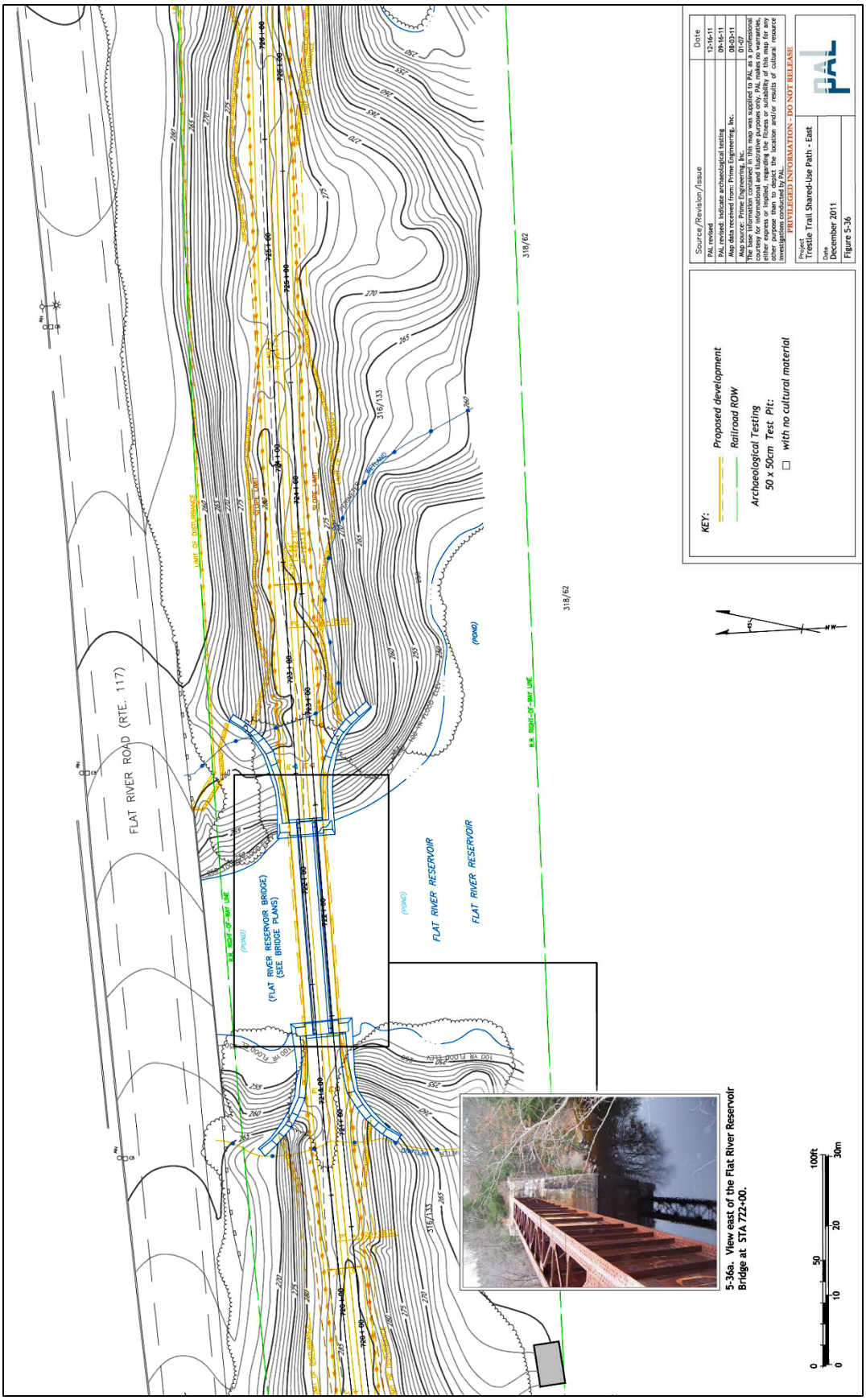


Figure 5-35. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 716+00 to 720+00.



5-36a. View east of the Flat River Reservoir Bridge at STA 722+00.

Figure 5-36. Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) STA 719+60 to STA 725+10.

STA 729+00 to 738+00: General Plan and Profile Nos. 48–50

Subsurface investigation within this segment of the project corridor was limited to the excavation of five JTPs (JTPs 24–28) from STA 729+00 to 733+00 (Figures 5-37 and 5-38), as it was determined to have low archaeological sensitivity. Unsurprisingly, each of the test pits demonstrated the presence of multiple fill layers, indicating that this section of the project corridor has been severely impacted by previous disturbances, as recorded in JTP-25 (see Appendix B). Although no cultural materials were collected from any of the JTPs, a stone culvert (Culvert 12), which provides north to south drainage into the Flat River Reservoir for storm runoff beneath the Trestle Trail, was observed within the project corridor at project station STA 737+25.

STA 738+00 to 742+00 (Acres of Pine Road): General Plan and Profile Nos. 50 and 51

Limited subsurface archaeological testing was conducted within this segment of the project corridor because of the obvious presence of deep fills. Fifteen test pits organized along Transects BC and BD were excavated to investigate this segment of the project corridor (see Figure 5-38). Transect BC and BD profiles demonstrated the presence of multiple fill layers, indicating that it has been severely impacted by previous disturbances, as recorded in Transect BC-02 (see Appendix B). No cultural materials were collected from any of the Transect BC or BD test pits.

STA 742+00 (Acres of Pine Road) to 746+50 (Pine Haven Road): General Plan and Profile Nos. 51 and 52

Limited subsurface archaeological testing was conducted within this segment of the project corridor to determine the presence or absence of undisturbed soils bearing cultural materials.

Ten test pits organized along Transects AV and BE were excavated between Acres of Pine Road and Pine Haven Road (Figure 5-39). Transect AV was excavated along the equestrian path to the south, and Transect BE was excavated along the northern edge of the proposed bike path within the former rail bed. Soils within both transects were characterized by multiple fill layers, indicating the greater landscape has been greatly disturbed, as recorded in TBE-02 (see Appendix B). A single artifact consisting of a small, unidentified bone fragment, was recovered from fill soil contexts in Transect AV-02 (see Appendix A). No additional cultural materials were collected from any of the test pits excavated within Transects AV or BE. However, a 4 ft concrete box culvert (Culvert 13), was noted at project station STA 743+60 as well as a railroad monument at STA 743+80 as well as a railroad monument at STA 742+80 during the walkover of the project corridor.

STA 746+50 (Pine Haven Road) to 768+81.69 (eastern project terminus): General Plan and Profile Nos. 52 through 57

The Trestle Trail from Pine Haven Road to the eastern project terminus at STA 768+81.69 consists of a paved bike path within the former railroad easement and a proposed equestrian path, which will parallel the former railroad easement approximately 40 ft (12 m) to the south. A proposed parking facility will also be located along the southern side of the Trestle Trail rail bed from STA 747+30 to STA 750+50. Subsurface archaeological testing employing 44 test pits organized within three linear testing transects (Transects BF, BG, and BH) were used to investigate this segment of the project corridor. Transects BF and BG were excavated within the proposed parking facility (Figure 5-39 and Figure 5-40), while Transect BH followed the proposed equestrian path that will be located south of the bike path (see Figure 5-40, Figure 5-41, Figure 5-42, Figure 5-43).

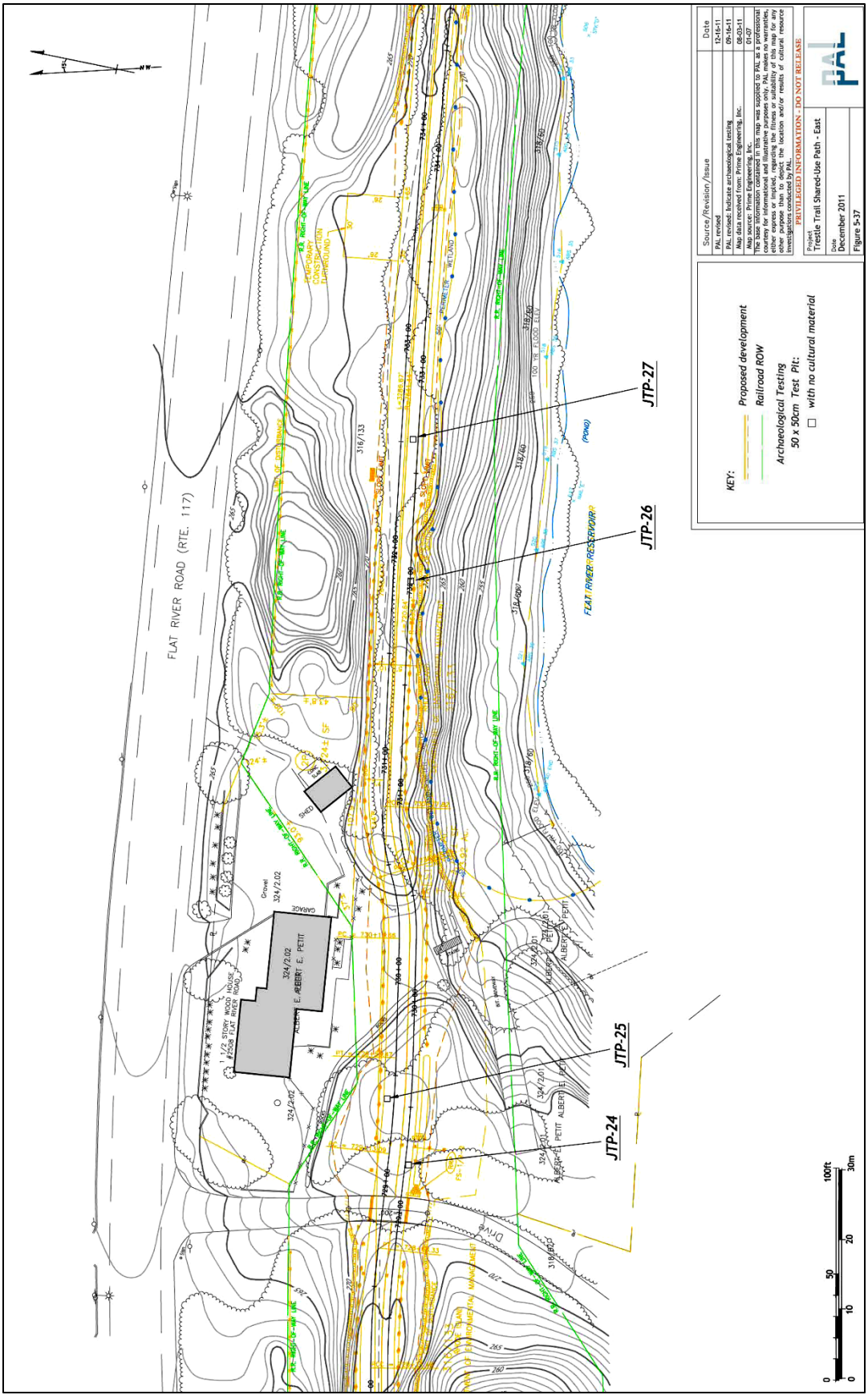


Figure 5-37. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 728+00 to 734+70.

Figure 5-38. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 735+80 to 742+40.

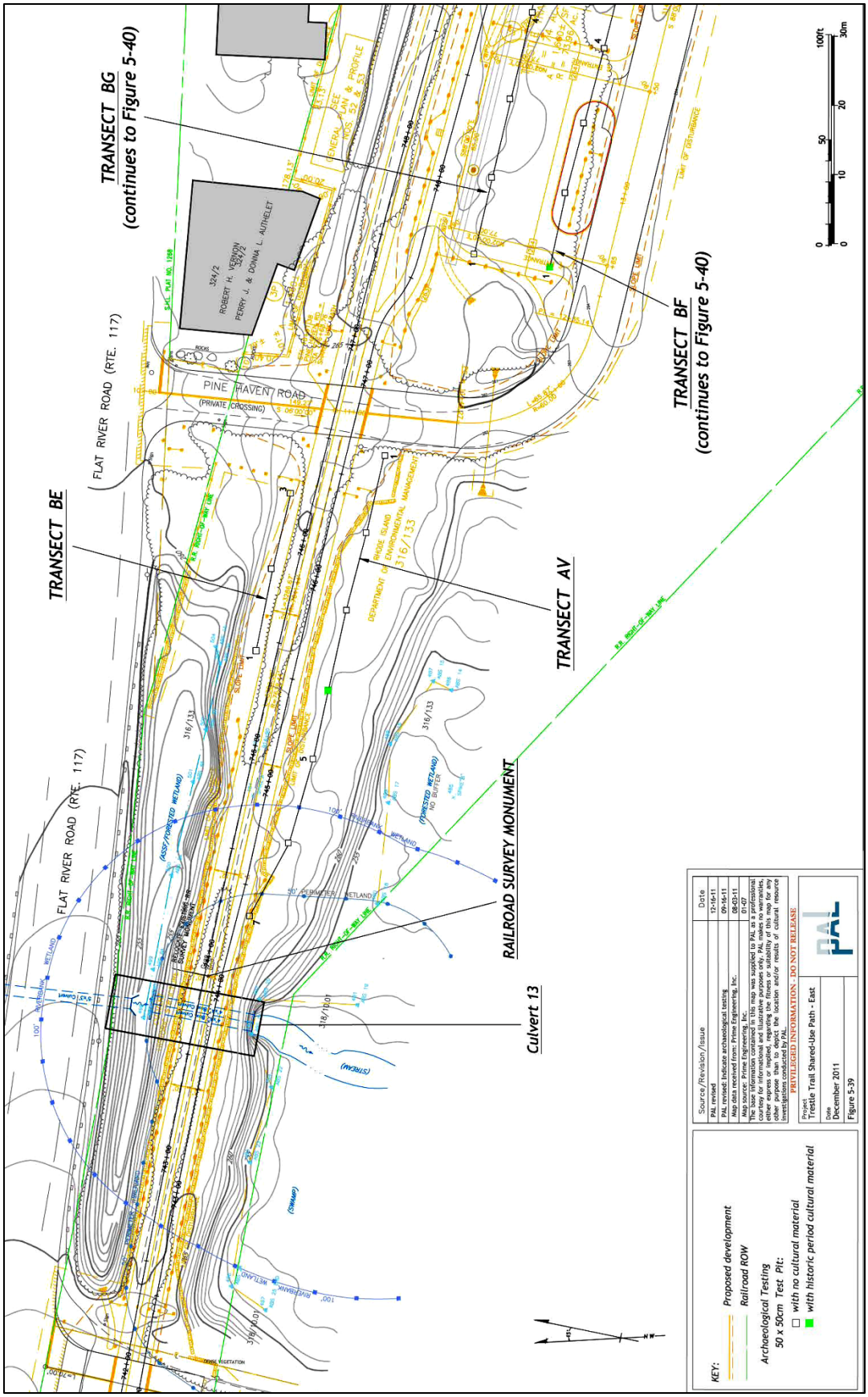


Figure 5-39. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 742+00 to 748+50.

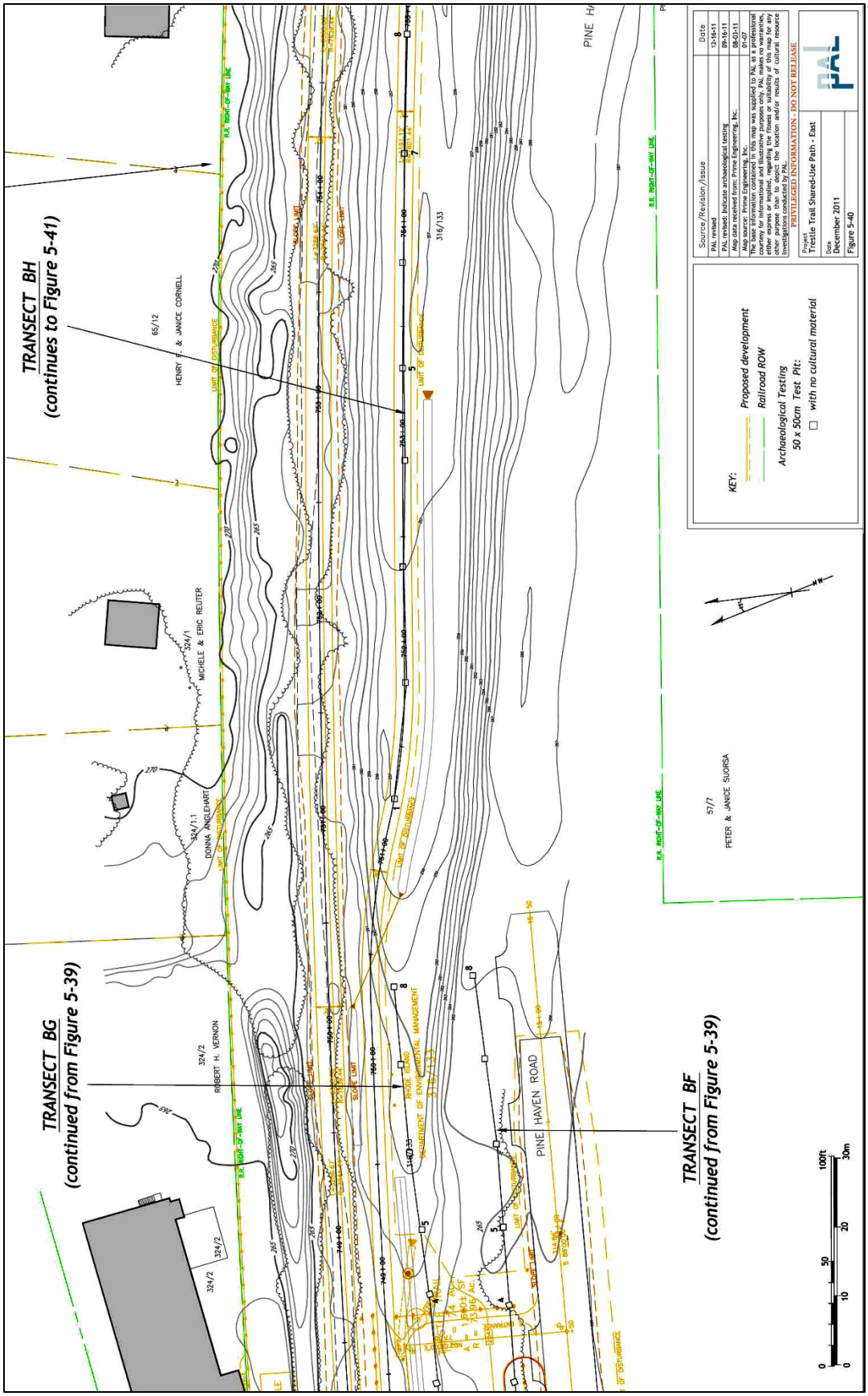


Figure 5-40. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 748+50 to 754+50.

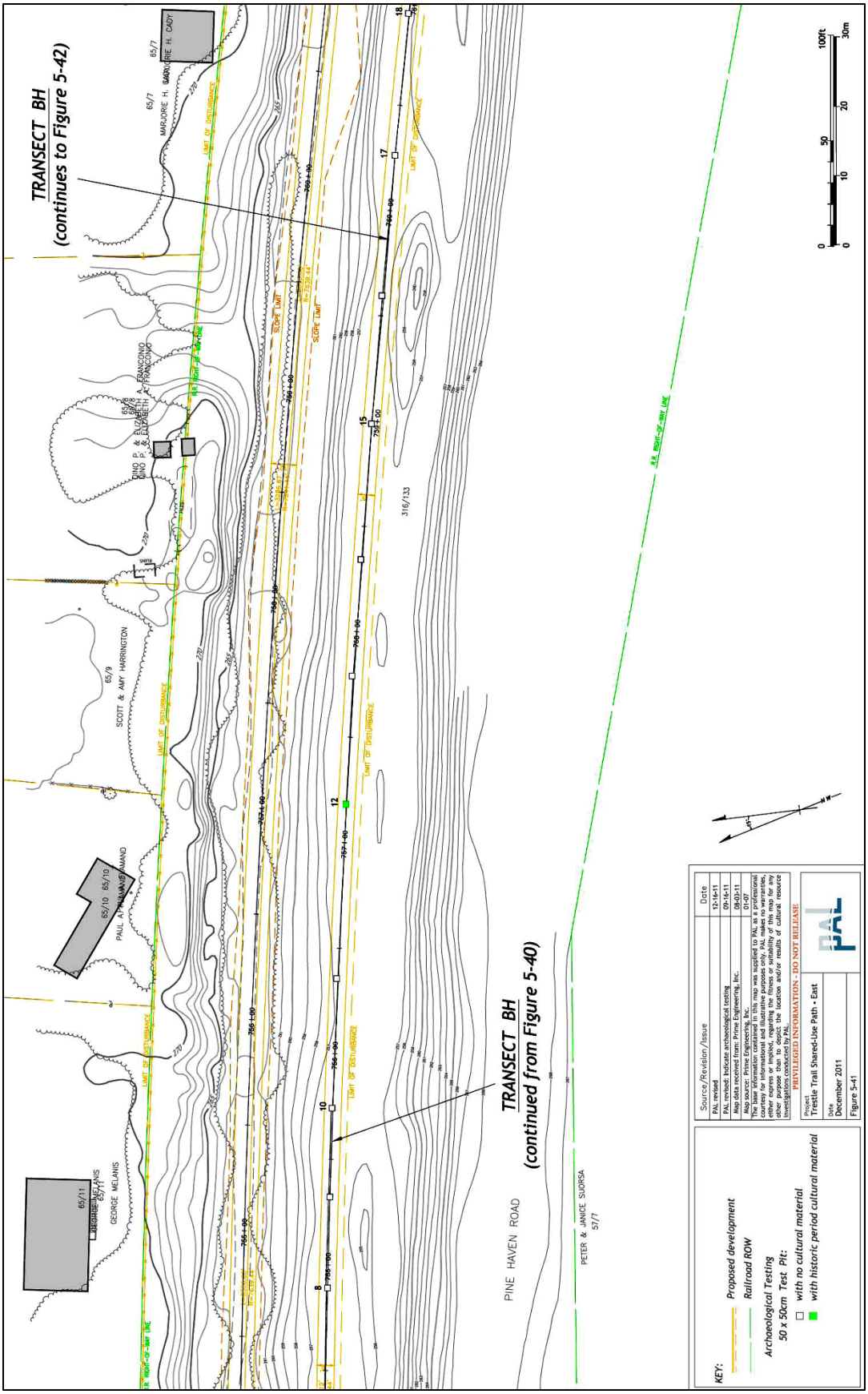


Figure 5-41. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 754+50 to 761+00.

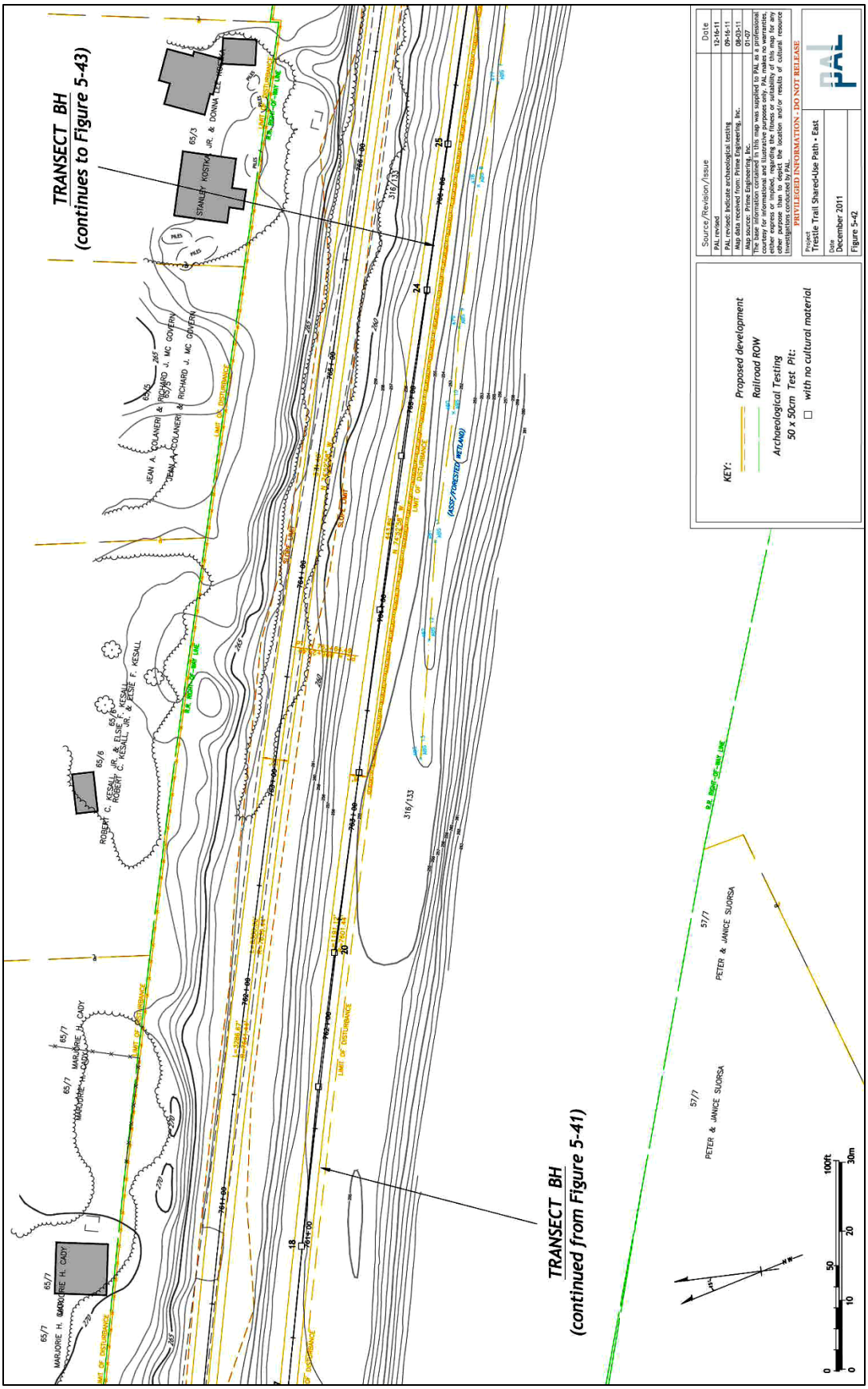


Figure 5-42. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 760+30 to 766+80.

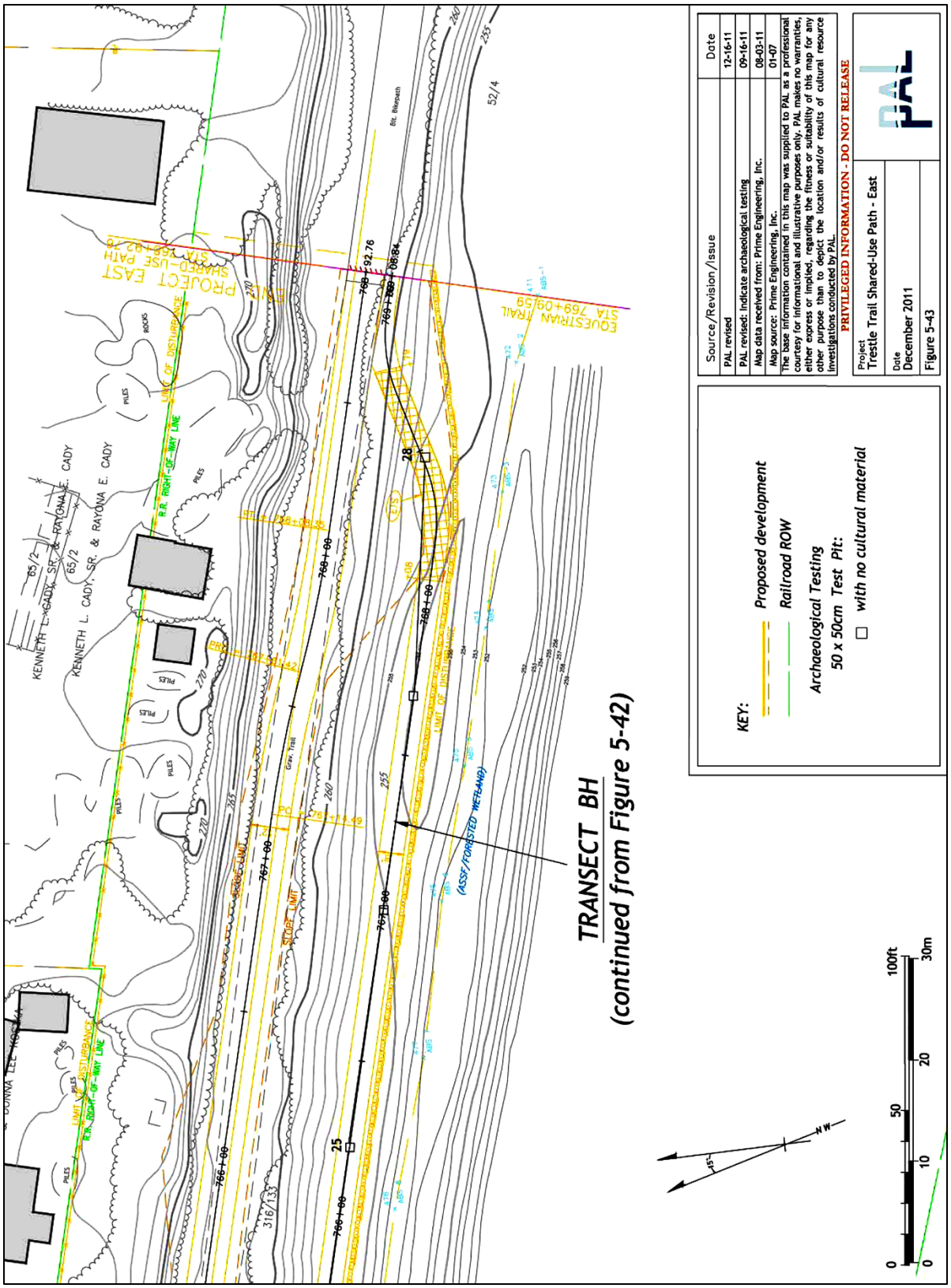


Figure 5-43. Phase I(c) subsurface archaeological testing Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) at equestrian trail STA 765+80 to 768+99.43 (end).

Subsurface archaeological testing between Pine Haven Road and STA 768+81.69 indicate that this segment of the project corridor has been subjected to soil grading and/or soil removal. Stratigraphic soil profiles for the majority of test pits, demonstrate the presence of one or more fill layers overlaying natural C Horizon subsoil, which appeared as light olive brown medium to coarsely textured sands with gravel and cobbles. TBH-26 provides a representative profile (see Appendix B). Cultural materials recovered from Transects BF, BG, and BH test pits were limited to three fragments of a ceramic smoking pipe bowl from a fill layer in Transect BH-12 and a whiteware ceramic dish fragment from disturbed soil contexts in test pit TBF-01 (see Appendix A). The kaolin pipebowl fragments from test pit TBH-12 re-fit into a single pipe bowl bearing the impressed letters "TD." A whiteware dish fragment was recovered from disturbed topsoil in Transect DBF.

CHAPTER SIX

RESULTS OF THE PHASE II SITE EXAMINATION

The Phase I(c) archaeological survey resulted in the identification of two potentially significant pre-contact Native American archaeological resources, the Trestle Trail Overlook Site (RI 2362) and the Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363), and four post-contact period sites, the Comstock Farmstead Site (RI 2361), Quarry Site 3 (RI 2366), Quarry Site 4 (RI 2368), and the stone features associated with the former Foster Ledge Quarry (RI 2367). Design modifications to address RIDEM comments resulted in avoidance of the Trestle Trail Overlook Site. However, project plans indicated that the remaining five sites would be impacted by proposed construction and Prime contracted with PAL to conduct Phase II site examinations of each site.

The goal of a Phase II site examination (36 CFR § 800.4(c)) is to evaluate the eligibility of a site for listing in the National Register. A site examination investigation is designed to collect information about a site's boundaries, physical integrity, density, complexity, and age. Research questions are formulated to address the site's role in local and regional land use and settlement patterns, and its importance within larger historic contexts.

At each site the field methodology consisted of a walkover to map visible elements of each site. Where appropriate, a sub-meter Trimble Geo-XT Global Positioning System (GPS) unit was used to record the location of major features. Mapping was followed by either systematic or judgmentally placed 50-x-50 cm shovel test pits to assist in establishing the horizontal limits of archaeological deposits. Larger 1-x-1 m EUs were then placed based on the results of the mapping and prior subsurface testing. All test units were excavated by shovel in arbitrary 10 cm levels within natural soil horizons to sterile subsoil or to depths exceeding 50 cmbs, unless obstruction by natural elements such as rocks or roots prevented further excavation. Excavated soil was hand-sieved through ¼-inch mesh hardware screen, with cultural materials remaining in the screen being bagged and tagged by level within each test unit. The count and types of all recovered cultural materials were noted on field forms. Soil profiles, including depths of soil horizons, colors, and textures, were recorded for each test pit on standardized PAL profile forms. All test pits were filled in following excavation to restore the ground surface to its original contour. See Table 6-1 for a summary of field investigations at each site.

Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363)

The Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363) is located south of the existing Trestle Trail path between STA 670+00 to 672+00. It is situated on a south-facing, sloped terrace within a mixed deciduous and pine forest with an understory dominated by blueberry bushes, overlooking Coventry Center Pond (also known as Stump Pond) (Figure 6-1). During the Phase I(c) archaeological survey, the Coventry Center Pond Site was identified through the recovery of six pieces of chipping debris from three test pits. The chipping debris consisted of one rhyolite flake and five chert flakes. The chert material is dark gray to black in color, and possibly originates from one or more source areas in New York State. Surrounding culturally sterile test pits indicated that the site was likely quite small in horizontal extent; perhaps less than 6 m in diameter.

Table 6-1. Summary of Phase II Site Examinations, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East).

Site	Site Area	Testing	Recovered Materials
Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363)	Entire site.	Test pits (20) EU 01	Chipping debris of argillite (2), chert (14), quartz (1), and quartzite (2) and rhyolite (1).
Quarry 3 Site (RI 2366)	Entire site.	Test pits (13)	Over 60 artifacts including bolts (1), brick, clinkers, coal, glass, grout, iron bars (1), metal fragments, and slag.
	Possible building.	EU 01	Ceramics (2), burned glass (1), glass (1), and metal spike (1).
	East grout pile.	EU 02	Barbed wire (2), glass (1), metal cable (1), circular, stamped metal plate (1), and unidentifiable metal fragment (1).
	Loading platform.	EU 03	Coal (1), grout (1), nails (5), railroad spikes (9), and unidentified metal fragments (7).
	West grout pile.	EU 04	Over 50 artifacts including bottle glass (1), brick, burned brick (1), coal, coal slag, nails (33), window glass (2), and metal objects including bars (3), bolt (1), rod (1), unidentified fragments (6), and unidentified object (1).
Quarry 4 Site (RI 2368)	Entire site.	Test pits (8)	Metal chain fragments (2) and possible chipping debris of quartz (1), and rhyolite (1).
	Quarry Feature	EU 01 EU 02	Possible drills and/or wedges (12). Sample of grout debris.
Comstock Farmstead (RI 2361)	Barn foundation (F1)	Test pits (10)	Over 115 artifacts including animal bone (2), brick, clinkers, coal, glass (35), unidentifiable metal fragments (17), nails (25), other ceramics, pipestem fragment (1), redware (17), slag, and a variety of metal objects including a bolt (1), iron bar (1), plates (2), rod (1), and vessel fragment (1). Possible quartz chipping debris (1).
	Non-foundation areas around barn.	Test pits (3)	Glass (1), redware (2), and unidentifiable metal fragments (2).
	Oval stone formation west of culvert. (F3)	Test pits (1)	NCM
	Cellar hole. (F5)	Test pits (7)	Over 213 artifacts including brick, (2+), ceramics (35+), glass (65+), metal bolt (1), nails (85+), porcelain figurine (1), shell (4), unidentified metal fragments (7).
	Partitioned foundation. (F7)	Test pits (6)	Charred wood (1), glass (1), nails (18), shell (1), possible quartz chipping debris (2), and quartzite chipping debris (1).
	Lightly wooded area south and west of cellar hole.	Test pits (13)	Brick (1), ceramics (36), clinker (1), fruit pit (1), glass (7), nails (12), pipestem fragment (1), shell (5), and unidentified metal fragments (2).
	2-sided foundation south of cellar hole. (F9)	JTP-K	Brick (2), glass (1), nails (3), shell (2), slag (1), unidentified metal fragments (15), and wire (1).
	Foundation east of cellar hole. (F10)	JTP-AN	Bullet (1), coal (1), fork (1), fruit pit (1), glass (12), nails (11), pipestem (1), redware (2), shell (2), slag (1), metal spike (1), and unidentified metal fragments (2).

Table 6-1. Summary of Phase II Site Examinations, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East).			
Site	**Site Area**	**Testing**	**Recovered Materials**
Comstock Farmstead (RI 2361)	Cornered foundation north of cellar hole. (F11)	JTP-AI	Nails (2).
	Cellar hole foundation. (F5)	EU01	Over 434 items including animal bone (1), bottle glass (57+), brick (1), burned glass (43+), ceramics (143+), glass handle (1), limestone tablet (1), metal can base (1), nails (98+), pipe bowl (1), possible quartz debitage (1), shell (2), table knife (1), unidentified metal (8), and window glass (81+).
	Inside cellar hole. (F5)	EU02	Over 273 items including brick (2), buttons (5), calcined bone (5+), ceramics (100+),eating utensils (2), footwear (1), glass (100+), metal hook (1), nails (50+), pipe fragments (2), and unidentified metal (5).
	Barn foundation. (F1)	EU03	Coal (1), glass (11), metal riding tack (1), nail (1), quartz debitage (4), redware (7), shell (1), and slag (18).
	External foundation west of cellar hole. (F6)	EU04	Over 100 items including animal bone (1), bottle glass (2+), brick (9+), burned glass (45+), metal objects (3), mortar (4+), nails (22+), redware (1), screws (2), shell (1), smooth stone (1), unidentified metal (4+), and window glass (6+).
	External foundation west of cellar hole. (F6)	EU05	Over 40 items including brick (2+), burned glass (4+), button (1), ceramics (10+), metal objects (4), nails (12+), and unidentified metal (1).

Figure 6-1. Photograph of the Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363), facing north.

Results of Fieldwork

The Phase II archaeological site examination involved the excavation of 20, 50-x-50-cm test pits and one 1-x-1-m EU (Figure 6-2). Test pits were organized within a 5-x-5 m site grid with a N00E00 site datum established at the location of Phase I(c) test pit JTP-22 and defined a site boundary approximately 20-x-10 m, extending vertically to 60 cmbs.

Soil profiles generally consisted of a very dark grayish-brown to brown silt loam A Horizon above a dark yellowish brown silt loam B1 and brownish yellow gravelly and cobbley loamy silt B2 Horizon. In some of the test pits a C Horizon of pale yellow coarse silty sand with gravel and cobbles was exposed (Figure 6-3). In test pits closer to the railroad bed, the intact soils were frequently overlain by a surface fill layer of black coarse sandy soil containing large amounts of small clinker debris, or a brown silty sand slopewash. Subsoils in the eastern portion of the testing area were topographically lower and contained greater amounts of gravel and cobbles.

Test pit excavation produced nine additional pieces of pre-contact, lithic cultural material, all comprised of chipping debris thinly scattered across the testing area (see Table 6-1). These materials were exclusively recovered from intact A or B horizon contexts. Nineteenth through twentieth-century cultural materials, consisting of glass and a piece of barbed wire, were also recovered. These materials were incorporated within disturbed soils and were not retained.

Excavation Unit 01 (grid coordinates S02W01) was placed adjacent to and southwest of Phase I(c) test pit JTP-22. The soil profile in EU 01 was similar to that observed in test pits excavated across the site area (Figure 6-4). EU 01 produced 12 pieces of pre-contact cultural material from intact A and B horizon soils; all comprised of chipping debris (see Table 6-1). One piece of chert chipping debris was recovered from B2 Horizon soil. The chert was dark gray to black and likely originated from a source area in New York State. Charcoal and thermally altered soils were also encountered in EU01, but these were clearly the result of a natural root-burn event, and not attributes of a pre-contact cultural feature. Post-contact materials from EU 01 were limited to a sample of coal and one piece of bottle glass recovered from the surface fill layer associated with the nearby berm of the railroad bed.

Quarry Site 3 (RI 2366)

The Quarry Site 3 (RI 2366) is located on a generally level, raised area north of the Trestle Trail path between STA 633+00 and 638+00. The site is situated within mixed secondary deciduous and pine forest with a greenbrier, wild grape, blueberry and poison ivy under story (Figure 6-5). An open pasture lies immediately to the east of the site, and a little-used extension road connecting the Trestle Trail path to Ledge Road is immediately west of the site. During the Phase I(c) survey, the Quarry Site 3 was described as containing scattered trimmed granite boulders and tailings on the ground surface, in addition to extensive evidence for boulder splitting and granite removal. The site contained numerous examples of boulders in various stages of reduction, bearing evidence that hand tools were used to split and dress the granite. Test pits from the Phase I(c) survey produced post-contact materials such as brick, bottle glass, machine-cut nails, coal, and an unidentified ferrous item from surface and fill stratigraphic contexts.

Results of Archival Research

The deed research conducted for the Quarry Site 3 was designed to identify whether or not it was part of a small-scale, quarry operation, perhaps associated with a local farmstead, or one tied to the large commercial Foster Ledge Quarry operation located northwest of the site. Establishing a clear chain-of-title for the Quarry Site 3 was difficult for two reasons. First, the parcel lies in a fairly remote portion of Coventry

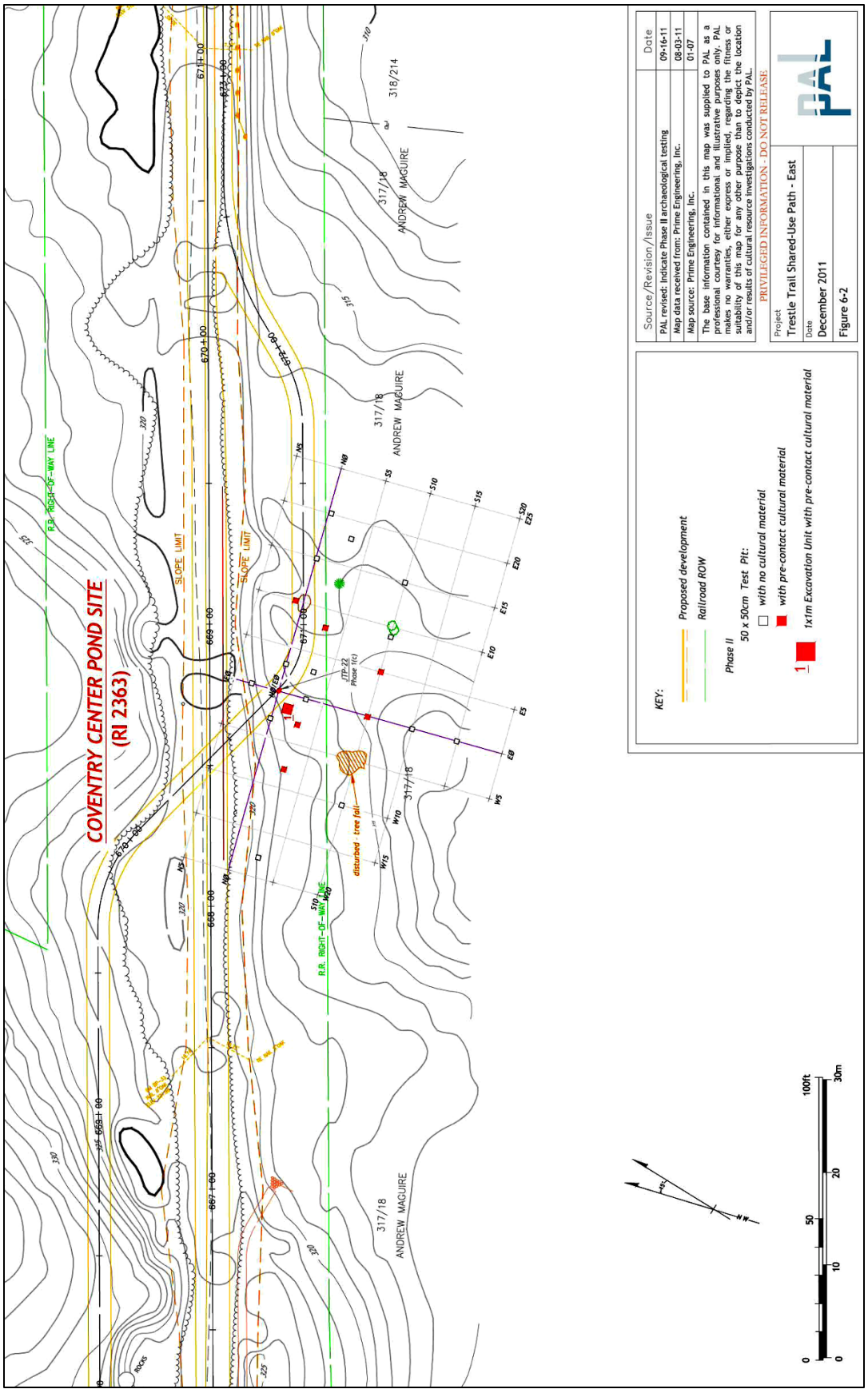


Figure 6-2. Phase II subsurface archaeological testing of the Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363).

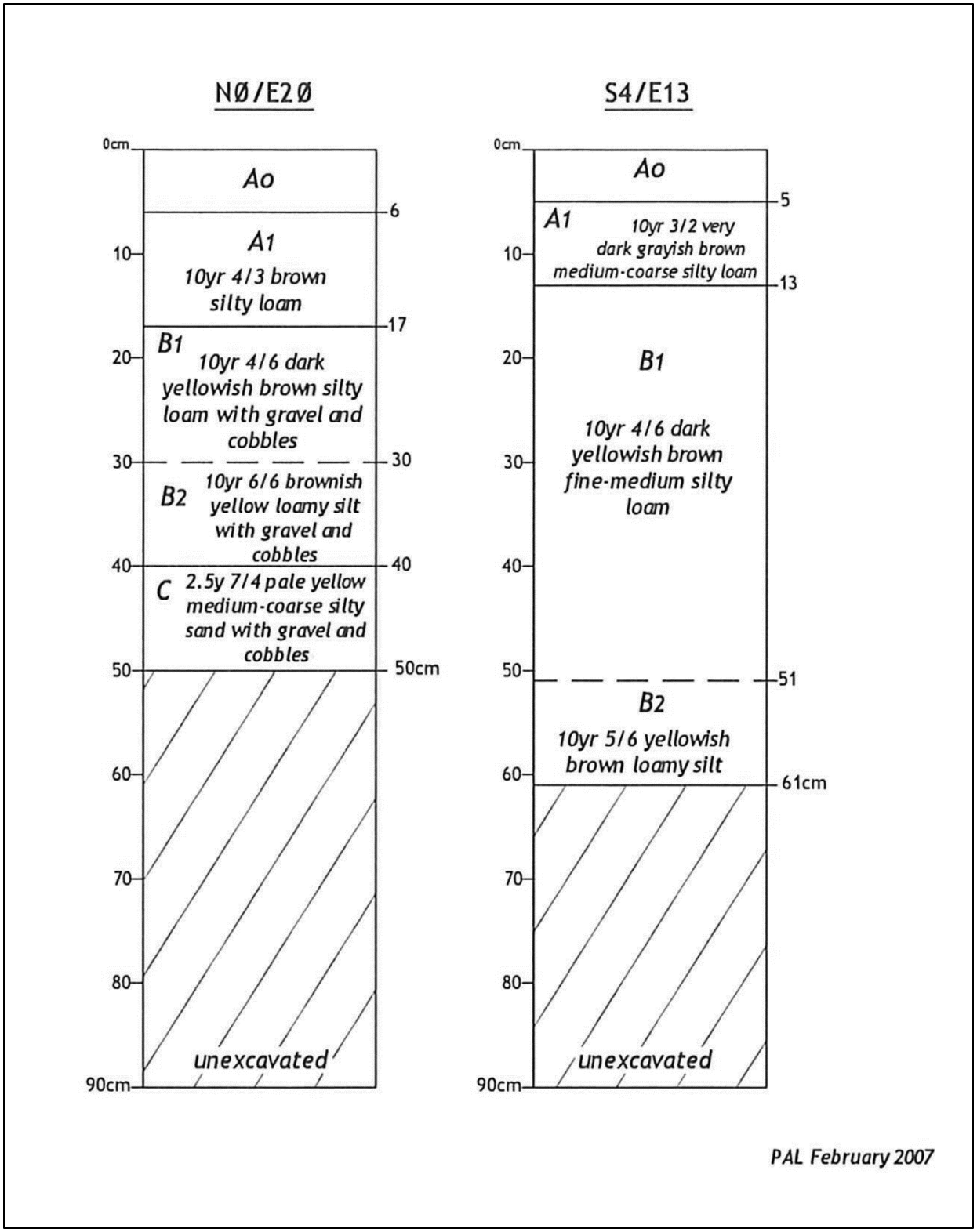


Figure 6-3. Representative soil profiles from Phase II test pits at the Coventry Center Pond Site.

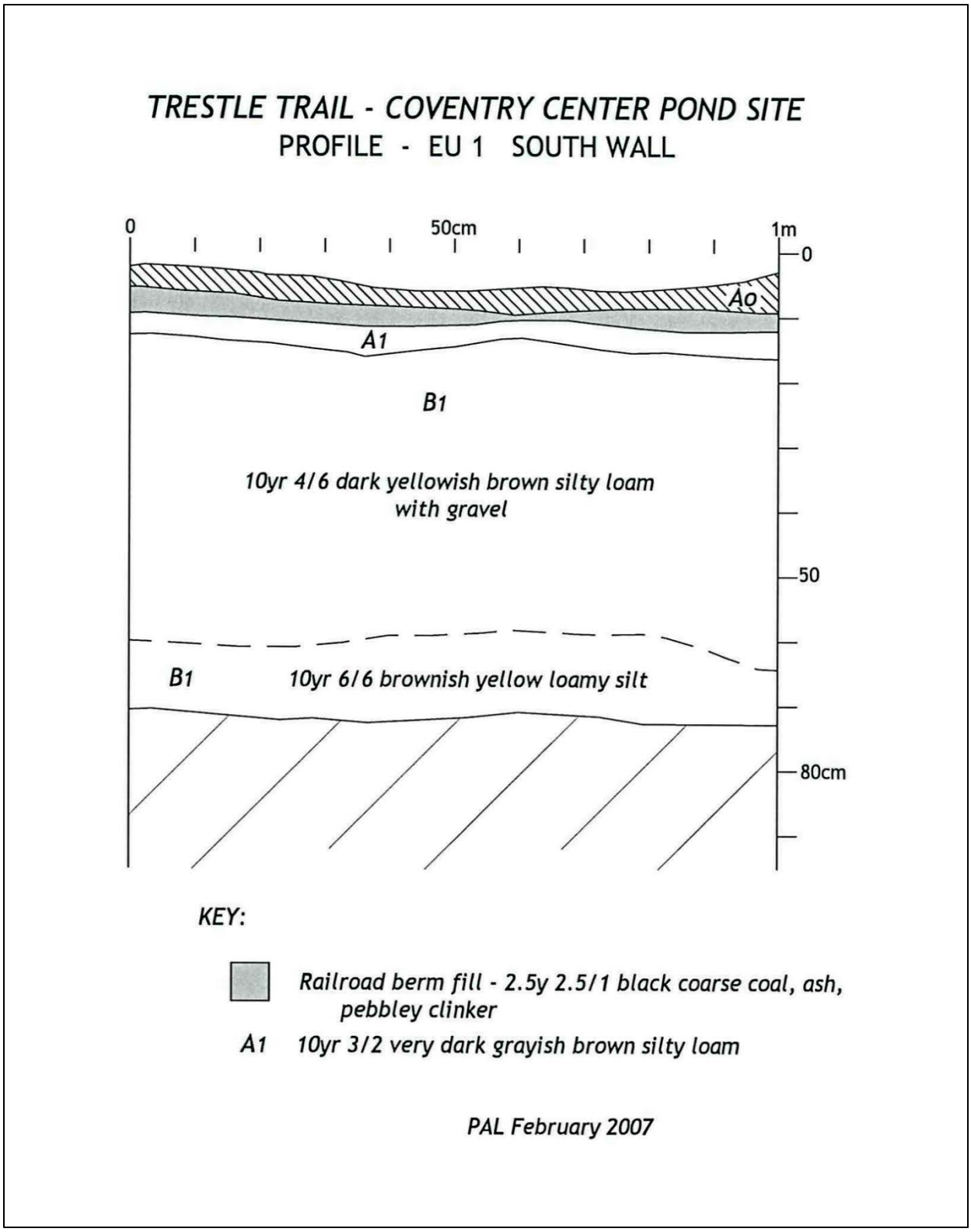


Figure 6-4. Soil profile from EU 01 at the Coventry Center Pond Site.

Figure 6-5. Photograph of the Quarry Site 3 (RI 2366), facing northwest.

with few clear landscape features that could serve as a consistent descriptor in old deed references. Second, and more salient to the quarry sites, is the absence of the deed book recording the land transactions that occurred between Horace Foster and the several possible landowners identified for the parcel during the early nineteenth century. At the time the research was conducted at Coventry Town Hall, Book 25 had been sent out for conservation and was not available for review.

Despite the break created by the lack of Book 25, a fairly clear ownership picture of the property was developed using the available land evidence and historical maps. Beginning in the early twentieth century, it appears that the parcel was referred to as the "Ledge Property," comprising approximately 29 acres bounded to the south by the railroad track "with all buildings and improvements thereon including speer tracks, also all tools, and implements and all quarried stone on said premises" (CLR n.d.:Bk 37:652). With this one description, tracked forward into the twentieth century using the names of abutting property owners, the Quarry Site 3 is effectively placed on the landscape as a stone-extraction location. This deed reference, as well as the subsequent two deeds dating to 1921 and 1966 (CLR n.d.:Bk 41:276, Bk 75:1030) is also important in its mention of railroad-related features. The speer, or spur, tracks in the deed refer to a short, dead-end industrial service track forking off a main line railroad line, and verify the identification of a railroad siding along the south edge of the site.

Several different property owners were identified for the site dating from 1889 to 1966, all of which appear to have used it for quarrying purposes. Richard B. Marriot and Sons occupied the parcel from 1921–1966. The Marriot name is prominently featured on a 1941 map of Coventry, and shows Richard and his sons linked to the former Foster Ledge Quarry, apparently renamed to reflect the new management (Figure 6-6). Marriot had purchased the property from a man by the name of Nelson A. Bennett in 1921 (CLR n.d.:Bk 41:276).

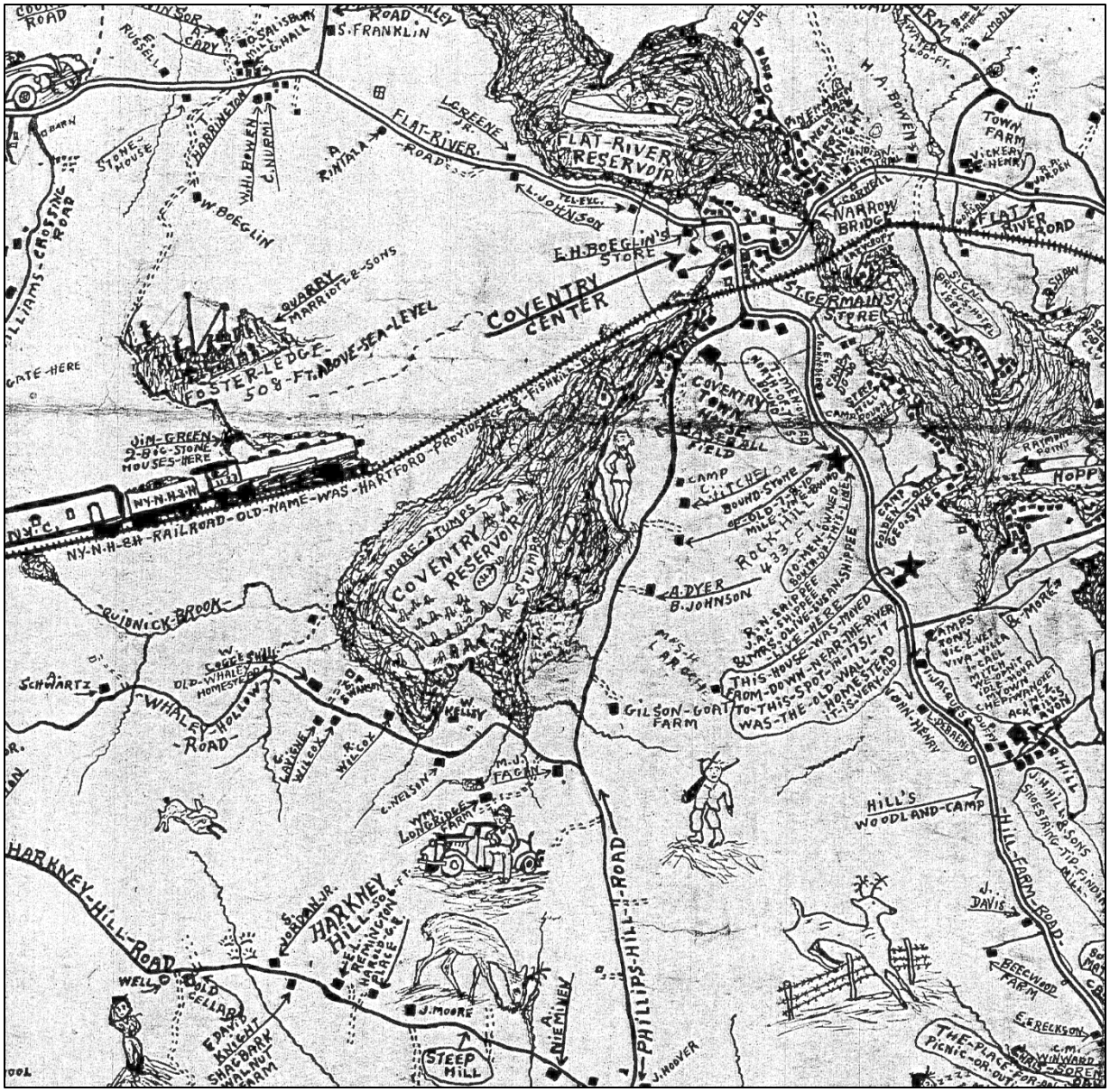


Figure 6-6. 1941 map of Coventry showing ownership by the Marriots of the former Foster Ledge Quarry (source: Matteson 1941).

Interestingly, both the grantee and grantor in this transaction are listed as residents of Sterling, Connecticut. The town of Sterling, located due west of Coventry just over the state line, also was an actively quarried area, with the first commercial quarrying operation started in 1860 by Smith & Williams. Like the Foster Ledge Quarry, the Sterling quarry operation was located adjacent to the Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad. Smith & Williams were succeeded by A. & W. Sprague, and in 1884 by Garvey Brothers, of Providence. While the exact relationships are unclear, it seems likely that Nelson and Marriot were somehow connected with the Sterling quarrying operations.

Whatever Nelson's connections, he purchased the property in 1912 from Eliseo DiCarlo of Natick, Rhode Island (CLR n.d.:Bk 37:652). DiCarlo had jointly owned the quarry site in 1911 with five other men under the business name of Union Men Granite Company. It seems the operation was not successful, resulting in the dissolution of the company and sale of the property just over a year after its creation.

DiCarlo and company had themselves purchased the land from Frances E. Boyd and Billie D. Beaton (CLR n.d.:37:522). Previous to that, the property appears to have been bought and sold within the Boyd family as early as 1889 (CLR n.d.:Bk 31:527).

It is with this last deed between grantor Jonathan Boyd and grantee Frances Boyd that the chain-of-title breaks; the deed describes the property as the same land described in a deed to Eugene Sullivan dated May 25, 1866 and recorded in Book 25. As mentioned above, Book 25 was out for conservation at the time this research was conducted, and despite repeated attempts to track forward and backward using related names, adjacent properties, etc., no clear indication of the earlier ownership of the property could be identified. It is important to note that Book 25 is also the book that records all of Horace Foster's property acquisitions for the development of his quarry that occurred during the period and, as such, would likely provide a critical link into the chain.

Despite this land evidence gap, the deeds that were identified for the parcel are clear enough in their descriptions to identify Quarry Site 3 as part of a larger commercial granite operation, most likely one associated with the Foster's Ledge to the north. One of two scenarios concerning the evolution of the site is possible. First, Horace Foster may have originally acquired the parcel as part of a larger, patchwork quilt of properties designed to provide access to the rail line. As the commercial operation began to diminish, it may be that the parcel was sold into individual hands with the understanding that the new owners would continue to work as subcontractors to Foster Ledge Quarry, finishing and loading the granite blocks. Alternately, it may be that the parcel always was under separate ownership, but similarly operated on a sub-contracting basis for the larger commercial operation. In whichever case, the site's function and location would have been critical to the quarrying process well into the twentieth century.

Results of Fieldwork

The Phase II archaeological site examination of the Quarry Site 3 included surface survey to map features and the excavation of 13 judgmentally placed 50-x-50 cm test pits and four 1-x-1-m EUs (Figure 6-7). The site examination area consists of an area measuring approximately 90-x-70 m, though elements associated with the site continue farther to the north.

The walkover surface survey of the testing area revealed a variety of features, including a possible building foundation, various sized grout piles, a loading platform area, piled and isolated undressed boulders, and a small two-track path (note: grout is a term applied to the waste products from shaping the granite blocks). The possible building foundation consists of a highly regular 3-sided linear depression visible on the surface and is located in the eastern portion of the site adjacent to the open pasture. The two grout piles are situated on either side of the centrally located loading platform area that terminates to the south at the edge of an approximately 5-foot-high stone wall creating a loading platform adjacent to the railroad bed. This platform is believed to be directly associated with the former Foster Ledge Quarry (RI 2367) located north of the project area. Small piles of grout were scattered throughout the testing area.

In addition to the isolated, large undressed boulders scattered through the central portion of the site, a large pile of undressed boulders was located between the loading platform area and the westernmost large grout pile. A small, two-track path was identified, appearing to connect the loading platform area to Ledge Road to the north of the testing area. In addition to the above-described mapped features, a private landowner, Lea Grotte, informed the field staff that there were additional features located somewhat north of the testing area. These features consisted of a building foundation, a capped well and a grout pile located approximately 100 m north of the testing area. These features were not tested because of their location far outside of the right-of-way, but were photo-documented and given map coordinates. Also, several large quarry pits were observed just north of where Ledge Road runs east- west north of the testing area, and these were noted for mapping purposes.

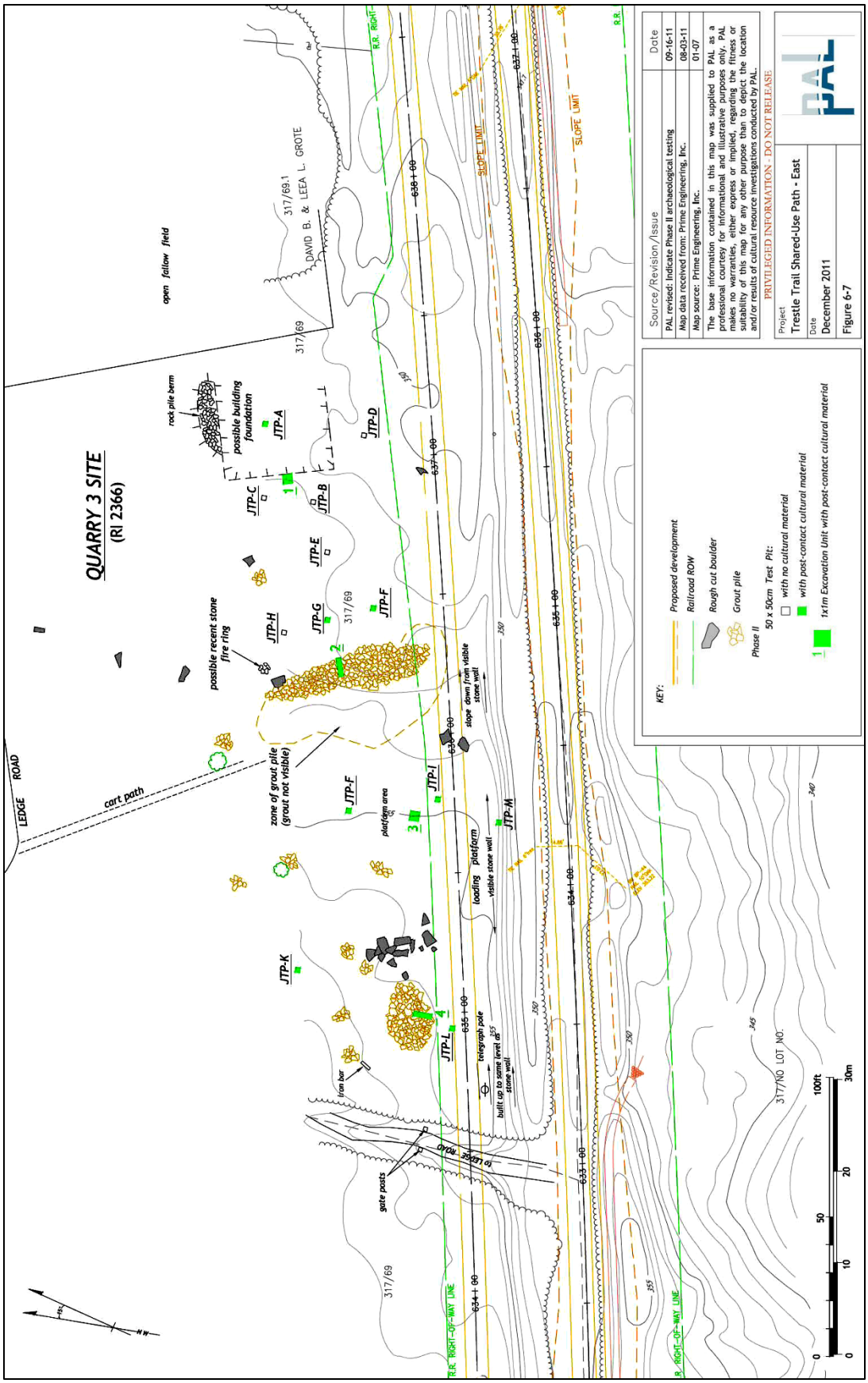


Figure 6-7. Phase II subsurface archaeological testing and recordation of surface features at the Quarry Site 3 (RI 2366).

Soil profiles from test pits to the east and west of the centrally located loading platform area were generally uniform in character and revealed a dark yellowish brown fine sandy silt plow zone (Apz) overlying strong brown gravelly and fine sandy silt B1 Horizon. The B1 Horizon was situated over a B2 Horizon composed of yellowish brown find sandy silt with gravel. Soil profiles from test pits at the centrally located platform and south of and below the platform ledge contained a variety of sandy fill deposits (Figure 6-8).

More than 60 pieces of post-contact cultural material were recovered from seven of 13 test pits during the test pit excavations. Materials included glass, brick, fragments of metal, coal, slag, clinkers, grout, a bolt, and an iron bar recovered from Apz soils on the eastern end of the site, and the rest of the post-contact materials were derived from fill contexts elsewhere on the site, particularly from the loading platform area and the eastern end of the site. The assemblage was dominated by coal and coal burning debris likely related to the railroad.

One 1-x-1 m EU (EU 01) was placed immediately adjacent to the three-sided linear depression to explore the possible building foundation suggested by the depression. The unit revealed a similar soil profile to those exhibited in test pits on either side of the loading platform area (Figure 6-9). Cultural materials recovered from EU 01 were derived from the plow zone context and consisted of a metal spike, ceramics, grout, and glass (see Table 6-1). The grout was not retained for further curation. No building materials or other features indicative of a structure were encountered.

A single 0.5-x-2 m EU (EU 02) was placed as a trench across the easternmost grout pile. The surface layer of grout was removed as a single level to a maximum depth of 76 cmbs. The remaining levels were excavated as 10-cm levels, and the east and west halves were excavated and screened separately. All of the cultural materials encountered in EU 02 were recovered from the grout deposit, and included barbed wire, metal cable, aqua glass, and other metal items (see Table 6-1). The grout was dominated by large pieces (11 cm in maximum dimension or greater) throughout, though smaller pieces of grout were more frequent at lower depths. No discernable layers or dumping episodes were evident within the grout deposits. Plow zone and B1 soils were encountered directly underneath the fill deposits, and these soils were sterile for cultural materials.

EU 03 consisted of a 1-x-1 m EU placed on the centrally located platform to determine whether the platform was artificially built up with deep deposits of fill. All cultural materials were recovered from a shallow, surface fill layer, and included coal, grout, nails, railroad spikes, and metal fragments (see Table 6-1). Most of the cultural materials can be associated with quarry and railroad activity. A second, thin lens of fill was apparent in the north portion of the unit, but was negative for cultural materials. The fill overlay a plow zone and compact B1 subsoils that were also sterile for cultural materials. Based on the soil profile exposed in the unit, and in nearby test pits, it appears that the loading platform was only slightly built up from the original grade with deposits of fill ranging between 15 and 32 cm thick.

A 0.5-x-2 m trench (EU 04) was placed across the westernmost grout pile to investigate and compare its structure to the easternmost grout pile. The surface layer of grout was removed as a single level to a maximum depth of 50 cmbs. The remaining levels were excavated as 10 cm levels, and the north and south halves were excavated and screened separately. The profile of EU 04 consisted of a surface layer of grout overlying a dark, coal rich fill, which in turn was situated on a plow zone overlying intact B Horizon soils.

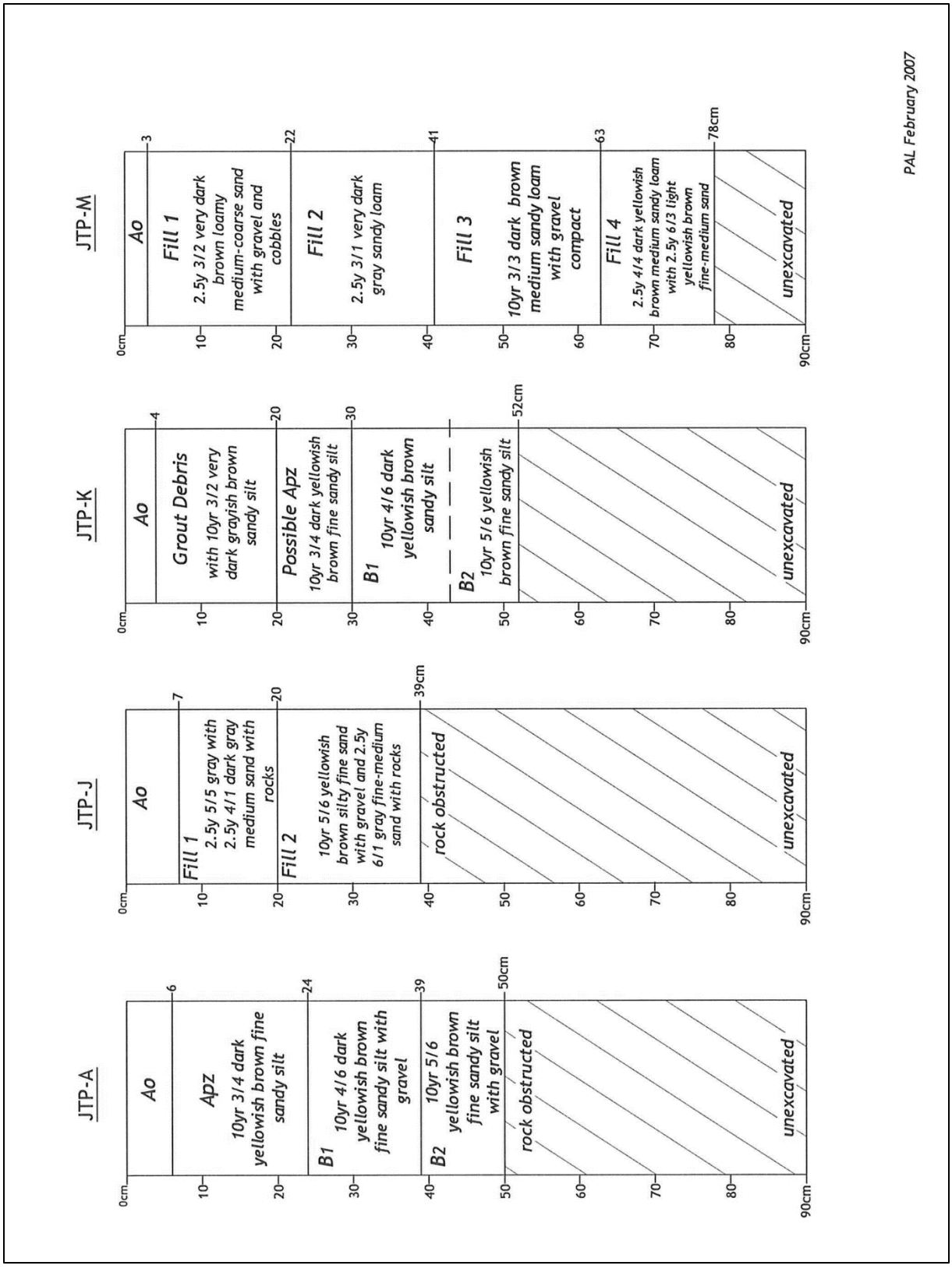


Figure 6-8. Representative soil profiles from Phase II test pits at the Quarry Site 3.

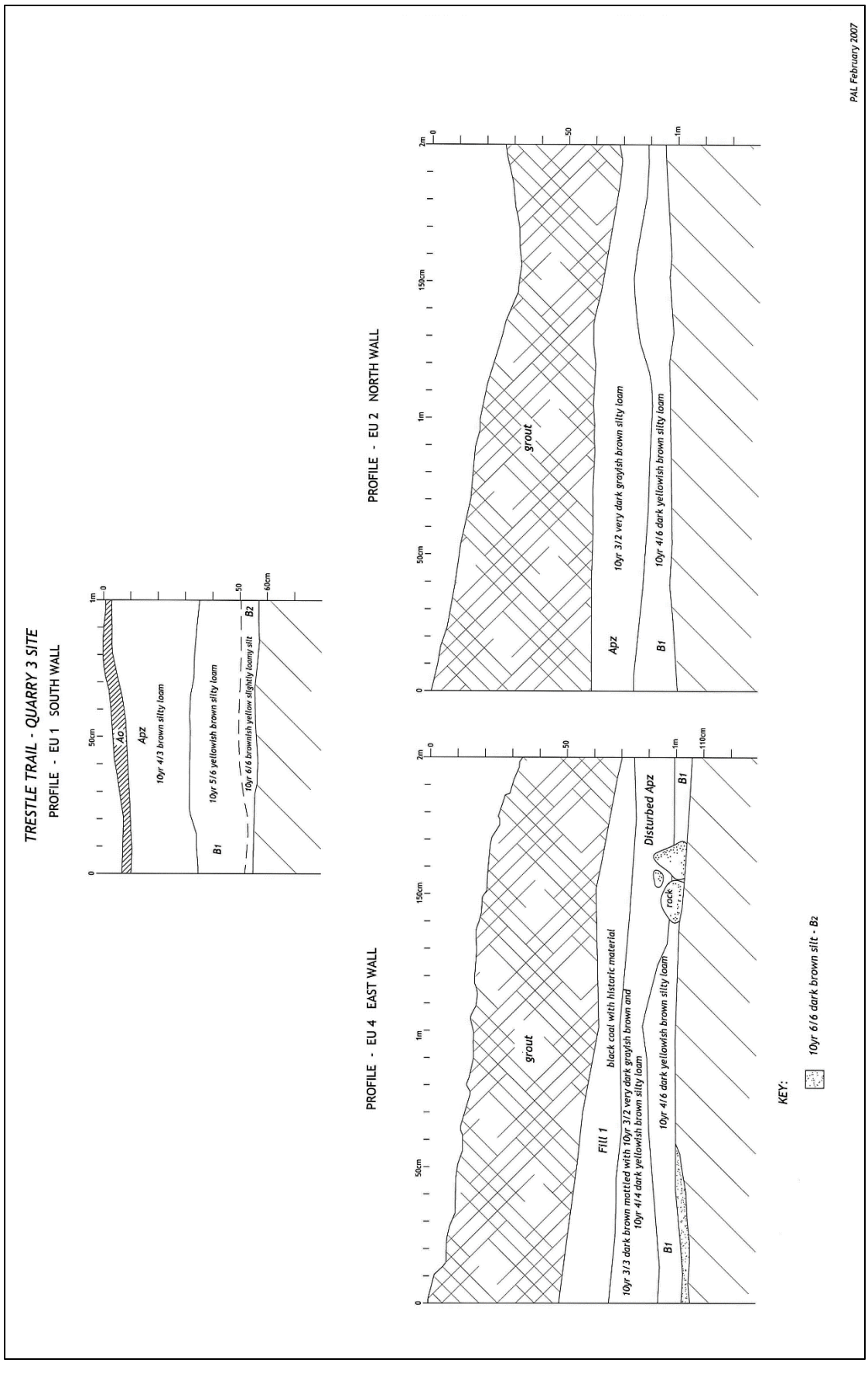


Figure 6-9. Profiles from EUs from the Quarry Site 3.

Cultural materials were recovered from grout deposit/fill interface, fill, and heavily disturbed plow zone stratigraphic contexts in EU 04, though all these materials are likely associated with the fill deposit underlying the grout and overlying the plow zone. The plow zone appears to have been heavily disturbed, likely related to the subsequent fill episode or granite processing activity. Extremely large amounts of brick, coal, and coal slag were encountered in the fill. The remaining cultural materials consisted of bottle glass, burned brick, nails, various metal objects and unidentified metal fragments, and window glass (see Table 6-1). Coal and brick at the very base of the grout deposit were particularly concentrated in the northern portion of the unit. As excavation proceeded, brick and slag appeared to become denser in the fill layer in the south half of EU 04 than the north half, while coal continued to be especially dense in the northern portion of the unit. No cultural materials were encountered in the intact B Horizon soil beneath the plow zone.

The profile and contents of EU 04 suggest three separate episodes of use following its existence as an agricultural field. The surface layer of grout in EU 04 was dominated by large pieces (11 cm or greater in maximum dimension), though a particularly dense accumulation of small grout (5 cm or smaller in maximum dimension) was concentrated at the south end of the unit. Grout of all sizes dropped off dramatically in the fill underlying the surface grout deposit, though interestingly enough the amount of grout increased significantly within the disturbed plow zone stratum underlying the fill deposit. Grout observed in the plow zone was dominated by small- and medium-sized (6–10 cm in maximum dimension) pieces probably related to the final stages of dressing granite blocks. This suggests that the area was first used for the final shaping and finishing of granite blocks. Subsequently, the area was used for dumping coal, building material, and other debris. Following this, the area was used for dumping large pieces of grout debris possibly reflecting the initial stages of rough dressing granite blocks.

Quarry Site 4 (RI 2368)

The Quarry Site 4 (RI 2368) is located on a low, sloping boulder field north of the Trestle Trail path between STA 659+00 and 662+00. The site is situated within mixed secondary deciduous and pine forest dominated throughout by underbrush of blueberry bushes, and wetland plants to the eastern end of the testing area (Figure 6-10). A small intermittent stream and culvert is at the extreme eastern end of the site, which slopes steadily up to the west. As a result of the Phase I(c) Survey, the Quarry Site 4 was described as an extensive, glacially deposited boulder field containing scattered trimmed granite boulders on the ground surface, in addition to extensive evidence for boulder splitting and granite removal. The site contained numerous examples of boulders in various stages of reduction, bearing evidence that hand tools were used to split and dress the granite. None of the test pits from the Phase I(c) survey transect in this area produced pre- or post-contact materials.

Figure 6-10. Photograph of the Quarry Site 4 (RI 2368), facing northeast.

Results of Archival Research

The Quarry Site 4, like the Quarry Site 3, presented a challenge from a deed research perspective because of its somewhat isolated location. Nonetheless, based on the available map data and salient land records, it appears the property was owned by Pardon S. Peckham during the mid-nineteenth century. Peckham, along with his brother Thomas, was responsible for the growth of Coventry Center as the municipal core of the town through his establishment of a prosperous woolen mill during the 1840s.

The Peckhams purchased a large amount of acreage in the immediate vicinity as a means to consolidate water rights to Quidnick Brook, critical to their operation of the factory (Cole 1889; D'Amato 1991). It appears that the Quarry Site 4 fell within these purchased lands at least as early 1854, acquired from a James C. Johnson (CLR n.d.:Bk 24:117), but then was sold out of the Peckham holdings in 1860 to Bowen Reynolds (CLR n.d.:Bk 24:613). After that time it was sold to a succession of private owners; none of the deeds make mention of any buildings on the lot or of any features suggestive of quarrying activity.

Historical map data corroborates the relative disuse of the property. None of the historical maps dating to any period depict any structures on or even particularly close to the property, nor are there any roads, town-owned or otherwise, running to it. The only clearly cultural features in proximity to the parcel are the rail line and a stone arch culvert running beneath the railroad embankment and draining into Coventry Center Pond.

Results of Fieldwork

The Phase II archaeological site examination of the Quarry Site 4 included a walkover survey for surface features, and excavation of eight judgmentally placed 50-x-50 cm test pits and two 1-x-1 m EUs (Figure 6-11). The walkover surface survey revealed 12 quarry features clustered into six distinct activity areas within an area approximately 70-x-45 m, extending vertically to 20 cmbs. These quarry features included isolated as well as clusters of boulders exhibiting evidence of drilling and splitting. Seven pit depressions indicating boulder removal were also observed.

Soil profiles from test pits were generally uniform in character and revealed a black fine sandy silt A Horizon above a dark yellowish brown (10 YR 3/4) gravelly fine sandy silt B1 Horizon. Situated under the B1 Horizon was a dark yellowish brown (10 YR 4/6) gravelly and cobbley fine sandy silt B2 Horizon overlying a brownish yellow gravelly and cobbley sandy C Horizon soil (Figure 6-12). One 1-x-1 m EU (EU 01) was placed between a drilled and split boulder and pit depression. The unit revealed a similar soil profile to those exhibited in test pits (Figure 6-13). A second 1-x-1 m EU (EU 02) was placed north of and contiguous with EU01.

Subsurface investigations produced two possible pieces of pre-contact Native American cultural material, possible quartz and rhyolite chipping debris. Post-contact cultural material consisted of two pieces of large gauge metal chain recovered from a single test pit (JTP-E) placed at one of the quarrying features. The chain may have been used for dragging out large boulders during quarrying activity. All other test pits did not contain cultural materials. Cultural material from the EUs was derived from A Horizon soils and intact A/B Horizon interface contexts and consisted of metal objects preliminarily identified as drills or wedges related to quarrying activity, and a sample of what appeared to be possible grout debris (see Table 6-1). Soils beneath the A Horizon contained no cultural materials.

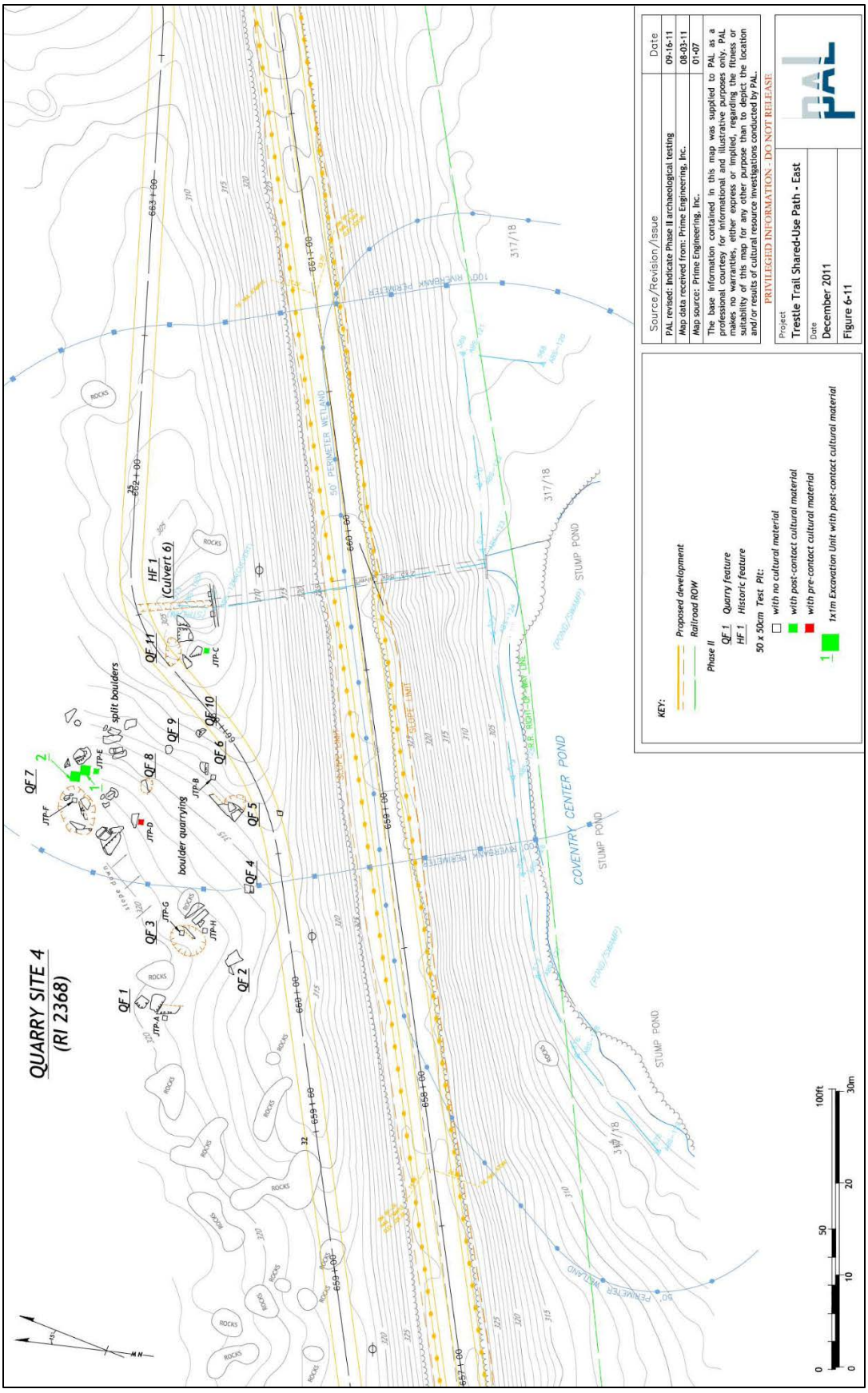


Figure 6-11. Phase II subsurface archaeological testing and recordation of surface features at the Quarry Site 4 (RI 2368).

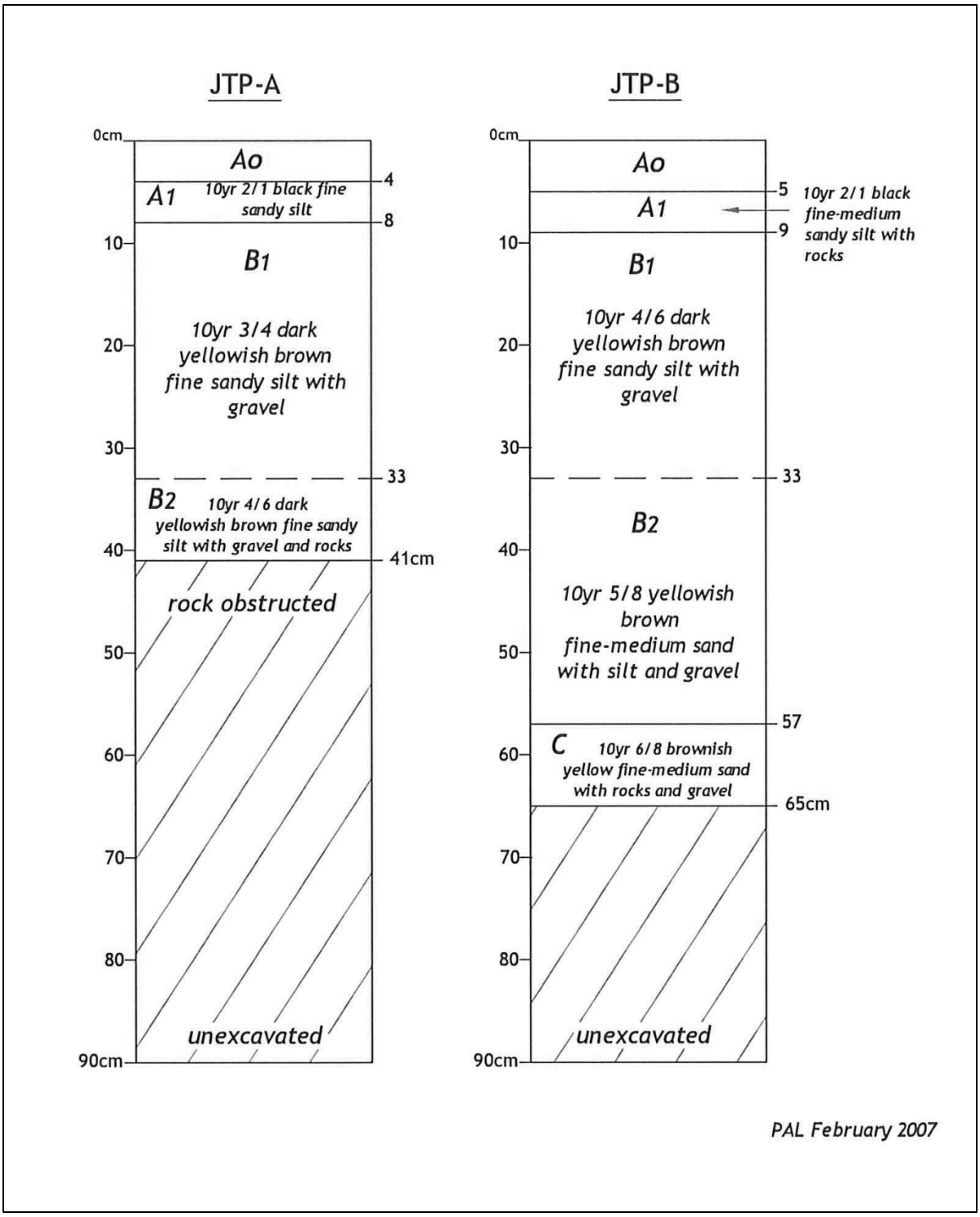


Figure 6-12. Representative soil profiles from Phase II test pits at the Quarry Site 4.

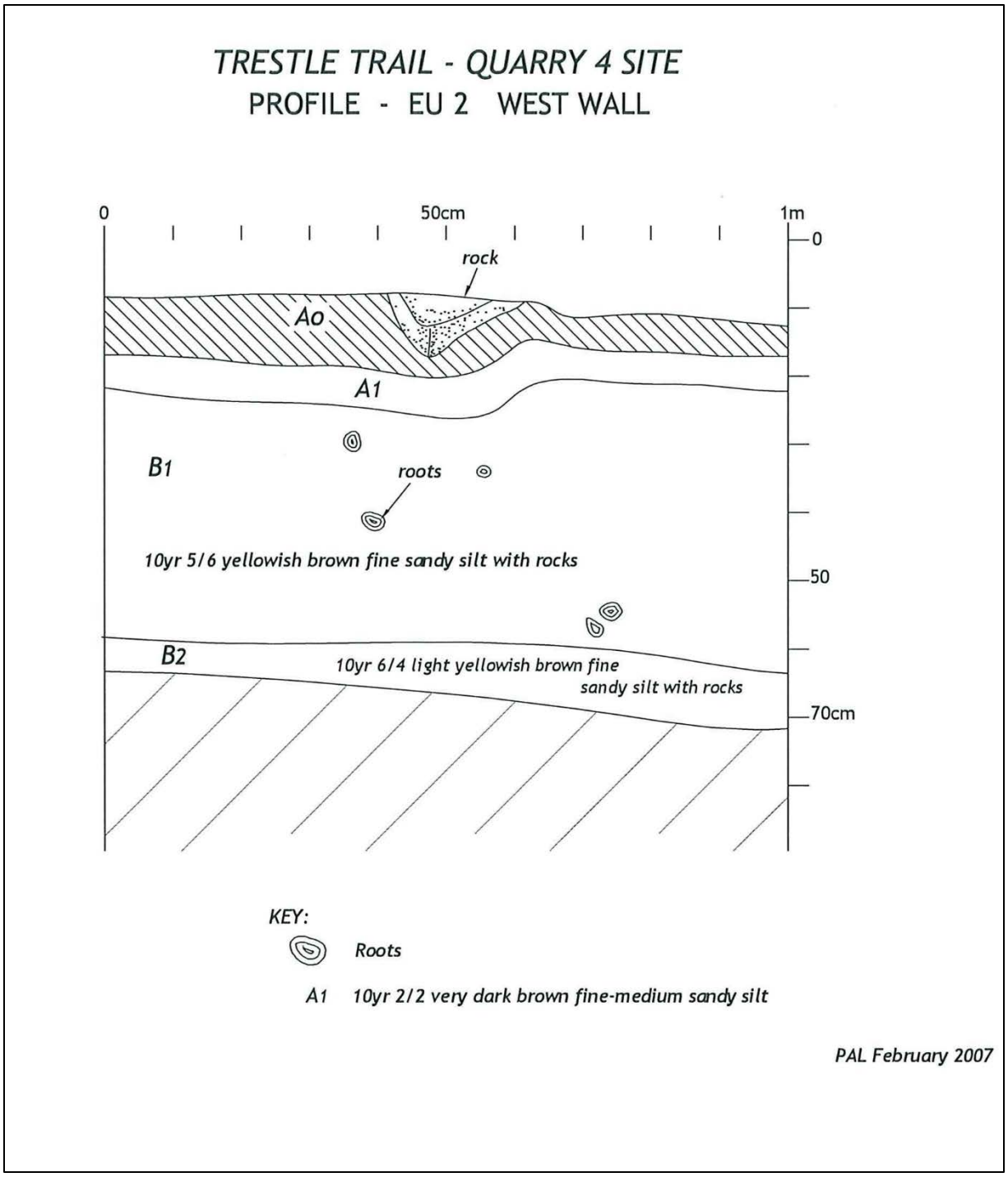


Figure 6-13. Soil and stratigraphic profiles from EUs at the Quarry Site 4.

Comstock Farmstead Site (RI 2361)

The Comstock Farmstead Site (RI 2361) is located on both sides of the Trestle Trail path between STA 606+00 and 608+00 (Figures 6-14 and 6-15). The site is generally flat to the north of the trail, and slopes gently to the south along the south side of the trail. The vegetation is dominated by a mixed secondary deciduous and pine forest with a greenbrier, wild grape, jewelweed and poison ivy underbrush. Several very large and mature oaks were observed across the site and are relict landscape features dating to its earlier nineteenth-century occupation.

The results of the Phase I(c) survey initially identified the Comstock Farmstead as the remains of an historic mill complex. This assessment was based on the identification of a breached "dam," or berm, on the south side of the trail in the same general location as a former pond depicted on the 1895 Everts and Richards map, and a dry-laid stone foundation located roughly 30 m east of the berm. Historical aerial photographs also showed what appeared to be a dam and mill race adjacent to the stone foundation (RIGIS 1939, 1951, 1962, 1972, 1988, 1992). A large cellar hole with center chimney base and a smaller foundation were identified north of the trail and were thought to be part of the complex.

Phase II field survey and documentary research, however, produced no evidence of a mill at the site. Careful inspection and mapping of the area identified none of the infrastructural or structural components commonly associated with abandoned mill sites such as a head- or tailrace or a wheel/turbine pit, and deed research into the history of the property provided no indication that the parcel was ever used for milling purposes. The deed research, combined with a review of historical maps, did indicate that the property was owned by a farmer by the name of Joseph Comstock during the nineteenth century, and for that reason the site has been named the Comstock Farmstead Site (RI 2361).

Figure 6-14. Photograph of the Comstock Farmstead Site (RI 2361) north of the Trestle Trail path, facing north.

Figure 6-15. Photograph of the Comstock Farmstead Site (RI 2361) south of the Trestle Trail path, facing south.

Results of Archival Research

The first clear description of a tract of land generally encompassing what is now the Comstock Farmstead Site occurs in 1799 in a deed between grantor William King (blacksmith) and Thomas and Jonathan Whaley (grantees). In this deed, some property description characteristics that would remain consistent throughout the next 50 years are delineated, including an eastern boundary with Job Whaley and a northern boundary on the "7&10 Mens Line" or "7&10 Line" (CLR n.d.:Bk 9:324). The early ownership of the 50-acre parcel by a blacksmith at first suggested that the structural remains and berm feature in fact may have been associated with a former mill at the site. The deed, however, makes no mention of any such industry, nor does it grant specific water privileges to Quidnick Brook for such a purpose.

Thomas and Jonathan Whaley were likely brothers and it appears that at some point between 1799 and 1817 Jonathan gifted or released his interest in the land to his brother, who then gifted a much enlarged property of 95 acres to his son, Rueben, in 1817. The eastern and northern boundary remains the same, indicating the new acreage expanded to the south and east.

Rueben remained on the property for six years before selling it in 1823 to Joel Comstock. During his tenure, it appears Rueben busied himself with improving his land holdings as the deed describes for the first time a "dwelling house and other buildings" on the property (CLR n.d.:Bk 17:513–514). Again, the northern and eastern boundary descriptions are consistent with the preceding two deeds, as is the general lot size which is enumerated as 100 acres, more or less.

The Comstock and Whaley families appear to have had a rather close real estate relationship, perhaps through marriage links. At some point after 1823, Joel Comstock appears to have partnered with Jonathan Whaley in property Jonathan previously owned in common with his brother Thomas (see above).

Both men, listed as tenants in common, subsequently sold the entire parcel to Joel's son, Cyrus, in 1841 (CLR n.d.:BK 21:192–193). This sale effectively consolidated a significant portion of the Whaley lands within the Comstock family, and provided Cyrus with a property of more than 150 acres.

Such a large parcel would have been necessary to support Cyrus's livelihood as a farmer as documented in the federal census records of Coventry dating to 1850, 1860, and 1870. During that period, Cyrus and his wife, Elizabeth, raised a son, Burrill, and appear to have established a small but "middling" farm. Cyrus' combined personal and real estate was valued at $1,700 in 1860, increasing to $5,000 just 10 years later.

One of the more important changes to the property during Cyrus' early occupancy, and one that provides important clues to the layout and function of the structural remains identified at the site, was the construction of the Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad. Preliminary to the construction of the railroad, the railroad company set about purchasing easements from the various private property owners along the proposed alignment. In 1853, Cyrus sold 3 acres of his land to the railroad company, but made sure to retain several important access rights necessary to the continued function of his farm.

> *And the said company are to construct a grade crossing at or near station 361x60 nearly opposite the west end of the barn . . . and if the bridge at the Quidnick Brook upon the premises conveyed shall be suitable . . . for cattle to pass to and from the same, but said company are not required to enlarge such bridge for said purposes (CLR n.d.:Bk 23:627– 628).*

This deed is important to the interpretation of the site for two reasons. First, it clearly situates the Comstock Farm on the landscape with its reference to the "bridge at Quidnick Brook," the extant railroad bridge that lies less than 250 feet west of the core of the site. Second, the description of the grade crossing "nearly opposite the west end of the barn" corresponds neatly with configuration of the existing trail crossing the railroad to connect the north and south components of the site, and the dry- laid fieldstone foundation south of the railroad grade. The foundation lies less than 5 feet east of this trail, suggesting that it is the barn foundation referenced in the deed.

This inference is corroborated by a review of a map included as part of the schedule of title for the railroad company's purchase of the property from Comstock. On that map, the location of the grade crossing is clearly depicted in relation to the bridge crossing over Quidnick Brook and west of a stone box culvert (NNH RR 1915). While the barn is not shown on the map as it was not owned or installed by the railroad company, both Quidnick Brook Bridge and the stone box culvert are still visible on the project area landscape and provide solid reference points from which to identify the former location of the barn.

Given the history of the property as a farm, it is likely that the dammed area south of the trail and west of the barn foundation may have functioned as a livestock watering hole. Low-lying and fed by Quidnick Brook, the feature would have been convenient to the barn and would not have required moving the cattle across the tracks. It is interesting to note that the farm pond is not depicted on any historical maps of the area until it makes its first appearance on an 1894 USGS map, a period that post-dates Cyrus' active use of the property for agricultural purposes. This is likely a cartographic oversight on the earlier nineteenth-century maps rather than a real absence. Such small landscape features probably were of limited interest to earlier mapmakers who were less concerned with specific topography than with property ownership and significant cultural landmarks.

The berm, pond, and raceway may represent and earlier industrial use for the site, e.g. a mill. However, none of the deeds transferring ownership mention a mill structure on the property. There also was some speculation that the ponded feature may have been built by the railroad company as a water source for the train. The lack of any structural remains that would have been part of an associated water tower, however,

suggests that was not the case. This is further corroborated by the fact that the railroad company records detailing that portion of the track make no narrative or visual reference to such a feature (NNH RR 1915). What is clear, again based on the map data, is that the earthern berm for the farm pond was breached sometime between 1894 and 1941.

Cyrus' life as a farmer may have met a sad end; the 1880 census lists him as 66 years old, living alone, and with no recorded livelihood. Elizabeth had passed away several years earlier in 1877, and Burrill had married and moved out of the house. Cyrus appears to have retained title to the property well into his dotage, although whether he continued to live there is unknown. The last map showing any buildings at the Comstock Farmstead Site dates to 1870, at which time a complex of buildings are depicted scattered north of the rail line.

Cyrus died on January 25, 1886 at the age of 72. The chain-of-title for the property becomes very hazy after 1880, but review of the ownership history of the parcel abutting the Comstock farm to the east suggests that it remained in his name at least until 1920 (CLR n.d.:Bk 32:59, Bk 37:148, Bk. 40:185). Sometime between 1920 and 1937, however, the property was purchased by the Beaton family; there is no mention of any structures on the property at that time.

Results of Fieldwork

The Phase II archaeological site examination of the Comstock Farmstead Site included surface survey for features and the excavation of 43 judgmentally placed 50-x-50 cm test pits, three 1-x-1 m EUs, and two 1-x-2-m EUs (Figure 6-16). The core of the site measures approximately 100-x-75 m, although some of the peripheral features such as rock piles and stone walls extend well beyond those limits.

The walkover surface survey resulted in the identification of a total of 11 structural features including a barn foundation, a cellar hole, a stone culvert, an unidentified oval-shaped configuration of large stones, a partitioned foundation, three additional small and linear stone features, probable stone entry gate bases, and a number of stone walls and large rock piles (see Figure 6-16). The stone walls and rock piles are scattered throughout and beyond the testing area. The barn foundation, culvert, and an unidentified oval-shaped stone configuration are all located south of the Trestle Trail path. The remaining features are all located on the north side of the Trestle Trail path.

The remains of the barn were identified and confirmed through deed research, and by the site examination testing. The barn foundation (Feature 1) consists of a dry-laid fieldstone foundation excavated into a naturally existing hillside, and is located immediately east of a former cart path associated with the Comstock farmstead (see Figure 6-16). The original excavation into the hillside resulted in some berming around the exterior of the barn. The barn foundation consists of a main block with a maximum measurement of 15-x-8 m connected to a narrower 7-x-8 m extension to the north. The south end of the barn provided an entrance into the structure as the railroad would have prevented access from the north. The maximum depth of the foundation measures approximately 6.5 meters along the north wall where the structure was built into the hillside.

The culvert (Feature 2) is a rectangular box culvert constructed of finished and rough dressed granite blocks, and is located southwest of the barn just west of the earthen path. The unidentified oval configuration of large stones (Feature 3) lies just west of the culvert and may be connected to it somehow as evidenced by a discontinuous line of larger stones running between it and the culvert. West of this is a large, bermed stone wall (Feature 4), originally thought to be part of a dam that probably reflects the eastern side of an artificially ponded area used as a water source for livestock (see above).

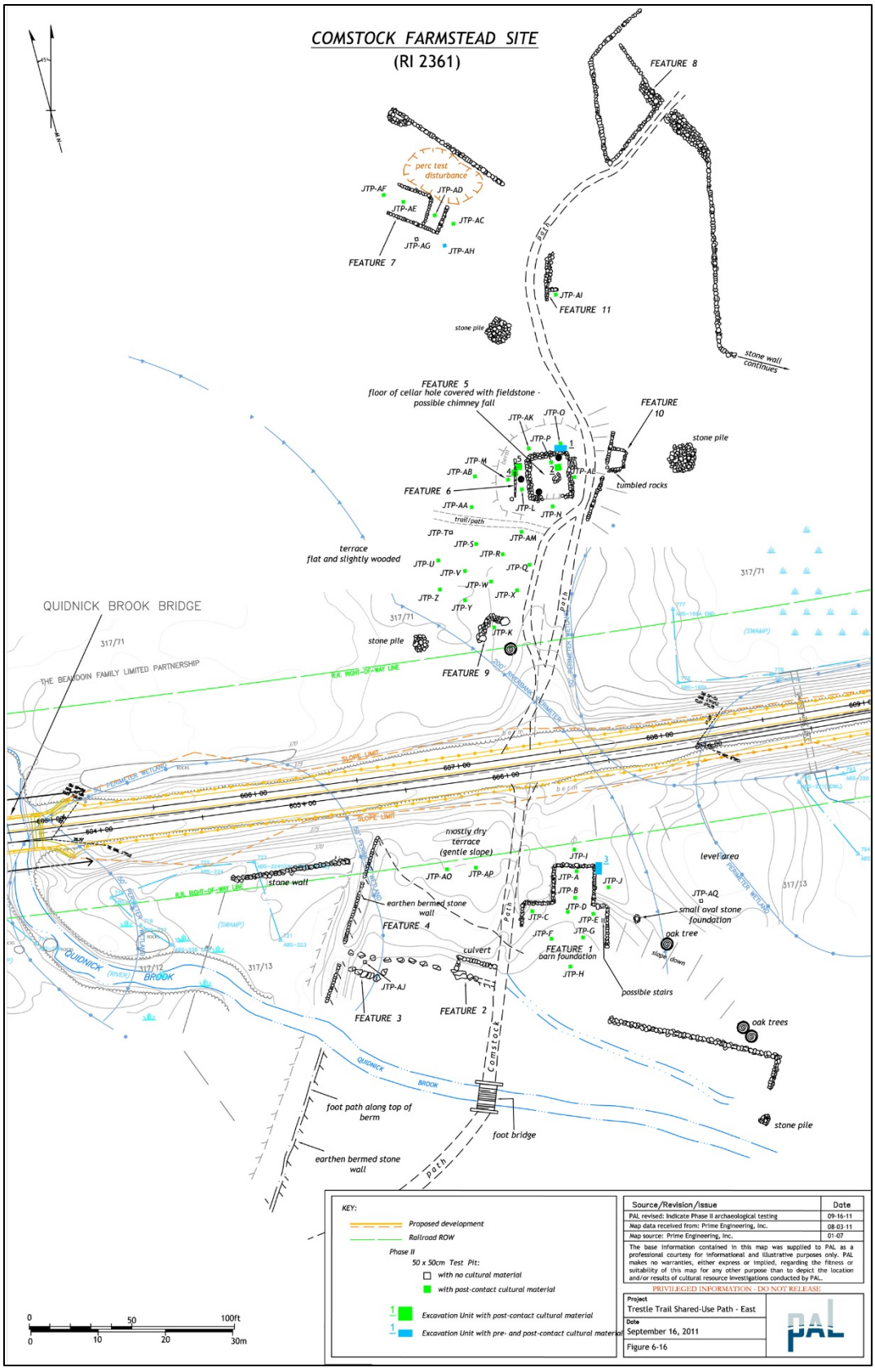


Figure 6-16. Phase II subsurface archaeological testing and recordation of surface features at the Comstock Farmstead Site (RI 2361).

The cellar hole (Feature 5) is located adjacent to an earthen path approximately 45 m north of the Trestle Trail path and measures approximately 8-m wide, 8-m long, and 1.5-m deep. Numerous large boulders have tumbled into the bottom of the cellar hole. A bulkhead entrance with steps is visible at the northeast corner of the foundation.

Approximately 4 m west of the cellar hole is another foundation (Feature 6) consisting of a single course of roughly dressed granite blocks running parallel to the cellar hole's west wall. Clearance of surface vegetation and probing revealed no foundation stones connecting this foundation feature with the main cellar hole.

Approximately 40 m north of the cellar hole is a rectangular partitioned foundation (Feature 7). Part of the northern wall has been obliterated by a perc-test hole. The foundation lies on a northwest-southeast axis and is open to the northwest. It measures approximately 10-x-6 m.

The probable stone gate bases (Feature 8) lie on either side of the main earthen path connecting various elements of the farmstead north of the cellar hole and northeast of the partitioned foundation. The gate bases, located in the northern portion of the testing area, are of double-wall construction and measure 8.5-m long and 2-m wide. These double wall portions taper to single wall construction at their north and south ends. It should be noted that the gate base on the south side of the earthen path has been partly obliterated perhaps by the driving of large machinery onto the site for the recent excavation of perc-test holes.

The remaining major elements of the farmstead north of the Trestle Trail path consist of the three smaller, linear stone features, some of which may be possible foundations. The first of these consists of a two-sided feature (Feature 9) with a northern and eastern "wall" connecting at a right angle (see Figure 6-16). This feature lies just north of the Trestle Trail path adjacent to and west of the main earthen path. The second linear stone feature (Feature 10) lies just east of the main cellar hole and west of the path. The feature is open to the south, and square in shape with each of its "walls" meeting at right angles. This possible foundation measures approximately 3-x-3 m. The final linear stone feature (Feature 11) consists of a possible stone wall measuring approximately 8 m long with a short extension extending at a right angle from the wall's east side approximately 1.5 m from the wall's south end. The extension measures approximately 1.5 m.

Soil profiles from test pits in and near foundation features frequently contained deep, coarse sandy fill deposits. Soil profiles in non-foundation areas south of the Trestle Trail path were generally uniform in character and revealed a trampled, very dark grayish brown silt loam A Horizon overlying a brownish yellow cobbley silt loam B1 Horizon, which in turn was situated above a brownish yellow gravelly and cobbley, sandy loam B2 Horizon. Soils in non-foundation areas north of the Trestle Trail path were generally uniform in character and revealed a very dark grayish brown to brown loamyApz overlying a dark yellowish brown silt loam B1 Horizon. The B1 Horizon was underlain by a yellowish brown silty sand or silt loam B2 Horizon situated above a very cobbley and gravelly olive yellow coarse sand C Horizon. Soil profiles from test pits located within dug out foundation areas typically exhibited a black fill overlying a sandy C Horizon subsoil. Soil profiles from test pits located just outside of a dug-out foundation typically exhibited relatively thick layers of dark yellowish-brown to yellowish brown fill overlying intact B Horizon subsoils (Figure 6-17).

A large amount of cultural material was recovered during test pit excavations (see Table 6-1). Post-contact cultural materials included animal bone, brick, a bullet, ceramics, charcoal, clinkers, coal, fruit pits, glass, unidentifiable metal fragments, and a wide variety of metal objects, nails, pipe fragments, shell, and slag. The post-contact assemblage was dominated by building materials and ceramics.

Materials were concentrated in test pits within and surrounding the cellar hole foundation. All post-contact cultural materials were recovered from fill, plow zone, or trampled A Horizon stratigraphic contexts. A few items of pre-contact Native American cultural material were recovered during test pit excavation at the Comstock Farmstead Site. This material comprised four pieces of debitage, all recovered from disturbed fill.

More than 115 pieces of post-contact cultural material were recovered from JTPs A through J excavated at the barn foundation (see Figure 6-16). These items included animal bone, brick, ceramics, clinkers, coal, glass, a variety of metal objects and fragments, nails, a pipestem fragment, and slag (see Table 6-1). The post-contact material collected from the test pits around the barn foundation was dominated by glass, nails, redware, and unidentified metal fragments. The sampled deposits of coal, clinkers, and slag are all likely associated with the railroad located just north of the barn. One test pit, JTP-A, exhibited a particularly dense concentration of charcoal in the surface fill suggesting that the barn may have burned at some point. Test pits within the southern portion of the barn still had a strong odor of animal manure further confirming the function of the foundation at this location. Window glass was also present in significant amounts at this location. In addition, one piece of pre-contact Native American cultural material was recovered from a single test pit just north of the barn, and consisted of one piece of possible quartz chipping debris recovered from disturbed fill soils.

One test pit, JTP-AJ was placed at the location of the oval configuration of large stones west of the culvert in order to determine the function of this feature (see Figure 6-16). No cultural materials were recovered, and sediments from the test pit consisted of coarse, gravelly streambed-like material. It may be possible that the stones here were some part of a constructed waterway for diverting water from the ponded area to the culvert, which in turn may be part of a watering area for livestock.

Test pits JTPs AO, AP, and AQ were placed in non-foundation areas surrounding the barn on a raised terrace just south of the Trestle Trail path (see Figure 6-16). A few items of post-contact material were recovered, and consisted of glass, redware, and unidentifiable metal fragments (see Table 6-1). All of these materials were recovered from what appeared to be a trampled A Horizon. The presence of the trampled A Horizon suggests use of the area as a pasture or holding area for livestock.

Seven test pits (JTPs L through P, AK, and AL) were placed within and around the cellar hole (Feature 5) and associated external foundation (Feature 6). Post-contact materials recovered from these test pits numbered more than 213 items and included a metal bolt, brick, ceramics, nails, glass, a porcelain figurine, shell, and unidentified metal fragments (See Table 6-1). Preliminary counts of the post-contact cultural material assemblage show that the assemblage was dominated by ceramics, glass, and nails. Glass fragments included window glass, bottle glass, and burned glass, with window glass predominating. Ceramic materials included redware, stoneware, porcelain, and whiteware, with stoneware predominating. In general, the cultural material assemblage was concentrated along the northeast side of the foundation.

Test pits just west of the cellar hole and adjacent to the external foundation (JTPs L and M) exhibited a significant amount of charcoal and burned building materials in the surface fill suggesting that this portion of the structure burned at some point. Although the Phase I(c) survey indicated that the cellar hole had a centrally placed chimney, the highest density of brick was identified outside and west of the foundation, suggesting that the chimney was originally constructed in that location. Furthermore, given the relatively small dimensions of the house foundation itself, it is unlikely that the chimney stack was interior to the structure as it would have occupied nearly all of the useable space within the house.

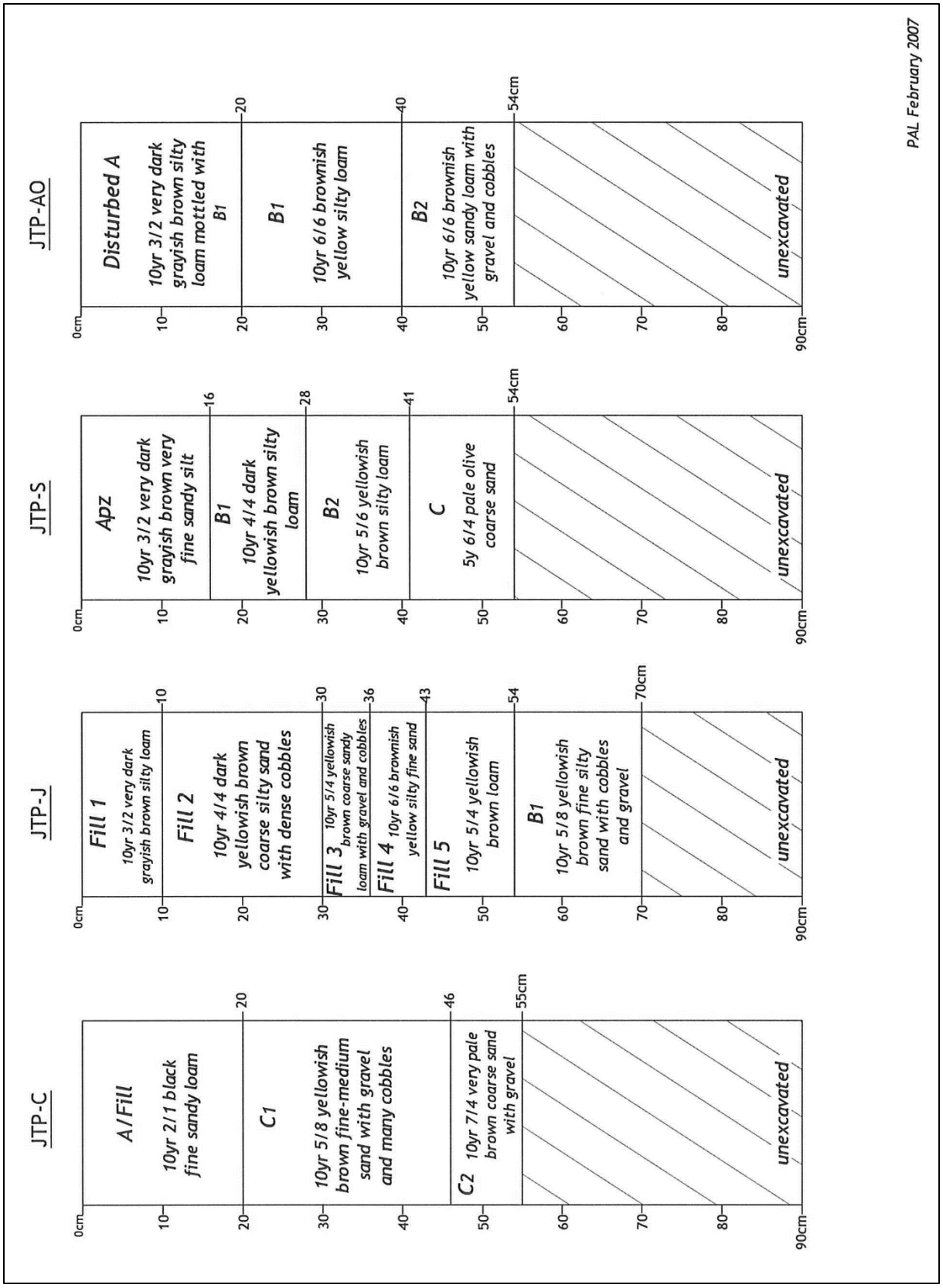


Figure 6-17. Representative soil profiles from Phase II test pits at the Comstock Farmstead Site.

Six test pits (JTPs AC through AH) were placed within and around the partitioned foundation (Feature 7) located in the northern portion of the testing area, five of which were positive for cultural materials (see Table 6-1). Post-contact cultural materials recovered from these test pits included partially charred wood, glass, nails, and shell. Pre-contact Native American cultural material consisted of quartz and quartzite chipping debris recovered from a deep, disturbed fill context south of the foundation. Test pits placed within the foundation contained only nails, and exhibited a surface burn horizon indicating that the original structure burned. Test pit profiles at this location also exhibited a shallow layer of fill overlying intact B Horizon soil, suggesting that the foundation construction at this location did not involve a deep excavation.

A total of 13 test pits (JTPs Q through Z, AA and AB) were placed in a lightly wooded, level area between the two-sided foundation just north of the Trestle Trail path and cellar hole, and west of the cellar hole and associated built up area. Twelve of these test pits contained post-contact cultural materials. Materials recovered during test pit excavation included a piece of brick, ceramics, a clinker, a fruit pit, glass, nails, a pipestem fragment, shell, and unidentified fragments of metal (see Table 6-1). Ceramics dominated the assemblage in this area and included redware, whiteware, and other ceramic of which redware was the most frequent (N=20). Test pit profiles in this area revealed a plow zone indicating that this area was used as an agricultural field.

One test pit was placed at each of the three additional small and linear stone features (JTPs K, AI, and AN) (see Figure 6-16). JTP-K contained approximately one piece each of glass, slag and wire, as well as brick, nails, shell, and unidentified metal fragments (see Table 6-1). While the metal fragments would appear to dominate the assemblage, most of them are flat fragments likely from the same object. The small amounts of building material suggest that this stone feature may be a foundation remnant. In addition, the test pit profile here exhibited fill to a depth of 40 cmbs before becoming root impeded, suggesting that trenching may have taken place for foundation construction.

JTP-AN contained approximately 35 pieces of post-contact cultural material consisting of a bullet, a piece of coal, a metal fork, a fruit pit, glass, nails, a pipestem, redware, shell, a piece of slag, a metal spike, and unidentified metal (see Table 6-1). The test pit profile exhibited a charcoal-rich fill layer overlying intact subsoils, suggesting the presence of a structure that burned at some point.

JTP-AI contained two nails within what appeared to be intact A Horizon soils. The function of this feature remains unknown, but the lack of a substantial amount of architectural debris suggests that it is was not the location of a substantial structure.

One 1-x-2-m EU (EU 03) was placed at the location of the barn foundation (Feature 1) (see Figure 6-16). EU 03 was placed immediately adjacent to the innermost exterior eastern wall of the barn foundation to investigate its construction. The unit was excavated to a total of 100 cmbs (Figure 6-18). The northwest corner of EU 03 was located 50 cm north of the northeast corner of the barn foundation. The north and south halves were excavated and screened separately.

The unit produced both pre-contact and post-contact cultural materials (see Table 6-1) with all post-contact materials originating from fill soils from 0–70 cmbs. The pre-contact Native American cultural materials were collected from intact B1 Horizon soils. Post-contact cultural materials consisted of approximately one piece of coal, glass, a piece of possible metal tack or riding gear, a nail, redware, a shell fragment, and slag. Pre-contact Native American materials consisted of four pieces of quartz chipping debris. The majority of the post-contact materials were recovered from 0–30 cmbs, and slag was the only post-contact material encountered below 20 cmbs. Excavation revealed a builder's trench between 50 and 60 cmbs visible in the floor of the unit, which was still visible at the unit's maximum depth of 100 cmbs. A few extremely large foundation stones were revealed extending into the unit from its western wall.

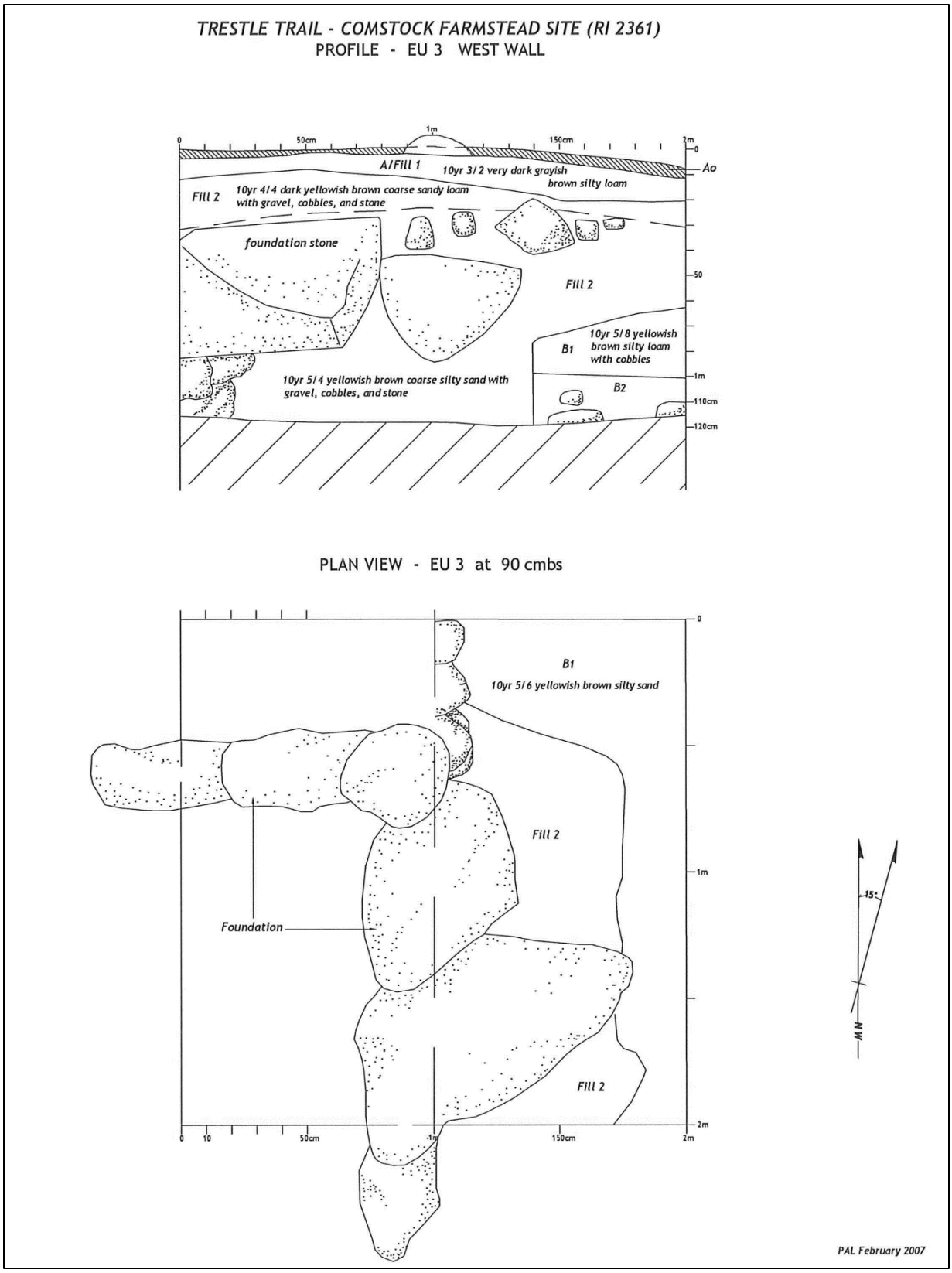


Figure 6-18. Plan and profile of EU 03 associated with the barn foundation (Feature 1) at the Comstock Farmstead Site.

Based on the appearance of the builder's trench, it appears that the excavation for the barn foundation consisted of a vertical cut into the hillside against which very large foundation stones were laid and stacked. Subsequently, the area around the exterior of the barn was filled in with at least some of the excess soil used as berming material.

One 1-x-2 m EU (EU 01) and three 1-x-1 m EUs (EU 02, EU 04 and EU 05) were placed at the location of the cellar hole and associated external foundation (Features 5 and 6) (see Figure 6-16). EU 01 was placed adjacent to the northeast exterior wall of the cellar hole. Two test pits placed on the northern side of the cellar hole foundation revealed an especially dense concentration of materials on the east side of this wall and the unit was placed to investigate further this concentration as well as examine the method of construction for the foundation. EU 01 was excavated to a total depth of 100 cmbs, and the east and west halves were excavated and screened separately (Figure 6-19). The unit produced both pre-contact and post-contact materials all originating from fill soils between 0 and 100 cmbs. The pre- contact Native American cultural material consisted of one piece of possible quartz chipping debris.

Excavation revealed a builder's cut or trench between 20 and 30 cmbs visible in the floor of the eastern end of EU 01, and which was still visible at the unit's maximum depth of 100 cmbs. The trench line ran on a north-south axis, and no trench line running parallel to the northern foundation wall was visible, but likely exists beyond the northern edge of the unit. Avertical cut was visible in the south and north walls of the unit at its eastern end. Multiple small to large foundation stones were revealed extending into the unit from its southern wall. The foundation stones expanded northward into the unit.

More than 434 pieces of post-contact cultural material were recovered from EU 01 and consisted of a piece of animal bone, ceramics, glass, nails, pipe fragments, shell, a metal table knife, unidentified metal fragments and objects, and what appears to be a fragment of a limestone tablet. Because of the extremely large amount of material contained in EU 01, ceramics, glass, and nails were sampled between 0 and 20 cmbs. All other materials, and any diagnostic elements of sampled material types were retained in their entirety. Sampling was more extensive between 10 and 20 cmbs, than the previous level. Ceramics included creamware, porcelain, redware, stoneware, and whiteware, and the ceramic assemblage from this unit was dominated by stoneware. Glass included window, bottle and burned glass, with the majority of the glass exhibiting evidence of burning.

Overall, the artifact assemblage from EU 01 was dominated by ceramics, glass, and nails, much of which had been burned. Burned materials were particularly dense in the western half of the unit. The vast majority of the post-contact materials were recovered from between 0 and 30 cmbs, and nails were the most frequent item recovered below 30 cmbs.

EU02 was placed within the cellar hole roughly 1 m west of the bulkhead entrance (see Figure 6-16). The unit produced post-contact cultural materials all collected from the approximately 20-cm-thick surface layer of fill. Large amounts of post-contact material were recovered including brick, buttons, calcined bone, ceramics, glass, metal objects, nails, pipe fragments, unidentified metal fragments, and a boot or shoe made of synthetic materials. Because of the extremely large amount of material contained in EU 02, calcined bone, ceramics, glass, nails, and unidentified metal fragments were aggressively sampled between 0 and 20 cmbs. All other materials, and any diagnostic elements of sampled material types were retained in their entirety. Sampling was more extensive between 10 and 20 cmbs than the previous level. The assemblage was dominated by ceramics, glass and nails. Ceramics included porcelain, redware, stoneware, and whiteware, of which stoneware vessel fragments were predominant. The glass assemblage from EU 02 included window glass, bottle glass, tableware, and burned glass, and was dominated by window glass and burned glass. Metal objects included a hook and an eating utensil. Though only one piece of charcoal was observed, much of the artifact assemblage from the unit was burned. The profile from EU 02 exhibited a dark layer of fill overlying sterile C subsoil.

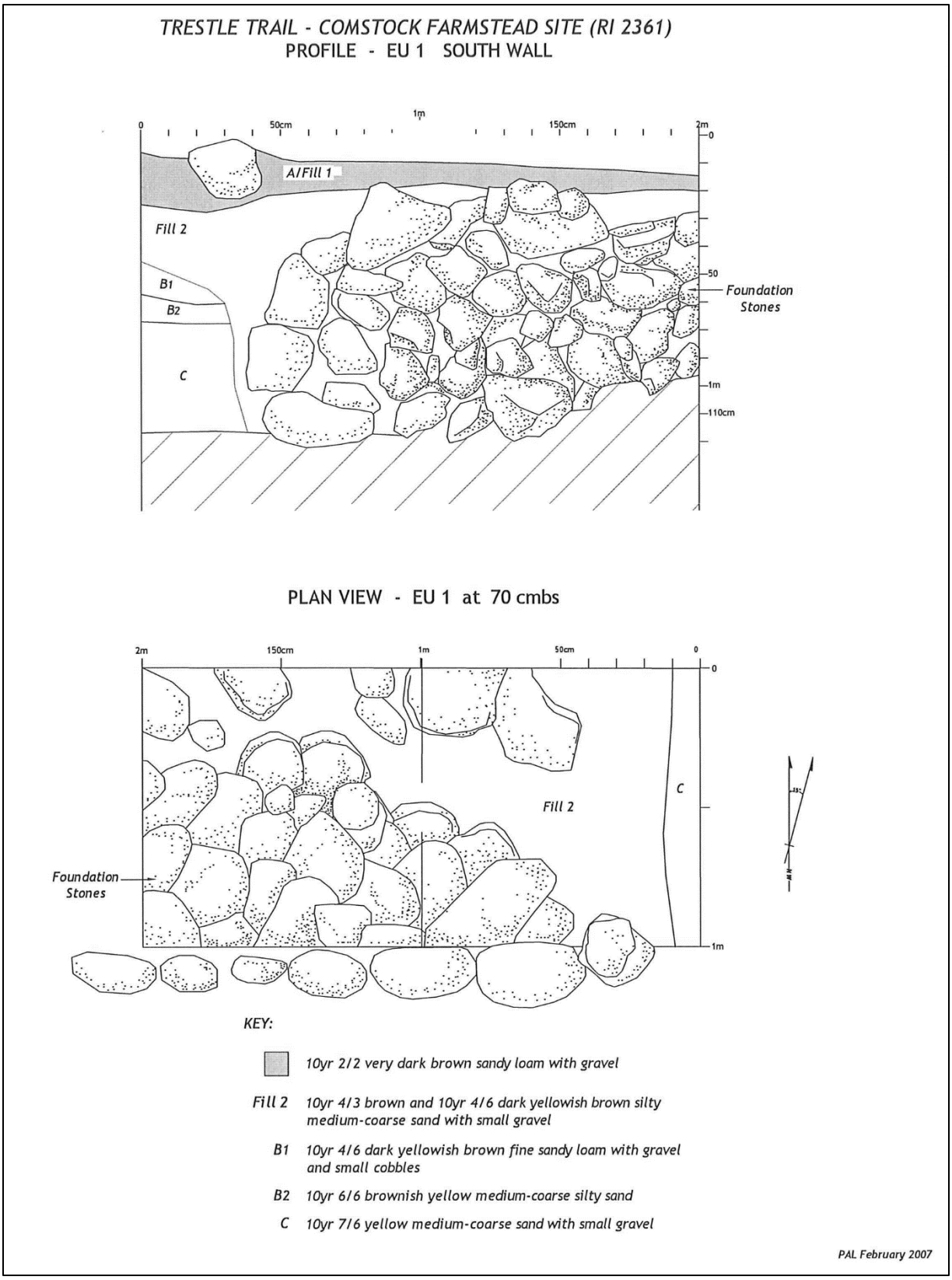


Figure 6-19. Plan and profile of EU 01 associated with the cellar hole foundation (Feature 5) at the Comstock Farmstead Site.

EU 04 was placed west of the cellar hole across the associated external foundation to investigate the possibility that this foundation was a porch foundation or an external wall of the house (see Figure 5). The unit was laid out so that the external foundation bisected the unit on a north-south axis. The unit produced post-contact materials all originating from fill soils from 0–40 cmbs. The east half of the unit inside of the foundation, and the west half of the unit outside of the foundation, were excavated and screened separately (Figure 6-20).

Excavation of EU 04 revealed that the foundation consisted of two to three courses of stone situated on top of what appeared to be a very thin layer of fill overlying an intact B subsoil. This area appears to have been first dug out or graded, and foundation stones were subsequently laid on the surface. Following the laying of the foundation, the area was filled in to nearly the level of the topmost course of foundation stones.

Stones in the topmost course were dressed into squared blocks and overlay one to two courses of undressed, flat stones. The surface layer of foundation stones was clearly meant to be seen, and the pieces of grout encountered in the surrounding fill suggest that they may have been dressed on the spot prior to being laid. It seems likely that the external foundation was constructed at the same time as the cellar hole.

The post-contact cultural material assemblage comprised more than 100 recovered items including a piece of animal bone, brick, glass, grout, nails, metal objects, mortar, redware, screws, shell, unidentified metal, and a highly unusual smooth stone. Because of the large amounts of material contained in EU 04, brick, glass, nails, mortar, and unidentified metal fragments were sampled between 0 and 20 cmbs. With the exception of the grout, all other materials, and any diagnostic elements of sampled material types were retained in their entirety. The majority of the post-contact materials were recovered from between 0 and 20 cmbs. Burned building materials including brick, nails, window and other glass dominated the artifact assemblage from this unit. Building materials overall appeared more frequently in the west half of the unit, particularly window glass.

EU 05 was placed contiguous with EU 04 to the north to investigate further an unusual concentration of stones that appeared in EU 04 (see Figure 6-16). These stones ran perpendicular to the external foundation on an east-west axis, and it was initially thought that they may be a line of stones connecting this foundation to the cellar hole. The unit soil profile from EU 05 was identical to that observed in EU 04, except that the fill deposit was thinner. The unit produced post-contact materials all originating from fill soils between 0 and 20 cmbs. Recovered post-contact cultural materials consisted of brick, ceramics, burned glass, grout, nails, metal objects, mortar, unidentified metal, and a glass button. Because of the large amounts of material contained in EU 04, brick, ceramics, burned glass, nails, mortar, and unidentified metal fragments were sampled between 0 and 20 cmbs. With the exception of the grout, all other materials including hand-forged nails, and any diagnostic elements of sampled material types were retained in their entirety. Burned building materials including nails and glass, and ceramics dominated the artifact assemblage from this unit. The ceramics were almost entirely made of stoneware vessel fragments probably representing no more than two or three vessels. Unit excavation revealed that the unusual concentration of stones first observed in EU 04 was nothing more than a linear accumulation of cobbles within the fill and did not reflect a connecting foundation.

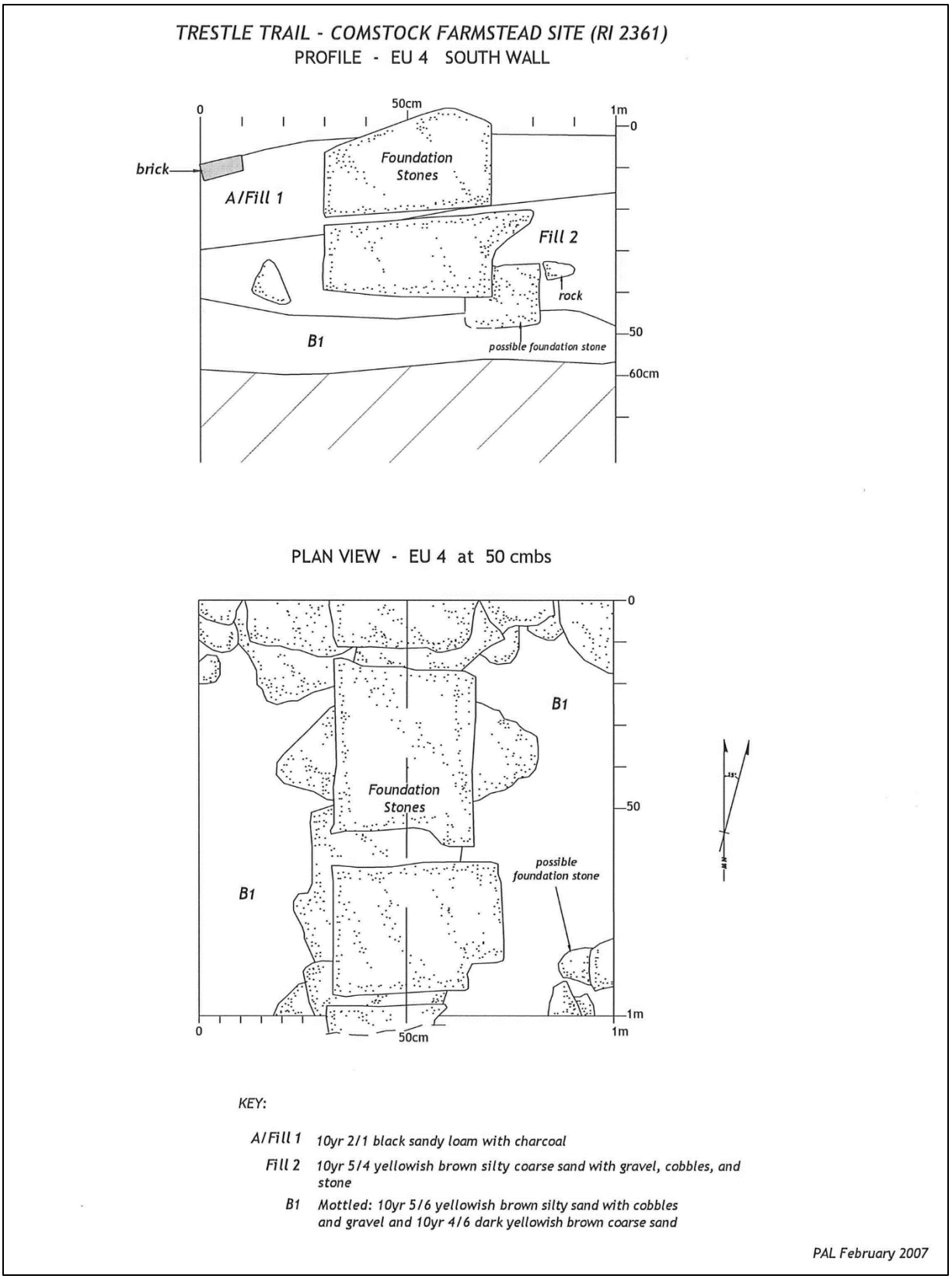


Figure 6-20. Plan and profile of EU 04 associated with foundation (Feature 6) external to cellar hole (Feature 5) at the Comstock Farmstead Site.

CHAPTER SEVEN

INTERPRETATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Phase I(c) archaeological survey and Phase II site examinations within the Trestle Trail Shared- Use Path (East) project area were designed to identify and evaluate potentially significant archaeological resources in areas of planned construction. The survey objectives were achieved using a combination of research, archaeological survey, and examination and evaluation of the recovered artifact assemblage. The Phase I(c) archaeological survey of the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) involved the excavation of 457 50-x-50 cm test pits within the project corridor's area of potential effect (APE). Archaeological testing was conducted in areas projected as exhibiting low to high sensitivity for containing cultural deposits. A total of 430 of the excavated test pits (94 percent) did not contain cultural materials. Pre- contact Native American cultural materials were recovered from six (1 percent) of the excavated test pits, while 21 (5 percent) test pits produced post-contact period cultural materials such as ceramic sherds, glass shards, and nails (see Appendix A). Table 7-1 provides a list of all identified cultural resources; excluding telegraph poles, boundary markers, and the former Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill railroad bed itself. Figure 7-1 provides general locational information.

Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad Features (RI 2356)

The Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) follows the original path of the Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad, and cultural resource investigations resulted in the documentation of numerous features related to the railroad corridor. The Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad was constructed by 1856, with the segment west of Washington Village (including the Trestle Trail project corridor), abandoned in 1968 (Hebert n.d.). The level contour of the railroad bed was created by quarrying through bedrock rises and filling in the wetland lowlands. Many of the bedrock cuts along the Trestle Trail Shared-Use (East) project corridor bear evidence for large, deep drill holes created by mechanical means.

Numerous telegraph poles were also documented within and along the project corridor right-of-way, paralleling the northern side of the abandoned Trestle Trail railroad easement. Some are still standing in varying states of decay, while others have been sawn near the base and removed. Several other features including culverts, railroad bridges, and a stairwell, were also identified along the Trestle Trail.

Thirteen culverts (Culverts 1–13), which run beneath the Trestle Trail rail bed, provide drainage for various streams and sluggish wetlands along the project corridor (see Table 7-1). Although the culverts are visually subtle features, they reflect the careful assessment of, and adaptation to, topographical drainage requirements during railroad bed construction and/or maintenance. The culverts are integral elements of the greater Trestle Trail railroad bed.

Four railroad bridges were also identified along the Trestle Trail (see Table 7-1). All of these bridges have common cut granite block abutments, but different structural approaches were employed at each of these bridges to span Coventry's various brooks and streams. The Quidnick Reservoir Bridge (ca. 1920) is spanned by a concrete arch, while the Quidnick Brook Bridge (ca. 1920), was spanned by steel beams/girder. The Coventry Center Pond Bridge (ca. 1920) spans part of the pond with a steel deck plate girder. The three aforementioned bridges cover short distances (in the order of one span). The Flat River Reservoir Bridge (ca. 1904) is significantly longer, with three spans constructed of steel deck plate girders.

Table 7-1. Identified Cultural Resources along the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East).

Resource	General Plan and Profile No.	Project STA No. (Bike Path)	Description	Within Corridor ROW
Culvert 1*	2	505+60	19th/20th century culvert	Yes
Stairwell*	6	522+25	19th/20th century stairwell with stone retaining walls	Yes
Culvert 2*	8	533+00	19th/20th century culvert of cut granite and concrete construction	Yes
Culvert 3*	10	542+30	19th/20th century 3-x-5 stone boxculvert	Yes
Quidnick Reservoir Bridge*	16	570+60	ca. 1920, concrete arch bridge with cut stone abutments	Yes
Quarry Site 1 (RI 2364)	17, 18	576+00	19th/20th century quarry pit with discarded granite	No
Culvert 4*	18	579+40	19th/20th century culvert of cut granite and concrete construction	Yes
Culvert 5*	21	594	19th/20th century culvert	Yes
Trestle Trail Overlook Site (RI 2362)	22	598+25	Small pre-contact Native American lithic workstation	Yes
Quidnick Brook Bridge*	24	603+50	ca. 1920, cut stone abutments	Yes
Comstock Farmstead Site (RI 2361)	24	605+00-607+50	19th century mill complex including foundations, dam and raceway	Yes
Culvert 6*	24	607+60	19th/20th century culvert of cut granite and concrete construction	Yes
Culvert 7*	28	623+30	19th/20th century concrete boxculvert	Yes
Quarry Site 2 (RI 2365)	29	630+00	19th/20th century granite quarry pit with discarded granite	Yes
Boundary Marker	30	631+50	Granite Property Boundary Marker	Yes
Quarry Site 3 (RI 2366)	30, 31	635+00-637+00	19th/20th century trimmed granite boulders and tailings	Yes
Granite Block	32	641+20	Granite Boundary Marker	Yes
Culvert 8*	32	641+90	19th/20th century concrete boxculvert	Yes
Foster Ledge Quarry (RI 2367)	32, 33	642+20	19th/20th granite quarry complex	No
Boundary Marker	33	648+60	Granite Property Boundary Marker	Yes
Culvert 9*	35	654+05	19th/20th century concrete boxculvert	Yes
Quarry Site 4 (RI 2368)	35, 36	658+00-663+00	19th/20th century trimmed granite boulders and tailings	Yes
Culvert 10*	36	660+00	19th/20th century boxculvert	Yes
Quarry Site 5 (RI 2369)	37	666+00-667+00	19th/20th century granite quarry pit with discarded granite	Yes
Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363)	38	670+00	Small pre-contact Native American lithic workstation	Yes
Coventry Center Pond Bridge*	41	681+00	ca. 1920, cut stone abutments with steel deck plate girder	Yes
Peckham Manufacturing Company Upper Mill	41, 42	682+00-700+90	19th/20th century mill pond impoundment	Yes
Culvert 11*	42	685+50	19th/20th century stone boxculvert	Yes
Flat River Reservoir Bridge*	47	722+00	ca. 1904, cut stone abutments with steel deck plate girder	Yes
Culvert 12*	50	737+25	19th/20th century stone culvert	Yes
Culvert 13*	52	743+60	19th/20th century double boxculvert	Yes
RR Marker*	52	743+80	Railroad Monument	Yes

* Resources associated with the Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad (RI 2356).

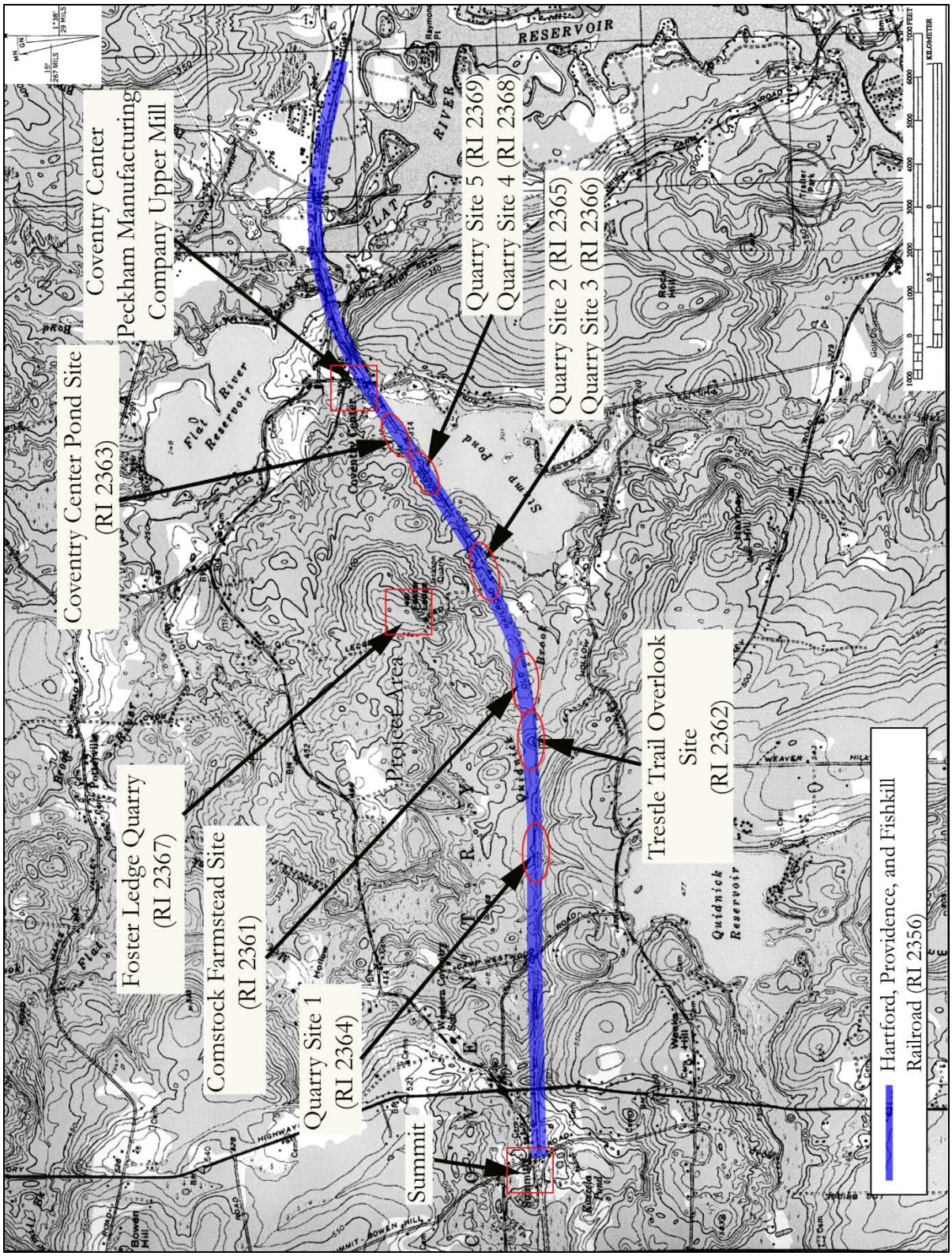


Figure 7-1. Identified resources, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East), Crompton and Coventry Center, RI USGS

These railroad bridges are a testimony to the importance of the developing trade and transportation networks in Rhode Island during the mid- to late nineteenth century. They are also an aesthetic reminder of the railroad's heyday and importance it played to Rhode Island's economic development.

The remains of a stairwell were identified at project station STA 522+25, east of the Route 102 (Victory Highway) overpass. The interior retaining walls are approximately 3 vertical feet deep and are constructed of crude, dry-laid stone. This unique railroad-related feature appears to have provided pedestrian access from the sunken railroad bed to the upper ground-level landscape. The nature and frequency of use of this stairwell is uncertain.

The Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad was determined eligible for listing in the NRHP through consensus between the RIHPHC and the FHWA on February 3, 1998. The features related to the rail line documented along its course are consequently contributing elements to the significance of the railroad and efforts should be made to preserve them. **PAL recommends incorporating the railroad features into engineering and design plans to preserve them in the interest of historic stewardship.**

Coventry Center

The project corridor traverses the historic village of Coventry Center. This area was originally referred to as "Maroon Swamp," where the Greene family smelted bog iron to produce anchors for ships during the Revolutionary War (RIHPC 1978:22). It became the seat of textile mill operations during the nineteenth century, taking on the name Shoethread and later Central Factory. The project corridor passes through the catchment areas of prominent historical sites in Coventry Center, including the Foster Ledge Quarry and the Upper Phillips Hill Mill. These sites are still clearly visible, and are physically linked by the former railroad bed.

Peckham Manufacturing Company Upper Mill

The portion of the project corridor depicted on General Plan and Profile Nos. 41 and 42 is contained within the catchment area of the Peckham Manufacturing Company Upper Mill. Although this ca. 1875 mill building is located outside of the project corridor right-of-way, as are some former nineteenth-century mill houses, portions of an earthen dam associated with the mill complex exist within or in relatively close proximity to the project right-of-way and extend north of Trestle Trail.

Summit

Archival research and a walkover survey established that the western terminus of the project corridor (General Plan and Profile No. 1) is located within the historic village of Summit and several historical structures are situated in proximity to the project corridor right-of-way. These include a general store that once served as a railroad freight house, a nineteenth-century dwelling with a hipped roof to the north, and the multi-gabled former railroad depot to the south. The former railroad depot has been renovated and currently serves as private residences. Subsurface archaeological testing within this area resulted in the identification of one possible post mold and hole in this graded or otherwise disturbed terrain. No archaeological sites were located.

Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363)

The Coventry Center Pond Site is a small and diffuse, low-density artifact scatter, approximately 20-x-10 m, and extends vertically to 60 cmbs. Cultural material consisting of lithic debitage was recovered from six of 14 test pits and the single EU. Unit excavation suggests that the site has excellent integrity,

though no discernible activity areas or features were encountered. The presence of chipping debris of rhyolite and chert suggests the possibility that the site is associated with the Transitional Archaic Susquehanna Tradition. The nature of the pre-contact cultural material recovered suggests a short-term, limited-use episode of stone tool maintenance and/or manufacture. Despite the excellent integrity, the low density of cultural material and absence of features limits the information potential of the Coventry Center Pond Site. **The site does not meet the criteria for listing in the National Register and no further archaeological investigations are warranted.**

Small Quarry Sites

Several small granite quarry sites and associated resources were identified along the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path project corridor (see Table 7-1). Three of the identified granite quarry sites (Quarry Sites 1, 2, and 5; RI 2364, 2365, and 2369, respectively) include relatively small quarry pits or topographic basins that contain discarded granite. Each of these quarry basins, which measure a few meters across, were likely produced by excavating around targeted rock masses well beneath surface grade to facilitate extraction. The original targeted rock masses may have been deeply buried boulders or surface ledge exposures. These sites are localities where small-scale expedient granite quarrying was conducted using hand-tools. Subsurface testing within and/or near these sites did not indicate the presence of associated artifact assemblages. **These sites contain limited archaeological or historical information and do not represent potentially significant cultural resources. No additional investigation is recommended for Quarry Sites 1, 2, and 5.**

Two quarries (Quarry Site 4 and Quarry Site 3; RI 2368 and 2366, respectively) are characterized by extensive glacially deposited boulder fields that contain scattered trimmed granite boulders and tailings on the ground surface, in addition to extensive evidence for boulder splitting and granite removal. These sites contained numerous examples of boulders in partial stages of reduction, bearing evidence that hand tools were used to split the granite (Figure 7-2). Small holes were drilled across a rock face in a row, at regular intervals. Two iron feathers were inserted into each hole, followed by an iron plug (or "wedge") in between. The plugs were then hammered, causing the rock to fracture across the row of drilled holes. Small quarry operations were the principle source of quarried stone in New England prior to 1825 (Gage and Gage 2002:10). The use of such small quarry sites continued well into the mid-1800s, even as large commercial deep excavation pit quarries came into operation, such as the Foster Ledge Quarry.

Figure 7-2. Quarry Site 4 granite boulder quarrying.

Quarry Site 4 (RI 2368)

The archaeological site examination of the Quarry Site 4 (RI 2368) revealed that the site consists of several quarry features comprised of pit depressions, and drilled and split granite boulders covering an area approximately 70-x-45 m, and extends vertically to 20 cmbs. The relative lack of artifacts throughout the area, relatively small amount of features, topographic setting, and archival data all suggest that the Quarry Site 4 was not part of a commercial operation or a small-scale farm quarry, but an expedient quarrying site associated with the construction of the railroad. There is a granite-lined culvert running beneath the railroad berm marking the south boundary of the site. This culvert likely was built to create a drainage path for water on the north side of the track that would effectively be blocked by the berm and create a serious erosion problem if not diverted. The observed quarrying activity at the site likely produced the granite for this culvert. Subsurface investigations also produced several isolated pieces of pre-contact chipping debris that are interpreted as the end product of expedient tool manufacture or maintenance and not a site. **In light of the above interpretations and conclusions, no additional archaeological work is recommended for the Quarry Site 4.**

Quarry Site 3 (RI 2366)

The archaeological site examination of the Quarry Site 3 (RI 2366) revealed that the site consists of an area where large, split boulders quarried from nearby boulder fields underwent final shaping and processing as part of a commercial operation. The site examination area consists of an area measuring approximately 90-x-70 m, though elements associated with the site continue farther to the north. The vertical limits of the site are restricted to plow zone and fill contexts, extending to 78 cmbs. Stratigraphic profiles suggest that before being used for processing quarried boulders, the area was used as an agricultural field.

Despite a break in the chain-of-title for the parcel that might illuminate its connection to Foster Ledge Quarry to the north, the deed evidence and archaeological data clearly demonstrate that the property was used for commercial-level quarrying operations, namely rough dressing large granite blocks for transport on rail car. The layout of the site, including an elaborate network of roads leading to and from Foster's Ledge, a railroad siding and bermed loading ramp, large grout piles, and the piles of drilled and split boulders scattered everywhere across the site, appear to be typical of such operations as illustrated by a map showing a similar operation in Quincy, Massachusetts.

This rough-finishing operation, tied to the Bunker Hill Quarry, appears to have been engaged in somewhat higher-level processing including the use of drilling stands, and required a blacksmiths forge for the repair of quarrying tools. In many of its functional and organizational characteristics, however, the Bunker Hill Site plan is startlingly similar to that of the Quarry Site 3.

As described in the results of fieldwork, however, the Quarry Site 3 yielded very little in the way of cultural material with which to interpret the day-to-day activities of the site or the men who worked on the site. EU 04 did contain a dense fill deposit sandwiched between a disturbed plow zone and overlying grout layer. The artifact profile suggests that the area may have been the former location of a rudimentary outbuilding, built on pier foundations rather than a dug cellar hole, which may have been used as an ad hoc administrative building during the early years of the operation. The stratigraphy further suggests that the structure was razed while the site was still being used for quarrying purposes, perhaps by one of the subsequent owners who no longer felt it was needed. Unfortunately, the cultural material profile is not sufficiently diagnostic to make any observations about the rough construction or demolition dates for the hypothesized structure.

The site examination and archival research effectively demonstrate that the Quarry Site 3 was part of the larger Foster Ledge Quarry granite quarry operation to the north. The property was used for rough finishing granite blocks in preparation for rail shipment from at least as early as 1862 and well into the mid-twentieth

century. Based on comparisons with similar quarrying operations in New England, specifically the Bunker Hill Quarry in Quincy, Massachusetts, the configuration of the site appears typical for the function of the work performed there. The low density of cultural materials recovered from the site and the largely surficial nature of the surviving structural components indicates that additional archaeological work is unlikely to yield new or substantive information about the site.

In light of the above interpretations and conclusions, no additional archaeological work is recommended for the Quarry Site 3. However, physical elements of the site: the grout piles, platform, and roadway are interesting reminders of the importance of the granite quarry industry, in particular the Foster Ledge Quarry, in central Coventry. Though not required, the design of the bikeway should incorporate the elements of this site for interpretive purposes.

Foster Ledge Quarry (RI 2367)

The Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project corridor is situated in close proximity to the former Foster Ledge Quarry, a historically prominent industry within Coventry Center Village. Horace Foster opened the ledge in 1862 and continued quarrying operations there throughout the nineteenth century (RIHPC 1978:24). This quarry provided stone for the construction of many mills in the Pawtuxet Valley, including the Centerville Mill in West Warwick. Horace Foster was a prolific mason, and his building projects included the Tiogue Reservoir and dam, railroad bridge abutments and the foundations for the State Prison in Cranston. The Foster Ledge Quarry's close proximity to the Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad facilitated transportation of quarried granite.

Central elements of this quarrying complex include numerous tailing and trim granite debris piles located immediately north and continuing outside the limits of the project corridor. These piles are located within sight of the two quarry workers houses, also located outside the project area. However, other elements of this site were identified within the project area. The remains of a cut granite stone retaining wall that likely served as a loading platform associated with the Foster Ledge Quarry is located within the project corridor between the proposed bike path and equestrian path from STA 633+30 to 635+00. A dirt driveway located at STA 633+00 linked the Foster Ledge Quarry with the railroad.

Comstock Farmstead Site (RI 2361)

The archaeological site examination of the Comstock Farmstead Site (RI 2361) revealed that the site is a former agrarian complex consisting of several major structural elements including a house, barn, an artificially ponded area, and at least one, and possibly up to four, outbuildings. Numerous rock piles and stone walls are also present on the farmstead. The core of the site measures approximately 100-x-75 m although some of the peripheral features such as rock piles and stone walls extend well beyond those limits. While the survey identified primarily unstratified archaeological deposits, several observations about the architectural configuration of the main house and landscape organization of the Comstock Farmstead Site can be made based on a preliminary review of the results of the archaeological survey and archival research.

First, it appears that Cyrus Comstock built a small but well-developed farmstead during his roughly 30–35-year tenure at the site. Based on the deed data, it is likely that the house was standing on the property when Cyrus purchased it, probably built by Reuben Whaley. Based on the configuration of the surviving structural remains, it appears that the house was small, with a small addition off of its western elevation. This addition is hypothesized from the row of partially finished granite blocks placed parallel to and roughly 13 feet from the west wall of the house. Unlike the main house, this small addition was built without a dug foundation.

The small dimensions of the building suggest an external, rather than internal or center, chimney stack. This chimney placement is unusual for the proposed construction date, but appears to be corroborated through the lack of any brick debris or burned materials inside the foundation and a concentration of these materials along the west side of the house. The location of the main entry to the house was likely from the north, facing the main entry point to the property itself (see below).

The site is surrounded by a series of discontinuous stone walls, most of which were built using common, single-wall construction techniques. The stone wall at the northeast corner of the site, however, was built using a less common technique referred to as double-wall construction. Double-wall construction is a comparatively more labor-intensive task than simple single wall construction and, as such, tended to be reserved for those areas with high visibility and/or that served as main entrances to a property (Thorson 2002). The construction of the railroad line and the present means of access to the site along Trestle Trail have resulted in a somewhat skewed entry that likely did not exist in the nineteenth-century. Rather, based on the double wall construction northeast of the main house, it is likely that the main point entry to the farmstead was formerly in this location. Several of the historical maps confirm this suspicion, depicting a now relict roadbed running north of the site from east to west (Stevens 1846; Walling 1851).

The identification of burnt soil contexts and cultural materials around the main house indicates that the structure burned sometime after the third quarter of the nineteenth century. This episode is represented archaeologically through the recovery of dense deposits of burned structural and domestic debris from EUs 1, 2, 4, and 5 in and around the cellar hole, and from the 50-x-50 cm test pits excavated immediately west of the foundation (see Figure 5-16). Only those units excavated in the small western addition to the house, however, contained evidence of a discrete burn layer; no evidence of fire damage was noted inside the foundation. This suggests that the fire was likely restricted to the west side of the building, and that demolition efforts following the blaze resulted in a great deal of burned material being pushed inside the main foundation and scattered throughout the western yard.

The date of the fire can be further refined through a closer look at the map data and relevant census records. As discussed previously, the Comstock Farmstead complex appears on the 1874 Beers maps, indicating that it was standing at least as late as that date. Just six years later, however, the 1880 census for Coventry lists Cyrus Comstock as 66 years old, living alone, and with no recorded vocation, although in the preceding census records he had been consistently listed as a farmer (see above). Based on this information, one of two interpretive options presents themselves. It may be that Cyrus' abandonment of farming may have been precipitated by the destruction of his home through fire sometime between 1874 and 1880 and his reluctance, at a more advanced age, to start over again. It is also possible that Cyrus had already left the farm subsequent to his wife's death and son's marriage, and that the house caught fire after this abandonment. In whichever case, the Evert and Richards map of Coventry shows the site absent any buildings or named occupants by 1895.

The presence of a berm, pond and raceway suggests an industrial use for the site, e.g. a mill. Available archival sources did not provide any information confirming the presence of a mill. Furthermore, the field investigations did not produce any evidence of a mill structure.

Finally, the pre-contact component of the Comstock Farmstead consists of extremely limited amounts of chipping debris from fill and B1 subsoil stratigraphic contexts providing limited information. The small amount of lithic debitage from intact soils consists of non-diagnostic quartz chipping debris, and only indicates a possible short-term episode of stone tool maintenance or manufacture. Furthermore, the quartz chipping debris was located immediately adjacent to a builder's trench near the east shoulder of an existing hill. Excavation of the barn foundation effectively removed most of the natural hill indicating that any remaining portion of the site has been obliterated.

The Comstock Farmstead Site provides information about the spatial organization of a small nineteenth-century agrarian complex located in a comparatively isolated rural context. This spatial organization, namely a main residential structure with a barn, various outbuildings, and an extensive network of stone walls and pastureland, is not unique, however, and the archaeological data did not identify any cultural materials or structural or architectural features that would provide new or substantive information about the property or its role in local or regional history. The archival data confirms this conclusion, documenting continuous use of the land as a farm complex until its final abandonment in the late nineteenth century.

In light of the above interpretations and conclusions, no additional archaeological work is recommended for the Comstock Farmstead Site. The site may be eligible for listing in the National Register as an agrarian/industial site, pending further research. The site area and complex contain highly visible features, such as an earthen dam and structural foundations (dwelling, barn foundation) that offer a glimpse into the early history of the outlying area of central Coventry. Though not required, the design of the bike path should try to incorporate the site as an interpretive stop.

Trestle Trail Overlook Site (RI 2362)

The Trestle Trail Overlook Site is located on a rocky hill, approximately 65 ft (20 m) north of a deeply cut section of trestle bed at bike path centerline project station STA 597+10. This site was identified through the recovery of four rhyolite flakes from two adjacent test pits (see AppendixA). Surrounding culturally sterile test pits suggest the site is quite small in horizontal extent; perhaps less than 10 m in diameter. Cultural flakes were recovered from undisturbed natural soils (A1/B1), suggesting their spatial distribution might correlate with past human activity. This cultural deposit represents a limited-duration episode of stone tool maintenance and/or manufacture. **Redesign of the project in the vicinity of the Trestle Trail Overlook Site to address wetland issues and concerns has resulted in avoidance of this site. The site should be identified on project plans and delimited by temporary fencing during construction to prevent inadvertent impacts to the site.**

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APPENDIX A

CATALOG OF CULTURAL MATERIAL

Appendix A. Catalog of Cultural Materials, Trestle Trail - Phase I(c) Survey.

Site	Unit	Depth	Strata/Feature	Material	Function	Type	Count
Coventry Center Pond Site							
	A07-S	20 - 30	B1	Chert	Chipping debris	Flake	1
		30 - 40	B1	Rhyolite	Chipping debris	Flake	1
	A07-W	10 - 20	Ae	Chert	Chipping debris	Flake	1
	JTP-22	10 - 20	B1	Chert	Chipping debris	Flake	2
		20 - 30	B1	Rhyolite	Chipping debris	Flake	1
						Coventry Center Pond Site	**6**
Trestle Trail Non-Site							
	A06-N	30 - 40	B2	Charred Wood	Unidentified		1
	A07-E	0 - 10	A1	Iron	Hardware		1
	A08-N	0 - 10	A1	Iron	Hardware	Staple	1
	TAG-07	10 - 20	A1	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	4
	TAG-35	10 - 20	Disturbed A	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	1
	TAG-40	0 - 10	A1	Glass	Flat glass	Window glass	1
	TAG-46	0 - 10	Fill 1	Ceramic	Construction	Brick	2
				Glass Molded	Bottle		7
	TAG-47	0 - 0	Surface	Iron	Unidentified		1
		20 - 30	Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	1
	TAG-48	10 - 20	Fill 1	Ceramic	Construction	Brick	2
				Coal	Light/heat/cooking item		1
	TAG-49	20 - 29	Fill 2	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	1
	TAG-50	10 - 20	Apz	Ceramic	Smoking	Pipe (unmarked)	5
	TAG-52	10 - 20	A1	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	2
	TAG-67	10 - 20	Apz	Redware	Container		1
	TAH-15	10 - 20	A1/B1	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	1
	TAM-03	30 - 40	Fill 2	Coal	Light/heat/cooking item		1
				Glass Molded	Bottle		2
	TAN-01	0 - 10	Ao	Coal	Light/heat/cooking item		1
				Iron	Hardware	Square Nail	1
	TAN-09	0 - 10	A1	Glass Molded	Electrical Item	Insulator	1
	TAU-02	50 - 60	Feature 1	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	1
	TAV-04	50 - 60	Fill 2	Bone	Unidentified		1
	TBA-05	30 - 40	Fill 3	Ceramic	Smoking	Pipe (marked)	5
	TBF-01	10 - 20	Disturbed A	Whiteware	Food consump/service	Dish	1
	TBH-12	20 - 30	Fill 2	Ceramic	Smoking	Pipe (marked)	3
						Trestle Trail Non-Site	**50**
Trestle Trail Overlook Site							
	A09-N	10 - 20	A1/B1	Rhyolite	Chipping debris	Flake	1
	A09-S	30 - 40	B1	Charred Wood	Sample		1
		40 - 50	B1	Charred Wood	Sample		1

Appendix A. Catalog of Cultural Materials, Trestle Trail - Phase I(c) Survey.

Site	Unit	Depth	Strata/Feature	Material	Function	Type	Count
Trestle Trail Overlook Site							
	TAP-10	20 - 30	B1	Rhyolite	Chipping debris	Flake	2
						Trestle Trail Overlook Site	**5**
						Total:	**61**

Appendix A. Catalog of Cultural Materials, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) - Phase II Site Examination.

Site Unit	Depth	Strata/Feature	Material	Function	Type	Count
Comstock Farmstead Site						
EU01	0 - 10	R.R. Berm	Coal	Light/heat/cooking item		1
	0 - 10	R.R. Berm	Glass Molded	Bottle		1
	10 - 20	A1	Chert	Chipping debris	Flake	1
	10 - 20	B1	Chert	Chipping debris	Flake	1
	10 - 20	B1	Rhyolite	Chipping debris	Flake	2
	20 - 30	B1	Chert	Chipping debris	Flake	1
	20 - 30	B1	Rhyolite	Chipping debris	Shatter	2
	20 - 30	Feature? 01	Charcoal Sample	Light/heat/cooking item		1
	20 - 30	Feature? 01	Rhyolite	Chipping debris	Flake	1
	30 - 40	B1	Rhyolite	Chipping debris	Flake	3
	50 - 60	B1	Rhyolite	Chipping debris	Flake	1
EU01-East Half	0 - 10	A/Fill	Glass	Flat glass	Window glass	3
	0 - 10	A/Fill	Pearlware	Ceramic Sherd		1
	0 - 10	A/Fill	Porcelain	Ceramic Sherd		1
	0 - 10	A/Fill	Red Bodied Coarse	Ceramic Sherd		1
	0 - 10	A/Fill	Stoneware	Ceramic Sherd		2
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Brick	Brick		1
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Clay	Pipe	Pipe unmarked	1
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Glass	Bottle		1
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Glass	Curved Glass		6
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Glass	Flat glass	Window glass	4
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Glass Free Blown	Bottle		30
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	51
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Ironstone	Food consump/service	Dish	51
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Metal	Food/drink storage	Can	1
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Pearlware	Beverage consumption	Cup	12
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Pearlware	Food consump/service	Dish	16
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Porcelain	Food consump/service	Dish	1
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Redware	Ceramic Sherd		2
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Stoneware	Ceramic Sherd		14
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Whiteware	Food consump/service		13
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1/Fill 2	Buff Bodied Coarse	Food consump/service	Plate	3
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1/Fill 2	Clay	Pipe	Pipe unmarked	1
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1/Fill 2	Glass	Curved Glass		3
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1/Fill 2	Glass	Flat glass	Window glass	35
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1/Fill 2	Glass Molded	Bottle	Medicine	1
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1/Fill 2	Glass Molded	Food consump/service		1
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1/Fill 2	Iron	Food consump/service	Knife	1
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1/Fill 2	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	9
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1/Fill 2	Ironstone	Food consump/service	Plate	30

Appendix A. Catalog of Cultural Materials, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) - Phase II Site Examination.

Site Unit	Depth	Strata/Feature	Material	Function	Type	Count
Comstock Farmstead Site						
EU01-East Half	10 - 20	A/Fill 1/Fill 2	Pearlware	Beverage consumption	Cup	23
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1/Fill 2	Red Bodied Coarse	Ceramic Sherd		8
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1/Fill 2	Red Bodied Coarse	Food consump/service	Bowl	1
	20 - 30	Fill 2	Cream Colored Ware	Ceramic Sherd		2
	20 - 30	Fill 2	Glass	Bottle		2
	20 - 30	Fill 2	Glass Free Blown	Bottle		1
	20 - 30	Fill 2	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	4
	20 - 30	Fill 2	Ironstone	Ceramic Sherd		2
	20 - 30	Fill 2	Pearlware	Ceramic Sherd		3
	30 - 40	Fill 2	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	4
	30 - 40	Fill 2	Ironstone	Ceramic Sherd		2
	40 - 50	Fill 2	Glass	Flat glass	Window glass	2
	40 - 50	Fill 2	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	3
	40 - 50	Fill 2	Quartz	Chipping debris	Flake	1
	50 - 60	Fill 2	Iron	Hardware	Mach cut w/hw	1
	50 - 60	Fill 2	Shell	Bivalve	Quahog	1
	60 - 70	Fill 2	Iron	Hardware	Square Nail	1
	80 - 90	Fill 2	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	1
	90 - 100	Fill 2	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	1
EU01-West	0 - 10	Fill 1	Bone	Unidentified		1
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Glass	Curved Glass		13
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Glass	Flat glass	Window glass	5
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Glass Molded	Bottle		5
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Glass Molded	Curved Glass		13
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Glass Molded	Food/drink storage	Jar	1
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Hand wrought nail	5
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Mach cut w/hw	3
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	82
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Nail	5
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Square Nail	3
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Wire Nail	3
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Iron	Unidentified		2
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Iron	Unidentified	Flat Metal	4
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Ironstone	Ceramic Sherd		7
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Lead/Pewter	Industrial Waste		3
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Mortar	Construction		2
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Pearlware	Ceramic Sherd		29
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Plastic	Health & hygiene	Comb	1
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Porcelain	Food consump/service	Bowl	9
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Redware	Ceramic Sherd		5

Appendix A. Catalog of Cultural Materials, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) - Phase II Site Examination.

Site Unit	Depth	Strata/Feature	Material	Function	Type	Count
Comstock Farmstead Site						
EU01-West	0 - 10	Fill 1	Stoneware	Ceramic Sherd		31
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Granite	Construction	Tile	1
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	6
	20 - 30	Fill 2	Glass	Flat glass	Window glass	2
	20 - 30	Fill 2	Granite	Recreation	Marble	1
	20 - 30	Fill 2	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	2
	20 - 30	Fill 2	Pearlware	Beverage consumption	Cup	6
	50 - 60	Fill 2	Copper Alloy	Unidentified		2
	50 - 60	Fill 2	Iron	Hardware	Square Nail	1
EU02	0 - 10	Fill 1	Brass	Clothing	Boot Fragment	3
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Coal	Light/heat/cooking item		1
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Composite Materials	Clothing	Boot Fragment	1
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Glass	Curved Glass		1
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Iron	Food processing	Pot	1
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Iron	Hardware		3
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Bracket	1
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Hand wrought nail	2
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	6
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Wire Nail	1
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Ironstone	Beverage service	Pitcher	1
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Ironstone	Ceramic Sherd		4
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Plastic	Unidentified		1
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Porcelain	Beverage consumption	Cup	1
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Porcelain	Ceramic Sherd		1
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Rubber	Clothing	Boot Fragment	1
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Stoneware	Food/drink storage	Jar	2
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Synthetic	Clothing	Boot Fragment	46
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Wood	Unidentified		1
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Bone	Mammal		24
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Brass	Clothing	Boot Fragment	3
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Brass	Food consump/service		1
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Brass	Unidentified	Flat Metal	1
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Ceramic	Fasteners	Button	10
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Ceramic	Smoking	Pipe unmarked	2
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Glass Molded	Bottle		1
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Glass Molded	Curved Glass		1
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Iron	Fasteners	Button	5
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Iron	Food consump/service		1
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Iron	Hardware		2
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	11

Appendix A. Catalog of Cultural Materials, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) - Phase II Site Examination.

Site Unit	Depth	Strata/Feature	Material	Function	Type	Count
Comstock Farmstead Site						
EU02	10 - 20	Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Screw	1
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Wire	1
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Iron	Recreation	Toy	2
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Iron	Unidentified	Flat Metal	9
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Ironstone	Beverage consumption	Cup	14
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Ironstone	Ceramic Sherd		41
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Ironstone	Food consump/service	Bowl	1
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Ironstone	Food consump/service	Dish	11
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Ironstone	Food consump/service	Plate	5
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Lead/Pewter	Unidentified		1
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Pearlware	Beverage consumption	Cup	1
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Pearlware	Beverage service	Teapot	4
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Pearlware	Ceramic Sherd		22
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Pearlware	Food/drink storage	Jar	3
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Porcelain	Food/drink storage	Jar	13
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Shell	Bivalve	Quahog	2
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Shell	Unidentified		1
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Stoneware	Ceramic Sherd		1
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Stoneware	Food/drink storage	Jar	32
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Stoneware	Food/drink storage	Jar Lid	5
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Stoneware	Food/drink storage	Jug	12
	10 - 20	Fill 1	White Salt Glaze	Ceramic Sherd		1
	10 - 20	Fill 1	White Salt Glaze	Food consump/service	Bowl	1
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Whiteware	Ceramic Sherd		3
EU03-North	0 - 10	A/Fill	Metal	Farm/shop/home	Harness Related	1
	10 - 20	Fill1	Glass	Flat glass		3
	10 - 20	Fill1	Redware	Ceramic Sherd		1
	10 - 20	Fill2	Metal	Hardware	Machine cut nail	1
	10 - 20	Fill2	Slag/Clinker			3
	60 - 70	B1	Quartz	Chipping debris	Flake	1
	60 - 70	Fill 2	Redware	Ceramic Sherd		1
EU03-South	0 - 10	A/Fill	Glass	Curved Glass		10
	0 - 10	A/Fill	Glass Molded	Bottle	Soda	1
	10 - 20	Fill2	Glass	Curved Glass		1
	10 - 20	Fill2	Redware	Ceramic Sherd		4
	60 - 70	B1	Quartz	Chipping debris	Flake	1
EU04 - East	0 - 10	Dev. A - Fill 2	Bone	Mammal		1
	0 - 10	Dev. A - Fill 2	Brick	Brick		1
	0 - 10	Dev. A - Fill 2	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	12
	0 - 10	Dev. A - Fill 2	Metal	Hardware	Wire	1

Appendix A. Catalog of Cultural Materials, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) - Phase II Site Examination.

Site Unit	Depth	Strata/Feature	Material	Function	Type	Count
Comstock Farmstead Site						
EU04 - East	0 - 10	Dev. A - Fill 2	Mortar	Construction		3
	0 - 10	Dev. A - Fill 2	Quartz	Cobble		1
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Ceramic	Construction	Brick	7
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Glass	Curved Glass		1
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Glass Molded	Curved Glass		7
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Iron	Door hardware	Hinge	1
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	15
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Iron	Unidentified	Flat Metal	4
EU04-West	0 - 10	Developing A/Fill 1	Ceramic	Construction	Brick	7
	0 - 10	Developing A/Fill 1	Composite Materials	Unidentified		2
	0 - 10	Developing A/Fill 1	Glass	Curved Glass		2
	0 - 10	Developing A/Fill 1	Glass	Unidentified		2
	0 - 10	Developing A/Fill 1	Glass Molded	Curved Glass		3
	0 - 10	Developing A/Fill 1	Iron	Hardware		1
	0 - 10	Developing A/Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	15
	0 - 10	Developing A/Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Screw	2
	0 - 10	Developing A/Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Wire	1
	0 - 10	Developing A/Fill 1	Iron	Unidentified	Flat Metal	2
	0 - 10	Developing A/Fill 1	Mortar	Construction		3
	0 - 10	Developing A/Fill 1	Quartz	Chipping debris	Shatter	1
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Brick	Brick		1
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Glass	Flat glass	Window glass	2
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Iron	Hardware		1
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	5
EU05	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Ceramic	Construction	Brick	1
	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Composite Materials	Unidentified		1
	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Glass	Unidentified		2
	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Glass Molded	Curved Glass		7
	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	17
	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Spring	3
	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Square Nail	7
	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Iron	Unidentified	Flat Metal	2
	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Ironstone	Ceramic Sherd		12
	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Ironstone	Food consump/service	Bowl	23
	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Ironstone	Health & hygiene	Chamber pot	22
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Glass	Curved Glass		4
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Glass	Fasteners	Button	1
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	18
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Stoneware	Ceramic Sherd		14
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Stoneware	Food/drink storage	Jar	2

Appendix A. Catalog of Cultural Materials, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) - Phase II Site Examination.

Site Unit	Depth	Strata/Feature	Material	Function	Type	Count
Comstock Farmstead Site						
JTP-A	0 - 19	A/Fill	Coal	Light/heat/cooking item		2
	0 - 19	A/Fill	Glass Molded	Bottle		1
	0 - 19	A/Fill	Iron	Farm/shop/home	Latch, Gate/Door	1
	0 - 19	A/Fill	Iron	Hardware	Bolt	1
	0 - 19	A/Fill	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	5
JTP-AA	10 - 20	Apz	Redware	Ceramic Sherd		3
JTP-AB	10 - 20	Apz	Iron	Hardware	Square Nail	2
JTP-AC	0 - 10	A	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	1
JTP-AD	0 - 10	Fill	Iron	Hardware	Hand wrought nail	1
	0 - 10	Fill	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	10
	10 - 20	Fill	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	4
JTP-AE	0 - 10	Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	1
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Square Nail	1
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Wood	Radiocarbon		1
JTP-AF	10 - 20	Disturbed A	Bone	Unidentified		1
JTP-AH	0 - 10	Fill	Glass	Flat glass	Window glass	1
	0 - 10	Fill	Quartzite	Chipping debris	Flake	1
	10 - 20	Fill	Quartz	Chipping debris	Flake	1
	50 - 60	Fill	Quartz	Chipping debris	Flake	1
JTP-AI	0 - 10	A	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	3
JTP-AK	0 - 10	Ao/Fill	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	4
	10 - 20	Fill	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	1
JTP-AL	0 - 10	A1/Fill 1	Glass	Curved Glass		1
	0 - 10	A1/Fill 1	Glass	Flat glass	Window glass	1
	0 - 10	A1/Fill 1	Glass Molded	Bottle		2
	0 - 10	A1/Fill 1	Glass Molded	Curved Glass		19
	0 - 10	A1/Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Hand wrought nail	3
	0 - 10	A1/Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	13
	0 - 10	A1/Fill 1	Iron	Unidentified	Flat Metal	1
	10 - 20	Fill 2	Glass Molded	Curved Glass		4
	10 - 20	Fill 2	Iron	Hardware	Hand wrought nail	3
	10 - 20	Fill 2	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	1
	10 - 20	Fill 2	Iron	Hardware	Wire Nail	1
	10 - 20	Fill 2	Iron	Unidentified	Flat Metal	2
	10 - 20	Fill 2	Whiteware	Ceramic Sherd		1
	20 - 30	Buried A2	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	1
	20 - 30	Buried A2	Iron	Unidentified	Flat Metal	2
	20 - 30	Buried A2	Shell	Bivalve	Quahog	4
JTP-AL	0 - 0	Surface	Glass Molded	Bottle	Stopper	1
	0 - 0	Surface	Iron	Unidentified		1

Appendix A. Catalog of Cultural Materials, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) - Phase II Site Examination.

Site Unit	Depth	Strata/Feature	Material	Function	Type	Count
Comstock Farmstead Site						
JTP-AM	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Nutshell	Nutshell		1
	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Stoneware	Ceramic Sherd		1
	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Whiteware	Ceramic Sherd		2
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Creamware	Ceramic Sherd		2
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Iron	Unidentified	Flat Metal	1
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Redware	Ceramic Sherd		2
JTP-AN	0 - 10	A/Fill Foundation	Glass Molded	Curved Glass		3
	0 - 10	A/Fill Foundation	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	3
	0 - 10	A/Fill Foundation	Iron	Hardware	Wire Nail	1
	0 - 10	A/Fill Foundation	Iron	Unidentified	Flat Metal	2
	0 - 10	A/Fill Foundation	Shell	Bivalve	Quahog	2
	10 - 20	A/Fill Foundation	Brass	Firearms and	Cartridge	1
	10 - 20	A/Fill Foundation	Ceramic	Construction	Brick	1
	10 - 20	A/Fill Foundation	Ceramic	Smoking	Pipe marked	1
	10 - 20	A/Fill Foundation	Glass Molded	Curved Glass		4
	10 - 20	A/Fill Foundation	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	1
	10 - 20	A/Fill Foundation	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut spike	1
	10 - 20	A/Fill Foundation	Iron	Hardware	Nail	2
	10 - 20	A/Fill Foundation	Nutshell	Nutshell		1
	20 - 30	Disturbed B	Ceramic	Construction	Brick	1
	20 - 30	Disturbed B	Coal	Light/heat/cooking item		1
	20 - 30	Disturbed B	Glass Molded	Bottle	Wine	1
	20 - 30	Disturbed B	Glass Molded	Curved Glass		2
	20 - 30	Disturbed B	Iron	Food consump/service	Fork	1
	20 - 30	Disturbed B	Iron	Hardware	Hand wrought nail	2
	20 - 30	Disturbed B	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	2
	20 - 30	Disturbed B	Iron	Hardware	Wire Nail	1
	20 - 30	Disturbed B	Shell	Bivalve	Quahog	1
	30 - 40	Disturbed B	Glass Molded	Curved Glass		2
JTP-AO	10 - 20	Disturbed A	Glass Molded	Bottle		1
	10 - 20	Disturbed A	Redware	Ceramic Sherd		1
JTP-AP	0 - 10	Trampled A	Iron	Unidentified	Flat Metal	2
	10 - 20	Trampled A	Redware	Ceramic Sherd		1
JTP-B	0 - 10	A1/Fill 1	Coal	Light/heat/cooking item		1
	0 - 10	A1/Fill 1	Glass	Curved Glass		3
	0 - 10	A1/Fill 1	Iron	Unidentified	Flat Metal	1
	30 - 40	C1	Shell	Bivalve	Quahog	2
JTP-C	0 - 20	A/Fill	Ceramic	Smoking	Pipe marked	1
	0 - 20	A/Fill	Coal	Light/heat/cooking item		2
	0 - 20	A/Fill	Glass	Curved Glass		2

Appendix A. Catalog of Cultural Materials, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) - Phase II Site Examination.

Site Unit	Depth	Strata/Feature	Material	Function	Type	Count
Comstock Farmstead Site						
JTP-C	0 - 20	A/Fill	Glass	Flat glass	Window glass	1
	0 - 20	A/Fill	Iron	Hardware		1
	0 - 20	A/Fill	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	15
	0 - 20	A/Fill	Iron	Hardware	Square Nail	2
	0 - 20	A/Fill	Iron	Unidentified	Flat Metal	1
JTP-D	0 - 10	A/Fill	Glass	Curved Glass		1
	0 - 10	A/Fill	Glass	Light/heat/cooking item	Lantern/chimney item	1
	0 - 10	A/Fill	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	1
	10 - 15	A/Fill	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	2
	10 - 15	A/Fill	Iron	Hardware	Square Nail	1
	10 - 15	A/Fill	Iron	Unidentified	Flat Metal	1
JTP-E	0 - 10	A/Fill	Glass Molded	Bottle	Wine	1
JTP-F	0 - 10	A1	Glass	Light/heat/cooking item	Lantern/chimney item	1
	0 - 10	A1	Redware	Ceramic Sherd		2
	10 - 20	A1	Iron	Unidentified	Flat Metal	1
	10 - 20	A1	Redware	Ceramic Sherd		4
JTP-G	0 - 10	Trampled A	Glass	Curved Glass		1
	0 - 10	Trampled A	Iron	Unidentified		2
	0 - 10	Trampled A	Redware	Ceramic Sherd		1
	10 - 20	Trampled A	Redware	Ceramic Sherd		2
JTP-G vicinity	0 - 0	Surface	Iron	Unidentified		3
JTP-H	0 - 10	Slopewash	Redware	Ceramic Sherd		1
	10 - 20	Trampled A1	Glass	Curved Glass		1
	10 - 20	Trampled A1	Glass	Flat glass	Window glass	1
	10 - 20	Trampled A1	Iron	Hardware	Nail	3
	10 - 20	Trampled A1	Iron	Unidentified		1
	10 - 20	Trampled A1	Redware	Ceramic Sherd		7
	20 - 30	Trampled A1	Glass	Bottle		1
	20 - 30	Trampled A1	Redware	Ceramic Sherd		3
	30 - 40	Disturbed B1	Glass	Bottle		1
	30 - 40	Disturbed B1	Glass	Bottle	Wine	1
JTP-I	0 - 10	Developing A	Glass	Flat glass		2
	0 - 10	Developing A	Quartz	Chipping debris	Flake	1
	0 - 10	Developing A	Quartz	Chipping debris	Shatter	1
	0 - 10	Developing A	Redware	Ceramic Sherd		1
	0 - 10	Developing A	Slag/Clinker	Industrial Waste		1
	10 - 20	Fill	Calcined Bone	Unidentified		5
	20 - 30	Fill	Creamware	Ceramic Sherd		1
JTP-K	0 - 10	Developing A	Glass	Flat glass		1
	0 - 10	Developing A	Iron	Hardware	Nail	2

Appendix A. Catalog of Cultural Materials, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) - Phase II Site Examination.

Site Unit	Depth	Strata/Feature	Material	Function	Type	Count
Comstock Farmstead Site						
JTP-K	0 - 10	Developing A	Metal	Unidentified	Flat Metal	1
	0 - 10	Developing A	Shell	Bivalve	Quahog	2
	10 - 20	Fill	Metal	Unidentified	Flat Metal	1
JTP-L	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Iron	Hardware		2
	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	23
	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Stoneware	Food/drink storage	Jar	1
JTP-M	0 - 20	A/Fill	Glass	Flat glass	Window glass	9
	0 - 20	A/Fill	Iron	Hardware	Hand wrought nail	2
	0 - 20	A/Fill	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	22
	0 - 20	A/Fill	Iron	Hardware	Square Nail	3
	0 - 20	A/Fill	Iron	Unidentified	Flat Metal	1
JTP-N	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Bolt	1
	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	5
JTP-O	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Clay	Pipe	Pipe unmarked	
	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Glass	Flat glass	Window glass	17
	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Glass Free Blown	Bottle		9
	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Glass Molded	Bottle		2
	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Ironstone	Food consump/service	Plate	20
	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Pearlware	Food consump/service	Plate	37
	0 - 10	A/Fill 1	Wood	Unidentified		1
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Glass	Flat glass	Window glass	6
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Glass Molded	Bottle		5
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Glass Molded	Bottle	Medicine	1
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	11
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Iron	Unidentified	Flat Metal	1
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Ironstone	Food consump/service	Plate	12
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Pearlware	Food consump/service	Plate	5
	10 - 20	A/Fill 1	Redware	Ceramic Sherd		1
JTP-P	0 - 20	Disturbed A/Fill	Brick	Brick		1
	0 - 20	Disturbed A/Fill	Glass	Bottle		1
	0 - 20	Disturbed A/Fill	Glass	Curved Glass		2
	0 - 20	Disturbed A/Fill	Glass	Unidentified		16
	0 - 20	Disturbed A/Fill	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	18
	0 - 20	Disturbed A/Fill	Ironstone	Ceramic Sherd		41
	0 - 20	Disturbed A/Fill	Metal	Hardware	Wire	1
	0 - 20	Disturbed A/Fill	Porcelain	Recreation	Doll	1
	0 - 20	Disturbed A/Fill	Stoneware	Food/drink storage	Jar	2
	0 - 20	Disturbed A/Fill	Wood	Unidentified		1
JTP-Q	0 - 20	Apz	Glass	Flat glass	Window glass	3
	0 - 20	Apz	Iron	Hardware	Machine cut nail	11

Appendix A. Catalog of Cultural Materials, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) - Phase II Site Examination.

Site Unit	Depth	Strata/Feature	Material	Function	Type	Count
Comstock Farmstead Site						
JTP-Q	0 - 20	Apz	Pearlware	Ceramic Sherd		1
	0 - 20	Apz	Redware	Ceramic Sherd		4
	0 - 20	Apz	Shell	Bivalve	Quahog	1
JTP-R	0 - 10	Apz	Shell	Bivalve	Quahog	1
JTP-S	0 - 10	Apz	Ceramic	Construction	Brick	1
	0 - 10	Apz	Glass	Flat glass	Window glass	1
	0 - 10	Apz	Redware	Ceramic Sherd		3
	20 - 30	B1	Shell	Bivalve	Quahog	1
JTP-U	0 - 10	Apz	Iron	Hardware	Wire Nail	1
	0 - 10	Apz	Pearlware	Ceramic Sherd		1
JTP-V	0 - 10	Apz	Clay	Pipe	Pipe marked	2
	0 - 10	Apz	Coal	Light/heat/cooking item		1
	0 - 10	Apz	Nottingham	Food/drink storage	Jar	2
	0 - 10	Apz	Pearlware	Ceramic Sherd		3
	0 - 10	Apz	Redware	Ceramic Sherd		1
	0 - 10	Apz	Whiteware	Ceramic Sherd		1
	20 - 30	Apz/B1	Pearlware	Ceramic Sherd		2
	20 - 30	Apz/B1	Porcelain	Beverage consumption	Cup	1
	20 - 30	Apz/B1	Porcelain	Ceramic Sherd		1
	20 - 30	Apz/B1	Redware	Ceramic Sherd		1
JTP-W	10 - 20	Apz	Shell	Bivalve	Quahog	2
JTP-X	0 - 10	Apz	Glass	Flat glass	Window glass	1
	0 - 10	Apz	Metal	Unidentified	Flat Metal	1
	0 - 10	Apz	Redware	Ceramic Sherd		6
JTP-Y	10 - 20	Apz	Shell	Bivalve	Quahog	1
JTP-Z	0 - 10	Apz	Glass Molded	Curved Glass		1
	10 - 20	Apz	Glass Molded	Light/heat/cooking item	Lantern/chimney item	1
					Comstock Farmstead Site	**1815**
Coventry Center Pond Site						
EU01	10 - 20	B1 01	Charcoal Sample	Light/heat/cooking item		1
	10 - 20	B1 01	Quartz	Chipping debris	Flake	1
N01E10	20 - 30	B1	Quartz	Chipping debris	Flake	1
S03 E00	0 - 10	A1	Glass Free Blown	Bottle		1
	0 - 10	A1	Iron	Hardware	Wire Nail	1
S03 E08	50 - 60	B1	Chert	Chipping debris	Flake	1
S03 W03	30 - 40	B1	Charcoal	Light/heat/cooking item		1
	30 - 40	B1	Chert	Chipping debris	Flake	2
S03 W08	30 - 40	B1	Chert	Chipping debris	Flake	2
S10 E00	20 - 30	B1	Quartzite	Chipping debris	Flake	1

Appendix A. Catalog of Cultural Materials, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) - Phase II Site Examination.

Site Unit	Depth	Strata/Feature	Material	Function	Type	Count
Coventry Center Pond Site						
S10 E05	10 - 20	B1	Argillite	Chipping debris	Flake	1
					Coventry Center Pond Site	**13**
Quarry Site 3						
EU02	0 - 70	grout pile E. Grout	Glass	Curved Glass		1
	0 - 70	grout pile E. Grout	Metal	Hardware		1
	0 - 70	grout pile E. Grout	Metal	Hardware	Machine cut nail	1
EU03	0 - 10	Fill	Metal	Related Railroad	Railroad Spike	2
EU04-North	40 - 50	grout/fill	Metal	Hardware		1
	40 - 50	grout/fill	Metal	Hardware	Bolt	1
	40 - 50	grout/fill	Metal	Unidentified		1
	50 - 60	Fill	Coal	Light/heat/cooking item		1
	50 - 60	Fill	Metal	Hardware	Machine cut nail	4
	50 - 60	Fill	Metal	Unidentified		3
	50 - 60	Fill	Plaster/Mortar	Construction		1
	50 - 60	Fill	Slag/Clinker			2
	60 - 70	Disturbed Apz	Brick	Construction	Brick	5
	60 - 70	Disturbed Apz	Coal	Light/heat/cooking item		1
	60 - 70	Disturbed Apz	Metal	Hardware	Unidentified Nail	1
	60 - 70	Disturbed Apz	Metal	Unidentified		1
	60 - 70	Fill	Brick	Construction	Brick	9
	60 - 70	Fill	Glass	Flat glass		1
	60 - 70	Fill	Metal	Hardware	Machine cut nail	4
EU04-South	40 - 50	grout/fill	Metal	Hardware		1
	40 - 50	grout/fill	Metal	Hardware	Bracket	1
	40 - 50	grout/fill	Metal	Unidentified		2
	50 - 60	Fill	Glass	Curved Glass		1
	50 - 60	Fill	Metal	Hardware	Machine cut nail	4
	50 - 60	Fill	Metal	Unidentified		2
	60 - 70	Disturbed Apz	Brick	Construction	Brick	9
	60 - 70	Disturbed Apz	Coal	Light/heat/cooking item		1
	60 - 70	Disturbed Apz	Glass	Flat glass		1
	60 - 70	Disturbed Apz	Metal	Hardware	Unidentified Nail	1
	60 - 70	Fill	Brick	Construction	Brick	1
	60 - 70	Fill	Metal	Hardware	Unidentified Nail	2
	60 - 70	Fill	Metal	Unidentified		2
	70 - 80	Disturbed Apz	Glass	Curved Glass		1
	70 - 80	Disturbed Apz	Metal	Unidentified		1
EU04-West	40 - 50	Grout/Fill	Brick	Construction	Brick	16
	40 - 50	Grout/Fill	Coal	Light/heat/cooking item		4

Appendix A. Catalog of Cultural Materials, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) - Phase II Site Examination.

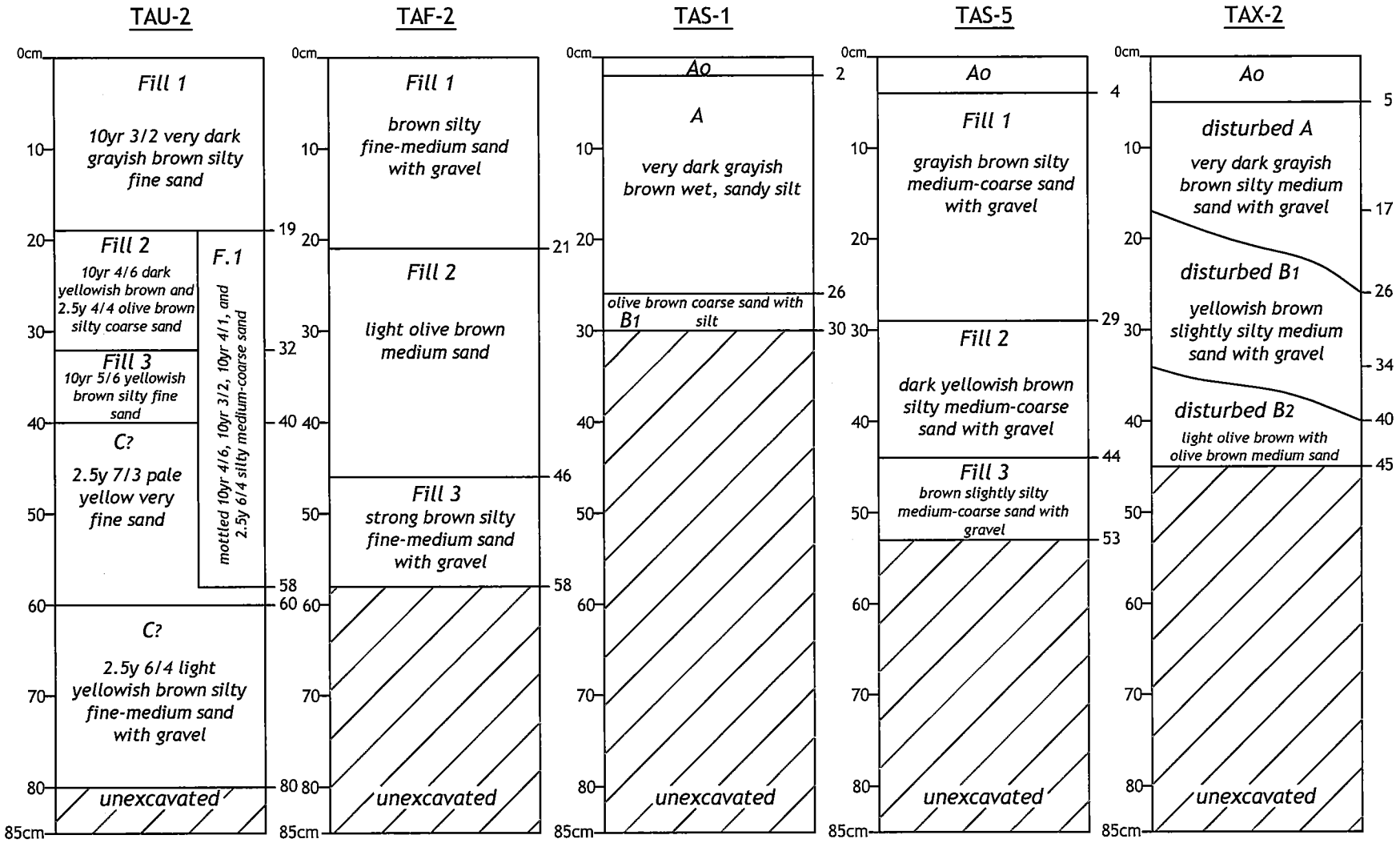
Site Unit	Depth	Strata/Feature	Material	Function	Type	Count
Quarry Site 3						
EU04-West	40 - 50	Grout/Fill	Glass	Curved Glass		2
	40 - 50	Grout/Fill	Metal	Hardware	Bolt	1
	40 - 50	Grout/Fill	Metal	Unidentified		6
	40 - 50	Grout/Fill	Plaster/Mortar	Construction		1
	40 - 50	Grout/Fill	Slag/Clinker			4
JTP-A	0 - 10	Apz	Glass	Flat glass		1
JTP-G	10 - 20	Apz	Glass	Curved Glass		1
JTP-I	0 - 10	Ao/Developing A	Coal	Light/heat/cooking item		16
	0 - 10	Ao/Developing A	Metal	Unidentified Historic		1
	10 - 20	Developing A/Fill1	Brick	Construction	Brick	9
	10 - 20	Developing A/Fill1	Coal	Light/heat/cooking item		3
	10 - 20	Developing A/Fill1	Metal	Hardware	Unidentified Nail	5
	10 - 20	Developing A/Fill1	Metal	Unidentified		1
	20 - 30	Fill 1	Brick	Construction	Brick	6
	20 - 30	Fill 1	Metal	Unidentified		7
	20 - 30	Fill 1	Slag/Clinker			1
JTP-J	0 - 10	Fill 1	Brick	Construction	Brick	1
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Metal	Unidentified		1
	20 - 30	Fill 2	Metal	Hardware	Unidentified Nail	2
	20 - 30	Fill 2	Metal	Unidentified		1
JTP-K	0 - 10	grout debris	Metal	Unidentified		1
	10 - 20	grout debris	Metal	Hardware	Unidentified Nail	1
JTP-L	0 - 10	Fill1	Coal	Light/heat/cooking item		6
JTP-M	0 - 10	Fill 1	Coal	Light/heat/cooking item		3
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Glass	Curved Glass		1
	0 - 10	Fill 1	Metal	Unidentified		12
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Coal	Light/heat/cooking item		1
	10 - 20	Fill 1	Metal	Unidentified		5
	20 - 30	Fill 2	Coal	Light/heat/cooking item		1
	20 - 30	Fill 2	Metal	Hardware	Bolt	1
	20 - 30	Fill 2	Metal	Unidentified		4
	30 - 40	Fill 2	Brick	Construction	Brick	1
	30 - 40	Fill 2	Coal	Light/heat/cooking item		1
	30 - 40	Fill 2	Metal	Hardware		1
	30 - 40	Fill 2	Metal	Unidentified		9
	30 - 40	Fill 2	Slag/Clinker			2
	40 - 50	Fill2	Brick	Construction	Brick	3
	40 - 50	Fill2	Coal	Light/heat/cooking item		3
	40 - 50	Fill2	Historic Charcoal			1
	40 - 50	Fill2	Metal	Unidentified		2

Appendix A. Catalog of Cultural Materials, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) - Phase II Site Examination.

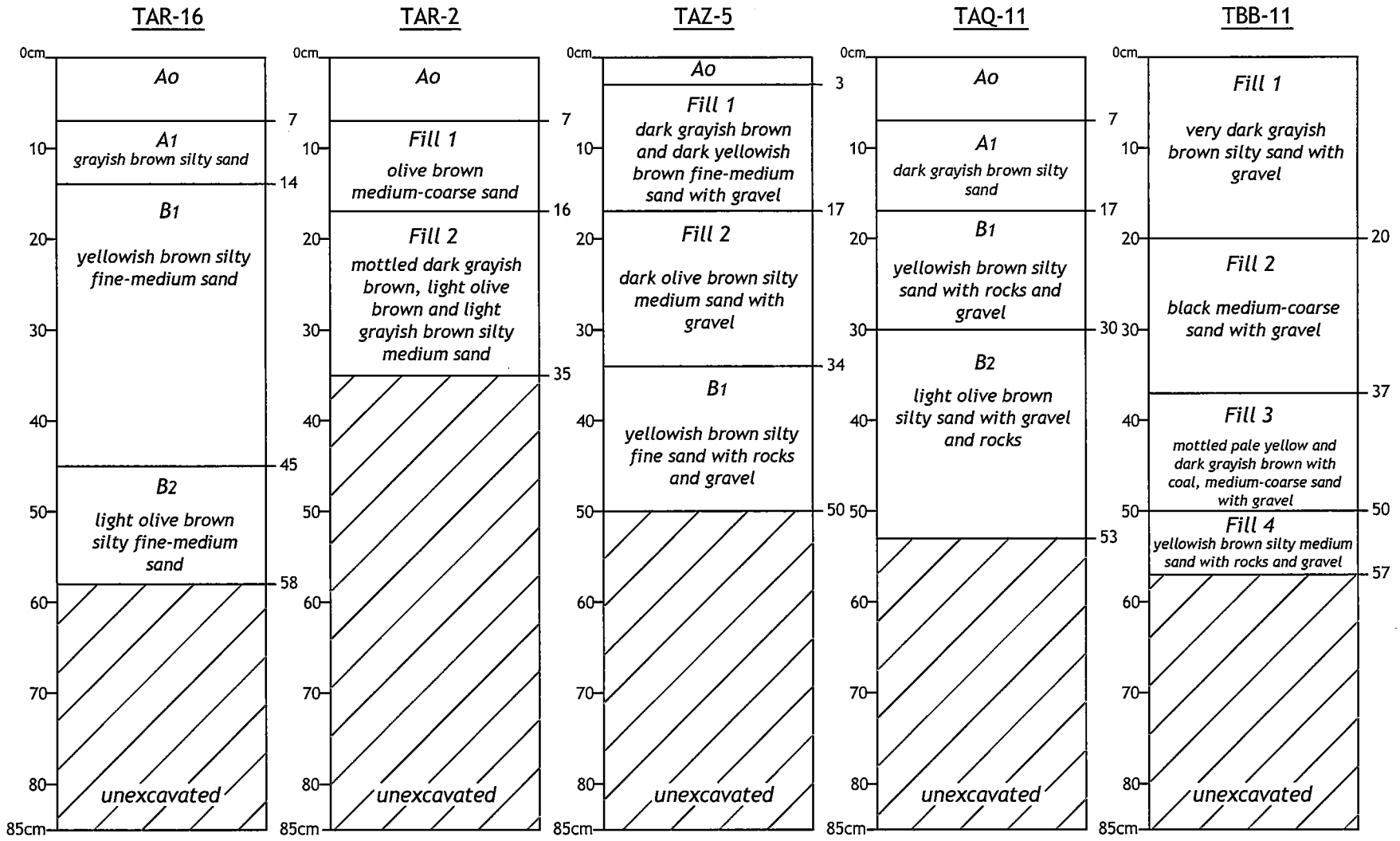
Site Unit	Depth	Strata/Feature	Material	Function	Type	Count
Quarry Site 3						
JTP-M	50 - 60	Fill 3	Charcoal			3
	50 - 60	Fill 3	Coal	Light/heat/cooking item		1
	50 - 60	Fill 3	Metal	Unidentified		2
	60 - 70	Fill 4	Slag/Clinker			1
	70 - 80	Fill 4	Coal	Light/heat/cooking item		1
					Quarry 3 Site	**228**
Quarry Site 4						
EU01	0 - 10	B1	Metal	Hardware		3
	0 - 10	B1	Metal	Hardware	Wedge	1
	0 - 10	B1	Metal	Unidentified		1
	10 - 20	B1	Metal	Hardware		1
	10 - 20	B1	Metal	Hardware	Wedge	2
	10 - 20	B1	Metal	Unidentified		4
EU02	0 - 10	A1	Granite	Raw Material		3
JTP-C	0 - 10	Developing A QF-	Glass	Curved Glass		2
JTP-D	0 - 10	A1 QF-07	Rhyolite	Chipping debris	Flake	1
JTP-E	0 - 10	Ao/A1 QF-07	Metal	Unidentified		2
					Quarry Site 4	**20**
					Total:	**2076**

APPENDIX B

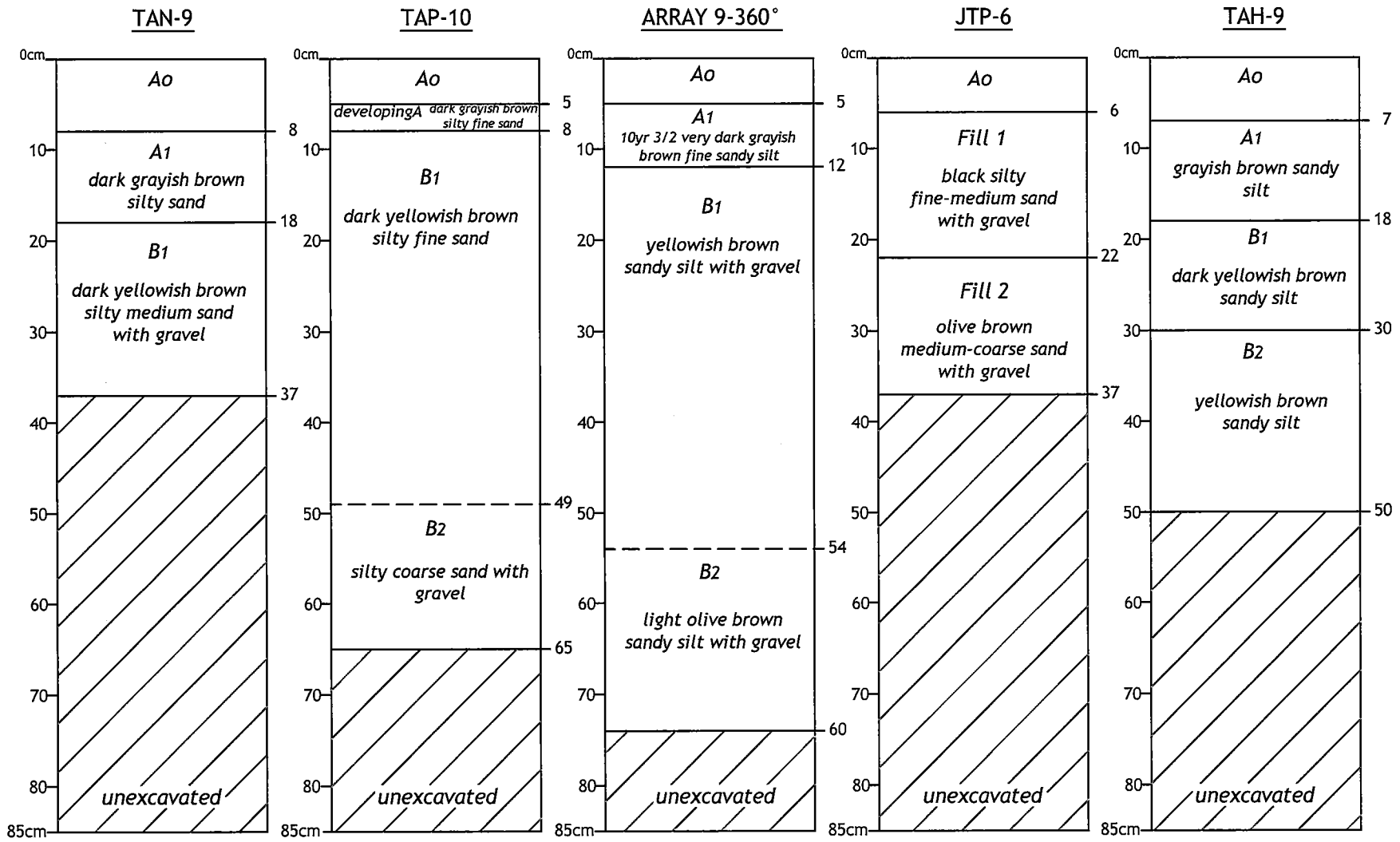
PHASE I(C) SOIL PROFILES



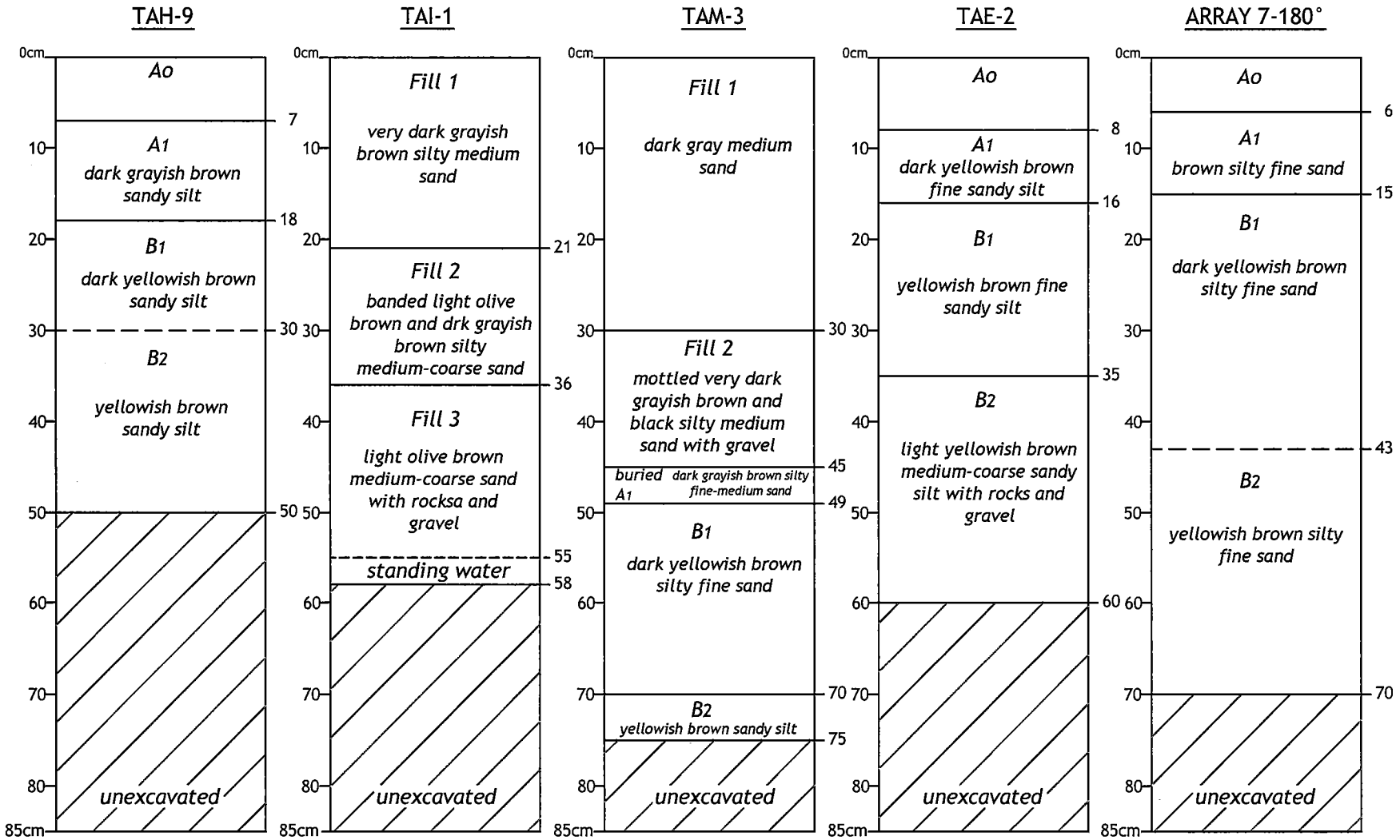
Appendix B-1. Representative soil profiles, Trestle Trail.



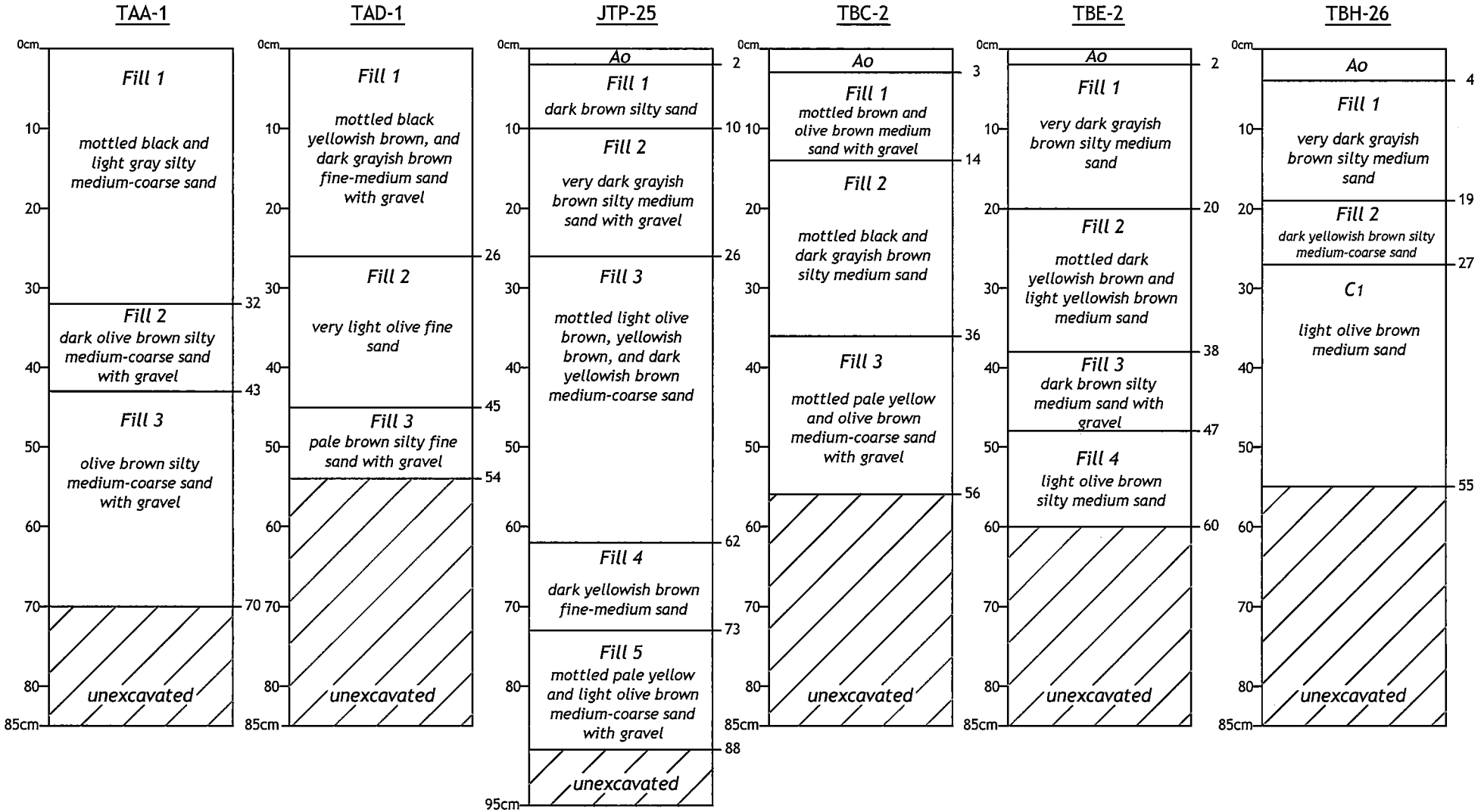
Appendix B-2. Representative soil profiles, Trestle Trail.



Appendix B-3. Representative soil profiles, Trestle Trail.



Appendix B-4. Representative soil profiles, Trestle Trail.



Appendix B-5. Representative soil profiles, Trestle Trail.

APPENDIX C

SITE INVENTORY FORMS

HISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES INVENTORY

R.I. HISTORICAL PRESERVATION AND HERITAGE COMMISSION
150 BENEFIT STREET
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SITE NUMBER	RI-2361		
UTM	19	278465	4618691
QUAD	Coventry Center		

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
STATUS*
☐ NR ☐ MNR ☐ NEX
☐ PNR ☐ NNR

IDENTIFICATION

SITE NAME: Comstock Farmstead Site	OTHER SITE NO.
TOWN: Coventry	PLAT and LOT
STREET (and/or location): Situated on either side of Trestle Trail, approx 1/2 mile east of Williams Crossing Road	
OWNER(S): Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management ☐ PRIVATE ☐ PUBLIC ☑ STATE	
ATTITUDE TOWARD EXCAVATION: compliance	
USE (Present): abandoned	(Historic): farmstead
HOW LOCATED: walkover survey	
INFORMANTS:	

DESCRIPTION

PERIOD
☐ Contact ☐ 17th C. ☐ 18th C. ☑ 19th C. ☐ 20th C. ☐ Unknown ☐ Other (Specify)

ESTIMATED OCCUPATION RANGE
possibly 18th-19th century

DATING METHODS	DOCUMENTS	COMPARATIVE MATERIALS	OTHER
	map		

SITE TYPE
☐ Contact ☑ Rural ☐ Commercial ☐ Other (Specify)
☑ Agrarian ☐ Urban ☐ Industrial ☐ Unknown

APPROXIMATE SIZE AND BOUNDARIES
The Phase II site examination area measures 100 x 75 meters, and site elements are known to continue to the west and north. Post-contact materials were recovered from fill, plowzone, and trampled A contexts to a maximum depth of 100 cmbs.

STRATIGRAPHY
☑ Surface Finds ☑ Plowed ☑ Not Stratified ☐ Stratified ☑ Major Disturbance
☑ Standing Ruins ☐ No Visible Evidence ☑ Cellar Hole ☑ Other (Specify) 1 to 4 smaller foun

ENVIRONMENT

USDA SOIL SERIES	CONTOUR ELEVATION	SLOPE %	
Canton & Charlton fine sandy loam	370 ft asl	☑ 0-5 ☑ 5-15 ☐ 15-25 ☐ over 25	

NEAREST FRESH WATER SOURCE-TYPE	SIZE AND RANK	DISTANCE FROM SITE	SEASONAL AVAILABILITY
Quidnick Brook		on-site	year round
NEAREST SALT WATER SOURCE-TYPE	SIZE AND RANK	DISTANCE FROM SITE	SEASONAL AVAIALABILITY
Narragansett Bay		ca. 11 miles	year round

VEGETATION (Present)	(Past)
oak-dominated forest, sweetbriar, wild grape, poison ivy	unknown

*NR - On the National Register of Historic Places; NNR - Not eligible for the N.R.H.P
PNR - In the process of being nominated to the N.R.H.P.; NEX - No longer extant
MNR - May be eligible for the National Register after evaluation

CONDITION

SITE INTEGRITY	☐ Undisturbed	☑ Good	☑ Fair	☑ Destroyed
THREATS TO SITE	☐ None known	☑ Private	☐ Erosion	☑ Other
	☐ Highways	☐ Vandalism	☐ Unknown	
SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT	☐ Open land	☐ Coastal	☐ Industrial	☑ Rural
	☐ Commercial	☑ Woodland	☐ Residential	☐ Other
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC VISIBLE FROM ROAD		☐ Yes	☑ No	

PAST RESEARCH

PREVIOUS EXCAVATIONS

- ☐ Surface Collected
- ☐ Pot Hunted
- ☐ Tested ☑ Phase I
- ☑ Phase II
- ☐ Phase III
- ☐ Excavation

BY WHOM/AFFILIATION	DATE
Tim Ives	December 2004
Ora Elquist/ PAL	2006

PRESENT LOCATION OF MATERIALS

PAL Inc., 210 Lonsdale Ave., Pawtucket, RI 02860

PUBLISHED REFERENCES

Ives, Timothy H., Ora Elquist, Joseph N. Waller, Jr., Kristen Heitert, and A. Peter Mair, II 2007 Phase I(C) Archaeological Survey: Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) Project Corridor and Phase II Site Examinations: Comstock Farmstead Site (RI 2361), Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363), Quarry Site 3 (RI 2366), Quarry Site 4 (RI 2368), and Foster Ledge Quarry (RI 2367), Coventry, Rhode Island.

UNPUBLISHED REFERENCES

SIGNIFICANCE

RECOVERED DATA - RANGE AND DEPTH OF MATERIALS

See Continuation Sheet

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OR HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE

See Continuation Sheet

ADD INFO

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

HISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES INVENTORY

RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL PRESERVATION AND HERITAGE COMMISSION

CONTINUATION SHEET

Site Name: Comstock Farmstead Site

Significance

Recovered Data

This site was identified during walkover survey. No subsurface archaeological testing was conducted during the Phase I(c) Archaeological Survey.

During the Phase I(c) Archaeological Survey, the site was originally described as containing a breached dam, a dry-laid stone foundation and a large cellar hole with center chimney base, and a smaller foundation (possible root cellar). The 1895 Everts and Richards atlas was seen to depict a ponded area of Quidnick Brook in the vicinity of the site. Additionally, a review of historical aerial photographs (Rhode Island Geographical Information System web site) was thought to clearly depict a dam and millrace adjacent to the foundation south of the right-of way.

The archaeological site examination of the Comstock-Farmstead site (RI 2368) revealed that the site is a former agrarian complex consisting of several major structural elements including a house, barn, an artificially ponded area, and at least one, and possibly up to four, outbuildings. Numerous rock piles and stone walls are also present on the farmstead. The core of the site measures approximately 100-x-75 meters although some of the peripheral features such as rock piles and stonewalls extend well beyond those limits. While the survey identified primarily unstratified archaeological deposits, several observations about the architectural configuration of the main house and landscape organization of the Comstock Farmstead site can be made based on a preliminary review of the results of the archaeological survey and archival research.

The presence of a man-made impoundment and raceway suggests an earlier industrial use at the site, such as a mill. However, none of the deeds transferring ownership that were examined mentioned the presence of a mill on the property. Furthermore, archaeological investigations did not produce any evidence of a mill structure.

Archaeological or Historical Importance

The Comstock Farmstead site provides information about the spatial organization of a small nineteenth-century agrarian complex located in a comparatively isolated rural context. This spatial organization, namely a main residential structure with a barn, various outbuildings, and an extensive network of stonewalls and pastureland, is not unique, however, and the archaeological data did not identify any cultural materials or structural or architectural features that would provide new or substantive information about the property or its role in local or regional history. The berm, impoundment, and raceway suggest the presence a mill on the property but again archival information and field investigations did not produce any information to confirm this. The archival data documents continuous use of the land as a farm complex until its final abandonment in the late nineteenth-century.

The Comstock Farmstead site may be eligible for listing in the National Register as an early agrarian/industrial complex pending further research. As an archaeological site, the investigations carried out at the Comstock Farmstead site have exhausted the information potential of the site and no additional archaeological work is recommended.

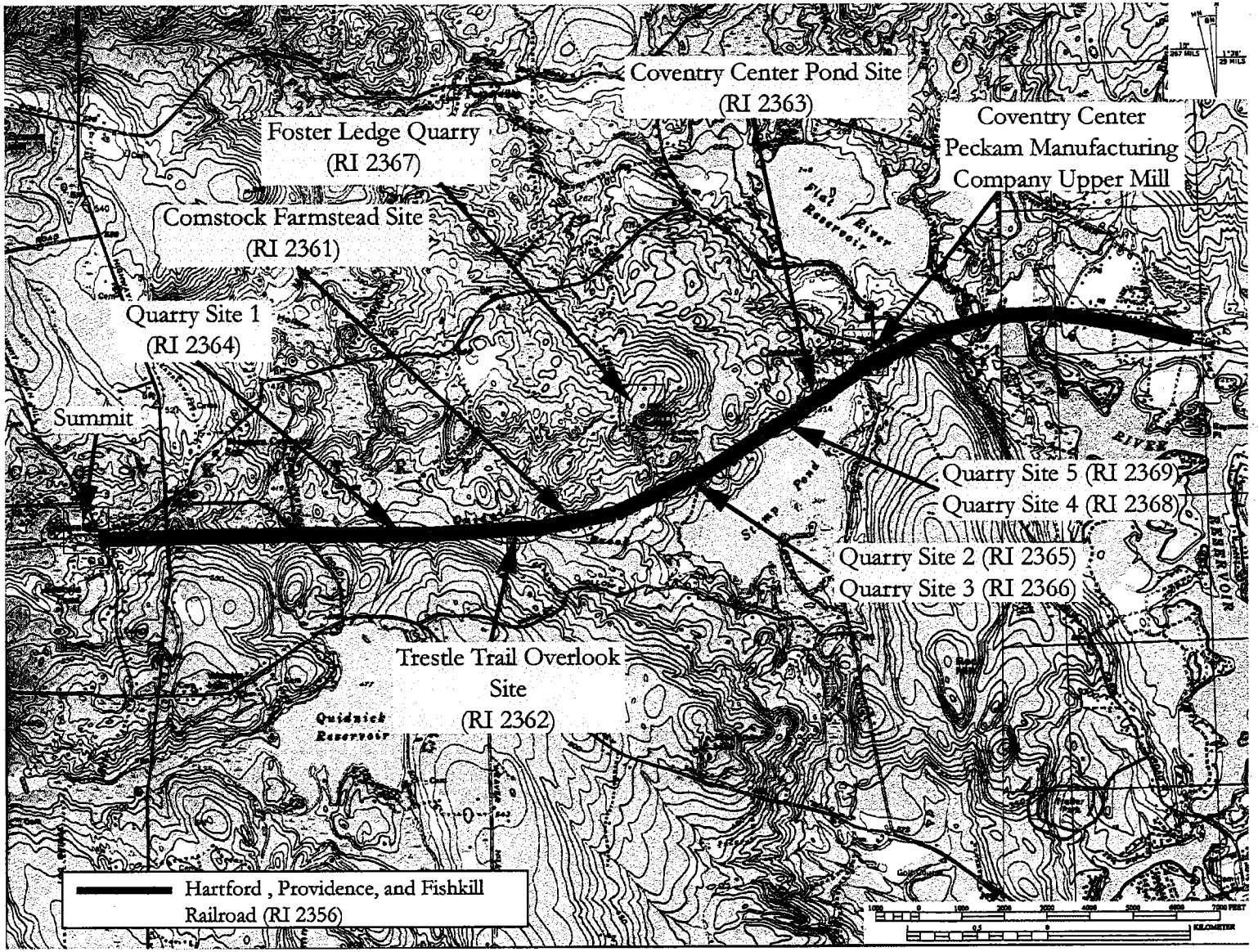


Figure 1. Location of archaeological sites, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East), Crompton and Coventry Center, RI, USGS quadrangles.

PREHISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES INVENTORY

R.I. HISTORICAL PRESERVATION AND HERITAGE COMMISSION
150 BENEFIT STREET
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			
SITE NUMBER	RI-2362		
UTM	19	278186	4618692
QUAD	Coventry Center		
STATUS*	☐ NR	☐ MNR	☐ NEX
	☐ PNR	☐ NNR	

IDENTIFICATION

SITE NAME: Trestle Trail Overlook Site | OTHER SITE NO.:

TOWN: Coventry | PLAT and LOT:

STREET (and/or location): north side of Trestle Trail, approximately 1/4 mile east of Williams Crossing Road

OWNER(S): Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management ☐ PRIVATE ☐ PUBLIC ☑ STATE

ATTITUDE TOWARD EXCAVATION: compliance

USE (Present): rural woodland | (Historic): within ROW of Hartford, Providence & Fishkill RR

HOW LOCATED: 50-x-50-cm test pits excavated in 10-m intervals; finds investigated w/ 4 surrounding pits at 5-m and 1-m intervals

INFORMANTS:

DESCRIPTION

PERIOD: Pre-Contact

SITE TYPE: lithic workstation

APPROXIMATE SIZE AND BOUNDARIES: site is probably less than 10 meters in diameter, and extends to 30 centimeters below ground surface

STRATIGRAPHY: ☐ Surface Finds ☐ Plowed ☑ Not Stratified ☐ Stratified ☐ Major Disturbance ☐ Other (Specify)

ENVIRONMENT

USDA SOIL SERIES	CONTOUR ELEVATION	SLOPE %
Narragansett extremely stony silt loam	410 ft asl	☑ 0-5 ☐ 5-15 ☐ 15-25 ☐ over 25

NEAREST FRESH WATER SOURCE-TYPE	SIZE AND RANK	DISTANCE FROM SITE	SEASONAL AVAILABILITY
Quidnick Brook		approx. 450 feet	year round
NEAREST SALT WATER SOURCE-TYPE	**SIZE AND RANK**	**DISTANCE FROM SITE**	**SEASONAL AVAILABILITY**
Narragansett Bay		approx 11 miles	year round

VEGETATION (Present): oak-dominated forest | (Past): unknown

CONDITION

SITE INTEGRIT: ☐ Undisturbed ☑ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Destroyed

THREATS TO SITE: ☑ None known ☐ Private ☐ Erosion ☐ Other ☐ Highways ☐ Vandalism ☐ Unknown

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: ☐ Open land ☐ Coastal ☐ Industrial ☐ Rural ☐ Commercial ☑ Woodland ☐ Residential ☐ Other

ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC VISIBLE FROM ROAD: ☐ Yes ☑ No

*NR - On the National Register of Historic Places; NNR - Not eligible for the N.R.H.P
PNR - In the process of being nominated to the N.R.H.P.; NEX - No longer extant
MNR - May be eligible for the National Register after evaluation

RESEARCH POTENTIAL

PREVIOUS EXCAVATIONS	BY WHOM/AFFILIATION	DATE
☐ Surface Collected		
☐ Pot Hunted	BY WHOM/AFFILIATION	DATE
☑ Tested ☑ Phase I	BY WHOM/AFFILIATION Timothy H. Ives, PAL Inc.	DATE December 2004
☐ Phase II	BY WHOM/AFFILIATION	DATE
☐ Phase III	BY WHOM/AFFILIATION	DATE
☐ Excavation	BY WHOM/AFFILIATION	DATE

PRESENT LOCATION OF MATERIALS

PAL Inc., 210 Lonsdale Avenue, Pawtucket, RI 02860

PRESENT LOCATION OF COLLECTIONS

PAST LOCATIONS OF MATERIALS/COLLECTION

PUBLISHED REFERENCES

See continuation sheet

UNPUBLISHED REFERENCES

SIGNIFICANCE

RECOVERED DATA - RANGE AND DEPTH OF MATERIALS

Composite cultural materials consist of a total of four rhyolite flakes from two adjacent test pits. Cultural materials were recovered between 10 and 30 cmbs from A1/B1 interfacial and B1 subsoil stratigraphic contexts.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OR HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE

This cultural deposit represents a limited-duration episode of stone tool maintenance and/or manufacture. This site probably represents an encampment associated with the peripheral resource catchment zone, relative to the congregate site clusters along Flat River and the region's interior wetlands.

ADD INFO

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

REPORTED BY	NAME Timothy H. Ives	ADDRESS 210 Lonsdale Ave, Pawtucket, RI 02860
	ORGANIZATIO PAL	DATE 2/15/2005

PHOTOS

PHOTOGRAPHS

DATE AND PHOTOGRAPHER

NEGATIVE ON FILE

PREHISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES INVENTORY

RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL PRESERVATION AND HERITAGE COMMISSION

CONTINUATION SHEET

Site Name: Trestle Trail Overlook Site

Published References

Ives, Timothy H., Ora Elquist, Joseph N. Waller, Jr., Kristen Heitert, and A. Peter Mair, II
2007 Phase I(C) Archaeological Survey: Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) Project Corridor and Phase II Site Examinations: Comstock Farmstead Site (RI 2361), Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363), Quarry Site 3 (RI 2366), Quarry Site 4 (RI 2368), and Foster Ledge Quarry (RI 2367), Coventry, Rhode Island.

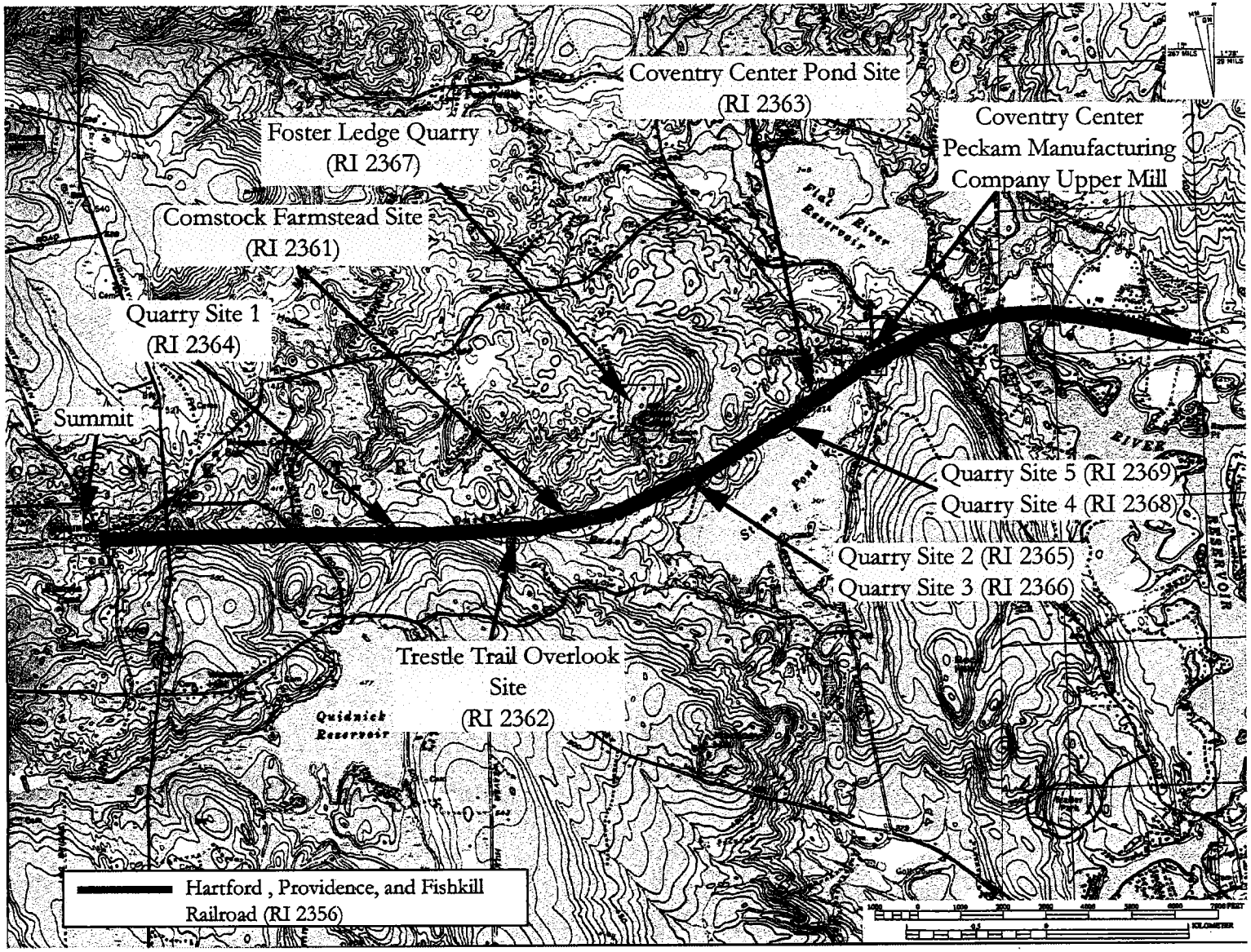


Figure 1. Location of archaeological sites, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East), Crompton and Coventry Center, RI, USGS quadrangles.

PREHISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES INVENTORY

R.I. HISTORICAL PRESERVATION AND HERITAGE COMMISSION
150 BENEFIT STREET
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			
SITE NUMBER	RI-2363		
UTM	19	280198	4619480
QUAD	Coventry Center		
STATUS*	☐ NR	☐ MNR	☐ NEX
	☐ PNR	☐ NNR	

IDENTIFICATION

SITE NAME: Coventry Center Pond Site

OTHER SITE NO.:

TOWN: Coventry

PLAT and LOT:

STREET (and/or location): south side of Trestle Trail, approximately 1/2 mile west of Phillips Hill Road

OWNER(S): Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management ☐ PRIVATE ☐ PUBLIC ☑ STATE

ATTITUDE TOWARD EXCAVATION: compliance

USE (Present): rural woodland

(Historic): within ROW of Hartford, Providence & Fishkill RR

HOW LOCATED: 50-x-50-cm test pits excavated in 10-m intervals; finds investigated w/ 4 surrounding pits at 5-m and 1-m intervals

INFORMANTS:

DESCRIPTION

PERIOD: Pre-Contact, possibly Transitional Archiac Susquehanna Tradition

SITE TYPE: lithic workstation

APPROXIMATE SIZE AND BOUNDARIES: Horizontal limits measure 20 x 10 meters. Northern boundary defined by Trestle Trail, east, south, and west boundaries efined by absence of cultural material.

STRATIGRAPHY ☐ Surface Finds ☐ Plowed ☑ Not Stratified ☐ Stratified ☐ Major Disturbance ☐ Other (Specify)

ENVIRONMENT

USDA SOIL SERIES	CONTOUR ELEVATION	SLOPE %
HnC:Hinckley-Enfield complex, rolling	317 ft asl	☐ 0-5 ☑ 5-15 ☐ 15-25 ☐ over 25

NEAREST FRESH WATER SOURCE-TYPE	SIZE AND RANK	DISTANCE FROM SITE	SEASONAL AVAILABILITY
Coventry Center Pond		approx 200 feet	year round
NEAREST SALT WATER SOURCE-TYPE	SIZE AND RANK	DISTANCE FROM SITE	SEASONAL AVAIALABILITY
Narragansett Bay		approx 11 miles	year round

VEGETATION (Present): oak-dominated forest with underbrush of blueberry bushes

(Past): unknown

CONDITION

SITE INTEGRIT ☑ Undisturbed ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Destroyed

THREATS TO SITE ☐ None known ☐ Private ☐ Erosion ☑ Other ☐ Highways ☐ Vandalism ☐ Unknown

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT ☐ Open land ☐ Coastal ☐ Industrial ☐ Rural ☐ Commercial ☑ Woodland ☐ Residential ☐ Other

ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC VISIBLE FROM ROAD ☐ Yes ☑ No

*NR - On the National Register of Historic Places; NNR - Not eligible for the N.R.H.P
PNR - In the process of being nominated to the N.R.H.P.; NEX - No longer extant
MNR - May be eligible for the National Register after evaluation

RESEARCH POTENTIAL

PREVIOUS EXCAVATIONS	BY WHOM/AFFILIATION	DATE
☐ Surface Collected		
☐ Pot Hunted	BY WHOM/AFFILIATION	DATE
☑ Tested ☑ Phase I	BY WHOM/AFFILIATION Timothy H. Ives, PAL Inc.	DATE December 2004
☑ Phase II	BY WHOM/AFFILIATION Ora Elquist	DATE July 2006
☐ Phase III	BY WHOM/AFFILIATION	DATE
☐ Excavation	BY WHOM/AFFILIATION	DATE

PRESENT LOCATION OF MATERIALS

PAL Inc., 210 Lonsdale Avenue, Pawtucket, RI 02860

PRESENT LOCATION OF COLLECTIONS

PAST LOCATIONS OF MATERIALS/COLLECTION

PUBLISHED REFERENCES

See continuation sheet

UNPUBLISHED REFERENCES

SIGNIFICANCE

RECOVERED DATA - RANGE AND DEPTH OF MATERIALS

The assemblage consisted of 14 pieces of chipping debris, rhyolite flake (possibly "Attleboro Red"), quartz, quartzite, and chert flakes. Cultural material found to 60 centimeters below surface. No diagnostics or features.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OR HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE

The presence of rhyolite and chert chipping waste suggests that the possibility for a Transitional Archiac Susquehanna Tradition component to the Coventry Center Pond Site. This cultural deposit represents a limited-duration episode of stone tool maintenance and/or manufacture. This site probably represents an encampment associated with the peripheral resource catchment zone, relative to the congregate site clusters along Flat River and the region's interior wetlands. The absence of diagnostics and features limits the information potential of this site. Consequently, the site does not meet the eligibility criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

ADD INFO

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

REPORTED BY	NAME Ora Elquist	ADDRESS 210 Lonsdale Av, Pawtucket, RI 02860
	ORGANIZATIO PAL	DATE 12/28/2006

PHOTOS

PHOTOGRAPHS Yes (Digital)

DATE AND PHOTOGRAPHER Ora Elquist, July 2006

NEGATIVE ON FILE

PREHISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES INVENTORY

RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL PRESERVATION AND HERITAGE COMMISSION

CONTINUATION SHEET

Site Name: Coventry Center Pond Site

Published References

Ives, Timothy H., Ora Elquist, Joseph N. Waller, Jr., Kristen Heitert, and A. Peter Mair, II
2007 Phase I(C) Archaeological Survey: Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) Project Corridor and Phase II Site Examinations: Comstock Farmstead Site (RI 2361), Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363), Quarry Site 3 (RI 2366), Quarry Site 4 (RI 2368), and Foster Ledge Quarry (RI 2367), Coventry, Rhode Island.

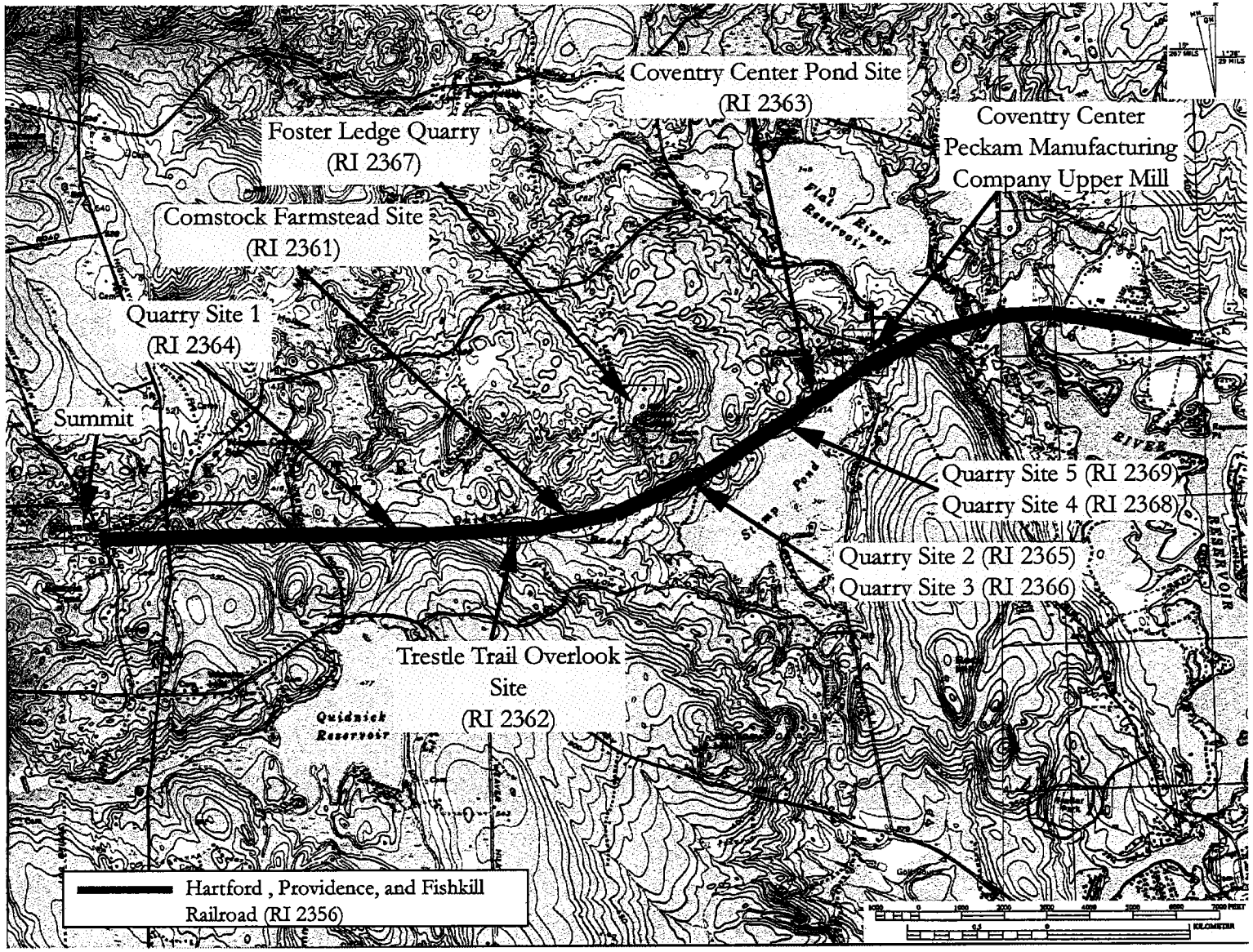


Figure 1. Location of archaeological sites, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East), Crompton and Coventry Center, RI, USGS quadrangles.

HISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES INVENTORY

R.I. HISTORICAL PRESERVATION AND HERITAGE COMMISSION
150 BENEFIT STREET
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SITE NUMBER	RI-2364		
UTM	19	277501	4618713
QUAD	Coventry Center		

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
STATUS*
☐ NR ☐ MNR ☐ NEX
☐ PNR ☐ NNR

IDENTIFICATION

SITE NAME: Quarry Site 1	OTHER SITE NO.
TOWN: Coventry	PLAT and LOT
STREET (and/or location)	
OWNER(S): Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management	☐ PRIVATE ☐ PUBLIC ☑ STATE
ATTITUDE TOWARD EXCAVATION: compliance	
USE (Present): abandoned	(Historic): expedient quarry
HOW LOCATED: walkover survey	
INFORMANTS	

DESCRIPTION

PERIOD
☐ Contact ☐ 17th C. ☐ 18th C. ☑ 19th C. ☐ 20th C. ☐ Unknown ☐ Other (Specify)

ESTIMATED OCCUPATION RANGE

DATING METHODS	DOCUMENTS	COMPARATIVE MATERIALS	OTHER

SITE TYPE
☐ Contact ☑ Rural ☐ Commercial ☐ Other (Specify)
☐ Agrarian ☐ Urban ☑ Industrial ☐ Unknown

APPROXIMATE SIZE AND BOUNDARIES
5 meter diameter boulder quarry and pit linked to railroad bed by a small foot trail.

STRATIGRAPHY
☑ Surface Finds ☐ Plowed ☐ Not Stratified ☐ Stratified ☐ Major Disturbance
☐ Standing Ruins ☐ No Visible Evidence ☐ Cellar Hole ☐ Other (Specify)

ENVIRONMENT

USDA SOIL SERIES	CONTOUR ELEVATION	SLOPE %	
Ridgedield, Whitman & Leicester	425 ft. asl	☑ 0-5 ☐ 5-15 ☐ 15-25 ☐ over 25	
NEAREST FRESH WATER SOURCE-TYPE: Quidneck Brook	SIZE AND RANK	DISTANCE FROM SITE: 200 ft	SEASONAL AVAILABILITY: year round
NEAREST SALT WATER SOURCE-TYPE: Narragansett Bay	SIZE AND RANK	DISTANCE FROM SITE: ca. 11 miles	SEASONAL AVAIALABILITY: year round
VEGETATION (Present): oak-dominated forest		(Past): inknown	

*NR - On the National Register of Historic Places; NNR - Not eligible for the N.R.H.P
PNR - In the process of being nominated to the N.R.H.P.; NEX - No longer extant
MNR - May be eligible for the National Register after evaluation

CONDITION

SITE INTEGRITY	☐ Undisturbed	☑ Good	☐ Fair	☐ Destroyed
THREATS TO SITE	☑ None known	☐ Private	☐ Erosion	☐ Other
	☐ Highways	☐ Vandalism	☐ Unknown	
SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT	☐ Open land	☐ Coastal	☐ Industrial	☐ Rural
	☐ Commercial	☑ Woodland	☐ Residential	☐ Other
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC VISIBLE FROM ROAD		☐ Yes	☑ No	

PAST RESEARCH

PREVIOUS EXCAVATIONS

- ☐ Surface Collected
- ☐ Pot Hunted
- ☐ Tested ☑ Phase I
- ☐ Phase II
- ☐ Phase III
- ☐ Excavation

BY WHOM/AFFILIATION	DATE
Tim Ives	December 2004

PRESENT LOCATION OF MATERIALS

PAL, 210 Lonsdale Avenue, Pawtucket, RI 02860

PUBLISHED REFERENCES

Ives, Timothy H., Ora Elquist, Joseph N. Waller, Jr., Kristen Heitert, and A. Peter Mair, II
2007 Phase I(C) Archaeological Survey: Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) Project Corridor and Phase II Site Examinations: Comstock Farmstead Site (RI 2361), Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363), Quarry Site 3 (RI 2366), Quarry Site 4 (RI 2368), and Foster Ledge Quarry (RI 2367), Coventry, Rhode Island.

UNPUBLISHED REFERENCES

SIGNIFICANCE

RECOVERED DATA - RANGE AND DEPTH OF MATERIALS

Site was identified during walkover survey. No archaeological testing conducted as site lies outside of right-of-way.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OR HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE

ADD INFO

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

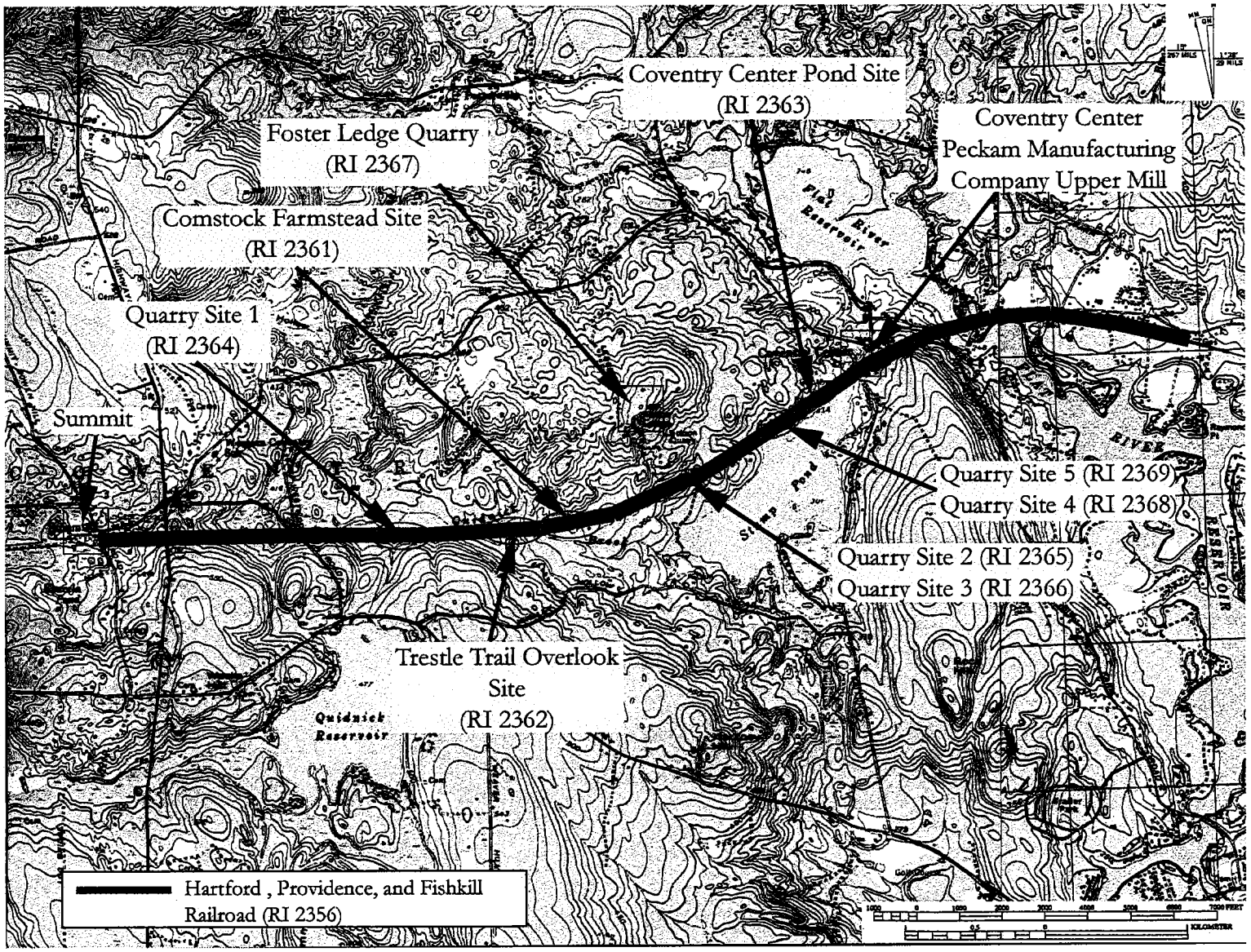


Figure 1. Location of archaeological sites, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East), Crompton and Coventry Center, RI, USGS quadrangles.

HISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES INVENTORY

R.I. HISTORICAL PRESERVATION AND HERITAGE COMMISSION
150 BENEFIT STREET
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SITE NUMBER	RI-2365		
UTM	19	279294	4618991
QUAD	Coventry Center		

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
STATUS*
☐ NR ☐ MNR ☐ NEX
☐ PNR ☐ NNR

IDENTIFICATION

SITE NAME: Quarry Site 2 | OTHER SITE NO.:

TOWN: Coventry | PLAT and LOT:

STREET (and/or location):

OWNER(S): Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management ☐ PRIVATE ☐ PUBLIC ☑ STATE

ATTITUDE TOWARD EXCAVATION: compliance

USE (Present): abandoned | (Historic): expedient quarry

HOW LOCATED: walkover survey

INFORMANTS:

DESCRIPTION

PERIOD
☐ Contact ☐ 17th C. ☐ 18th C. ☑ 19th C. ☐ 20th C. ☐ Unknown ☐ Other (Specify)

ESTIMATED OCCUPATION RANGE:

DATING METHODS	DOCUMENTS	COMPARATIVE MATERIALS	OTHER

SITE TYPE
☐ Contact ☑ Rural ☐ Commercial ☐ Other (Specify)
☐ Agrarian ☐ Urban ☑ Industrial ☐ Unknown

APPROXIMATE SIZE AND BOUNDARIES
approximately 6-foot deep quarry cut into a small hill side north of abandoned railroad bed..

STRATIGRAPHY
☑ Surface Finds ☐ Plowed ☐ Not Stratified ☐ Stratified ☐ Major Disturbance
☐ Standing Ruins ☐ No Visible Evidence ☐ Cellar Hole ☐ Other (Specify)

ENVIRONMENT

USDA SOIL SERIES	CONTOUR ELEVATION	SLOPE %
Narragansett silt loam	327 ft asl	☐ 0-5 ☐ 5-15 ☐ 15-25 ☐ over 25

NEAREST FRESH WATER SOURCE-TYPE	SIZE AND RANK	DISTANCE FROM SITE	SEASONAL AVAILABILITY
Stump Pond		1500 feet	year round
NEAREST SALT WATER SOURCE-TYPE	**SIZE AND RANK**	**DISTANCE FROM SITE**	**SEASONAL AVAILABILITY**
Narragansett Bay		ca. 11 miles	year round

VEGETATION (Present)	(Past)
oak-dominated forest	unknown

*NR - On the National Register of Historic Places; NNR - Not eligible for the N.R.H.P
PNR - In the process of being nominated to the N.R.H.P.; NEX - No longer extant
MNR - May be eligible for the National Register after evaluation

CONDITION

SITE INTEGRITY	☐ Undisturbed	☑ Good	☐ Fair	☐ Destroyed
THREATS TO SITE	☑ None known	☐ Private	☐ Erosion	☐ Other
	☐ Highways	☐ Vandalism	☐ Unknown	
SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT	☐ Open land	☐ Coastal	☐ Industrial	☐ Rural
	☐ Commercial	☑ Woodland	☐ Residential	☐ Other
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC VISIBLE FROM ROAD		☐ Yes	☑ No	

PAST RESEARCH

PREVIOUS EXCAVATIONS

- ☐ Surface Collected
- ☐ Pot Hunted
- ☐ Tested ☑ Phase I
- ☐ Phase II
- ☐ Phase III
- ☐ Excavation

BY WHOM/AFFILIATION	DATE
Tim Ives	December 2004

PRESENT LOCATION OF MATERIALS

PUBLISHED REFERENCES

Ives, Timothy H., Ora Elquist, Joseph N. Waller, Jr., Kristen Heitert, and A. Peter Mair, II
2007 Phase I(C) Archaeological Survey: Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) Project Corridor and Phase II Site Examinations: Comstock Farmstead Site (RI 2361), Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363), Quarry Site 3 (RI 2366), Quarry Site 4 (RI 2368), and Foster Ledge Quarry (RI 2367), Coventry, Rhode Island.

UNPUBLISHED REFERENCES

SIGNIFICANCE

RECOVERED DATA - RANGE AND DEPTH OF MATERIALS

Quarry Site 2 contains the remains of discarded and dumped granite stones. Relatively small quarry pit or topographic basin that contains discarded granite. The quarry basin, which measures a few meters across, was likely produced by excavating around targeted rock masses well beneath surface grade to facilitate extraction. The original targeted rock masses may have been deeply buried boulders or surface ledge exposures. The site reflects small-scale expedient granite quarrying was using hand-tools.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OR HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE

Subsurface testing did not indicate the presence of associated artifact assemblages. The sites contain limited archaeological or historical information and does not represent a potentially significant cultural resource. No additional investigation is recommended.

ADD INFO

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

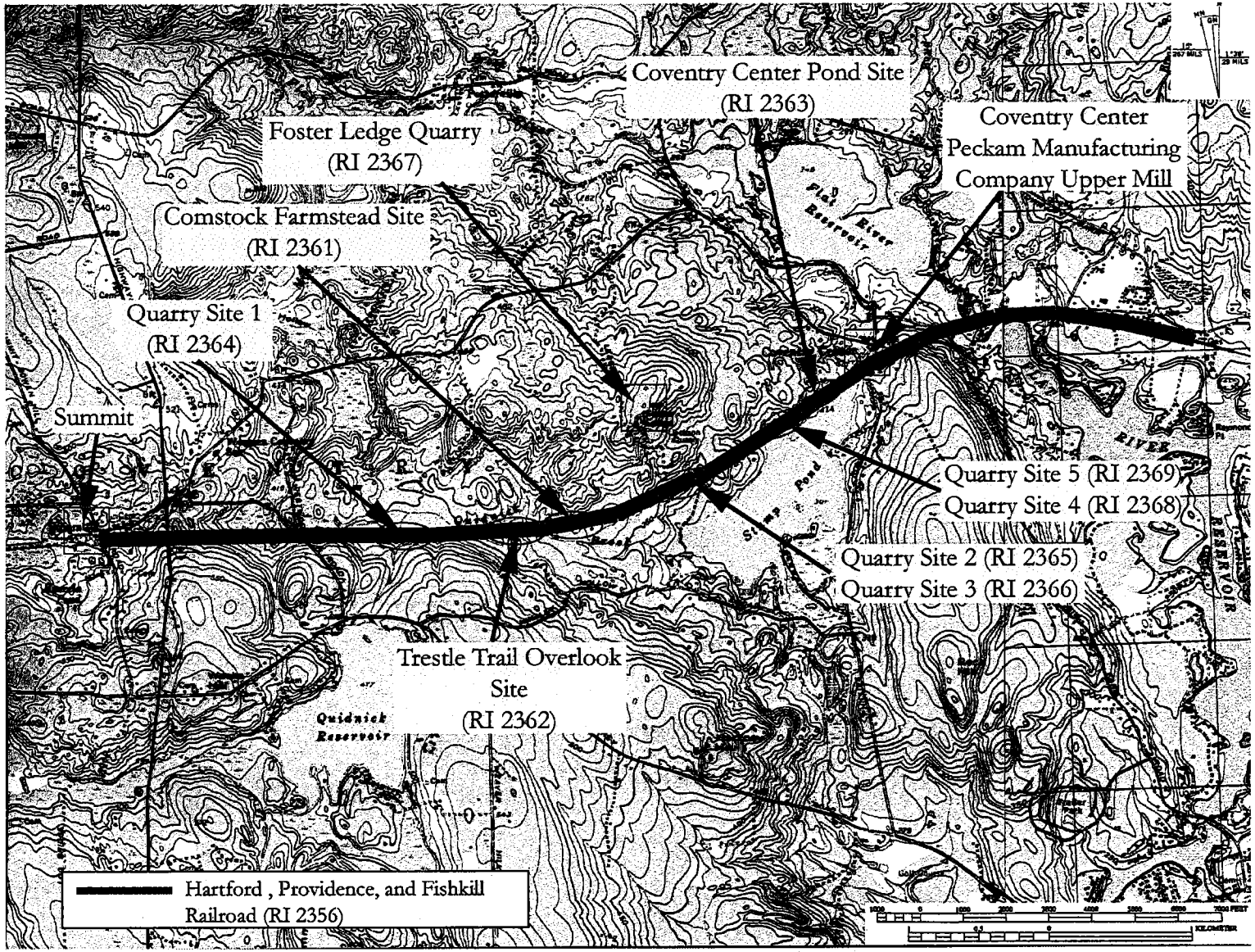


Figure 1. Location of archaeological sites, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East), Crompton and Coventry Center, RI, USGS quadrangles.

HISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES INVENTORY

R.I. HISTORICAL PRESERVATION AND HERITAGE COMMISSION
150 BENEFIT STREET
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SITE NUMBER	RI-2366		
UTM	19	279394	4618991
QUAD	Coventry Center		

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
STATUS*
☐ NR ☐ MNR ☐ NEX
☐ PNR ☐ NNR

IDENTIFICATION

SITE NAME: Quarry Site 3 | OTHER SITE NO.:

TOWN: Coventry | PLAT and LOT:

STREET (and/or location):

OWNER(S): Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management and Lea Grotte ☑ PRIVATE ☐ PUBLIC ☑ STATE

ATTITUDE TOWARD EXCAVATION: compliance

USE (Present): abandoned | (Historic): commercial quarry

HOW LOCATED: walkover survey

INFORMANTS:

DESCRIPTION

PERIOD: ☐ Contact ☐ 17th C. ☐ 18th C. ☑ 19th C. ☐ 20th C. ☐ Unknown ☐ Other (Specify)

ESTIMATED OCCUPATION RANGE:

DATING METHODS	DOCUMENTS	COMPARATIVE MATERIALS	OTHER

SITE TYPE: ☐ Contact ☑ Rural ☐ Commercial ☐ Other (Specify) ☐ Agrarian ☐ Urban ☑ Industrial ☐ Unknown

APPROXIMATE SIZE AND BOUNDARIES:
The horizontal limits of the Phase II Site Examination measure 90 x 70 meters, though elements associated with the site continue for some distance to the north. Post-contact cultural materials were recovered from plowzone and fill contexts to a maximum depth of 78 cmbs.

STRATIGRAPHY: ☑ Surface Finds ☑ Plowed ☐ Not Stratified ☑ Stratified ☐ Major Disturbance ☐ Standing Ruins ☐ No Visible Evidence ☐ Cellar Hole ☐ Other (Specify)

ENVIRONMENT

USDA SOIL SERIES	CONTOUR ELEVATION	SLOPE %
Narragansett silt loams	350 ft. asl	☑ 0-5 ☐ 5-15 ☐ 15-25 ☐ over 25

NEAREST FRESH WATER SOURCE-TYPE	SIZE AND RANK	DISTANCE FROM SITE	SEASONAL AVAILABILITY
Stump Pond		500 ft.	year round
NEAREST SALT WATER SOURCE-TYPE	SIZE AND RANK	DISTANCE FROM SITE	SEASONAL AVAILABILITY
Narragansett Bay		ca. 11 miles	year round

VEGETATION (Present): oak-dominated forest, poison ivy | (Past): unknown

*NR - On the National Register of Historic Places; NNR - Not eligible for the N.R.H.P
PNR - In the process of being nominated to the N.R.H.P.; NEX - No longer extant
MNR - May be eligible for the National Register after evaluation

CONDITION

SITE INTEGRITY	☐ Undisturbed	☑ Good	☐ Fair	☐ Destroyed
THREATS TO SITE	☐ None known	☐ Private	☐ Erosion	☐ Other
	☐ Highways	☐ Vandalism	☑ Unknown	
SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT	☑ Open land	☐ Coastal	☐ Industrial	☑ Rural
	☐ Commercial	☑ Woodland	☑ Residential	☐ Other
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC VISIBLE FROM ROAD		☑ Yes	☐ No	

PAST RESEARCH

PREVIOUS EXCAVATIONS

- ☐ Surface Collected
- ☐ Pot Hunted
- ☐ Tested ☑ Phase I
- ☑ Phase II
- ☐ Phase III
- ☐ Excavation

BY WHOM/AFFILIATION	DATE
Tim Ives	December 2004
Ora Elquist/ PAL	2006

PRESENT LOCATION OF MATERIALS

PAL: 210 Lonsdale Ave., Pawtucket, RI 02860

PUBLISHED REFERENCES

Ives, Timothy H., Ora Elquist, Joseph N. Waller, Jr., Kristen Heitert, and A. Peter Mair, II
2007 Phase I(C) Archaeological Survey: Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) Project Corridor and Phase II Site Examinations: Comstock Farmstead Site (RI 2361), Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363), Quarry Site 3 (RI 2366), Quarry Site 4 (RI 2368), and Foster Ledge Quarry (RI 2367), Coventry, Rhode Island.

UNPUBLISHED REFERENCES

SIGNIFICANCE

RECOVERED DATA - RANGE AND DEPTH OF MATERIALS

The archaeological site examination of the Quarry 3 Site (RI 2366) revealed that the site consists of an area where large, split boulders quarried from nearby boulder fields underwent final shaping and processing as part of a commercial operation. The site examination area consists of an area measuring approximately 90-x-70 meters, though elements associated with the site continue farther to the north. The vertical limits of the site are restricted to plowzone and fill contexts, extending to 78 cmbs.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OR HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE

The site examination and archival research effectively demonstrate that the Quarry 3 site was part of the larger Foster Ledge granite quarry operation to the north. The property was used for rough finishing granite blocks in preparation for rail shipment from at least as early as 1889 and well into the mid twentieth century. Based on comparisons with similar quarrying operations in New England, specifically the Bunker Hill quarry in Quincy, Massachusetts, the configuration of the site appears typical for the function of the work performed there. The low density of cultural materials recovered from the site and the largely surficial nature of the surviving structural components indicates that additional archaeological work is unlikely to yield new or substantive information about the site. The Quarry 3 site does not meet the elegibility criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. No additional archaeological work is recommended for the Quarry 3 site.

ADD INFO

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

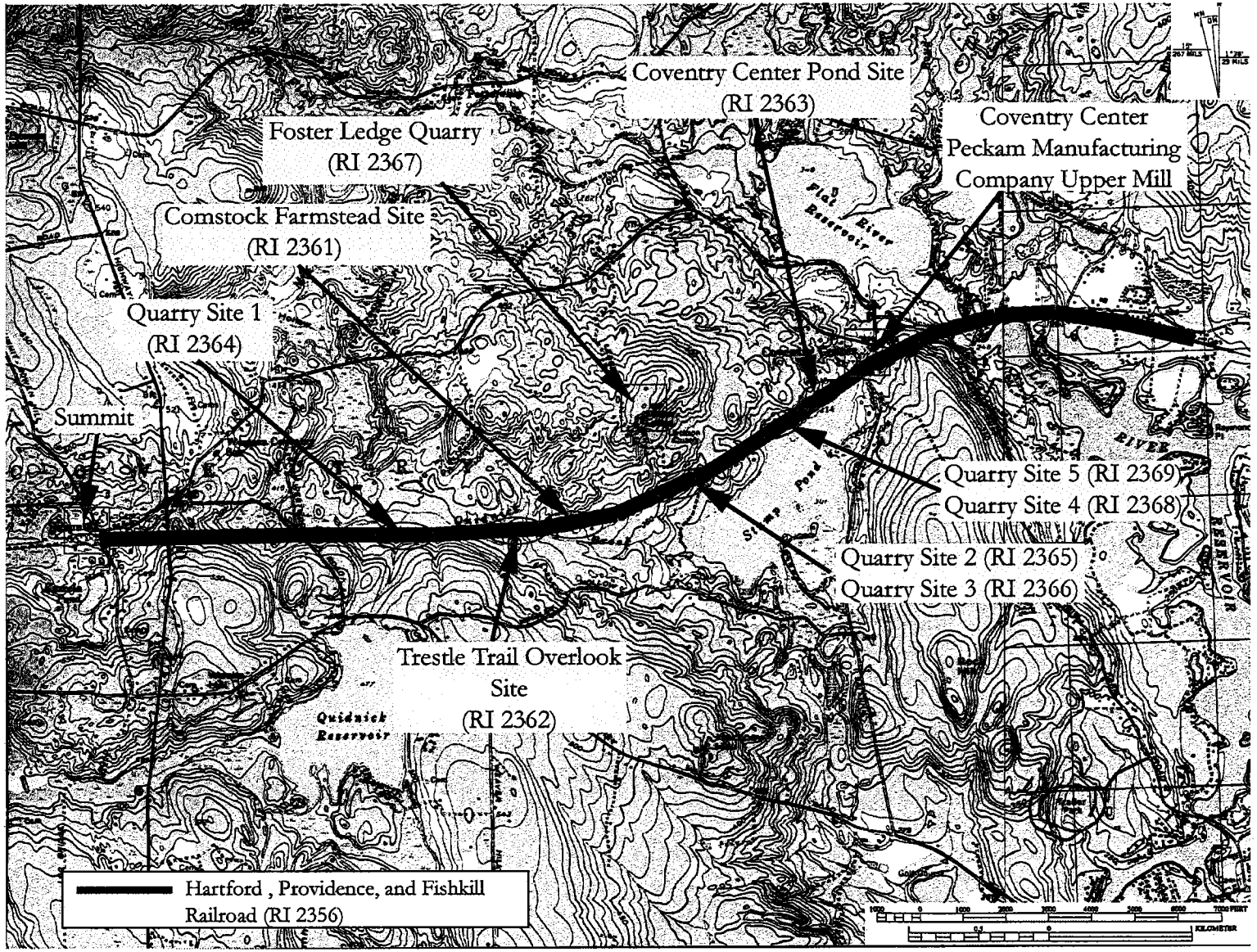


Figure 1. Location of archaeological sites, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East), Crompton and Coventry Center, RI, USGS quadrangles.

HISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES INVENTORY

R.I. HISTORICAL PRESERVATION AND HERITAGE COMMISSION
150 BENEFIT STREET
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SITE NUMBER	RI-2367		
UTM	19	279294	4618991
QUAD	Coventry Center		

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
STATUS*
☐ NR ☐ MNR ☐ NEX
☐ PNR ☐ NNR

IDENTIFICATION

SITE NAME: Foster Ledge Quarry
OTHER SITE NO.:
TOWN: Coventry
PLAT and LOT:
STREET (and/or location):
OWNER(S): Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management ☐ PRIVATE ☐ PUBLIC ☑ STATE
ATTITUDE TOWARD EXCAVATION: compliance
USE (Present): abandoned (Historic): quarry
HOW LOCATED: walkover survey
INFORMANTS:

DESCRIPTION

PERIOD: ☐ Contact ☐ 17th C. ☐ 18th C. ☑ 19th C. ☐ 20th C. ☐ Unknown ☐ Other (Specify)
ESTIMATED OCCUPATION RANGE: 1862

DATING METHODS	DOCUMENTS	COMPARATIVE MATERIALS	OTHER

SITE TYPE: ☐ Contact ☐ Rural ☐ Commercial ☐ Other (Specify)
☐ Agrarian ☐ Urban ☑ Industrial ☐ Unknown

APPROXIMATE SIZE AND BOUNDARIES:
Foster Ledge Quarry consists of a number of elements, including several that fall outside of the project area. The main quarry and two worker houses are located north of the project area. Within the project area are a cut granite stone retaining wall that served as a loading platform to the railroad, Foster Ledge Road, a dirt path/road that links the quarry to the railroad, and numerous piles of waste material.

STRATIGRAPHY: ☑ Surface Finds ☐ Plowed ☐ Not Stratified ☐ Stratified ☐ Major Disturbance
☐ Standing Ruins ☐ No Visible Evidence ☐ Cellar Hole ☐ Other (Specify)

ENVIRONMENT

USDA SOIL SERIES	CONTOUR ELEVATION	SLOPE %
Hinckley sandy loam	347 ft. asl	☐ 0-5 ☐ 5-15 ☐ 15-25 ☐ over 25

NEAREST FRESH WATER SOURCE-TYPE	SIZE AND RANK	DISTANCE FROM SITE	SEASONAL AVAILABILITY
Stump Pond		2700 feet	year round
NEAREST SALT WATER SOURCE-TYPE	SIZE AND RANK	DISTANCE FROM SITE	SEASONAL AVAILABILITY
Narragansett Bay		ca. 11 miles	year round

VEGETATION (Present): oak-dominated forest (Past): unknown

*NR - On the National Register of Historic Places; NNR - Not eligible for the N.R.H.P
PNR - In the process of being nominated to the N.R.H.P.; NEX - No longer extant
MNR - May be eligible for the National Register after evaluation

CONDITION

SITE INTEGRITY	☐ Undisturbed	☑ Good	☐ Fair	☐ Destroyed
THREATS TO SITE	☐ None known	☐ Private	☐ Erosion	☐ Other
	☐ Highways	☐ Vandalism	☑ Unknown	
SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT	☐ Open land	☐ Coastal	☐ Industrial	☐ Rural
	☐ Commercial	☑ Woodland	☐ Residential	☐ Other
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC VISIBLE FROM ROAD		☐ Yes	☑ No	

PAST RESEARCH

PREVIOUS EXCAVATIONS

☐ Surface Collected

☐ Pot Hunted

☐ Tested ☐ Phase I

☐ Phase II

☐ Phase III

☐ Excavation

BY WHOM/AFFILIATION	DATE
Tim Ives	December 2005
Ora Elquist	September 2006

PRESENT LOCATION OF MATERIALS

PUBLISHED REFERENCES

Ives, Timothy H., Ora Elquist, Joseph N. Waller, Jr., Kristen Heitert, and A. Peter Mair, II
2007 Phase I(C) Archaeological Survey: Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) Project Corridor and Phase II Site Examinations: Comstock Farmstead Site (RI 2361), Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363), Quarry Site 3 (RI 2366), Quarry Site 4 (RI 2368), and Foster Ledge Quarry (RI 2367), Coventry, Rhode Island.

UNPUBLISHED REFERENCES

SIGNIFICANCE

RECOVERED DATA - RANGE AND DEPTH OF MATERIALS

No archaeological investigations conducted as site lies outside of project corridor.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OR HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE

ADD INFO

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

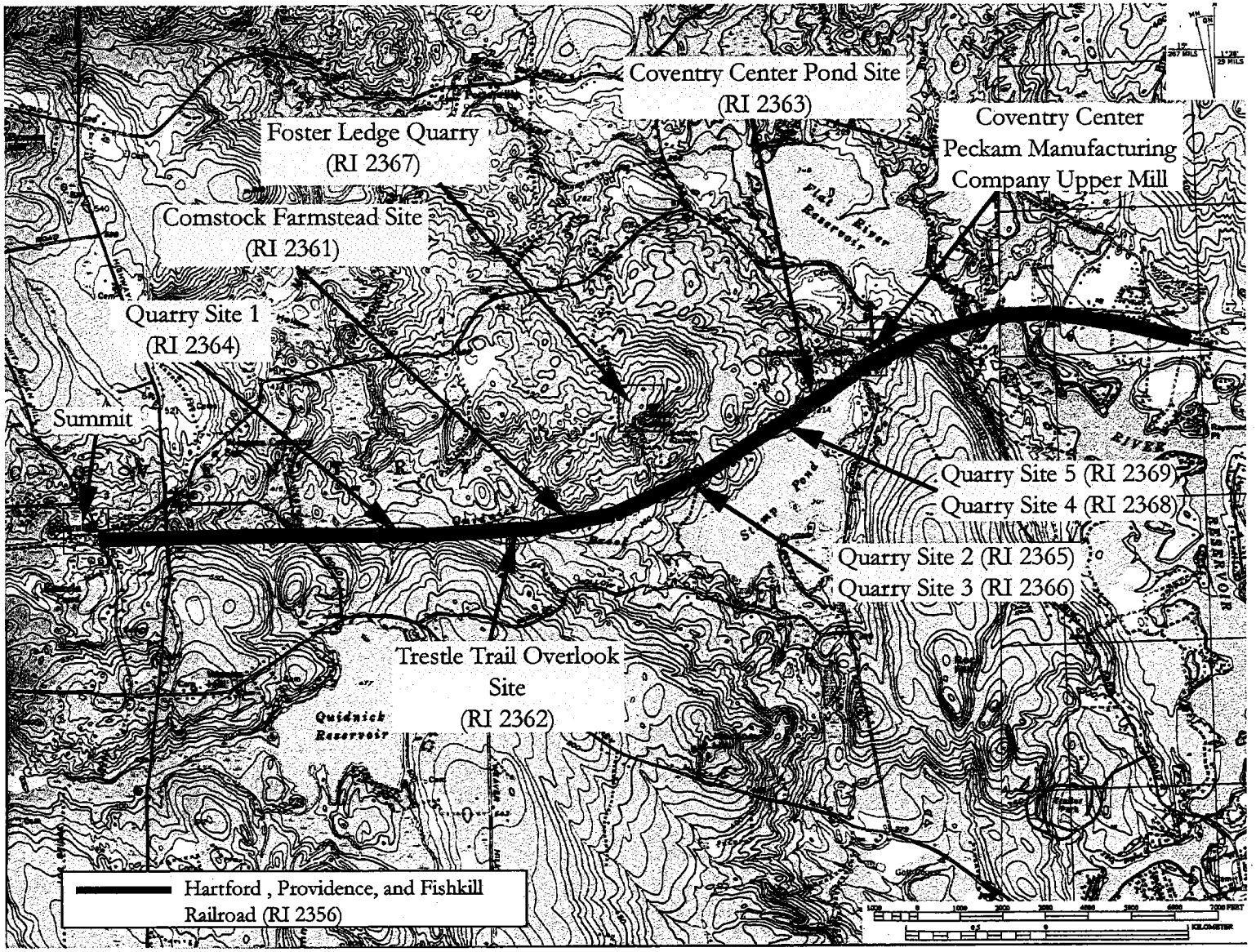


Figure 1. Location of archaeological sites, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East), Crompton and Coventry Center, RI, USGS quadrangles.

HISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES INVENTORY

R.I. HISTORICAL PRESERVATION AND HERITAGE COMMISSION
150 BENEFIT STREET
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SITE NUMBER	RI-2368		
UTM	19	279942	4619339
QUAD	Coventry Center		

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
STATUS*
☐ NR ☐ MNR ☐ NEX
☐ PNR ☐ NNR

IDENTIFICATION

SITE NAME: Quarry Site 4	OTHER SITE NO.
TOWN: Coventry	PLAT and LOT
STREET (and/or location)	
OWNER(S): Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management	☐ PRIVATE ☐ PUBLIC ☑ STATE
ATTITUDE TOWARD EXCAVATION: compliance	
USE (Present): abandoned	(Historic): quarry
HOW LOCATED: walkover survey	
INFORMANTS	

DESCRIPTION

PERIOD
☐ Contact ☐ 17th C. ☐ 18th C. ☑ 19th C. ☐ 20th C. ☐ Unknown ☐ Other (Specify)

ESTIMATED OCCUPATION RANGE

DATING METHODS	DOCUMENTS	COMPARATIVE MATERIALS	OTHER

SITE TYPE
☐ Contact ☑ Rural ☐ Commercial ☐ Other (Specify)
☐ Agrarian ☐ Urban ☑ Industrial ☐ Unknown

APPROXIMATE SIZE AND BOUNDARIES
Boulder quarry field containing numerous pit depressions, split and drilled granite boulders, along with trimmed granite boulders and tailings, and a granite culvert. Area of observed quarrying activity measures 70 x 45 meters and artifacts were recovered between 0 and 20 cmbs.

STRATIGRAPHY
☑ Surface Finds ☐ Plowed ☑ Not Stratified ☐ Stratified ☐ Major Disturbance
☐ Standing Ruins ☐ No Visible Evidence ☐ Cellar Hole ☐ Other (Specify)

ENVIRONMENT

USDA SOIL SERIES	CONTOUR ELEVATION	SLOPE %	
Canton and Charlton fine sandy loams	317 ft asl	☐ 0-5 ☐ 5-15 ☐ 15-25 ☑ over 25	

NEAREST FRESH WATER SOURCE-TYPE	SIZE AND RANK	DISTANCE FROM SITE	SEASONAL AVAILABILITY
Stump Pond		<50 ft	year round
NEAREST SALT WATER SOURCE-TYPE	SIZE AND RANK	DISTANCE FROM SITE	SEASONAL AVAILABILITY
Narragansett Bay		ca. 11 miles	year round

VEGETATION (Present)	(Past)
oak-dominated forest with an underbrush of bluberry bushes	unknown

*NR - On the National Register of Historic Places; NNR - Not eligible for the N.R.H.P
PNR - In the process of being nominated to the N.R.H.P.; NEX - No longer extant
MNR - May be eligible for the National Register after evaluation

CONDITION

SITE INTEGRITY: ☑ Undisturbed ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Destroyed

THREATS TO SITE: ☐ None known ☐ Private ☐ Erosion ☐ Other ☐ Highways ☐ Vandalism ☑ Unknown

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: ☐ Open land ☐ Coastal ☐ Industrial ☐ Rural ☐ Commercial ☑ Woodland ☐ Residential ☐ Other

ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC VISIBLE FROM ROAD: ☐ Yes ☑ No

PAST RESEARCH

PREVIOUS EXCAVATIONS

☐ Surface Collected
☐ Pot Hunted
☐ Tested ☑ Phase I
☑ Phase II
☐ Phase III
☐ Excavation

BY WHOM/AFFILIATION	DATE
Tim Ives	December 2004
Ora Elquist/ PAL	2006

PRESENT LOCATION OF MATERIALS

PAL: 210 Lonsdale Ave, Pawtucket, RI 02860

PUBLISHED REFERENCES

Ives, Timothy H., Ora Elquist, Joseph N. Waller, Jr., Kristen Heitert, and A. Peter Mair, II 2007 Phase I(C) Archaeological Survey: Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) Project Corridor and Phase II Site Examinations: Comstock Farmstead Site (RI 2361), Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363), Quarry Site 3 (RI 2366), Quarry Site 4 (RI 2368), and Foster Ledge Quarry (RI 2367), Coventry, Rhode Island.

UNPUBLISHED REFERENCES

SIGNIFICANCE

RECOVERED DATA - RANGE AND DEPTH OF MATERIALS

The archaeological site examination of the Quarry Site 4 (RI 2368) revealed that the site consists of several quarry features comprised of pit depressions and drilled and split granite boulders covering an area approximately 70 x 45 meters, and extends vertically to 20 cmbs. The relative lack of artifacts throughout the area, relatively small amount of features, topographic setting, and archival data all suggest that the Quarry 4 site was not part of a commercial operation or a small-scale farm quarry, but an expedient quarrying site associated with the construction of the railroad. There is a granite-lined culvert running beneath the railroad berm marking the south boundary of the site. This culvert likely was built to create a drainage path for water on the north side of the track that would effectively be blocked by the berm. The observed quarrying activity at the site likely produced the granite for this culvert. Subsurface investigations also produced several isolated pieces of pre-contact chipping debris that are interpreted as the end product of expedient toll manufacture or maintenance and not a site.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OR HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE

The Quarry Site 4 does not meet the eligibility criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. No additional archaeological work is recommended for the Quarry Site 4.

ADD INFO

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

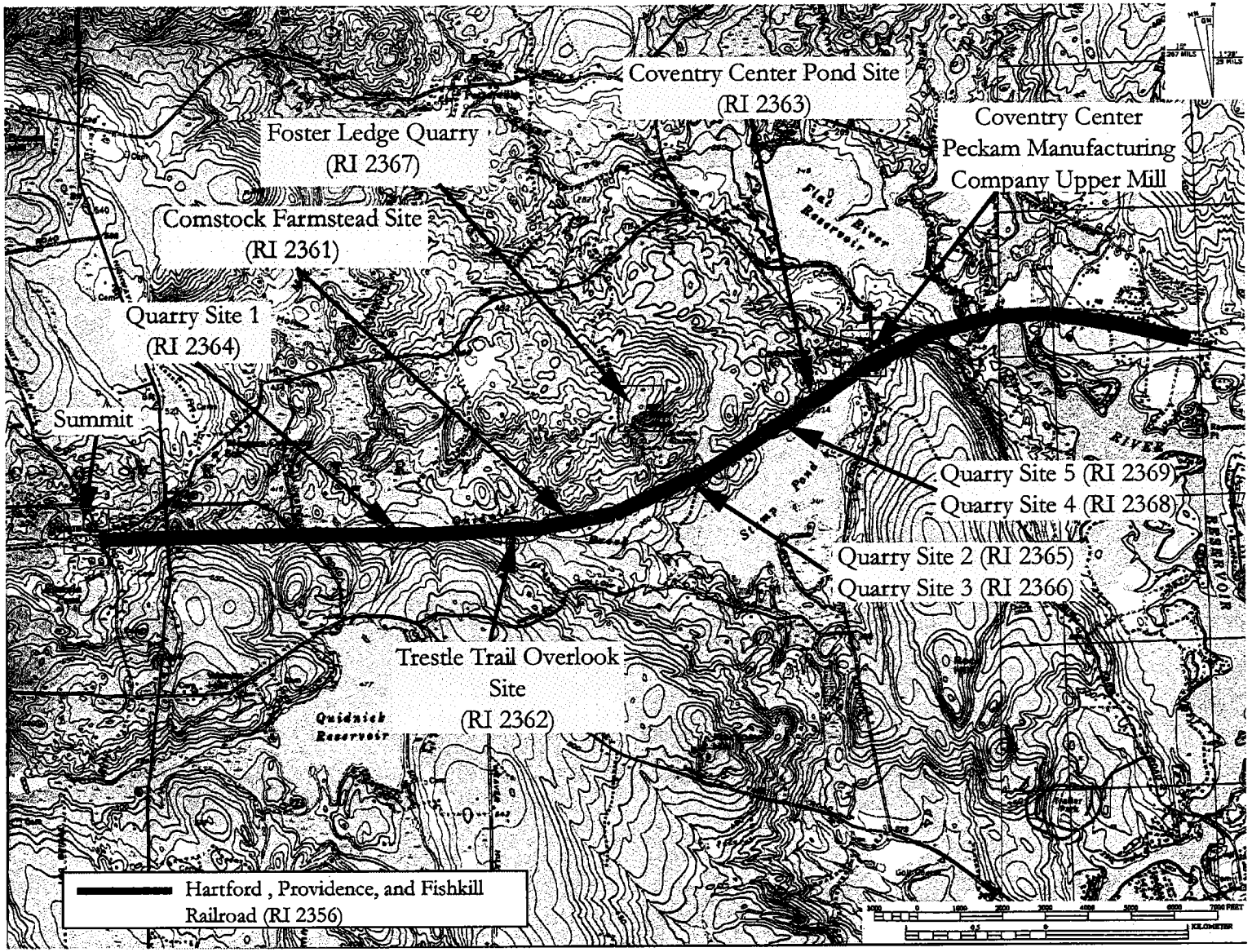


Figure 1. Location of archaeological sites, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East), Crompton and Coventry Center, RI, USGS quadrangles.

HISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES INVENTORY

R.I. HISTORICAL PRESERVATION AND HERITAGE COMMISSION
150 BENEFIT STREET
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SITE NUMBER	RI-2369		
UTM	19	280058	4619404
QUAD	Coventry Center		

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
STATUS*
☐ NR ☐ MNR ☐ NEX
☐ PNR ☐ NNR

IDENTIFICATION

SITE NAME: Quarry Site 5 | OTHER SITE NO.:

TOWN: Coventry | PLAT and LOT:

STREET (and/or location):

OWNER(S): Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management ☐ PRIVATE ☐ PUBLIC ☑ STATE

ATTITUDE TOWARD EXCAVATION: compliance

USE (Present): abandoned | (Historic): quarry

HOW LOCATED: walkover survey

INFORMANTS:

DESCRIPTION

PERIOD: ☐ Contact ☐ 17th C. ☐ 18th C. ☑ 19th C. ☐ 20th C. ☐ Unknown ☐ Other (Specify)

ESTIMATED OCCUPATION RANGE:

DATING METHODS	DOCUMENTS	COMPARATIVE MATERIALS	OTHER

SITE TYPE: ☐ Contact ☑ Rural ☐ Commercial ☐ Other (Specify)
☐ Agrarian ☐ Urban ☑ Industrial ☐ Unknown

APPROXIMATE SIZE AND BOUNDARIES:
6 foot deep quarry cut into hillside north of railroad bed.

STRATIGRAPHY: ☑ Surface Finds ☐ Plowed ☐ Not Stratified ☐ Stratified ☐ Major Disturbance
☐ Standing Ruins ☐ No Visible Evidence ☐ Cellar Hole ☐ Other (Specify)

ENVIRONMENT

USDA SOIL SERIES	CONTOUR ELEVATION	SLOPE %
Canton & Charlton fine sandy loam	318 ft. asl	☐ 0-5 ☐ 5-15 ☐ 15-25 ☐ over 25

NEAREST FRESH WATER SOURCE-TYPE	SIZE AND RANK	DISTANCE FROM SITE	SEASONAL AVAILABILITY
Stump Pond		50 feet	year round
NEAREST SALT WATER SOURCE-TYPE	SIZE AND RANK	DISTANCE FROM SITE	SEASONAL AVAILABILITY
Narragansett Bay		ca. 11 miles	year round

VEGETATION (Present)	(Past)
oak-dominated forest	unknown

*NR - On the National Register of Historic Places; NNR - Not eligible for the N.R.H.P
PNR - In the process of being nominated to the N.R.H.P.; NEX - No longer extant
MNR - May be eligible for the National Register after evaluation

CONDITION

SITE INTEGRITY: ☐ Undisturbed ☑ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Destroyed

THREATS TO SITE: ☐ None known ☐ Private ☐ Erosion ☐ Other ☐ Highways ☐ Vandalism ☑ Unknown

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: ☐ Open land ☐ Coastal ☐ Industrial ☐ Rural ☐ Commercial ☑ Woodland ☐ Residential ☐ Other

ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC VISIBLE FROM ROAD: ☐ Yes ☑ No

PAST RESEARCH

PREVIOUS EXCAVATIONS

☐ Surface Collected
☐ Pot Hunted
☐ Tested ☑ Phase I
☐ Phase II
☐ Phase III
☐ Excavation

BY WHOM/AFFILIATION	DATE
Tim Ives	December 2004

PRESENT LOCATION OF MATERIALS

PUBLISHED REFERENCES

Ives, Timothy H., Ora Elquist, Joseph N. Waller, Jr., Kristen Heitert, and A. Peter Mair, II
2007 Phase I(C) Archaeological Survey: Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) Project Corridor and Phase II Site Examinations: Comstock Farmstead Site (RI 2361), Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363), Quarry Site 3 (RI 2366), Quarry Site 4 (RI 2368), and Foster Ledge Quarry (RI 2367), Coventry, Rhode Island.

UNPUBLISHED REFERENCES

SIGNIFICANCE

RECOVERED DATA - RANGE AND DEPTH OF MATERIALS

Quarry Site 5 contains the remains of discarded and dumped granite stones. Rrelatively small quarry pit or topographic basin that contains discarded granite. Quarry basin, which measures a few meters across, was likely produced by excavating around targeted rock masses well beneath surface grade to facilitate extraction. The original targeted rock masses may have been deeply buried boulders or surface ledge exposures. The site reflects small-scale expedient granite quarrying was using hand-tools.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OR HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE

Subsurface testing did not indicate the presence of associated artifact assemblages. The sites contain limited archaeological or historical information and does not represent a potentially significant cultural resource. No additional investigation is recommended.

ADD INFO

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

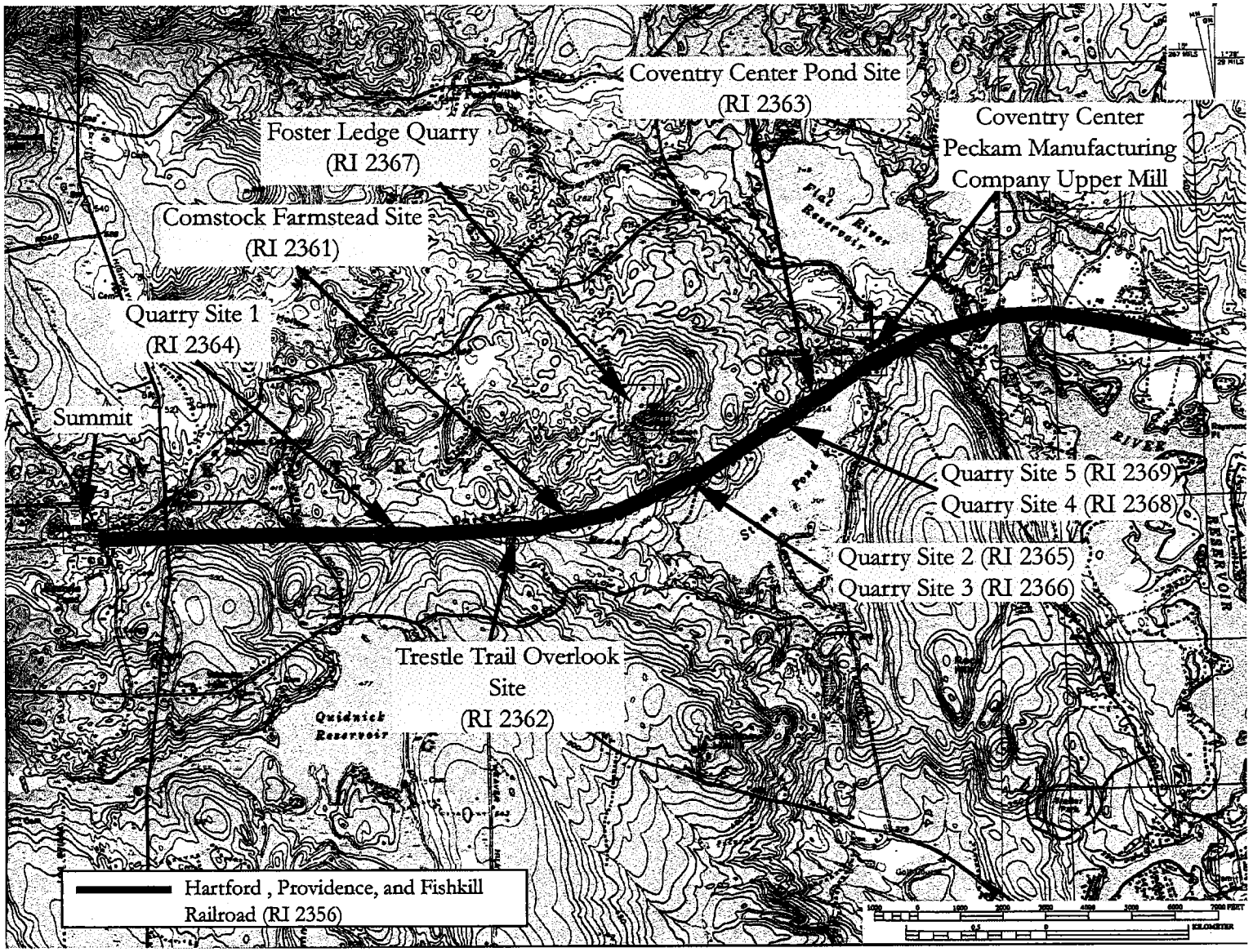


Figure 1. Location of archaeological sites, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East), Crompton and Coventry Center, RI, USGS quadrangles.

APPENDIX D

PROJECT CORRESPONDENCE

04-32

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL PRESERVATION AND HERITAGE COMMISSION

Application for permission to conduct archaeological field investigations (pursuant to the Antiquities Act of Rhode Island, G.L. 42-45 and the R.I. Procedures for Registration and Protection of Historic Properties)

1. Applicant's name and address

   A. Principal Investigator(s): A. Peter Mair, II

   B. Field Supervisor(s): Joseph Waller

mld
RIHPHC
11/3/04

2. Previous experience (attach vita): *On File*

3. Beginning date of project: November 2004

4. Duration of project: Eight Months

5. Location of project: Trestle Trail, Coventry
   Please See Attached

6. Ownership: State of Rhode Island

7. Scope of project (refer to applicable scope in Survey Standards): Phase I(c) Archaeological Survey

8. Research design (present research problems, formulate hypotheses, discuss how hypotheses will be tested with data, discuss how data will be manipulated and hypotheses evaluated).

   Attach extra sheets: *Please See Attached*

9. Attach budget: *Please See Attached*

10. Specify repository: The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.
    210 Lonsdale Avenue
    Pawtucket, Rhode Island 02860

11. Projected completion of final report and date when a draft review copy will be submitted to RIHP&HC:

    A. Draft: May 2005

    B. Final: July 2005

I, A. Peter Mair, II, (archaeologist,) certify that the information contained in this application is correct, and that I will comply with applicable federal and state legislation, regulations and standards, and any special conditions appended to this application. I understand that any change to the specifications of this permit, the research design, or project scope of work, without the approval of the RIHP&HC, may result in the revocation of this permit and the cessation of archaeological investigations. I also understand that should I fail to satisfy the conditions of this permit (items 7,8,9,10,11) the RIHP&HC may decide not to issue me, or my employer, permits for future projects until the deficiencies under this permit are resolved.

I, Edward S. Szymanski, P.E., (project proponent) agree to comply with applicable federal and state legislation and special conditions attached to this permit. I also agree to maintain adequate security at the project area, and, if determined necessary by the RIHP&HC, will take steps, as required by the RIHP&HC, to prevent trespassers or other unauthorized individuals from causing harm to the archaeological site or sites under investigation.

#04-32 11/8/04 - 6/30/05
Permit Effective Date

A. Peter Mair
Applicant(s)

Anderson 11/5/04
Approved By
Rhode Island Historical Preservation
and Heritage Commission

Edward S. Szymanski 10/29/04
Project Proponent

Reviewed By: Paul A. Robinson, RIHP&HC Staff Archaeologist

See below for any attached Special Conditions that may apply to this permit:

1.) Native American Special Condition Yes XX No _____

2.) Other Special Conditions Yes _____ No XX

The RIHP&HC reserves the right to amend the terms and conditions of this permit based on new information received in the course of the project.

Form Revised 10/98

Native American special condition
RIHPHC Archaeological permit: #04-32
Effective date: 11/8/04 - 6/30/05

The Narragansett Indian Tribal Historic Preservation Officer has stated an interest in this project and in accordance with the RIHPHC's Survey Standards the following items apply:

1. The RIHPHC will send a copy of the permit application to the NITHPO. ~ 11/3/04 PBR

2. The project archaeologist shall seek the input of the NITHPO in carrying out the work. The RIHPHC encourages archaeologists and the NITHPO to maintain cooperative and collegial relationships and to share information about work in progress.

3. The project archaeologist shall inform the NITHPO when field work will begin.

4. The project archaeologist shall send copies of the draft and final report or management memo to the NITHPO.

5. The RIHPHC will notify the NITHPO when the archaeological report or management memo are accepted and what further work (if any) the RIHPHC has required.

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

Rhode Island Department of Transportation
ENVIRONMENTAL & INTERMODAL PLANNING
Two Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02903-1124
ENVIRONMENTAL PHONE (401) 222-2023
INTERMODAL PHONE (401) 222-4203
FAX (401) 222-2207 TDD (401) 222-4971

November 23, 2004

CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr. John Brown
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Narragansett Indian Tribe
P.O. Box 700
Wyoming, RI 02898

Re: Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East)
Coventry, Rhode Island
RIFAP No. HHP-0506 (002)
Phase I (c) Archaeological Survey

Dear Mr. Brown:

This letter is to inform you that the Phase I (c) archaeological survey for the above referenced project will commence on the morning of Wednesday, December 1, 2004 (weather permitting). The survey will be conducted by the Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. (PAL) of Pawtucket, RI under the direction of Mr. Peter Mair. A copy of this letter has also been faxed on this date to your office.

Within three weeks of the completion of field work, a brief memorandum summarizing the results of the survey will be prepared by PAL, Inc. for forwarding by our office to the consulting parties. Should you have any questions on design elements of the project, kindly contact Michael Hébert of my staff at (401) 222-2023, extension 4040. Please contact Mr. Mair of PAL at (401) 728-8780 with any questions concerning the proposed field work.

Sincerely,

Edward S. Szymanski, P.E.
Associate Chief Engineer
Office of Environmental Programs

MAH/cc
cc: Messrs. Bennett, Szymanski, Smith, Hébert, Mair-PAL, Thomas-Chief Sachem; Ms. Marshall

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL PRESERVATION AND HERITAGE COMMISSION

Application for permission to conduct archaeological field investigations (pursuant to the Antiquities Act of Rhode Island, G.L. 42-45 and the R.I. Procedures for Registration and Protection of Historic Properties)

1. Applicant's name and address

   A. Principal Investigator(s): A. Peter Mair, II

   B. Field Supervisor(s): Joseph N. Waller

2. Previous experience (attach vita): *On File*

3. Beginning date of project: May 2006

4. Duration of project: 6 months

5. Location of project: *Trestle Trail, Coventry Please See Attached*

6. Ownership: State of Rhode Island

7. Scope of project (refer to applicable scope in Survey Standards): Phase II Site Examination

8. Research design (present research problems, formulate hypotheses, discuss how hypotheses will be tested with data, discuss how data will be manipulated and hypotheses evaluated).

   Attach extra sheets: *Please See Attached*

9. Attach budget: *Please See Attached*

10. Specify repository: The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.
    210 Lonsdale Avenue
    Pawtucket, Rhode Island 02860

11. Projected completion of final report and date when a draft review copy will be submitted to RIHP&HC:

   A. Draft: August 2006

   B. Final: October 2006

I, A. Peter Mair, II, (archaeologist,) certify that the information contained in this application is correct, and that I will comply with applicable federal and state legislation, regulations and standards, and any special conditions appended to this application. I understand that any change to the specifications of this permit, the research design, or project scope of work, without the approval of the RIHP&HC, may result in the revocation of this permit and the cessation of archaeological investigations. I also understand that should I fail to satisfy the conditions of this permit (items 7,8,9,10,11) the RIHP&HC may decide not to issue me, or my employer, permits for future projects until the deficiencies under this permit are resolved.

I, Edward S. Szymanski, P.E., (project proponent) agree to comply with applicable federal and state legislation and special conditions attached to this permit. I also agree to maintain adequate security at the project area, and, if determined necessary by the RIHP&HC, will take steps, as required by the RIHP&HC, to prevent trespassers or other unauthorized individuals from causing harm to the archaeological site or sites under investigation.

#2006-23 6/30/06 - 12/31/06
Permit Effective Date

Applicant(s)

Approved By
Rhode Island Historical Preservation
and Heritage Commission

5/26/06
Project Proponent

Reviewed By: _____, RIHP&HC Staff Archaeologist

See below for any attached Special Conditions that may apply to this permit:

1.) Native American Special Condition Yes ✓ No _____

2.) Other Special Conditions Yes ✓ No _____ please see attached

The RIHP&HC reserves the right to amend the terms and conditions of this permit based on new information received in the course of the project.

Form Revised 10/98

PN 1709.01 Trestle Trail SE

RIHPHC Archaeological permit: #2006-23
Effective date: 06/30/06 – 12/31/06

Native American special condition

The Narragansett Indian Tribal Historic Preservation Officer has stated an interest in this project and in accordance with the RIHPHC's *Survey Standards* the following items apply:

1. The RIHPHC will send a copy of the permit application to the NITHPO.

2. The project archaeologist shall seek the input of the NITHPO in carrying out the work. The RIHPHC encourages archaeologists and the NITHPO to maintain cooperative and collegial relationships and to share information about work in progress.

3. The project archaeologist shall inform the NITHPO when fieldwork will begin.

4. The project archaeologist shall send copies of the draft and final report or management memo to the NITHPO.

5. The RIHPHC will notify the NITHPO when the archaeological report or management memo is accepted and what further work (if any) the RIHPHC has required.

Other Special Condition

A qualified historical archaeologist must supervise work at the Euro-American sites.

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
HISTORICAL PRESERVATION & HERITAGE COMMISSION
Old State House • 150 Benefit Street • Providence, R.I. 02903-1209
TEL (401) 222-2678 FAX (401) 222-2968
TTY (401) 222-3700 Website www.preservation.ri.gov

June 18, 2004

Mr. Edward S. Szymanski
Associate Chief Engineer
Office of Environmental Programs
Rhode Island Department of Transportation
2 Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02903

Re: Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East)
Log Bridge Road to Town Bridge Road, Coventry

Dear Mr. Szymanski:

The Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission staff has reviewed the Section 106 Documentation Form for this proposed project. We have the following comments.

As noted, the project involves the Hartford, Providence and Fishkill Railroad, a property determined eligible for National Register listing by consensus. Affected features of this resource include the rail bed and the four bridge crossings in this segment. Secondary features such as drainage culverts may also be present. The Supplement to Structure Type Study for the bridges shows a solid concrete parapet proposed for the short span bridges. To our knowledge there is no historical precedent for a closed concrete parapet of this type. Rather than introduce a new non-historical design element, an open railing like that proposed for the long span bridges would be more compatible with the historic character of these structures and should be used.

We agree that an archaeological survey may be appropriate. The project passes through Coventry Center, a historic mill village, and that section of the corridor is sensitive for potential historical archaeological resources. Just west of Coventry Center is the Foster Ledge quarry, where quarry workers' housing and potentially other features of this 19th-century operation abut the path.

These comments are provided in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Richard E. Greenwood, Project Review Coordinator of this office.

Very truly yours,

Edward Sanderson

Edward F. Sanderson
Executive Director
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Cc: Mike Hebert, RIDOT
(040618.01)

October 22, 2004

Michael Hebert
Supervising Historic Preservation Planner
Rhode Island Department of transportation
Two Capitol Hill, Room 229
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Re: Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East)
Coventry, Rhode Island
RIFAP No. HPP-0506 (002)
Phase I(c) Archaeological Survey
PAL #1709

Dear Mr. Hebert:

Enclosed please find a revised application for a permit to conduct a Phase I(c) archaeological investigation for the proposed Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) in Coventry, Rhode Island. Please have the application signed and returned to us. We will then forward the complete permit application to the Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission for further processing.

If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact Deborah C. Cox, President, or me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A. Peter Mair, II
Senior Archaeologist

/kf

Enclosure

cc: Hugh Neenan, United International Corporation (w/o encl.)

210 Lonsdale Avenue
Pawtucket, RI 02860
TEL 401.728.8780
FAX 401.728.8784

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

Rhode Island Department of Transportation
ENVIRONMENTAL & INTERMODAL PLANNING
Two Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02903-1124
ENVIRONMENTAL PHONE (401) 222-2023
INTERMODAL PHONE (401) 222-4203
FAX (401) 222-2207 TDD (401) 222-4971

July 27, 2006

CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr. James Soctomah
Deputy Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Narragansett Indian Tribe
P.O. Box 700
Wyoming, RI 02898

Re: Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East)
Coventry, Rhode Island
RIFAP No. HHP-0506 (002)
Phase II Archaeological Site Examinations

Dear Mr. Soctomah:

By our May 26, 2006 correspondence, we notified you of the intention to conduct Phase II archaeological site examinations at one Native American and three Euro American archaeological sites that were identified by a Phase I (c) archaeological survey. By this letter, we are notifying you that the Phase II fieldwork will commence on the morning of Wednesday, August 2, 2006 (weather permitting). The Phase II site examinations will be conducted by the Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. (PAL) of Pawtucket, RI under the direction of Mr. Joseph Waller. A copy of this letter has also been faxed on this date to your office at the FHWA.

Within four weeks of the completion of field work, a brief memorandum summarizing the results of the survey will be prepared by PAL, Inc. for forwarding by our office to the consulting parties. Should you have any questions on design elements of the project, kindly contact Michael Hébert of my staff at (401) 222-2023, extension 4040. Please contact Mr. Joseph Waller (Principal Investigator) or Mr. Peter Mair (Co-Principal Investigator, both of PAL at (401) 728-8780 with any questions concerning the proposed field work.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Hébert

for: Edward S. Szymanski, P.E.
Associate Chief Engineer
Office of Environmental Programs

MAH/mah
cc: Messrs. Bennett, Szymanski, Smith, Hébert, Mair-PAL, Thomas-Chief Sachem; Ms. Marshall

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

Rhode Island Department of Transportation
ENGINEERING DIVISION
Two Capitol Hill, Rm. 226
Providence, RI 02903-1124
PHONE 401-222-2023
FAX 401-222-3006; TDD 401-222-4971

January 30, 2012

Mr. Edward F. Sanderson, Executive Director
Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission
150 Benefit Street
Providence, RI 02903 Attn: Mr. Jeffrey Emidy

Re: Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path – East
From Log Bridge Road to Town Farm Road
Coventry, Rhode Island
RIC No. 2001-IE-001; RIFAP No. HPP-0368 (001)
75% Design Plans, Draft Phases I/II Archaeological Report and Opinion of Effect

Dear Mr. Sanderson:

As you are aware, in accordance with *36 CFR §800.3* (Protection of Historic Properties), regulations of the federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, on behalf of the Federal Highway Administration, RIDOT initiated the *Section 106* review process for the above referenced project by our project notification correspondence (dated May 26, 2004) to consulting parties; at that time, the project was in the conceptual design stage. At this point, RIDOT has advanced the subject project to final design (75% design phase) and has secured the necessary RI Department of Environmental Management permits for construction. Due to subsequent design changes since our original project notification to you in 2004 and the completion of the identification of historic properties in the *area of potential effect*, we have enclosed an updated *Section 106 Documentation Form -1* that supersedes the *Form – 1* included with the original project notification correspondence. Also enclosed is an updated project location map.

Per *36 CFR §800.4(a)-Determine Scope of Identification Efforts*, as part of RIDOT's efforts to identify historic properties in the *area of potential effect* (APE), RIDOT conducted a Phase I (c) archaeological survey and the results of the Phase I (c) archaeological survey were conveyed to your office for review and comment on August 4, 2005; per your September 2, 2005 review comments, Phase II archaeological site investigations were conducted in August 2006 to evaluate the archaeological sites that were located within the APE. Enclosed for your **review and comment** are two (2) *draft* copies of the *combined* **Phase I (c)** archaeological survey and **Phase II** Archaeological Site Examination report as prepared by our consultant, PAL, Inc. (dated January 2012); included in Appendix C of the subject report are the *Site Inventory Forms* for each of the archaeological sites located by the Phase I (c) archaeological survey and those archaeological sites that were subsequently evaluated by the Phase II site examinations. Also enclosed are copies of the *Project Base Plans* (11" x 17") showing the locations of all Phase I and Phase II shovel test pits and Phase II excavation units.

With respect to the Phase II archaeological site examinations, you will note that based on the results as reported by PAL, Inc. in the enclosed report, PAL, Inc. opines that of the several Narragansett Indian and historic period (Anglo-American) archaeological resources that were investigated: Comstock Farmstead Site/RI-2361, Coventry Center Pond Site/RI-2363, Quarry Site

No. 3/RI-2366 and Quarry Site No. 4/RI-2368, only the Comstock Farmstead Site/RI-2361 was found to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. PAL concluded that a fifth archaeological resource, Foster Ledge Quarry/RI-2367 lies largely outside of the APE and no opinion concerning its National Register eligibility was presented in the "Management Abstract" or "Recommendations" sections of the draft report (see pages *i,ii,* 173-178).

We herewith note that due to engineering re-design of the project just prior to the initiation of the Phase II archaeological site examinations, a Phase II archaeological site examination of the Trestle Trail Overlook Narragansett Indian Archaeological Site/RI-2362 (identified during the

Phase I archaeological survey) was not conducted. This site, which may be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, will not be directly impacted by construction (excavation) activities; however, it falls within the APE as defined below (see 75% design plans – Vol. 1, General Plan & Profile No. 22). It therefore has been included in the updated *Section 106 Documentation Form – 1.*

With respect to the Foster Ledge Quarry/RI-2367, this resource is spatially-broad, consisting of numerous granite quarrying loci and associated masonry foundations (including former worker housing structures) scattered throughout a large area extending north of the Hartford, Providence & Fishkill Railroad; however, several contributing features of the Foster Ledge Quarry are within the APE: a masonry loading platform, several gravel paths connecting the railroad line with the quarrying loci to the north of the railroad bed and Quarry Site No. 3/RI-2366 (see 75% design plans – Vol. 1, General Plan & Profile Nos. 30-33). You will note that PAL, Inc. opines that Quarry Site No. 3/RI-2366 is not individually eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places; however, PAL notes that this site is a contributing feature of the Foster Ledge Quarry/RI-2367. As the Foster Ledge Quarry/RI-2367 has not been evaluated, it remains potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Accordingly, we have included the Foster Ledge Quarry/RI-2367 in the updated *Section 106 Documentation Form – 1.*

Of the other archaeological resources evaluated by the Phase II archaeological site examinations: Comstock Farmstead Site/RI-2361(a.k.a. mill site in the Phase I section of the enclosed Phase I/II combined report), Coventry Center Pond Site/RI-2363 and Quarry Site No. 4/RI-2368, PAL opines that only the Comstock Farmstead Site/RI-2361 is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. We herewith note that we concur with PAL's conclusions for these three sites. With respect to the Comstock Farmstead Site/RI-22361, this relatively intact 19th century farmstead site has the potential to yield significant information (under National Register Criterion D) about lower class, small-scale agricultural life ways and to answer questions about architecture, foodways and material culture. We note that PAL did not include an analysis of any of the Federal or State Census agricultural data available on this property and we have asked PAL to provide this additional data as part of a draft Consensus Determination of Eligibility for this site. We have accordingly included the Comstock Farmstead Site/RI-2361 in the enclosed *Section 106 Documentation Form -1.*

Per *36 CFR §800.4(b),(c) – Identify Historic Properties/Evaluate Historic Significance,* RIDOT has now completed the identification of all of the National Register listed, eligible and potentially-eligible historic properties (and evaluated most of the historic properties) in the APE, which is defined by RIDOT and FHWA as the proposed construction area and properties abutting the construction impact area. The APE is depicted on RIDOT's 75% design plans (Volume 1-Shared-Use Path, Volume 2-Cross Sections, Volume 3 - Bridge Plans) dated April 30, 2010, which are enclosed.

In accordance with *36 CFR §800.4(d)(2) – Historic Properties Affected,* now that the initial cultural resource studies have been completed, it is RIDOT's and FHWA's finding that there are **seven (7)** historic properties (determined eligible or potentially eligible for National Register listing) within the APE/limits of ground disturbance that will be affected by the proposed project:

1. Hartford, Providence & Fishkill Railroad/RI-2356 with its numerous contributing features (determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places through Consensus between the RIHPHC and FHWA)

2. Summit Historic District (identified by the RIHPHC as potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places)

3. Summit Railroad Bridge No. 227 (identified by RIDOT as potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places)

4. Coventry Centre Historic District (identified by the RIHPHC as potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places)

5. Foster Ledge Quarry /RI-2367 with its numerous contributing features (potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places)

6. Trestle Trail Overlook Archaeological Site/RI-2362 (potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places)

7. Comstock Farmstead Archaeological Site/RI-2361 (potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places)

Concerning the first historic property noted above: the railroad bed of the Hartford, Providence & Fishkill Railroad/RI-2356 is being utilized for the subject project; this historic property is characterized by many railroad-related features including thirteen masonry culverts and four bridge crossings.

The proposed project transects the two potentially eligible historic districts (Summit and Coventry Centre) and construction activities in them include roadway pavement, sidewalk and curb replacement; however, there is no right-of-way acquisition, permanent easements or adverse impacts to any of the contributing elements/structures of these two potentially eligible historic districts.

With respect to the Summit Railroad Bridge No. 227 (constructed in 1927; sidewalk changes in 1987); this structure carries Route 102/Victory Highway *over* the project area and although RIDOT has not evaluated this resource for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, it is RIDOT's opinion that the proposed project will not adversely affect this potentially eligible historic property.

Relative to the Foster Ledge Quarry/RI-2367, the core of this extensive resource falls outside of the APE; however, four contributing elements of this historic property--a masonry loading platform, two gravel roadways connecting the main part of the quarry with the railroad line and Quarry Site No. 3 all fall within the APE; these four components will not be adversely impacted by proposed construction activities.

With respect to the Trestle Trail Overlook Archaeological Site/RI-2362, as was previously noted above, although this potentially eligible site is within the APE, there will be no impacts (no ground disturbance) to this resource.

In reference to the Comstock Farmstead Archaeological Site/RI-2361, the APE bisects this resource, however, there will be no construction impacts (no ground disturbance) to any of the archaeological components or site features (stone walls, stone foundations) as identified in the draft Phase I/II archaeological report.

We have made annotations to the enclosed 75% design plans (Volumes 1 and 2 only) indicating the locations of all of the above referenced eligible and potentially eligible historic properties including the contributing features/elements of the Hartford, Providence & Fishkill Railroad/RI-2356 and the Foster Ledge Quarry/RI-2367 in order to assist you in your review of the project.. A listing of the Hartford, Providence & Fishkill Railroad and Foster Ledge Quarry features as well as the archaeological sites is also to be found on Table 7-1/page 170 of the enclosed draft Phase I/II archaeological report.

The **project's effects** on the above historic properties are primarily visual, with the exception of the Hartford, Providence & Fishkill Railroad's and Foster Ledge Quarry's features. Impacts to the Hartford, Providence & Fishkill Railroad/RI-2356 features involve: cutting and filling of the railroad bed to accommodate the shared use-path, area ground disturbance such as the installation of rip-rap at the ends of the historic culverts, the construction of segmental concrete block retaining walls along both sides of the railroad bed, the relocation of an 1856 granite *railroad monument*, and modifications to four bridges: Quidnick Reservoir Bridge (concrete arch with granite abutments), Quidnick Brook Bridge (granite abutments survive; steel girder superstructure was removed), Coventry Centre Pond Bridge (steel plate girder superstructure with granite abutments) and Flat River Reservoir Bridge (steel plate girder superstructure with granite abutments). These modifications include installation of a new superstructure at the Quidnick Brook Bridge utilizing the extant granite abutments, removal of upper courses of granite abutments to accommodate new support structures (concrete decks), guardrails and fencing as well as repointing and repairing of concrete spalls.

In keeping with the *Finishes Analysis* report of the Washington Secondary Line Bridges (prepared by Philip C. Marshall, July 2000) and based on our agreement with your office, if any of the original steel elements of the Coventry Centre Pond Bridge and/or the Flat River Reservoir Bridge are to be painted, they will be painted a "moderate olive green" (Munsell 2.5GY 4/3.5)---the historic color identified in the report.

Impacts to the Foster Ledge Quarry/RI-RI-2367 features involve: placement of fill against the masonry "loading platform" to raise the grade in order to construct the shared-use path and clearing vegetation, grading, top soil removal and placement of stone dust for that portion of the equestrian trail that is projected through Quarry Site No. 3/RI-2366.

Per *36 CFR §800.5 – Assessment of Adverse Effects*, it is RIDOT's opinion that none of the criteria of adverse effect are applicable. We note that there will be no demolition of Hartford, Providence & Fishkill Railroad's and Foster Ledge Quarry's features, no right-of-way acquisitions or permanent easements from the eligible or potentially eligible historic properties, and we have proposed compatible modifications to the Hartford, Providence & Fishkill Railroad's bridges (contributing elements of the Hartford, Providence & Fishkill Railroad/RI 2356) in order to rehabilitate or construct new superstructures. Therefore it is **RIDOT's opinion** that the project as depicted in the enclosed 75% design plans will result in a finding of **"no**

adverse effect" (with appropriate conditions, such as plans/specifications review by your office) on historic properties.

We are accordingly requesting **your concurrence on our opinion of effect (no adverse effect)** per *Section 106* of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. Although your office has 60 days for review and response, due to project scheduling constraints, **we would appreciate the receipt of your response as soon as possible.**

Due to the numerous enclosures referenced above, we are herewith listing all of the enclosures included with this correspondence:

- Updated *Section 106 Documentation Form – 1* (one copy)
- Updated project location map (one copy)
- June 18, 2004 and September 2, 2005 RIHPHC/RIDOT correspondence (one copy each)
- Draft *Phase I (c)/Phase II Archaeological Report* (two copies)
- 75% Design Plans – Volumes 1, 2 and 3 (one copy each)
- Project Base Plans showing the locations of Phase I and Phase II shovel test pits and excavation units (two copies)

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Michael Hébert, Supervising Historic Preservation Specialist/Archaeologist, RIDOT at 222-2023, x 4040.

Sincerely,

Peter A. Healey, P.E.
Chief Civil Engineer
Environmental Resources/Highway Engineering

Enclosures
cc: Smith, Palumbo, Fish, Fura, Healey, Marshall, Preiss, Cluley, Hébert, Simpson, Holland, Taylor-RIHPHC, Bailey-RIDEM, Breslin-FHWA, all w/o enclosures; FILE 2001-IE-001

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
HISTORICAL PRESERVATION & HERITAGE COMMISSION
Old State House • 150 Benefit Street • Providence, R.I. 02903-1209
TEL (401) 222-2678 FAX (401) 222-2968
TTY (401) 222-3700 Website www.preservation.ri.gov

19 March, 2012

Peter A. Healey, Chief Civil Engineer
Rhode Island Department of Transportation
Engineering Division
Two Capitol Hill, Room 226
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-1124

Re: Phase I/II Archaeological Survey and Opinion of Effect
Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) Project Corridor
Coventry, RI

Dear Mr. Healey:

The Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission (RIHPHC) staff has reviewed the 75%Design Plans, and the Phase I/II archaeological survey conducted by PAL, Inc. for the above-referenced project.

We concur with RIDOT's conclusion that the project as depicted will have no adverse effect on the Hartford, Providence, & Fishkill Railroad, Summit Historic District, Coventry Centre Historic District, or Summit Railroad Bridge No. 227.

We concur that the Comstock Farmstead Site (RI 2361) is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, and that the Foster Ledge Quarry site (RI 2367) is a potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. And these two sites will not be impacted by proposed construction activities, the proposed no further documentation or archaeological survey is needed unless changes are made to the scope of work.

We further concur that the two other sites evaluated by the Phase II site examinations, Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363) and Quarry Site NO. 4 (RI 2368) are not eligible for listing in the National Register.

These comments are provided in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Jeffry Emidy, Project Review Coordinator of this office.

Very truly yours,

FOR Edward F. Sanderson
Executive Director
State Historic Preservation Officer

Cc: Michael Hébert, RIDOT
John Brown, NTHPO

120319.02

APPENDIX E

RIHPHC PERMIT APPLICATIONS

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL PRESERVATION AND HERITAGE COMMISSION

Application for permission to conduct archaeological field investigations (pursuant to the Antiquities Act of Rhode Island, G.L. 42-45 and the R.I. Procedures for Registration and Protection of Historic Properties)

1. Applicant's name and address

   A. Principal Investigator(s): A. Peter Mair, II

   B. Field Supervisor(s): Joseph N. Waller

2. Previous experience (attach vita): *On File*

3. Beginning date of project: November 2004

4. Duration of project: 8 months

5. Location of project: *Trestle Trail, Coventry Please See Attached*

6. Ownership: State of Rhode Island

7. Scope of project (refer to applicable scope in Survey Standards): Phase I(c) Archaeological Survey

8. Research design (present research problems, formulate hypotheses, discuss how hypotheses will be tested with data, discuss how data will be manipulated and hypotheses evaluated).

   Attach extra sheets: *Please See Attached*

9. Attach budget: *Please See Attached*

10. Specify repository: The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.
    210 Lonsdale Avenue
    Pawtucket, Rhode Island 02860

11. Projected completion of final report and date when a draft review copy will be submitted to RIHP&HC:

   A. Draft: May 2005

   B. Final: July 2005

I, A. Peter Mair, II, (archaeologist,) certify that the information contained in this application is correct, and that I will comply with applicable federal and state legislation, regulations and standards, and any special conditions appended to this application. I understand that any change to the specifications of this permit, the research design, or project scope of work, without the approval of the RIHP&HC, may result in the revocation of this permit and the cessation of archaeological investigations. I also understand that should I fail to satisfy the conditions of this permit (items 7,8,9,10,11) the RIHP&HC may decide not to issue me, or my employer, permits for future projects until the deficiencies under this permit are resolved.

I, Edward S. Szymanski, P.E., (project proponent) agree to comply with applicable federal and state legislation and special conditions attached to this permit. I also agree to maintain adequate security at the project area, and, if determined necessary by the RIHP&HC, will take steps, as required by the RIHP&HC, to prevent trespassers or other unauthorized individuals from causing harm to the archaeological site or sites under investigation.

_____ _____

Permit Effective Date Applicant(s)

_____ _____

Approved By
Rhode Island Historical Preservation
and Heritage Commission

Project Proponent

Reviewed By: _____, RIHP&HC Staff Archaeologist

See below for any attached Special Conditions that may apply to this permit:

1.) Native American Special Condition Yes _____ No _____

2.) Other Special Conditions Yes _____ No _____

The RIHP&HC reserves the right to amend the terms and conditions of this permit based on new information received in the course of the project.

Form Revised 10/98

Technical Proposal

Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East)
Coventry, Rhode Island
Phase I(c) Archaeological Survey

October 18, 2004

Submitted to:
United International Corporation
142 Putnam Avenue
Johnston, Rhode Island 02919

United International Corporation (UIC), under a contract with the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, in cooperation with the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is currently designing a bicycle/pedestrian/equestrian path known as the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) in Coventry, Rhode Island (Figure 1). The Trestle Trail will be located within the former Washington Secondary Railroad corridor in central Coventry. FHWA and RIDOT will fund the design and construction of the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East), thus classifying the project as an undertaking under Section 106 of the Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. The RIDOT Environmental & Intermodal Planning Unit reviewed project plans and determined that the project area is sensitive for pre- and post contact period archaeological sites, including Native American cremation burials, and has determined that a Phase I(c) archaeological survey is required to identify potentially significant archaeological properties that may be impacted by the proposed undertaking. In response to a request from UIC, PAL has prepared the following technical proposal to conduct the required Phase I(c) archaeological survey for the Trestle Trail.

Project Location and Description

The east segment of the Trestle Trail extends approximately 4.82 miles (7.87 kilometers (km)) along the former Washington Secondary Railroad corridor through central Coventry (Figure 1). The project corridor commences in the vicinity of Town Farm Road and will extend west to Log Bridge Road. Work associated with this project will include:

- Construction of a 10-foot wide paved bicycle/pedestrian path on the existing rail bed.
- Clearing of an 8-foot wide trail within the existing railroad corridor right-of-way, but not on the rail bed. This unpaved, equestrian trail will meander on a course running generally parallel to the paved path and will occasionally cross or run directly alongside the path, especially at crossings and bridges.
- Rehabilitation/construction of bridge crossings using existing abutments and superstructures.

- Construction of parking areas for path/trail users, a canoe portage and a small maintenance building.
- Installation of landscaping, signage, safety rails and fencing and minor drainage improvements.

The Trestle Trail traverses river valleys and some upland terrain. The project area also intersects several wetlands associated with Flat River, Stump Pond, and Quidnick Brook.

Research Framework

The sequential phases of archaeological investigation [Phase I(b and c) reconnaissance and intensive survey, Phase II site examination, and Phase III data recovery] reflect preservation-planning standards for the identification, evaluation, registration, and treatment of archaeological resources (National Park Service [NPS] 1983). The NPS National Register Criteria for Evaluation provides the guidelines for determining the significance and eligibility for listing of cultural resources in the National Register (36 CFR 60). The criteria used to evaluate the significance of cultural resources are applied in relation to the historical contexts of the resources.

Historical contexts provide an organizational format that groups information about related historical properties based on a theme, geographic limits, and chronological periods. A historical context may be developed for Native American, historic, and/or modern cultural resources. Each historical context is related to the developmental history of an area, region, or theme (e.g., agriculture, transportation, waterpower), and identifies the significant patterns that particular resource can represent.

Pre-Contact Native American Context

The Trestle Trail project area is within the Flat River sub-basin of the larger Pawtuxet River drainage in an area drained by the combined Big River/Flat River system. Most of the extant information about pre-Contact Native American settlement and resource use in this section of the interior of Rhode Island has been derived from investigations by avocational archaeologists. The Massachusetts Archaeological Society has published some of the information collected from prehistoric sites along the Flat River drainage and in hilly upland areas (Fowler 1962, 1968, 1975). Over the last two decades, surveys by professional archaeologists of the Route 102 highway corridor (Institute for Conservation Archaeology 1978), the proposed Big River Reservoir project area (King and Ritchie 1986), the Oneco and Coventry Center quadrangles (McBride 1984a), the Kent County Water System (Macpherson and Ritchie 2000), and most recently the Coventry Greenway (Waller and Mair 2004) have added much new information about the distribution and characteristics of pre-Contact Native American sites in this interior, non-coastal area. The combined results of avocational and professional surveys indicate that the Big River/Flat

River section of the Pawtuxet River drainage was a core area of Native American settlement.

Archaeological evidence indicates that Coventry has been occupied for at least 10,000 years. Numerous archaeological sites (RI 1134, RI 1135, RI 1136, RI 1137, and Flat River [RI 29]) are located within relatively close proximity to the Trestle Trail project area. Unfortunately, detailed information on all but one of these sites is lacking. Excavations by amateur archaeologists at the Flat River Site to the immediate south of the eastern limits of the project area resulted in the recovery of few lanceolate projectile points of possible PaleoIndian origin (Fowler 1968). An Early Archaic bifurcate-based projectile point from the Elmdale Rockshelter in Scituate suggests some sporadic use of upland interior environments around 8,500 to 8,000 years ago.

The distribution of Middle Archaic sites in the region is suggestive of a significant increase in settlement following 7,800 years ago. Neville and Stark type points, drills, flakes, knives, and choppers have been recovered from the Flat River and Wilcox Brook sites in Coventry (Fowler 1968, 1974-1975). Avocational archaeologists have collected similar projectiles from along the upper Flat River Reservoir. The Sheep Rockshelter in Scituate and Rattlesnake Rockshelter in West Greenwich (Fowler 1962) also appear to have been occupied by Middle Archaic period hunter-gatherer groups.

An expansion of settlement in the upland interior of Rhode Island by people affiliated with the Laurentian tradition is evident approximately 5,500 years ago. Most of the known sites affiliated with these groups consist of small camps and a few rockshelters. Diagnostic Vosburg and Brewerton projectile points, as well as small eared triangular points have been found on a number of sites in the towns of West Greenwich and Coventry. Laurentian Tradition components with Brewerton points and bifacial point preforms of quartzite have been identified on Site RI 1528 near Sweet Sawmill Road and the Harkney Hill Site (RI 1540). The Wilcox Site near the Route 102 corridor in Coventry contained a significant Laurentian Tradition component with Brewerton Vosburg-like points, bifacial tool blades, and drill/perforators of quartzite and argillite (Davin 1987).

Small Stemmed Tradition sites are well represented within the upper Pawtuxet/Big/Flat River drainage basin. Riverine zone sites such as Flat River, Wilcox Brook, and Harkney Hill (RI 1540) in Coventry were intensively used and could have functioned as local base camps. Various rockshelters throughout the hilly interior of central Rhode Island investigated by avocational archaeologists were found to contain tool assemblages with Squibnocket Triangle and Small Stemmed projectile point variants. The results of archaeological survey in the Big River Reservoir project area indicate that Small Stemmed Point tradition groups occupied many small upland zone sites. Examples of this are the Bear Brook (RI 1515) and Camp Bosco (RI 1538) sites, which are located along tributary streams and wetlands.

Transitional Archaic Susquehanna Tradition components have been identified in the upper Pawtuxet/Big River area by both avocational and professional archaeologists. Avocational archaeologists investigated a cremation burial deposit at the Flat River Site in Coventry. The identified burial was radiocarbon dated to 3430 B.P. Charcoal-filled pits in this complex contained burned Susquehanna Broad/Wayland Notched projectile points and bifacial tool blade/preforms of non-local rhyolite and chert, local argillite, and quartzite (Fowler 1968:24–28). Several sites in the Big River Reservoir project area include RI 1523, where a probable Susquehanna Tradition point of argillite and steatite vessel sherds were found. An Atlantic point and bifaces of argillite were found on site RI 1532 near Capwell Mill Pond. At sites RI 1533 and 1539 along the upper section of the Big River, small Susquehanna Tradition components with Wayland Notched point and Mansion Inn blade/preforms of non-local rhyolite were found.

Woodland settlement in the upper Pawtuxet/Flat River area appears to be sporadic in comparison to the much more intensively used coastal zone around Narragansett Bay, and there is little evidence of sites dating to this period. This area probably formed the interior periphery of territories focused on coastal zone estuaries and tidal flats. Jasper chipping debris and ceramic sherds recovered from several sites along the Big River (RI 1555, RI 1512) suggest a Middle Woodland occupation. The Tarbox Pond Rockshelter (RI 206) appears to have a Middle to Late Woodland component based on the attributes of ceramic sherds found during a survey of the Big River Reservoir project area. Fragments of deer bone and other faunal remains indicate this location was used for a hunting camp. The Flat River Site in Coventry may have been an interior base camp in the Late Woodland Period based on the presence of Levanna points, whelk shell awls, and ceramic vessel sherds (Fowler 1968:29).

Historic Period Context

The southern New England Algonquian tribe known as the Narragansett inhabited the western edge of Narragansett Bay at the time of contact between Native populations and Europeans. Smaller tribes tributary to the Narragansett, such as the Coweset, Shawomet, and Pawtuxet, were also reported to inhabit the western edge of Narragansett Bay during the early seventeenth century. The nature of Native American settlement in the upper Pawtuxet/Flat River area during the Contact period is not well known. The Pequot Trail, an important route through central Rhode Island, may have paralleled Division Street in West Greenwich. Sections of Nooseneck Road may have also been an early historic period trail route.

The town of Coventry was originally within the Shawomet Purchase of 1643, in which lands incorporating portions of present-day Coventry, Warwick, and West Warwick were sold to Samuel Gorton and eleven associates by Miantonomi, the chief sachem of the Narragansett (RIHPC 1978). Originally a part of Warwick, this outlying area remained uninhabited for the greater part of the seventeenth century. The numerous brooks and waterways provided a good power source for grist and sawmills, and by 1741, there were

approximately one hundred families living in the wilderness area of Coventry, primarily in the eastern portion of the town (Gustafson 1976). With the seat of government over twenty miles away in Warwick, too far for many, the inhabitants of Coventry petitioned for a separation from the Town of Warwick, which was granted in the summer of 1741. Coventry was then incorporated as Rhode Island's sixteenth township.

Early eighteenth century settlement in the town consisted primarily of dispersed farmsteads. The location of Coventry made it an important part of the productive, interior frontier lands, producing and exchanging substantial amounts of grain, lumber and dairy products to the large markets in the Providence area (RIHPC 1978). Settlement concentrated along the major thoroughfares, such as the Great North Road (presently SR 114), which was begun in 1714, and Eight Rod Highway (presently Nooseneck Hill, Harkney Hill, Perry Hill and Sand Hill Roads), begun in 1728. The latter served as an East Greenwich/Hartford stagecoach line. Roadside farms were also dotted with fulling mills, carding mills, cider mills, cooperages and tanneries. By the mid-eighteenth century, the Greenes, an important Warwick family, established a trading outpost between the present-day village of Quidnick and Anthony. An ironworks at Maroon Swamp near Coventry Center and a forge at Quidnick, run by Nathaniel Greene, manufactured anchors and cannon balls for the war effort. At the close of the period, Coventry was comprised of a series of rural settlement clusters linked together by the two major east-west roads.

By the start of the nineteenth century, Coventry began to develop its definitive "mill town" nature. With the establishment in Pawtucket of the first factory system in the United States (1790s), small textile mills, producing mostly cotton yarn, were established all over the state of Rhode Island. In Coventry, with its abundance of water sources, six villages developed in less than 15 years: Anthony (1806); Arkwright (1809); Shoethread (1809), now Coventry Center; Washington (1818); Taftville (1811), now Quidnick; and Harris (1821) (RIHPC 1978). This development was aided by the improvements of the highways throughout the area. In 1794, the Great North Road was repaired and taken over by the turnpike company. The Providence-Norwich Turnpike (presently Plainfield Turnpike) became the second toll road in Rhode Island (RIHPC 1978). In the 1850s, the Flat River Reservoir was established in Coventry to provide water for mills located downstream. All these new mill villages exhibited a conscious effort at organized town planning, with uniform, company-owned housing, company stores, farms, schools and places of worship. The most prosperous, and only ones to sustain non-company housing, were Quidnick, Anthony and Washington. The western part of town remained rural and agricultural.

The Hartford Providence and Fishkill Railroad was completed through Coventry in 1856, providing a link for transport of products from local mills and farms to larger markets. Settlements like Greene and Summit, which began simply as railroad stations grew to be commercial centers in western Coventry (RIHPC 1978). The few remaining farmsteads were deserted, with villages such as Rice City and Hopkins Hollow reduced to little more than a quiet crossroads. By the end of the period, the new commercial and social centers shifted to Greene, Summit and Coventry Center.

The textile mills remained the economic mainstay until the early twentieth century, when the industry in general suffered an extensive decline. With many businesses relocating in the South, a large number of Coventry's mills closed. With the upgrading of state roads, like Routes 102 and 117 in the 1920s, and, more recently, the construction of a connector from Route 3 to Interstate 95, Coventry has been brought increasingly closer to the Providence metropolitan area (RIHPC 1978). Flat River developed as a small-scale seasonal resort area with many cottages being constructed there in the early modern period. In 1966, the 8500-acre Big River Reservoir area in the towns of Coventry and West Greenwich was taken by eminent domain by the state of Rhode Island. The eastern half of town continues to experience rapid development particularly in the form of residential and suburban housing. The western portion of town remains less developed, and has become a resort community situated along the old mill reservoirs at Tiogue, Flat River and Quidnick.

Phase I(c) Archaeological Survey

The goal of the Phase I(c) archaeological survey will be to locate and identify any archaeological resources that may be impacted by the proposed project. In order to complete this goal, the following activities will occur. PAL's survey methodology has been formulated according to the standards and guidelines set forth in the Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission's *Performance Standards for Archaeological Projects* (RIHPHC 1997).

Consultation/Coordination

PAL will coordinate with the RIDOT and the RIHPHC to secure a permit to conduct the Phase I(c) archaeological survey. The Section 106 Documentation Form prepared by RIDOT for this project identifies a number of consulting parties in addition to the RIDOT, RIDOT, and RIHPHC. PAL will coordinate with all appropriate agencies and consulting parties to seek input relative to the potential for encountering and interpreting Native American archaeological resources and historical sites.

Background Research

A review of local geography, geology, ecology, soils, prehistory, and history will be used to assess the archaeological sensitivity of the project area and develop predictive statements for the types of Native American and EuroAmerican archaeological resources that may be present. Cultural resource inventories maintained by the RIHPHC or local historical associations will also be reviewed for relevant data. The background research will examine primary and secondary documentary sources (town histories, maps, etc.) to identify Euro-American archaeological sites within or adjacent to the project area. In addition, consultation with professional and avocational archaeologists, local informants, and tribal

authorities may establish the presence of sites important in Native American history, oral history, and religion.

Walkover Survey

After completing background research, PAL staff will conduct a walkover survey to examine the current physical condition of the Trestle Trail project area, assess the integrity of the ground surface, and collect additional data on the current environmental conditions. Any surface indication of archaeological deposits, including artifacts or other materials visible on exposed surfaces and historic elements such as foundations, stonewalls, trash deposits, and railroad features, will be noted during the walkover. The walkover will also be used to refine the testing methodology and select locations within impact areas where subsurface testing may occur. To supplement the inspection of the project area, augers (23 inch Hoffer corers) may be used to test the integrity of the subsoil in selected project locations.

Subsurface Testing

Based on a review of project mapping and a cursory field review, the entire project area has been assessed general levels of archaeological sensitivity based on localized topography and the presence freshwater resources, and the degree of prior disturbance. Testable areas include all areas where soils within the railroad right of way do not appear to be disturbed and are not included within a wetland. Also included are ancillary areas identified for support activities such as parking areas, overlooks, canoe potages, etc. The testable route does not include portions of the project area that are contained within wetlands, are cut below natural grade, or where substantial filling is proposed.

Project mapping indicates that the pedestrian/bicycle path and equestrian path run parallel and within ten meters of each other for approximately 2.9 miles (4.66 km). Based on this information a single transect is proposed for this distance. For the remainder of the route the two paths are separated by over ten meters and will require two transects. **Based on these observations, PAL proposes that 840 test 50-x-50 cm test units will be necessary to investigate the pedestrian/bicycle and equestrian paths and attendant facilities of the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East).**

Test units will be excavated along linear transect lines at either a 10 or 20-meter interval depending on archaeological sensitivity (20-meter for areas of low to moderate archaeological sensitivity and 10-meter for areas of moderate to high archaeological sensitivity). Test units will measure 50-x-50-cm and will be excavated in arbitrary 10-cm levels to sterile subsoil. Excavated soil will be hand-screened through ¼-inch hardware cloth, and all cultural materials remaining in the screen will be bagged and tagged by level within each unit. The count and type of all recovered cultural material will be noted. Soil profiles, including depths of soil horizons, colors, and textures, will be recorded for each test pit on standard PAL test pit profile forms. All test pits will be filled and the ground

surface will be restored to its original contour following excavation. Color and black-and-white digital images will be taken of the general project area.

Laboratory Processing and Analyses

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

- cleaning, identification, and cataloging of any recovered cultural materials;
- preliminary 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 Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission *Standards for Storage and Custody of Archaeological Collections* (RIHPC 1986).

Work Products

The client will be notified when fieldwork has been completed via a letter or management memorandum that summarizes the results of the survey, describes any cultural resources that were found, and includes preliminary recommendations concerning the need for additional archaeological investigations. A technical report will be completed after laboratory processing and analysis is completed. The report will follow the standards and guidelines established by the Secretary of Interior's *Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation* (48 FR 44716 1983), the National Park Service's *Recovery of Scientific, Prehistoric, Historic, and Archeological Data* (36 CFR Part 66 Appendix A) and the RIHPHC's *Performance Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Reports* (1997). Draft copies of the report will be submitted to the client for review prior to forwarding to the appropriate agencies for review. The final report will follow the draft review. Archaeological site forms will be completed and submitted to the RIHPHC, as necessary.

Schedule

PAL is prepared to submit the technical proposal and permit application to the RIHPHC on receipt of a written notice-to-proceed. The fieldwork portion of the survey will take approximately five weeks and can be completed within seven weeks of the receipt of an archaeological permit, weather permitting. A letter summarizing the results of fieldwork

will be submitted within one week of the completion of fieldwork, and the technical report can be submitted for client review within 45 days.

Project Personnel

A Project Manager will coordinate all elements of the study. A Principal Investigator will oversee the archaeological investigations for the project, and a Project Archaeologist will supervise the fieldwork. 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.

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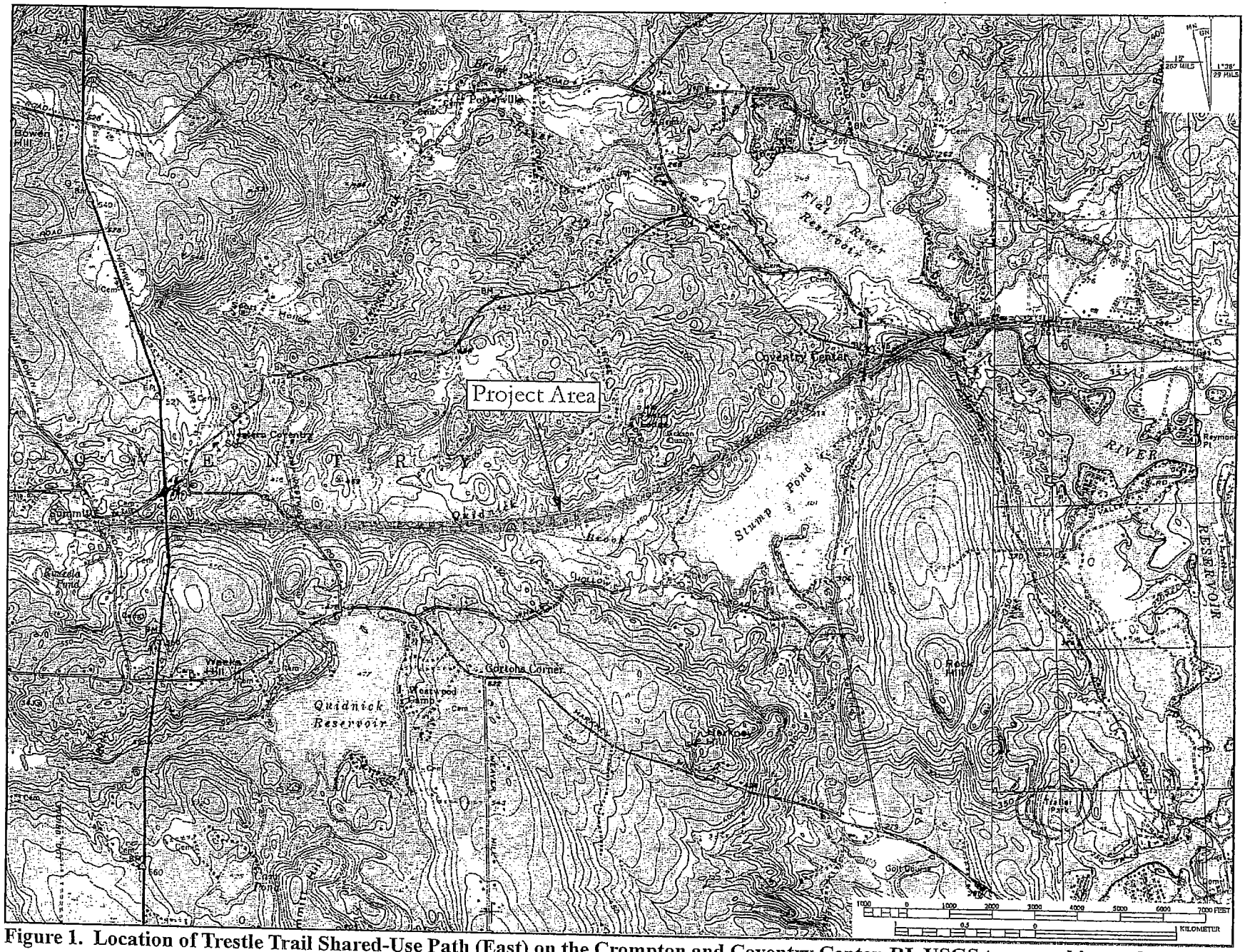

Figure 1. Location of Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) on the Crompton and Coventry Center, RI, USGS topographic quadrangle, 7.5 minute series.

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL PRESERVATION AND HERITAGE COMMISSION

Application for permission to conduct archaeological field investigations (pursuant to the Antiquities Act of Rhode Island, G.L. 42-45 and the R.I. Procedures for Registration and Protection of Historic Properties)

1. Applicant's name and address

   A. Principal Investigator(s): A. Peter Mair, II

   B. Field Supervisor(s): Joseph N. Waller

2. Previous experience (attach vita): *On File*

3. Beginning date of project: May 2006

4. Duration of project: 6 months

5. Location of project: *Trestle Trail, Coventry Please See Attached*

6. Ownership: State of Rhode Island

7. Scope of project (refer to applicable scope in Survey Standards): Phase II Site Examination

8. Research design (present research problems, formulate hypotheses, discuss how hypotheses will be tested with data, discuss how data will be manipulated and hypotheses evaluated).

   Attach extra sheets: *Please See Attached*

9. Attach budget: *Please See Attached*

10. Specify repository: The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.
    210 Lonsdale Avenue
    Pawtucket, Rhode Island 02860

11. Projected completion of final report and date when a draft review copy will be submitted to RIHP&HC:

   A. Draft: August 2006

   B. Final: October 2006

I, A. Peter Mair, II, (archaeologist,) certify that the information contained in this application is correct, and that I will comply with applicable federal and state legislation, regulations and standards, and any special conditions appended to this application. I understand that any change to the specifications of this permit, the research design, or project scope of work, without the approval of the RIHP&HC, may result in the revocation of this permit and the cessation of archaeological investigations. I also understand that should I fail to satisfy the conditions of this permit (items 7,8,9,10,11) the RIHP&HC may decide not to issue me, or my employer, permits for future projects until the deficiencies under this permit are resolved.

I, Edward S. Szymanski, P.E., (project proponent) agree to comply with applicable federal and state legislation and special conditions attached to this permit. I also agree to maintain adequate security at the project area, and, if determined necessary by the RIHP&HC, will take steps, as required by the RIHP&HC, to prevent trespassers or other unauthorized individuals from causing harm to the archaeological site or sites under investigation.

Permit Effective Date	Applicant(s)
Approved By Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission	Project Proponent

Reviewed By: _____, RIHP&HC Staff Archaeologist

See below for any attached Special Conditions that may apply to this permit:

1.) Native American Special Condition Yes _____ No _____

2.) Other Special Conditions Yes _____ No _____

The RIHP&HC reserves the right to amend the terms and conditions of this permit based on new information received in the course of the project.

Form Revised 10/98

Technical Proposal

Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East)
Coventry, Rhode Island

Phase II Site Examination: Coventry Center Pond Site, Historic Mill Site, Quarry 3 & 4 Sites, and Foster Ledge Quarry

May 1, 2006

Submitted to:
United International Corporation
142 Putnam Avenue
Johnston, Rhode Island 02919

The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM), in cooperation with the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is proposing a bicycle/pedestrian/equestrian path known as the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) in Coventry, Rhode Island .FHWA and RIDOT will fund the design and construction of the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East), thus classifying the project as an undertaking under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. United International Corporation (UIC), Prime Consultant to the RIDOT is designing the proposed improvements. The project corridor follows the abandoned rail bed of the former Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill. In 2005, PAL, under contract to UIC, conducted a Phase I(c) archaeological survey for the proposed Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East).

The survey resulted in the location and identification of two potentially significant pre-contact Native American archaeological resources, the Trestle Trail Overlook Site (RI 2362) and the Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363), and four post-contact period sites, the Historic Mill Site (RI 2361), Quarry Site 3 (RI 2366), Quarry Site 4 (RI 2368), and the stone features associated with the former Foster Ledge Granite Quarry (RI 2367) (Figure 1). Design modifications to address RIDEM comments have resulted in avoidance of the Trestle Trail Overlook Site. At the present time project plans indicate that the remaining five sites will by impacted by proposed construction. In response to a request from UIC PAL has prepared the following technical proposal to undertake a Phase II site examination of each site to assess site significance and eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places.

Previous Archaeological Investigations

A total of 457 test pits was excavated along the project corridor to locate and identify any archaeological resources. These test pits, 50-x-50 cm in size, were excavated within linear test pit transects, judgmentally placed test pits, and supplemental testing arrays in project

impact areas with moderate and high archaeological sensitivity. Pre-contact Native American cultural materials were recovered from 6 (1 percent) of the excavated test pits, while 21 (5 percent) of the excavated test pits produced post-contact period cultural materials such as ceramic sherds, glass shards, and nails.

The Coventry Center Pond Site (RI 2363) is located on a south-facing slope, which leads to the bank of Coventry Center Pond south of the proposed Trestle Trail (East) bike path. This site was identified through the recovery of six pieces of chipping debris from three test pits. Surrounding culturally sterile test pits indicate that the site is likely quite small in horizontal extent; perhaps less than 6 m in diameter. The chipping debris consists of one rhyolite flake (possibly "Attleboro Red") and five chert flakes. The chert material is dark gray to black in color, and possibly originates from one or more source areas in New York State. These materials were recovered from undisturbed natural soils suggesting their spatial distribution might correlate with past human activity. The site maintains good stratigraphic integrity and likely contains information that might be useful for addressing regional archaeological themes of interest and is therefore may be potentially significant.

The major components of the Historic Mill Site (RI 2361) include a breached dam and dry-laid stone foundation to the south and a large cellar hole with center chimney base and smaller foundation north of the proposed path. An earthen footpath connects the various elements of the site to one another. The 1895 Everts and Richards atlas depicts a ponded area of Quidnick Brook in the vicinity of the site and a review of historical aerial photographs clearly depict a dam and mill race adjacent to the stone foundation, south of the Trestle Trail right-of-way (RIGIS 1939, 1951, 1962, 1972, 1988, 1992).

Two granite quarrying sites (Quarry Sites 3 and 4; RI 2366 and 2368, respectively) are characterized as extensive glacially deposited boulder fields that contain scattered trimmed granite boulders and tailings on the ground surface, in addition to extensive evidence for boulder splitting and granite removal. These sites contain numerous examples of boulders in partial stages of reduction, bearing evidence that hand tools were used to split the granite. Small holes were drilled across a rock face in a row, at regular intervals. Two iron feathers were inserted into each hole, followed by an iron plug (or "wedge") in between. The plugs were then hammered, causing the rock to fracture across the row of drilled holes.

The Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project corridor is situated in close proximity to the former Foster Ledge Quarry (RI 2367), a historically prominent industry within Coventry Center Village. Horace Foster opened the ledge in 1862 and continued quarrying operations there throughout the nineteenth century (RIHPC 1978:24). This quarry provided stone for the construction of many mills in the Pawtuxet Valley, including the Centerville Mill in West Warwick. Horace Foster was a prolific mason, and his building projects included the Tiogue Reservoir and dam, railroad bridge abutments and the foundations for the State Prison in Cranston. The Foster Ledge Quarry's close proximity to the Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill railroad facilitated transportation of quarried granite.

Central elements of this quarrying complex include numerous tailing and trim granite debris piles located immediately north and continuing outside the limits of the project corridor. These piles are located within sight of the two quarry workers houses, also located outside the project area. However, other elements of this site were identified within the project area. The remains of a cut granite stone retaining wall that likely served as a loading platform associated with the Foster Ledge Quarry is located within the project corridor between the proposed bike path and equestrian path, as is a dirt driveway located linking the Foster Ledge Quarry with the Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill.

Goals of the Phase II site examination

The goal of a Phase II site examination (36 CFR 800/4(c)) is to evaluate the eligibility of a site for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Sufficient information should be obtained from a site examination to make a determination of significance and to develop a mitigation plan, if necessary. A site examination investigation is designed to collect information on a site's boundaries, physical integrity, density, complexity, and age. Research questions are formulated to address the site's role in local and regional land use and settlement patterns and its importance within larger Native American contexts. All tasks associated with this project were undertaken in accordance with the standards outlined in the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation* (48 FR 44716, 1983), the RIHPHC's *Performance Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Projects* (2003). Site examination is recommended to establish the following:

Site Boundaries

Site boundaries are the horizontal (spatial) and vertical limits of archaeological deposits and will be determined by the presence or absence of cultural material and by natural and/or cultural conditions that include topography and the presence of water. Landscape alterations, such as gravel pitting and previous construction can result in imposed boundaries on archaeological deposits. Site boundaries will be established by natural features, observable prior disturbance, and/or the presence/absence of cultural materials within coordinate grids. Two consecutive sterile test pits at 5m intervals within the site grid relative to material concentrations will be used to denote site limits. Archaeological testing will be limited to only those properties that PAL has received permission to access by the respective landowners.

Site Integrity

Site integrity is defined as the physical condition of the site. Natural and/or cultural factors such as erosion, plowing, and construction activities have variably impacted the archaeological record affecting its integrity. The proposed site examination testing will

clearly establish the spatial and stratigraphic integrity of the cultural deposits and determine those that might be affected by the proposed undertaking.

Site Density

The site examination testing is necessary to obtain accurate density data and to locate cultural material concentration areas and features resulting from site activities within the identified site areas. The distributions and counts of cultural material and the number of features located within the site areas will be used to estimate site densities.

Site Complexity

The number and variability of on-site cultural activities as suggested by the types and counts of artifacts and features determine site complexities. Phase II site examination testing is necessary to obtain an accurate estimate of the complexity of the archaeological depositions and activities present within the site areas to determine individual site significance.

Temporal Range of Occupations

Site age and the estimated number of occupations are determined through the recovery of diagnostic artifacts and radiocarbon dates. It is anticipated that the recovery of diagnostic artifacts and radiocarbon dating of features identified within discrete activity areas will result in assigning a period(s) the occupation/use.

Phase II site examination research orientation

Research Orientation 1: Interior Settlement Systems and Native American Occupation of Pawtuxet River Basin:

To date, few temporally diagnostic Native American cultural materials have been recovered from the archaeological sites identified within the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East), and little is known concerning their types or the activities represented at each of them. The Coventry Center Pond Site represents a small, limited-duration episode of stone tool maintenance and/or manufacture. The Coventry Center Pond site represents an encampment associated with the peripheral resource catchment zone, relative to the congregate site clusters along Flat River and the region's interior wetlands. The presence of rhyolite and chert chipping waste suggests the possibility for a Transitional Archaic Susquehanna Tradition component to the Coventry Center Pond Site. Phase II site examination will focus on obtaining categories of data necessary to determine the age and function and how it fits in within the regional settlement system.

Research Orientation #2: Historic Mill Site (RI 2361)

Although this mill complex is rather large, its ownership and produce has yet to be established. Its period of operation may be inferred through examination of the milldam's topography. The northern portion of this dam is clearly truncated by the Trestle Trail railroad bed, indicating that the complex was likely constructed prior to the construction of the Hartford, Providence and Fishkill railroad. Therefore, this mill complex was probably in operation during and/or before the mid-nineteenth century, and possibly abandoned with the construction of the Hartford, Providence and Fishkill Railroad. The identified mill complex may contain new information about mill construction and the importance of early mills to the growth of local industry in Coventry during the nineteenth, and perhaps as early as the eighteenth century.

Research Orientation #3: Historic Granite Quarries (RI 2366, RI 2367, and 2368).

Small quarry operations, similar to those found along the Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East) project area, were the principal source of quarried stone in New England prior to 1825 (Gage and Gage 2002:10). The use of such small quarry sites continued well into the mid-1800s, even as large commercial deep excavation pit quarries came into operation, such as the Foster Granite Quarry. The small quarry operations along the Trestle Trail may represent independent residential eighteenth- to nineteenth-century quarrying activity, or they may have been peripheral quarries associated with the Foster Ledge Quarry. The latter scenario seems more likely, as they cluster around the nineteenth-century railroad bed (Quarry Site 3 and Quarry Site 4). Through archival research and field investigations it is hoped that information on these two very dissimilar economic activities will come to light.

The following scope-of-services outlines the tasks to be completed as part of the archaeological site examinations.

Consultation/Coordination

The archaeological site examinations must be conducted under a permit from the RIHPHC. PAL will prepare a technical proposal and State Archaeologist's permit application. The proposal will describe the project research design, methodology, and work products delivered as part of the study. PAL will also coordinate with the Narragansett Indian Tribal Historic Preservation Office. For budget purposes, PAL assumes one meeting.

Research

Archival research conducted during the Phase I(c) archaeological survey will be augmented by additional research that focuses on specific archival documentation. In particular, research will focus on assembling information on the granite quarry industry as exemplified by Foster Ledge Quarry, as well as information that may exist relative to the expedient quarries that may or may not be associated with Foster Ledge. Research will

also focus on town records in an attempt to assemble information about the historic mill site. Major repositories of information include the Rhode Island Historical Society and the Rhode Island State Archives. PAL will also try to identify other possible sources of information such as records from the early period of operation of the Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad. The goal of this research will be to develop substantive research questions with which to evaluate National Register eligibility.

Field Investigations

The goal of the site examinations will be to determine the horizontal and vertical boundaries and the further identification of concentrations of cultural materials and features. To accomplish this, field investigations will consist of a walkover and subsurface testing. At the Coventry Center Pond Site, an arbitrary N0E0 datum will be established at a test pit previously excavated during the Phase I(c) survey of the site. The test pits, measuring 50x50 cm, will be excavated at 5-m intervals using a coordinate grid. In addition, 1-x-1-m excavation units (EUs) will be excavated in the locations of any features or high-density artifact concentrations identified during the test pit excavations, and/or to provide a more detailed evaluation of the vertical stratigraphy at the site.

At the Historic Mill and quarry sites the walkover will be critical to mapping of each site. GPS readings will be taken at key locations at each site (foundation corners, features, boulder concentrations, paths, etc.). Once a detailed site map is generated, subsurface testing will be conducted in areas that are expected produce archaeological information. Testing will consist of 50 x 50 cm. test pits to search for features and combinations of 1x1 meter excavation units and 1 x 2-4 meter trenches. Table 1 provides a breakdown of estimated test pits and units at each site.

Table 1: Proposed site examination sub-surface testing, Trestle Trail Shared-Use Path (East).

Site	Approximate # of 50-x-50-cm Test Pits	Approximate # of 1-x-1-m or 1 x 2-4 m Excavation Units
Coventry Center Pond Site	10	1
Historic Mill Site	39	8
Quarry 3 Site	13	4
Quarry 4 Site	13	4
Foster Ledge Quarry		
TOTAL	**75**	**16**

Subsurface investigations of the Foster Ledge Quarry are not anticipated. Rather, efforts will be expended to identify various above-ground elements of the quarry complex in order to general a map of the complex to accompany the results of background research.

All units will be excavated by hand to sterile subsoils. Excavated soils will be screened through ¼-inch hardware mesh. Cultural material and samples will be bagged and labeled with provenience information. Profiles and plans will be drawn for all features, and soil profiles will be drawn for all test pits and excavation units. Photographs will be taken of the site areas and all cultural features.

Laboratory Processing and Analyses

Cultural materials will be processed per RIDOT's *Collections Management Plan* (RIDOT 2004) and will be stored in acid-free paper Hollinger boxes with contents list and labels, which are printed on acid-free paper. Appropriate conservation measures will be taken on any items that may require it, so that the items can be preserved for future study. All conservation measures will be in accordance with the Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission *Standards of Storage and Custody of Archaeological Collections* (RIHPC 1986). All project materials will be temporarily stored at PAL according to Secretary of Interior standards 36 CFR 79 and RIDOT guidelines until transfer to the RIDOT Archaeological Collections Center at Woonsocket for permanent curation.

Preparation of Survey Report

Upon completion of the fieldwork portion of the survey, PAL will prepare a management memorandum summarizing the results of the site examination. Upon completion of laboratory analysis, PAL will prepare a technical report per the guidelines established by the National Park Service in the *Recovery of Scientific, Prehistoric, Historic, and Archeological Data* (36 CFR Part 66 Appendix A) and the RIHPHC. Draft copies of the report will be submitted to UIC and RIDOT for review and comment before submission to the RIHPHC.

Project Personnel

The site examination 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).

Product Schedule

PAL will apply to the RIHPHC for a permit to conduct the site examinations after receiving the notice to proceed. The field investigations will begin within two weeks of receiving the permit and will take approximately four to six weeks to complete, depending on weather conditions. The management memorandum summarizing the results of the site examination will be submitted within 20 days after the completion of fieldwork. The technical report can be submitted for client review within 45 days.

Cost

A cost estimate is attached.

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