

## MANAGEMENT ABSTRACT

PAL completed an intensive (locational) archaeological survey of the 4 State Road Redevelopment and Construction project in Tisbury, Massachusetts. The proposed project includes the renovation of an existing building on State Road and the construction of an approximately 4,000 square foot addition on footings to the rear of the existing building as well as associated infrastructure and parking. The previously identified Vincent archaeological site (19-DK-21) is located within and/or in proximity to the project area. The goal of the intensive (locational) archaeological survey was to determine the extent of previous disturbance to any portion of the Vincent Site within the project area, and to locate and identify any significant archaeological deposits that may be present within the project impact areas. Based on William Ritchie's reporting, a review of the MHC's files, and the results of PAL's 2007 and 2011 surveys on the two properties to the west of the project area, the documented Vincent Site (19-DK-21) is concentrated to the west.

The intensive survey fieldwork included the excavation of 14, 50-x-50 cm test pits placed as individual JTPs across the accessible project area. A total of 410 artifacts was collected including 10 pieces of lithic chipping debris, 329 post-contact period materials, and 69 organic (bone and shell) materials. The artifacts were collected between 0 and 100 centimeters below the ground surface in all but one of the test pits. Eighty-two percent of the material total was collected in fill or disturbed soil. A total of 72 materials were collected in A/buried A horizons and of this total only one pre-contact artifact (a quartz flake) was included.

The intensive survey testing documented extensive soil filling across the entire project area, which was expected given the similar results during hand-testing in the two adjacent properties to the west. Eight of the fourteen test pits did not contain any natural topsoils, and B/subsoils were only identified in 4 or possibly five of the test pits. The fill deposits tended to be shallower in the northern sections of the project area and deeper in the southern sections, although the two northernmost test pits contained disturbed/fill soils to 100 cmbs, likely due to their proximity to the existing building foundation and septic system.

The intensive survey was designed to assess the extent of previous disturbance within the 4 State Road project area and to identify, if present, areas where intact/undisturbed archaeological deposits associated with the Vincent Site were present. The testing did document the presence of pre-contact cultural materials (10 pieces of chipping debris) which are likely part of the Vincent Site, however these materials were collected almost exclusively in fill/disturbed soils. No evidence of intact archaeological deposits or features was noted; the pre-contact materials were distributed in low densities in several sections of the project area, and no features or concentrations of disturbed pre-contact materials (e.g., shell pockets or black soils within fill deposits) were noted in any test pit. No potentially significant archaeological deposits were identified to the limits of the PAL hand testing in any portion of the project area.

The proponent's preliminary construction plans are currently under review by the Martha's Vineyard Commission, and the proponent has indicated that the project may be redesigned based on that review. **PAL recommends that, to the extent possible, the final design plans limit below grade disturbance to depths less than the fill depths noted on Figure 5-3. If any construction-related impacts are proposed below the level of the fill soils as depicted on Figure 5-3 in any portion of the project area, then additional archaeological excavation is recommended in those specific areas.**

In order to assess the need for and scope of any of the additional archaeological investigations described above, PAL recommends that the final design plans be provided to PAL and to the MHC for review and comment. Any additional archaeological investigations would need to be conducted under an amendment to and extension of the State Archaeologist's permit issued for the intensive survey.