# Archaeological Explorations and Archaeological Preservation at the Still River Preserve, Brookfield

MANUSCRIPT SERIES OF THE RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

AMERICAN INDIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

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# I. ABSTRACT

According to its original charter, the American Indian Archaeological Institute is committed to the systematic and scientific study and preservation of the archaeological records of southern New England. This report summarizes a recent study of the Still River Preserve, a property owned and maintained by Weantinoge Heritage in the towns of New Milford and Brookfield. This study has demonstrated that one section of the Preserve is archaeologically sensitive and needs to be managed carefully to preserve the research potential of the newly-discovered prehistoric site. The following conclusions are presented in the sections that appear and are reported here as highlights:

1. Archaeological resources are exceedingly fragile and non-renewable and need to be managed to preserve their research value (p.1).

2. The archaeological record of the Still River valley is known to include sites which range in age between 9000 B.P. and 5000 B.P. (p.2).

3. Many of the valley's archaeological resources have been destroyed during intensive residential and commercial development since 1960 (pp.3-5).

4. The lack of archaeological preservation in New Milford and Brookfield can be attributed to the lack of significant amounts of open space where archaeological sites could be protected (pp.4-5).

5. The true significance of the Still River Preserve is that it can be an important archaeological conservancy (p.5).

6. At one time the Preserve actually contained two prehistoric sites at its northern end. One of these, the Gallows site, has been destroyed. However our work discovered a second, previously unknown site in the plowzone of the old pasture (p.6).

7. The Gallows site was destroyed by activities in the mid-1970's. These activities did not disturb the integrity of the pasture (p.9).

8. At one time the pasture was an active floodplain similar to the contemporary landform along the east bank of the Still River. Then as the river shifted its course the pasture became an older, more stable terrace (p.9).

9. Two types of excavation units were used to study the archaeological potential of the Preserve (p.13).

10. During the 15th or 16th centuries Native Americans camped on the older terrace at the Preserve; evidence of this activity has been recovered from the pasture's plowzone (p.13).

11. This site, called the Weantinoge site, is especially significant since it is one of the few archaeological resources known from this period in western Connecticut (p.15).

12. Some stratigraphic evidence suggests that earlier landscapes may be buried beneath flood deposits at the pasture. These landscapes might have been used by prehistoric populations and so earlier archaeological sites may also exist (p.15).

13. The extant archaeological record in the pasture is well preserved and further studies of it could contribute significantly to the study of important research questions (p.16).

14. The known late prehistoric site at the Preserve is highly fragile since it lies within the uppermost layer or plowzone. Until further studies of this site are completed there should be no intensification of use beyond what exists today (p.16).

# II. INTRODUCTION AND STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The archaeological study described in this report was completed in the early fall of 1983 by a field crew associated with the American Indian Archaeological Institute of Washington, Connecticut. The owners of the Still River Preserve, Weantinoge Heritage of New Milford, were interested in clarifying the archaeological potential of this tract, situated along the border between Brookfield and New Milford. With the additional information gathered during this study, the organization hoped to write a management plan which would aid in protecting the property's natural and cultural resources.

Initial contact between Weantinoge Heritage and the American Indian Archaeological Institute took place in the late spring of 1983. By late June it had been decided that the AIAI would briefly test a portion of the preserve during the fall field season. A permission to conduct research was written and signed on August 31; fieldwork began during the last week of September.

The archaeological study and the preparation of this report were supported by a small grant from the Weantinoge Heritage as well as by additional funds contributed by the Friends of Research of the AIAI. Joint efforts such as these represent an important new direction in sharing the responsibilities for archaeological preservation in western Connecticut.

## This Report and Acknowledgements

This report is the first of a number of research manuscripts which will be produced at the AIAI during 1984. Part of a series begun in 1978 (the Manuscript Series of the Research Department), it is meant to summarize our findings from two perspectives:

1. The report will describe the archaeological sensitivity of the preserve and discuss how the property's prehistoric sites might be managed to protect their research values for the future. Archaeological resources are both exceedingly fragile and non-renewable and their conservation and careful use will mean that archaeological inquiry can continue into the 21st century.

2. Our work is also relevant to the structure of archaeological inquiry and to the status of archaeological knowledge in southern New England. While limited by the restricted scope of the excavations, the study did clarify the status and research potential of the preserve, thus contributing to the effort to make sense of the distant past.

Without the support and encouragement of the directors and members of the Weantinoge Heritage, this study could not have been completed. Their commitment to broaden their interests to include archaeological resources offers preservationists important opportunities over the next decade. Alice McCallister, President of Weantinoge Heritage, was instrumental in initiating the project and gaining support for it. John McNeely provided us with access to the property and information about recent land use and vegetation communities. John Pawloski helped in establishing contacts between the trust and the AIAI.

Edmund Swigart and Susan Payne of the AIAI encouraged us to undertake this study and provided additional financial support. Roberta Hampton directed a field crew of five including Catherine Carlson, Gordon Whitbeck, Dave Hofstatter, Barbara Cox, and Peter Mardoc. Ann McMullen cataloged the artifacts from our work; Roberta provided the illustrations for the report.

An initial archaeological evaluation of the Still River Preserve was undertaken in 1981 under the sponsorship of the King's Mark Environmental Review Team, Warren, Connecticut. Rick Lynn, Director of the Team, invited the AIAI to participate, thus alerting us to the research potential and management possibilities of the locality.

## III. STATUS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES ALONG THE STILL RIVER

Although the AIAI has conducted intensive archaeological surveys in western Connecticut since 1978, little of this research has been focused upon the Still River Valley in New Milford and Brookfield. Brief surface surveys of plowed fields immediately north of the Still River's mouth were completed in 1981 and 1982 but these activities did not extend further to the south. However prior surveys and excavations undertaken by other institutions and individuals allow an assessment of the extent of this valley's prehistoric archaeological record. These data also provide some information about the region's late glacial and early postglacial landscape history (13,000-8000 B.P.).

Geomorphological studies of this region, including the efforts of Richard Flint (1930), George Kelley (1975), and Peter Patton (1978), demonstrate that glacial ice had disappeared from the Housatonic Valley and its tributaries prior to 13,000 B.P. By 11,000-10,000 B.P. human populations had begun to inhabit the Housatonic Valley and its branches, including the Shepaug and Still Rivers. The Edward H. Rogers collection, now stored at the AIAI, includes numerous artifacts from the Still River Valley, some of which represent tools made more than 7000 years ago.[1]

Prior to 9000 B.P. human habitation and use of this valley would have been restricted to the uplands and the rolling surfaces of glaciofluvial formations elevated above the river's more recent terraces and floodplains. Much of the land surface below the 250 contour line would have been an extensive wetland or late glacial lake. These older, more elevated landforms were deposited when ice blocks were still present in the valley, more than 10,000 years ago. After the glacial ice had disappeared, these landforms became stable and were not subjected to extensive or intensive flooding. Therefore their surfaces since 9000 B.P. have remained almost unchanged, although recent plowing and mining have disturbed them.

Since the surfaces of these earlier landforms are characterized by long periods of stability, their associated prehistoric archaeological records are quite fragile, lying on or just below the modern landscape. Often there is no stratigraphic separation between successive occupations so the remains of prehistoric populations may be mixed with much later residues from the historic era. More than half of the Still River's known archaeological resources are located on such formations and could be easily destroyed during the next decade. Prior to 1960 the river's archaeological record above the 250 contour line was more extensive and intensive (more prehistoric sites and larger ones). The commercial gravel mining and residential development of these older landforms have resulted in the loss of many prehistoric sites.[2]

A small number of known prehistoric sites, approximately five, are situated at elevations below the 250 foot contour and are associated with younger terraces and floodplains along the Still River.[3] In comparison to the archaeological resources discussed above, these sites have usually been protected from extensive graveling and other modern disturbances. Sometimes these sites too have been buried by flood deposits and thus protected even from the effects of plowing in the 19th and 20th centuries. The research potential of such prehistoric records cannot be overestimated since they represent only a small surviving portion of what once was an extensive series of archaeological resources.

## Thinking of the Still River Preserve as an Archaeological Conservancy

As recently as 1955 much of the Still River Valley was being used for intensive agriculture including the floodplains and older terraces between the 300 and 220 contours. During the past two decades this same corridor has been subjected to intensive development. Gravel mines, small industrial sites, commercial and shopping centers, and housing complexes have appeared, especially in the upper reaches of the river in Brookfield and Danbury. Much of this growth has had severe, adverse effects upon the region's archaeological record and what is available for contemporary research is only a remnant.

The prospects in southern New Milford, below the Route 202/7 bridge, along the Housatonic and Still Rivers, are somewhat better. However recent urbanization and commercialization along the Route 7 corridor have already destroyed important archaeological complexes and more of these landscapes are now threatened. For example the significant archaeological potential of localities such as Lanesville, the terraces adjacent to the New Milford High School, and Fort Hill opposite the village of New Milford have all but disappeared. The important and poorly-known prehistoric complex at Lover's Leap is likewise destroyed; sadly, some of this loss can be attributed to pothunting by avid artifact collectors.

At one level this increase in the rate of destruction and the coincidental loss of archaeological resources is typical of many areas in the northeastern United States. At another, finer scale what has occurred in New Milford and Brookfield is not typical of the patterns and prospects for archaeological preservation in Litchfield County and its immediate environs. A recent evaluative study of archaeological resources in Litchfield County suggests that the rate of loss and future prospects improve as one moves north along the Housatonic River towards Massachusetts. Similarly the Naugatuck River Valley in the county is largely now devoid of prehistoric sites. As one moves inland from this corridor the present sensitivity of and future prospects for archaeological preservation increase (Handsman 1982:31-45, Appendix I).

Some of these trends reflect patterns of continuing urbanization and industrialization and it can be argued that as New Milford continues to grow, the river and highway corridors north of Boardman's Bridge will become more intensively developed. In fact some of the recent housing and commercial developments as well as gravel mines near Gaylordsville demonstrate that this locality, formerly safe and pristine, is now being threatened. Similar "crisis localities" can be identified in the upper reaches of the Aspetuck River as well as in Upper and Lower Merryall (Handsman 1982:87-88).

At least some of the recent and continuing loss of archaeological resources in New Milford can be attributed to the town's urbanization and suburbanization, processes which have not yet appeared elsewhere or which have been proceeding at far slower rates. However the poor prospects for archaeological preservation in the town also reflect the lack of significant amounts of committed open space. Among Litchfield County's 26 towns, New Milford ranks last in the amount of acreage being maintained as open space (about 2% of the town's area). Without protecting more significant amounts of land from development and thus providing banks or conservancies where archaeological sites can be preserved, New Milford will continue to offer poor prospects for archaeological preservation (see Tables VI-VIII in Handsman 1982).

Notably the efforts of Weantinoge Heritage to increase the amount of open space in New Milford are succeeding and the true significance of the Still River Preserve is that it can be an important archaeological conservancy. Archaeological conservancies are tracts of lands, variable in size and ownership, which are being used in ways that are compatible with the preservation of cultural resources such as prehistoric or historic sites. Many conservancies are identifiable as parcels of committed open space such as the holdings of Weantinoge Heritage; others are defined by land use rather than by restrictions on activities. The result is the same: the preservation and, more importantly, the management of landscapes so as to either contribute to or, at the very least, diminish the threats to undisturbed archaeological deposits.

The concept of an archaeological conservancy will succeed only if the relevant properties are managed in ways that are appropriate to archaeological resources. Management decisions always consist of a set of compromises which recognize the values and needs of a variety of natural and cultural resources. If neither the values nor the needs are identified then any management plan which is written will prove ultimately to be unworkable. With this problem and need in mind, the Weantinoge Heritage decided to undertake an archaeological evaluation of the Still River Preserve.[4]

## IV. PRIOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDIES AND THE SCOPE OF THIS WORK

The earliest known archaeological study of the preserve was undertaken by John Pawloski, an avocational archaeologist from New Milford, Connecticut. Pawloski visited the tract periodically during the early 1970's, noting the presence of scatters of artifacts towards the northern end. Although he did not undertake any excavations, he did sometimes see evidence that others were looting the site with shovels and picks. In the late 1970's Pawloski reported the site to Frederic Warner of the Connecticut Archaeological Survey (Central Connecticut State College in New Britain), who completed an inventory form for the locality and named it the Gallows site.

This form, now in the comprehensive site files of the Connecticut Historical Commission, described the Gallows site (6FA115, CAS 1052) as a possible hunting camp represented by quartz stemmed projectile points, other bifaces, and flakes produced by the manufacture and maintenance of tools. In 1979 the site was an old meadow and was reported by Warner to have been destroyed before a visit in April of 1979.

During the fall of 1981 the Gallows site was revisited by a team from the AIAI. This visit, in conjunction with a field study undertaken by the King's Mark Environmental Review Team, evaluated the archaeological potential of the entire tract including the locality which was supposed to contain the site. At that time there was no obvious evidence that this locality had been bulldozed or otherwise disturbed. The final evaluative report of the Environmental Review Team described the archaeological locality as follows: "A field reconnaissance demonstrated that the Gallows site has not been disturbed by recent activity. There are no signs of looting nor has the terrace been bulldozed in a search for subsurface gravel deposits."[5]

The obvious discrepancies between this later report and the earlier form completed by Warner can now be understood on the basis of our studies undertaken during September of 1983. The Still River Preserve actually once contained two prehistoric sites at its northern end, immediately south of the present road. One of these, situated to the east of the north-south access road, beneath the powerline, was the original Gallows site and, as reported, has been destroyed. A second, later prehistoric site was discovered during our work, which was concentrated further to the west along a floodplain of the Still River. The pasture which contains this site has been used for agriculture; however there is no evidence that the tract has ever been extensively disturbed. Thus this second archaeological resource is intact and needs to be protected for future scholars.

### Introduction to This Study

During late September and early October, 1983, a field crew from the AIAI explored the archaeological potential of an old pasture included in the Still River Preserve (Figure 1). During a seven day period excavations were undertaken to answer two questions:

1. To ascertain whether any archaeological resources were present and whether these resources had been destroyed or disturbed by prior activities.

2. To determine whether archaeological deposits existed below the plowzone and whether there was any evidence of stratification.

Several field and archival studies helped us to evaluate the archaeological significance and the geological history of the pasture. Topographic mapping, walkovers of the floodplain, and analyses of aerial photographs (Appendix B) allowed us to reconstruct recent landscape history. Subsurface block excavations and more limited testing clarified the archaeological potential of the pasture and helped in delimiting the size, age, and stratigraphic position of the site. Although our work recovered much new information, this study should not be thought of as a full-scale and completed piece of archaeological research. Most of the archaeological potential of the new site remains intact.

Figure 1. Field excavations at the Still River Preserve, September 1983.

## V. FIELD STUDIES AND FINDINGS

The archaeological research undertaken during the fall was focused upon an old pasture situated in the northern end of the Preserve, along an older terrace of the Still River (see location map on Figure 2). This pasture is not immediately visible from Gallows Hill Road and is separated from the Preserve's access road (which runs north-south) by an old meander scar now filled with shallow pools and wetland vegetation such as large swamp oaks. Unlike much of the Preserve's area, this pasture's topography and vegetation suggest that it has not been disturbed by gravel mining or the construction of power lines.[6]

The Gallows site was formerly situated to the east of this pasture in the north-eastern section of the Preserve. This locality, between the access road and the railroad bed, was extensively disturbed during the mid-1970's. The 1975 aerial photographs include evidence of these disturbances such as road construction and patches of scarred earth where topsoil has been removed. Such activities ultimately destroyed the prehistoric site first recognized by John Pawloski during this period. These same aerial photographs show that the zone of disturbance did not extend across the access road and into the pasture. Thus this archaeological locality remained intact during the past two decades when other parts of the Preserve and the Still River valley were being developed.

### Topography and Flood Geology

Two topographic transects were surveyed across the research locality and these profiles together with other data help us to understand the pasture's geomorphology and flood geology (Figure 2). The pasture is bordered on the east by an old meander scar represented by an elongated depression which is seasonally filled with water and wetland vegetation. At one time the main channel of the Still River was situated within this depression and the pasture would have been an active floodplain or even an island. Certainly the evidence from aerial photographs indicates that the present configuration of the river, pasture, and older channel has been present for at least fifty years.

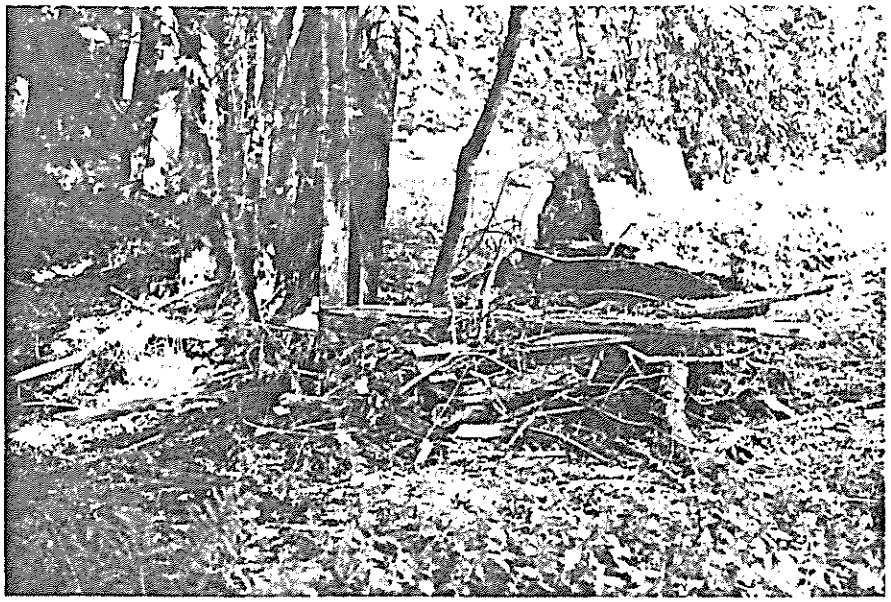
At its midpoint, the pasture is about 60 meters wide and its surface's topography does not vary more than 30 centimeters as one moves from east to west. Along its western edge, recent flood deposits of sand and silt have built a slight natural levee and the pasture's surface is some 50 centimeters higher. Beyond this levee the pasture disappears as one begins to traverse the active floodplain of the Still River (Figure 2, west to east transect).

This floodplain's surficial elevation is about 40 centimeters lower than that of the pasture, almost 80 centimeters below the top of the levee. In some places the width of the floodplain approaches 60 meters and it is bordered on the west by the modern channel of the Still River. This floodplain is an active depositional and erosional surface. As one walks across it today, piles of flood debris and trash are visible. Many of the root systems of the floodplain's sycamores are buried beneath flood deposits of sand (Figure 3). Several sand bars and sheets as well as erosional scour holes also illustrate the active processes which affect this landform (Figure 2, west to east transect, Figure 4).

At one time the pasture itself would have been an active floodplain similar to the modern landform along its western edge. Gradually the channel of the Still River would have moved across its valley towards the west and simultaneously downcut, leaving a former floodplain to become a stable terrace and forming a new floodplain at a lower elevation. This former floodplain or older terrace is today represented at the Preserve by the pasture.

Figure 2. Location and topography of the Still River Preserve, New Milford and Brookfield, Connecticut.

The location of the study area is shown in the smallest diagram. The topographic transects are drawn from south to north and west to east and their locations are also shown on the smallest diagram.



Pile of Flood Debris

Figure 3. Evidence of flooding on the active floodplain.

Burial of Tree Roots by Sand

Scour Channel at the North End of the Pasture

Figure 4. Meandering and scour channels along the Still River.

Meander Loop along the Still River Preserve

Without more extensive excavations and backhoe trenches it is not possible to determine when the current configurations of topography and landforms appeared. Certainly the Still River may have meandered across its valley more than once. Some of the aerial photographs illustrate the horizontal extent of the river's former meandering; older bends and channels can be seen along the valley's edges, adjacent to Route 7 and the railroad.[7] This process of movement and erosion continues today along the Still River and is illustrated by the loss of larger trees to undercutting (Figure 4).

Evidence depicted in the south to north topographic transect also indicates the movement of the river's channel across the valley floor. While they are not represented by any noticeable vegetation differences, there are subtle features and topographic trends which represent older levees and channels on the surface of the pasture. These signs demonstrate that at one time (or even more than once) the now older and stable terrace was an active floodplain directly adjacent to the river. The age and sequence of channel movement provides an interesting geological problem; however it is even more significant since we know that this locality was occupied by prehistoric populations during the last 500 to 700 years.

## The Grid Plan and Excavations

Two base lines of ten meter intervals were surveyed at the pasture. The longer one, 165 meters in length, extended along the north-south axis. A shorter line of 70 meters crossed this line at a right angle and was roughly perpendicular to the flow of the Still River (Figure 5). Two types of excavation units were used to study the older terrace:

1. Four squares, 1.50 meters on a side, were excavated to varying depths along the north-south base line, between N-70 and N-135 (Figure 5). Two of these units (N-70 W-1.5 and N-100 W-1.5) exceeded 1.00 meters in depth and were useful in assessing the stratigraphic potential of the pasture.

2. Forty-one shovel tests, circular pits with diameters of 50 centimeters, were also excavated in three lines or transects with 20-30 meters between adjacent transects. This second phase of excavation was used to evaluate the archaeological potential of the plowzone between N-0 and N-70. The excavation of these units allowed us to assess more rapidly the archaeological significance of a locality. However the size of these units limited our ability to recognize stratigraphy or the presence of archaeological features.

## Archaeological Findings

Although our work was limited in its coverage and its objectives, we did gather enough information to be able to assess the archaeological significance and research potential of the pasture. Most of the excavated units contained no artifacts; in fact only one square of the four completed was productive of materials. A few flakes of quartz and chert were recovered from the plowzone of N-120 W-1.5. No other materials were identified and the age of these flakes could not be determined.

However a few of the shovel tests, located south of this square, contained more diagnostic prehistoric artifacts. Several sherds or broken pieces of late prehistoric pots (ca. A.D. 1400) were recovered from pits 006, 023, and 026. The morphology and firing characteristics of these sherds suggest that the pots were manufactured during the 15th or 16th centuries, just after the European discovery of the New World. Sometime during this period Native Americans camped along the Still River and evidence of this activity has been preserved within the topmost layers of the pasture.

Figure 5. Grid plan and the excavation units at the Still River Preserve.

Dots represent the location of shovel tests; the units numbered contained late prehistoric ceramics. The west-east topographic transect was recorded along the line between 006 and 015.

Our data are not sufficient to allow us to determine the size or complexity of this prehistoric site. Nevertheless similar sherds were recovered from units separated by more than 30 meters so the site could be extensive. That is, it is possible that the archaeological materials are distributed across a wide area. The site does not appear to be overly productive. The shovel tests did not include a lot of artifacts. Further, if the site was an intensive one with a relatively high density of artifacts, then it would probably be well known to local collectors.

Undoubtedly this lack of artifacts helped to make this site - now called the Weantinoge site - less visible and so helped to preserve it. It is almost a rare archaeological resource as much of the Still River's archaeological record has been destroyed. However the Weantinoge site is also significant since it represents a time period (A.D. 1200-1500) which is poorly known to archaeologists in southern New England. All of the Institute's work since 1978 has found only a few similar resources along the Housatonic and Shepaug Rivers and their tributaries.

No other definitive evidence of archaeological sensitivity was identified during our work. Yet some of the stratigraphic profiles revealed in the two deep squares (N-70 W-1.5, N-100 W-1.5) suggested that former landscapes were buried within the older terrace and might include archaeological materials. For example the profiles recovered from N-100 W-1.5, excavated to a depth of 1.50 meters, contained evidence of a complicated depositional history. The bottom layers were channel deposits and represented a former period when the Still River flowed through the pasture itself. Later the river shifted its course and began to deposit sands and silts during overbank episodes of flooding. This process continued at varying rates until the river's channel had shifted enough so that the pasture (or this section of it) was no longer periodically flooded.

Some of the layers which have been preserved within these overbank columns are reminiscent of buried soil horizons. Such horizons could represent periods of stability when the landscape in this locality was sufficiently intact to support vegetation and the development of a weathering profile. Usually these profiles are quite visible as distinct layers of different color and texture. At the Weantinoge site these differences were masked by soil horizons caused by seasonally high water tables. If the subtle differences identified in these profiles do define buried, older landscapes, then there is no obvious reason why such floodplains could not have been used by prehistoric populations. Thus the known archaeological potential of this site might include a buried, earlier prehistoric component.

## VI. SUMMARY AND MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

In some settings in southern New England the discovery of a small late prehistoric site in the plowzone of an older terrace would be neither a surprise nor an event worthy of much additional effort. However the Weantinoge site is one of the few known, extant archaeological resources in the Still River Valley in New Milford and Brookfield. Probably it is too late to write a prehistory of the Still River; too many sites have disappeared. Yet the discovery of a previously unknown late prehistoric campsite on the Preserve will allow us to continue to study two research problems:

1. The site is one of the few archaeological settlements from the 15th century A.D. which has been preserved and discovered in western Connecticut. This time period remains largely unknown in the interior regions of Connecticut and it is believed that these regions were used only for seasonal hunting by populations who lived in coastal villages. Recent evidence suggests that permanent settlements existed in Litchfield County but these sites were small hamlets consisting of a few houses and cleared fields. Since their size and use were limited, their archaeological presence or visibility is limited as well. The archaeological manifestation at the Still River Preserve represents this sort of settlement. Its further exploration will help us understand how interior landscapes were used by late prehistoric populations just before the Contact period began.

2. The archaeological record at the Weantinoge site can also be studied to reconstruct the rates of meandering of river systems such as the Still River. In the Upper Housatonic River Valley, field studies have indicated that these processes of meandering may have destroyed prehistoric sites which once existed on the valley floor (Handsman 1978, 1980). Intensive studies of archaeological records such as the one at Weantinoge can help us understand the complicated relationships between fluvial geology and archaeology.

If the research potential which is present at the Still River Preserve is to be available for future archaeologists, then Weantinoge Heritage will have to limit the future uses and access to the pastures. The known archaeological resource is highly fragile since it lies within the uppermost layer or plowzone. Although the field has been plowed before and often in this century, the resumption of this activity may destroy those features which have managed to survive. Until the archaeological resource is studied completely there should be no intensification of use beyond what exists today. In this way the present status and significance of the Preserve as an archaeological conservancy can be maintained.

## VII. FOOTNOTES

[1]The important components from Still River in the Edward H. Rogers collection include collections from the Hatch Farm (76-1-386), Lanesville (76-1-606), and the Larsen Farm (76-1-717). A much larger collection from plowed fields along the Still River in New Milford is also included in the Rogers materials (76-1-722/1-303). All of these materials are stored at the AIAI.

[2]The scale of these recent losses can be reconstructed through a comparison of the U.S.G.S. 7½" Topographic sheets for New Milford, Connecticut (1955 sheet and 1971 photorevision) and Danbury, Connecticut (1963 sheet and 1972 photorevision). As one proceeds upriver towards southern Brookfield and Danbury, the extent of graveling increases.

[3]Inventory sheets for these sites and other known resources in the Still River Valley are on file at the AIAI.

[4]The significance of management plans for archaeological preservation is discussed in Handsman (1982:46-56). A general introduction to the concept as well as specific discussions of how to write such plans are available in Connecticut Land Trust Handbook (Wilkins and Koontz 1982).

[5]This statement and others about the archaeological potential of the Preserve are included in the 1981 report prepared by the King's Mark Environmental Review Team. This and related documents are on file at the Research Department of the AIAI.

[6]An analysis of aerial photographs indicates that the high tension line on the Preserve was built during the late 1970's. Certainly this construction disturbed the integrity of some of the Preserve's landscape.

[7]The aerial photos of 1965 and 1975 show these patterns more clearly than other coverage.

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# IX. APPENDICES

## Appendix A. Photostatted Copies of Catalog Cards

A small assemblage of prehistoric quartz and chert flakes and sherds from pots was excavated from the Still River Preserve. Under the terms of the agreement, this assemblage became part of the AIAI's permanent research collection and has been recorded and stored as a separate unit. These materials are available for study and viewing and could be borrowed by Weantinoge Heritage for an exhibit. The catalog cards which were completed for this assemblage have been photostatted and are included in this appendix. The lot number 83-2-2, which appears on these cards, can be used to identify the relevant collection. Field notes, maps, and other data are filed at the AIAI, as are the following photographic materials:

1. One contact sheet of 18 black-and-white photographs and associated negatives. Show flood geology of field and excavations.

2. Set of 18 color slides which illustrate field excavations and some stratigraphic profiles.

SITE NUMBER
SITE NAME(S) Still River Preserve

SITE LOCATION

CATALOG NUMBER 83-2-2 / 1.1.1.
SPECIMEN flake

RAW MATERIAL(S) quartz

PROVENIENCE N 120.0 W 1.5 Plowzone 16cm BS
DESCRIPTION N=1

AMERICAN INDIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

REFERENCES

SOURCE AIAI Excavation DATE 1983 RECORDER McMullen DATE 16 Nov

SITE NUMBER _____ CATALOG NUMBER 83-2-2/1.1.2

SITE NAME(S) Still River Preserve SPECIMEN flake

SITE LOCATION _____ RAW MATERIAL(S) chert

PROVENIENCE N 120.0 W1.5 Plowzone 16cm BS

DESCRIPTION N=1

AMERICAN INDIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

REFERENCES _____

SOURCE AIAI Excavation

DATE 1983 RECORDER McMullen DATE 11/83

SITE NUMBER
SITE NAME(S) Shell River Preserve
SITE LOCATION
PROVENIENCE N 120.0 W 1.5 Plowzone
DESCRIPTION N=1

CATALOG NUMBER 83-2-2 / 1.1.3
SPECIMEN fire-cracked rock
RAW MATERIAL(S) quartzite



REFERENCES

SOURCE AIAI Excavation

DATE 1983 RECORDER McMullen DATE 11/83

SITE NUMBER _____ CATALOG NUMBER 83-2-2/2.1.1

SITE NAME(S) Still River Preserve SPECIMEN sherd

SITE LOCATION _____ RAW MATERIAL(S) terra cotta, temper

PROVENIENCE STP 006 Ap

DESCRIPTION N=1



REFERENCES _____

SOURCE AIA Excavation

DATE 1983 RECORDER McMullen DATE 11/83

SITE NUMBER
SITE NAME(S) Still River Preserve

CATALOG NUMBER 83-2-2 / 3.1.1
SPECIMEN Sherds

SITE LOCATION

RAW MATERIAL(S) terra cotta, temper

PROVENIENCE STP 023 Ap - ? 0-40cm BS
DESCRIPTION N=3

REFERENCES

SOURCE AIAI excavation

DATE 1983 RECORDER McMullen DATE 11/83

SITE NUMBER

SITE NAME(S) Shell River Preserve

SITE LOCATION

PROVENIENCE STP 026 Ap/INT ?

DESCRIPTION N=1

CATALOG NUMBER 82-2-2/4.1.1

SPECIMEN sherd

RAW MATERIAL(S) terra cotta, temper

AMERICAN INDIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

REFERENCES

SOURCE AIAI excavation

DATE 1983 RECORDER McMullen DATE 11/83

Appendix B. Inventory of Relevant Aerial Photographs for the Still River Preserve

The following list of aerial photographs was compiled during this project and provided information about the Preserve's recent history of land use. The series of four photos was also used to understand how the Still River's meandering actions have affected the tract since the 1930's. All of this photographic coverage is available at the Natural Resources Center, Department of Environmental Protection, 165 Capitol Avenue, Room 553, Hartford, Connecticut. An index to available aerial photographs and other maps and reports was published in 1983 (Elliott C. Bronson - Natural Resources Information Directory for the State of Connecticut).

## Aerial Coverage

1. 1934 Series. Coverage available in the form of large sheets; the Preserve is represented on one sheet.

2. 1965 Series. 9x9 prints Flight Line 21, Photos 1691 and 1692.

3. 1975 Series. 9x9 prints Flight Line 32, Photos 7273 and 7274.

4. 1980 Series. 9x9 prints Flight Line 14, Photos 5771 and 5772.

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Appendix C.

Ms. Alice McCallister
Weantinoge Heritage
New Milford, Connecticut

August 31, 1983

Permission To Conduct Research

The Research Department of the American Indian Archaeological Institute requests that Weantinoge Heritage grant permission for members of the Department to undertake archaeological studies of part of the Still River preserve in the Town of Brookfield. These investigations will explore the relationships between processes of flooding, historic agriculture and other disturbances, and the prehistoric Gallows site (6FA115) along the Still River.

Our work is scheduled for late September and would include two types of activities:

1. Excavation of 3 to 6 squares, 1.5 meters on a side, to a depth of about 2 meters. These units will be used to determine whether archaeological deposits are deeply buried along the river's floodplain. The squares would be open for four to six days and then filled and restored including the planting of winter rye. They will be fenced at night.

2. Excavation of several lines of shovel pits to determine the extent of recent disturbance as well as the size of any undisturbed archaeological sites. These units are dug, studied, and then immediately filled.

Materials recovered from these excavations will become part of the Institute's permanent research collection and will be recorded as a discrete unit and stored in separate boxes. These materials will be available for study and viewing. If Weantinoge Heritage wants to borrow some materials for an exhibit this could be arranged through the Institute's Collections Committee. If any of the objects from the Preserve are displayed at or by the Institute it will be noted that the artifacts were excavated from the Still River Preserve, owned and maintained by Weantinoge Heritage.

In consideration of your permission, we hereby agree for ourselves and for any of our agents or employees who may enter upon the property that we will hold Weantinoge Heritage harmless for any injuries or damages sustained by any of us upon your premises. Upon completion of said excavations we will restore said premises to their present condition.

Agreed to by:

Russell G. Handsman
Russell G. Handsman
Director of Field Research
American Indian Archaeological Inst.

Alice McCallister
Alice McCallister
President
Weantinoge Heritage Inc.

Date: