Phase IB Archaeological Survey
Reconstruction of the Pelham Bay Park South Waterfront,
NYC Parks contract X039 – 507M

Bronx, New York

Prepared For:
NYC Parks
Olmsted Center
Flushing Meadows-Corona Park
Flushing, NY 11368

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October 2012

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

SHPO Project Review Number (if available):

Involved State and Federal Agencies:

Phase of Survey: **Phase IB Archaeological Survey**

Location Information
Location: **Pelham Bay Park**
Minor Civil Division: **00501**
County: **Bronx**

Survey Area
Length: **720 ft (218m)**
Width: **40 ft (12m)**
Number of Acres Surveyed: **0.66 acre**

USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle Map: **Flushing**

Archaeological Survey Overview
Number & Interval of Shovel Tests: **22/7.5m (25 ft)**
Number & Size of Units: **N/A**
Width of Plowed Strips: **N/A**
Surface Survey Transect Interval: **N/A**

Results of Archaeological Survey
Number & name of precontact sites identified: **One, Tallapoosa Middens Site**
Number & name of historic sites identified: **None**
Number & name of sites recommended for Phase II/Avoidance: **One, Tallapoosa Middens Site**

Report Authors(s): **William Sandy, M.A., R.P.A. & Cece Saunders, M.A., R.P.A., Historical Perspectives, Inc.**

Date of Report: **September 2012**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

City of New York Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), also referred to as NYC Parks, has prepared contract documents to remove an aging seawall and sidewalks, and restore the shoreline south of Pelham Bay Landfill in Pelham Bay Park. While completing soils test pits for restoration design purposes, DPR identified a possible Precontact shell midden. In compliance with environmental regulations, DPR conferred with the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (OPRHP), as well as the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) (1/12/12, 1/25/12, 3/9/12). Douglas Mackey of the state agency recommended systematic archaeological testing of the restoration impact shoreline (1/25/12). DPR contracted with Historical Perspectives, Inc. (HPI) to complete a Phase IB Archaeological Survey of the possible midden and shoreline within the restoration limits.

The Phase IB archaeological survey was designed to use a combination of machine and hand excavation to evaluate the reported shell midden and to test the remainder of the shoreline of the Area of Potential Effect (APE) for shell middens. This testing met applicable archaeological standards (LPC 2002, New York Archaeological Council 1994, OPRHP 2005).

The IB testing was conducted between 8/2/12 and 8/8/12. Shell middens were discovered in six of 22 mechanically assisted shovel tests in Pelham Bay Park South. These discrete loci span a total distance of about 133m (440 ft) of shoreline. The intermittent shell concentrations are topped by various fill episodes, including soils rich in 19th and 20th Century artifacts. These historic era materials are also present within the middens, suggesting redeposition, or stratigraphic disturbance in places. In one location, the midden has been impacted by a brick building foundation. Shellfish recovered from the site middens include hard and soft-shell clam, oyster, and whelk. Aboriginal artifacts recovered from the midden deposits include one small, undecorated sherd of Precontact pottery, chert flakes, and fire-cracked rock.

This Precontact shell midden site, referred to as the "Tallapoosa Middens Site," in recognition of an historic association with this shoreline, on the attached New York State Prehistoric Archaeological Site Inventory Form (Appendix C), has the potential to lead to a better understanding of Native American use of the Bronx shoreline. Based on the recovery of one body sherd of Native American pottery, at least one occupation of the site can be dated to the Woodland Period (2800 to 400 BP).

The Tallapoosa Middens Site should be avoided and protected within the restored shoreline. If avoidance is not possible based on DPR programs, then further field examination is recommended. A subsequent field investigation, considered a Phase II, would focus on determining site integrity, extent, and significance based on the criteria of the National Register of Historic Places. A Phase II effort could provide a contextual framework for comparisons to other coastal sites in this section of the Bronx and Westchester County, too. Given the potential of the Tallapoosa Middens Site to detail Native American use of the Pelham Bay Park South environs, we recommend consideration of further excavations, comparative analysis, and dating possibilities. The various middens could be dated by submitting a shell or large pieces of shell to a radiocarbon dating lab if charcoal samples are not available.

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INTRODUCTION

City of New York Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), also referred to as NYC Parks, has prepared contract documents to remove an aging seawall and sidewalks, and restore the shoreline south of Pelham Bay Landfill in Pelham Bay Park South. See Figure 1. While completing soils test pits for restoration design purposes, DPR identified a possible Precontact shell midden. In compliance with environmental regulations, DPR conferred with the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (OPRHP), as well as the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) (1/12/12, 1/25/12, 3/9/12). Douglas Mackey of the state agency recommended systematic archaeological testing of the restoration impact shoreline (1/25/12).

DPR contracted with Historical Perspectives, Inc. (HPI) to complete a Phase IB Archaeological Survey of the possible midden and shoreline within the restoration limits. See Figure 2. The Phase IB archaeological survey was designed to use a combination of machine and hand excavation to evaluate the reported shell midden and to test the remainder of the shoreline's Area of Potential Effect (APE) for shell middens. The IB testing was conducted by HPI between 8/2/12 and 8/8/12. William Sandy, RPA, directed field operations with assistance from Cece Saunders, RPA. Dawn Brown, Jonathan Bream, Michael Thomas, and Siobhan Ward made up the field team. Photos are by Brown, Thomas, and Sandy. Sandy compiled the artifact inventory.

II. METHODOLOGY

Typically, IB field investigations are preceded by IA documentary research that provides a contextual framework for the field approach and subsequent analysis. However, the precontact sensitivity of the Bronx shoreline has been well documented for more than 100 years. The New York State Museum (NYSM) has recorded sites from Pelham Bay Park (e.g., NYSM #5477). Dr. Lynn Ceci's study of prehistoric village site collections from coastal New York (1990) included the Pelham Bay Knolls Village site, which is archived at the American Museum of Natural History. Eugene Boesch's more recent sensitivity study of the Bronx for LPC noted shell middens on Rodman's Neck, which is across Eastchester Bay from the Pelham Bay Park South shoreline (Boesch 1996). Marcha Johnson of DPR understood the depth and breadth of the Native American presence in the Bronx's past and the importance of a buried shell midden when encountered in 2008.

Historically, this shoreline property passed through several owners from the 1600s to the Parks Department acquisition in 1888, including Osbourne, Hunt, Bayard, Hunter, and Peter Lorillard. The Tallapoosa Club, a political and social club organized in 1879, leased a portion of the Pelham Bay Park from the City for their summer activities (clambakes, barbeques, and picnics). "This gave rise to the point of land [south of the Pelham bridge] acquiring the name of Tallapoosa Point. The name is said to have originated in the years immediately following the Civil War, as some of the charter members had seen action in Tallapoosa, Georgia" (McNamara, 1984: 512-513) . Tallapoosa Point, to the north of the shoreline restoration project, is no longer distinguishable as a tidally inundated neck of land since the City's twentieth century landfill program completely engulfed the former landform.

The Phase IB Archaeological Survey followed a methodology that was developed in accordance both with the known sensitivity of this area of the city and the *Standards* for Phase IB surveys of the OPRHP (NYAC 1994 and 2005), as well as the LPC *Guidelines* (2002).

Testing at the waterfront of Pelham Bay Park South had two goals.

- The first goal was to examine the site of the shell concentration found in TP4A by the DPR on Sept. 29, 2008. This location was pointed out by Marcha Johnson, PhD, ASLA, Landscape Architect and Ecological Restorationist with the DPR, based on her original field maps and paint marks placed on the adjacent sidewalk in 2008.
- The second goal of testing on the Pelham Bay Park waterfront was to systematically test for other possible shell concentrations elsewhere within the narrow APE.

Because of the documented presence of deep and irregular fill in the area, except for AT1, an unusual type of "shovel test" was used. The Archaeological Tests (AT) started with a backhoe excavated trench about 0.5 to 0.7m (1.6 to 2.3 ft) wide and about 2 to 3m (6.6 to 9.9 ft) long. These trenches were up to about 1.5m (4.93 ft) deep. The hand excavated Archaeological Tests (ATs), each positioned within a larger opened trench, were approximately

50cm square. When a shell concentration was noted in the profile, that trench was slightly expanded in order to carefully remove the fill from above the shell stratum, then a manual shovel test – an AT - was excavated through the cultural deposit and into sterile subsoil.

Standards for excavations, screening, recording, labeling, mapping, and cataloging, as outlined by the NYAC *Guidelines* (1994) were observed. Field notes recorded all pertinent data including artifacts and the levels where they were found. Soil textures were determined with a flow diagram. Soil colors were determined with the *Munsell Soil Color Chart*. Stratigraphic profiles of all ATs were recorded. A photographic record was undertaken. All ATs were promptly refilled. Appendix A presents the field summaries of the ATs and Appendix B details the artifacts from each AT.

III. FIELD RESULTS

The project site shoreline corridor, or APE measures approximately 218m (720 ft) north/south and is about 12m (40 ft) wide, including the seawall, sidewalk, and the adjacent inland lawn that runs parallel to the sidewalk. To the north looms the massive Pelham Bay Landfill and related facilities. South of the end of the retaining wall is a small natural cove with public/fishermen's access. Most of the project area is in lawn, with some ornamental trees well west of the sea wall. A section of the north end of the shoreline corridor has been severely disturbed by former installations of a six-foot buried drainage pipe, a trail, and a chain link fence. This disturbed area, dominated by *phragmites* and exposed landfill, which was not tested, is noted on Figure 3.

DPR supervisors for the Pelham Bay Park South area relayed to the HPI team their understanding of prior shoreline use and earlier shoreline manipulation episodes. As was common in many outlying New York City shore areas during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, this land hosted a number of small beach cottages for seasonal occupation.

A total of 22 mechanically-aided ATs were excavated. AT1 was placed at the location of TP-4A, where the midden was discovered in 2008. It was hand excavated (Photos 1 and 2). The numerical sequence of the subsequent tests follows the linear field position to the north of AT1, then breaks and moves south of AT1, and the third testing sequence, AT 20 – AT 22, was shifted to the northern limits of the APE. AT2 through AT12 were positioned to the north of AT1 and parallel to the seawall, at 7.5m (25 ft) intervals. AT13 through AT18 were south of AT1. AT20 through AT22 were in the extreme north end of the project corridor, between the large drainage pipe and the landfill (Figure 3).

The data from each AT are provided below. Shell concentrations were found in six of the 22 tests, in three discrete areas. A shell lens, or midden, occurred in AT1 and AT2, which was to the north and AT13 was immediately on the south side of AT1 (Figure 3). Consequently AT1, AT2, and AT13 will be discussed together. A shell lens (midden) was also found well to the north at AT10 and AT12. The southernmost test, AT18 also had a shell concentration.

A. Archaeological Tests with Shell Concentrations

- Archaeological Test 1

AT1 had a shell concentration at a depth of 47 to 55 cm below grade (bg). Fill was removed from above the midden and a manual shovel test completed (Photos 1 and 2).

AT1

#	Depth (cm)	Soil Color	Soil Type	Notes/Artifacts	Interpretations
1	0-8	10YR3/1 Very dark gray	Sandy loam	MR/ Newly formed topsoil, very dry	A
2	8-32	10YR4/2 Dark grayish brown	Sandy loam	MR	Fill
3	32-47	10YR3/3 Dark brown	Sandy loam with rock	MR/Full of broken rock	Fill
4	47-55	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Silty sandy loam w/ shell	Shell, 1 fire-cracked rock, glass, ceramic, metal	A?

5	55-80	10YR3/4 Dark yellowish brown	Silty sandy loam	NCM/Sterile subsoil	B

Note: NCM=No Cultural Material MR=Machine Removed

This AT produced a large quantity of hard shell clam (*Mercenaria mercenaria*) as well as oyster (*Cassostrea virginica*). Most of the shell was fragmentary. The lone complete clam shell measured 88mm by 100mm. A large piece of fire-cracked rock was also recovered in AT1. Historic material consisted of a variety of small container glass fragments, whiteware, nail fragments, and an electrical connector. No cultural material was found in the B horizon below the midden.

- Archaeological Test 2

AT2 was located 7.5m (25 ft) to the north of AT1. A shell lens was noted at 62 to 78cmbg (23.43 – 30.73 inches below grade). In addition to clam shell, coal, coal ash, and nails were recovered from the midden. See Photo 3.

AT2

#	Depth (cm)	Soil Color	Soil Type	Notes/Artifacts	Interpretations
1	0-13	10YR3/1 Very dark gray	Sandy loam	MR/Newly formed topsoil	A
2	13-28	10YR4/2 Dark grayish brown	Sandy loam	MR	Fill
3	28-50	10YR5/2 Grayish brown	Rocky gravelly sand	MR	Fill
4	50-62	10YR3/6 Dark yellowish brown	Loamy sand	MR	Fill
5	62-78	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Sandy loam w/ shell	Shell lens, nails, coal, coal ash	A?
6	78-90	10YR5/6 Yellowish brown	Silty sandy loam	NCM/Sterile subsoil	B

Note: NCM=No Cultural Material MR=Machine Removed

- Archaeological Test 13

AT13 was located 7.5m (25 ft) south of AT1. A midden, including oyster shell, was noted at a depth of 40 to 58cmbg (15.76 – 22.85 inches below grade; Photo 4). No historic or Precontact artifacts were recovered from AT13.

- Archaeological Test 10

About 60m (200 ft) north of AT2, a shell lens, or midden, was found in AT10 (Figure 3). The shell concentration in AT10 was located between 42 and 47cmbg (16.55 – 18.52 inches below grade). The AT10 midden was cut by a brick foundation, which extended from 24 to 67cmbg (Photo 5). The midden produced both Precontact and small historic artifacts. One Precontact find was a small, undecorated body sherd of pottery. It was 6.1mm (.28 inches) thick and appears to be sand or grit tempered. See Photo 14. Also, three large pieces of fire-cracked cobble were recovered. The fragmentary historic finds included modern container glass, nail, and brick fragments. The shell appears to be almost exclusively soft-shell clam (*Mya arenaria*; also known as "steamers"), although given the fragmentary nature of the shell, it is possible that some pieces are hard shell clam. Based on the hinge counts, no fewer than 17 soft-shell clams are present. These shells are smaller than the clams present elsewhere; the largest shells come from specimens no bigger than 60 by 65mm (2.34 by 2.54 inches). AT10 produced the only fragment of whelk recovered. This small piece of the interior spiral is too fragmentary to determine the species. It could be channel whelk (*Busycon canalicatum*).

AT10

#	Depth (cm)	Soil Color	Soil Type	Notes/Artifacts	Interpretations
1	0-18	10YR3/3 Dark brown	Sandy loam	Recently formed A/Very Dry/MR	A
2	18-24	10YR4/6 Dark yellowish brown	Stony sandy loam	MR	Fill

3	24-42	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Sandy loam	Glass*/ Brick foundation from 24-67cm, cuts midden	A
4	42-47	10YR2/2 Very dark brown	Sandy loam w/ shell	Shell, 1 NA pottery, fire-cracked rock, glass, coal, nail, brick fragments	A
5	47-90	10YR5/6 Yellowish brown	Silty sandy loam	NCM	B
6	90-135	7.5YR5/6 Strong brown	Stony loamy sand	NCM/Bedrock	C

Note: NCM=No Cultural Material MR=Machine Removed *=Discarded

- Archaeological Test 12

AT12 is the northernmost AT before the large drainage pipe that bisects the area. It is located 15m (50 ft) north of AT 10. A shell midden was located at 68 to 71cmbg in AT12 (26.72 – 27.94 inches below grade; Photo 6). A kaolin pipestem fragment was recovered from the midden. It is finely made and appears relatively modern. Six flakes were also recovered from the midden context. Five were of black and gray chert; one was of green shale. Two of the chert flakes had cortex or rind; they are primary flakes. The shell included both oyster and soft-shell clam.

AT12

#	Depth (cm)	Soil Color	Soil Type	Notes/Artifacts	Interpretations
1	0-21	10YR3/3 Dark brown	Stony sandy loam	MR/Recent A	A
2	21-49	10YR4/4 Dark yellowish brown	Stony sandy loam	MR	Fill
3	49-50	10YR2/1 Black	Charcoal & ash	historic artifacts*	Fill
4	50-68	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Sandy loam	historic artifacts*	A
5	68-71	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Sandy loam w/ shell	Shell, kaolin pipestem, 6 flakes	A
6	71-86	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Sandy loam	NCM	A
7	86-88	10YR5/6 Yellowish brown	Sandy loam	NCM	B

Note: NCM=No Cultural Material MR=Machine Removed *=Discarded

- Archaeological Test 18

AT18 is located near the south end of the seawall (Figure 3). A midden was discovered under 66cm (2.2 ft) of fill (Photo 7). The midden included oyster shell. One black chert flake and one gray quartzite flake were found in the midden level. See Photo 15.

AT18

#	Depth (cm)	Soil Color	Soil Type	Notes/Artifacts	Interpretations
1	0-8	10YR5/2 Grayish brown	Sandy loam	MR/Dry	A
2	8-66	10YR5/6 Yellowish brown	Sandy loam	Asphalt*, bottles* at 46cm/Very compact	Fill
3	66-99	10YR3/3 Dark brown	Sandy loam w/shell	Shell in 50cm diameter area/2 flakes/Soil compact	A?
4	99101	10YR4/6 Dark yellowish brown	Silty sandy loam	Compact	B?

Note: NCM=No Cultural Material MR=Machine Removed *=Discarded

B. Archaeological Tests without a Shell Midden/Lens

None of the remaining 16 ATs had concentrations of shell. AT3 and AT4 had 99 and 77cm (30.34 inches) of fill, respectively, over a possible truncated B horizon (Photo 8).

AT4

#	Depth (cm)	Soil Color	Soil Type	Notes/Artifacts	Interpretations
1	0-10	10YR3/3 Dark brown	Sandy loam	MR/Newly formed A	A
2	10-33	10YR3/4 Dark yellowish brown	Sandy loam	MR	Fill
3	33-57	10YR3/1 Very dark gray	Rocky loamy sand	MR	Fill
4	57-60	10YR4/6 Dark yellowish brown	Silty sandy loam	MR	Fill
5	60-77	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Rocky loamy sand	MR	Fill
6	77-102	10YR5/6 Yellowish brown	Sand	Fill?/MR	B?
7	102-107	10YR2/2 Very dark brown	Silty clay loam	Fill?/MR	C?

Note: NCM=No Cultural Material MR=Machine Removed

AT5 had 75cm of fill over an apparent buried A horizon. AT6 had a 45cm profile consisting entirely of fill over rock obstructions. AT7, AT8, AT9, and AT11 had 31 to 60cm (12.21 – 23.64 inches) of fill over a buried A horizon (Photo 9). AT9 was excavated down to a bedrock obstruction. This shoreline is punctuated by exposed natural ledge.

AT9

#	Depth (cm)	Soil Color	Soil Type	Notes/Artifacts	Interpretations
1	0-24	10YR3/4 Dark yellowish brown	Stony sandy loam	Recently formed A/ Very dry	A
2	24-33	10YR4/3 Brown	Stony sandy loam	MR	Fill
3	33-55	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Stony sandy loam	MR	A
4	55-93	10YR5/6 Yellowish brown mottled 10YR 4/4 Dark yellowish brown	Sandy loam	MR	B
5	93-122	NA	Mica Schist	MR/Deteriorating bedrock	C

Note: NCM=No Cultural Material MR=Machine Removed

AT14 was excavated at the location of a large, shallow (10cm) depression. There was 55cm (21.67 inches) of fill removed to expose a stratum of loose cobbles (Photo 10). This surface was full of interstices; this most likely represents a filled historic-era shaft feature, like a well, privy, or cistern.

AT14

#	Depth (cm)	Soil Color	Soil Type	Notes/Artifacts	Interpretations
1	0-10	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Sandy loam	MR	A
2	10-42	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Rocky loamy sand w/ ash	MR	Fill
3	42-55	10YR4/2 Dark grayish brown	Stony Loam	MR	Fill
4	55+	NA	Rock	Rocks full of holes/possible shaft feature	Fill

Note: NCM=No Cultural Material MR=Machine Removed *=Discarded

At 7.5m (25 ft) south of AT14 was a depression of about the same size and shape as the one located at AT14 (Figure 3). Because this was probably another filled shaft feature, no AT was excavated at this interval. Another similar anomaly was located just north of AT18.

Three consecutive ATs in the southern part of the test area had shallow profiles. No fill was present in AT15, AT16, or AT17. Bedrock was reached between 49 and 58cmbg (19.31 – 22.85 inches below grade; Photo 11).

AT16

#	Depth (cm)	Soil Color	Soil Type	Notes/Artifacts	Interpretations
1	0-11	10YR4/2 Dark grayish brown	Sandy loam	MR	A
2	11-49	10YR4/4 Dark yellowish brown	Sandy loam	MR/Historics*/Bedrock	B

Note: NCM=No Cultural Material MR=Machine Removed *=Discarded

On the north end of the shoreline APE, the four ATs north of the drainage pipe all had deep fill. AT19 and AT21 had 85 and 120cm (33.49 – 47.28 inches) of fill over a possible B horizon. AT20 and AT22 had profiles entirely of fill (Photo12). This area was clearly disturbed during the earlier drainage pipe installation.

In the trees and brush a short distance northwest of AT12, the top of a filled rectangular shaft feature was noted (Figure 3, Photo 13). This concrete with brick feature is probably a privy, although it could be a well or cistern. This feature could be related to the summer residences that were located here in the early twentieth century. The apparent shaft feature in AT14 and the two depressions further south could have similar origins.

IV. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Pelham Bay Park South Phase IB Archaeological Survey followed a standard methodology that was developed with input from LPC and OPRHP (1/25/12). Native American shell middens were discovered in six of 22 mechanically assisted archaeological tests. In three distinct clusters, the middens span a distance of about 133m (440 ft) of shoreline south of the Pelham Bay Landfill. These shell concentrations are topped by various fill episodes, including 19th and 20th century artifacts and features. These historic era materials are also present within most of the middens; in one location, the midden has been impacted by a building foundation. These factors, including historic-era construction impacts and mixing of artifacts, complicate the interpretation of the site. No charcoal or other plant remains that could be used for radiocarbon dating were seen in the middens.

Shellfish present on the site include clam, soft-shell clam, oyster, and whelk. Native American artifacts recovered from the midden deposits include one undecorated pottery sherd, flakes, and fire-cracked rock. Based on the recovery of the body sherd of Native American pottery, at least one occupation of the site can be dated to the Woodland Period (2800 to 400 BP).

The purpose of IB testing is to determine presence/absence of an archaeological site. The testing of this buried shoreline has verified a Native American occupation. The site has the potential to lead to a better understanding of Native American exploitation of the Bronx shoreline resources. The required New York State inventory form, filed under the name “Tallapoosa Middens Site” in recognition of the historic association with the nearby Tallapoosa Club building location, is included as Appendix C.

The Tallapoosa Middens Site should be avoided and protected within the restored shoreline. If avoidance is not possible based on DPR programs, then further field examination is recommended. A subsequent field investigation, considered a Phase II, would focus on determining site integrity, extent, and significance based on the criteria of the National Register of Historic Places. A Phase II effort could provide a contextual framework for comparisons to other coastal sites in this section of the Bronx and Westchester County, too. Given the potential of the Tallapoosa Middens Site to detail Native American use of the Pelham Bay Park South environs, we recommend consideration of further excavations, comparative analysis, and dating possibilities. The various middens could be dated by submitting a shell or large pieces of shell to a radiocarbon dating lab if charcoal samples are not available.

V. REFERENCES

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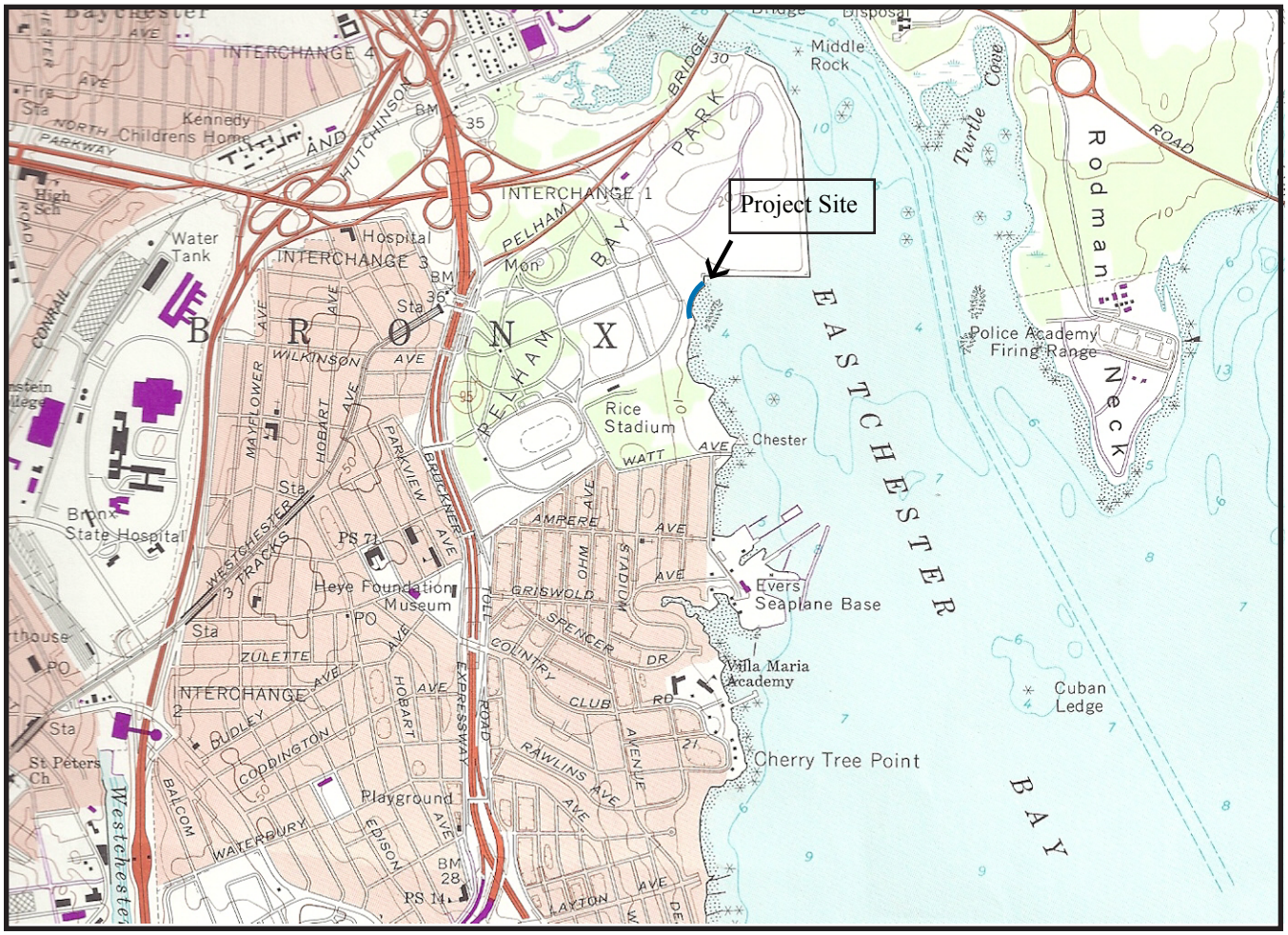

PHASE IB ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY
RECONSTRUCTION OF THE PELHAM BAY PARK
SOUTH WATERFRONT.

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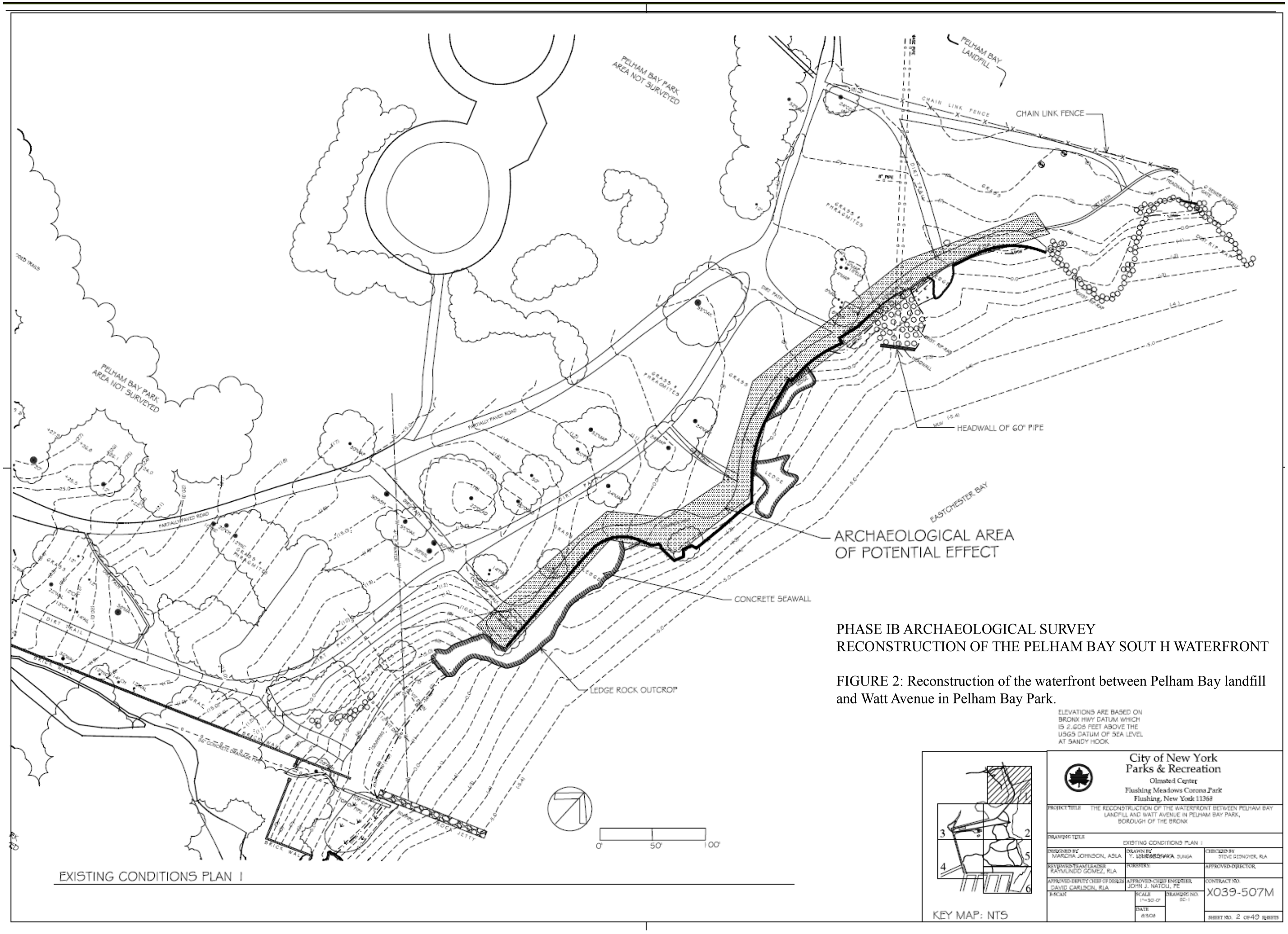
FIGURE 1: Project site on *Flushing, N.Y.* U.S.G.S. 7.5 Minute Quadrangle (U.S.G.S. 1979)



PHASE IB ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY
RECONSTRUCTION OF THE PELHAM BAY SOUT H WATERFRONT

FIGURE 2: Reconstruction of the waterfront between Pelham Bay landfill and Watt Avenue in Pelham Bay Park.

ELEVATIONS ARE BASED ON BRONX HWY DATUM WHICH IS 2.606 FEET ABOVE THE USGS DATUM OF SEA LEVEL AT SANDY HOOK.

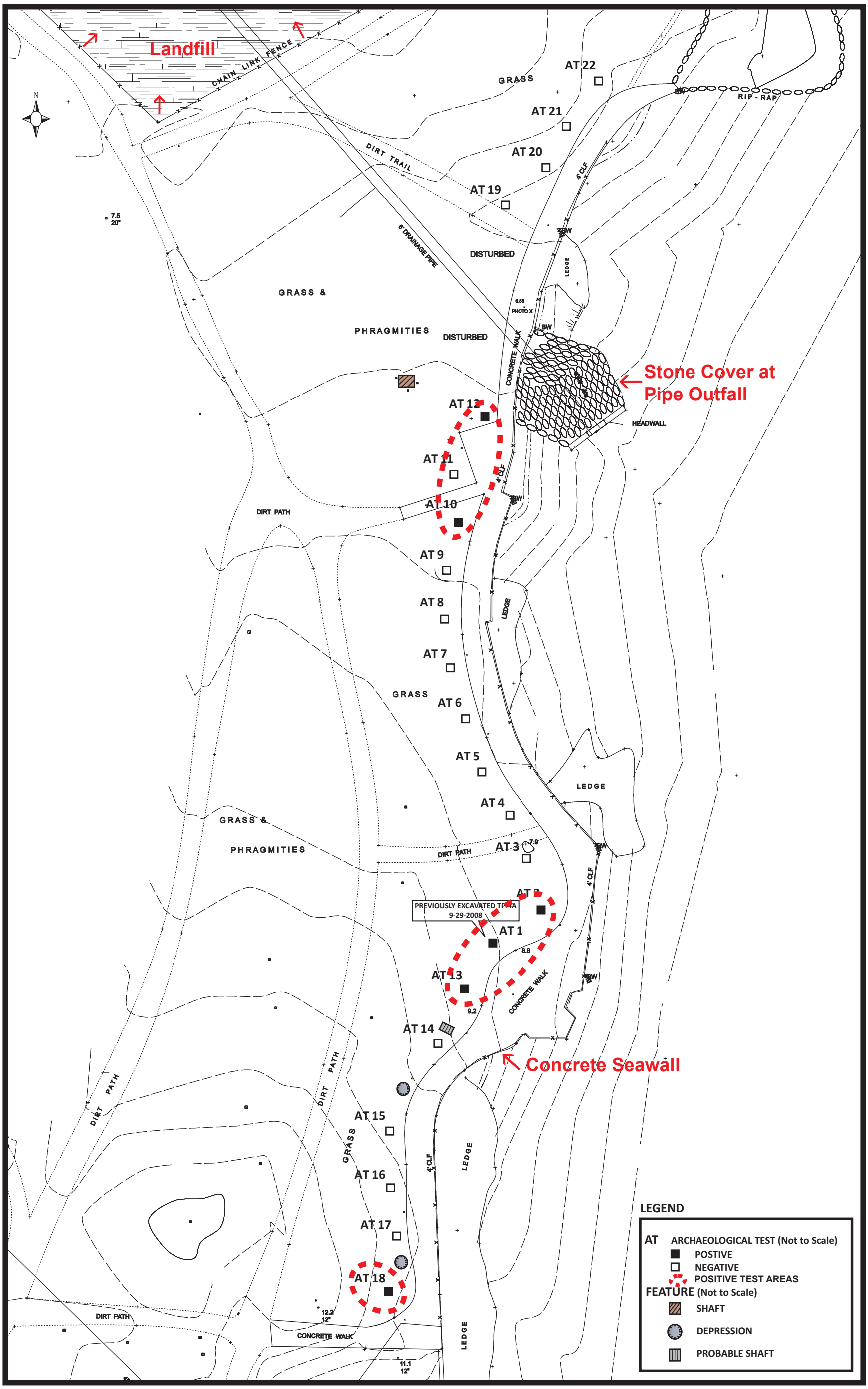


FIGURE 3. LOCATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL TESTS
RECONSTRUCTION OF THE PELHAM BAY PARK SOUTH WATERFRONT
NYC PARKS AMENDED SURVEY AUG. 21, 2012

(Base Map provided by NYC Department of Parks and Recreation - Field Data by HPI Inc.)

Photograph 1: View looking east as archaeologists locate DPR's Test Pit 4A, which revealed a shell midden in 2008. Archaeological Test [AT]1 was subsequently excavated at this location.

Photograph 2: AT1 south profile, shell midden.

Photograph 3: AT2 north profile.

Photograph 4: AT13 north profile, shell midden.

Photograph 5: AT10 north profile.

Photograph 6: AT12 north profile, shell midden.

Photograph 7: AT18 south profile, shell midden.

Photograph 8: AT4 north profile, no shell midden.

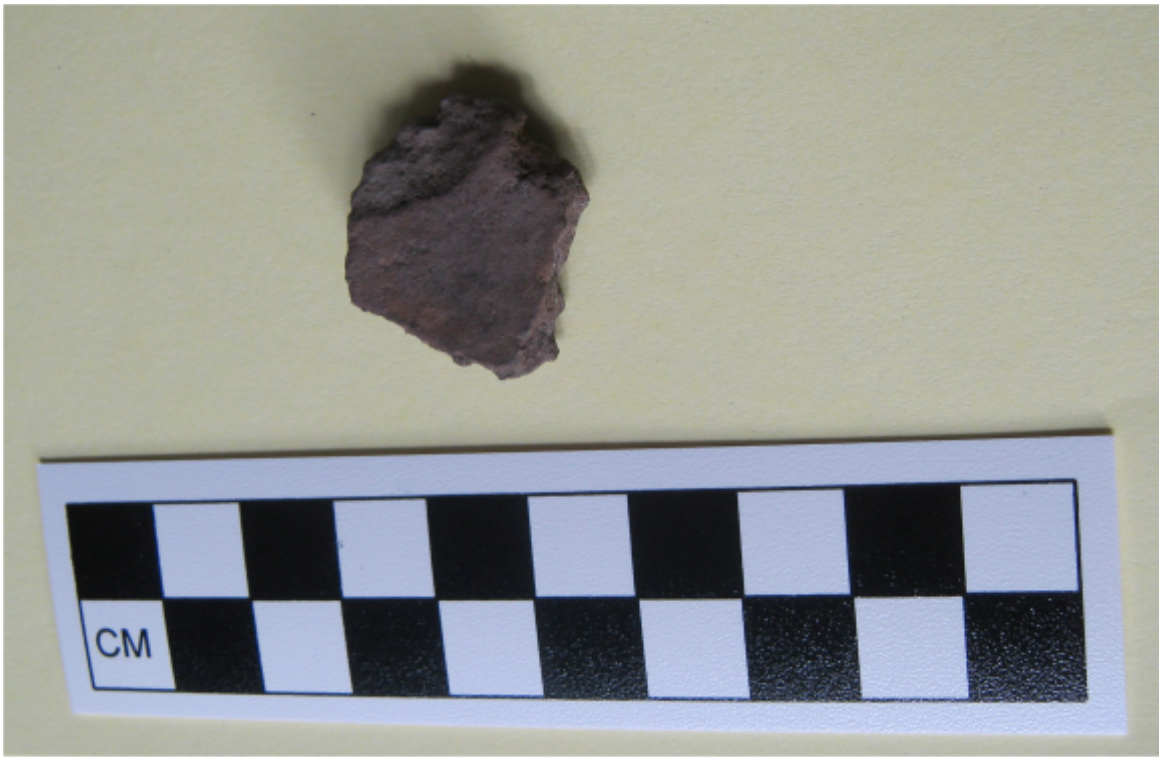
Photograph 9: AT9 south profile.

Photograph 10: AT14 unconsolidated layer of cobbles, likely within a filled historic-era shaft feature.

Photograph 11: AT16 north profile, a fairly natural profile excavated to bedrock.

Photograph 12: AT22 south profile, test in the far north end of the project shoreline, extremely deep landfill.

Photograph 13: Historic-era shaft feature, north and west of AT12.



Photograph 14: Recovered Native American body sherd, Woodland Period pottery. AT10, Level 4, buried A Horizon, 42-47 cmbs.

Photograph 15: Recovered secondary flakes, quartzite and black chert. A18, Level 3, buried A Horizon.

Appendix A: Summary of Field Testing – Pelham Bay Park

AT #	Level	Horizon	Depth (cm)	Soil Color	Soil Texture	Artifacts/Reason for Termination/Comments
1	1	A	0-8	10YR3/1 Very dark gray	Sandy loam	MR/ Newly formed topsoil, very dry
	2	Fill	8-32	10YR4/2 Dark grayish brown	Sandy loam	MR
	3	Fill	32-47	10YR3/3 Dark brown	Sandy loam with rock	MR/Full of broken rock
	4	A?	47-55	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Silty sandy loam w/ shell	Shell, 1 fire-cracked rock, glass, ceramic, metal
	5	B	55-80	10YR3/4 Dark yellowish brown	Silty sandy loam	NCM/Sterile subsoil/ Photos face N
2	1	A	0-13	10YR3/1 Very dark gray	Sandy loam	Newly formed topsoil/MR
	2	Fill	13-28	10YR4/2 Dark grayish brown	Sandy loam	MR
	3	Fill	28-50	10YR5/2 Grayish brown	Rocky gravelly sand	MR
	4	Fill	50-62	10YR3/6 Dark yellowish brown	Loamy sand	MR
	5	A?	62-78	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Sandy loam w/ shell	Shell in lens, nails, coal, coal ash
	6	B	78-90	10YR5/6 Yellowish brown	Silty sandy loam	NCM/Sterile subsoil/Photos face N
3	1	A	0-13	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Sandy loam	Newly formed A
	2	Fill	13-49	10YR3/4 Dark yellowish brown	Sandy loam	MR
	3	Fill	49-64	10YR3/3 Dark brown mottled 10YR4/4 dark yellowish brown	Sandy loam	MR
	4	Fill	64-76	10YR4/2 Dark grayish brown	Rocky loamy sand	MR/ Clumps of mica schist
	5	Fill	76-89	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown mottled 10YR4/4 dark yellowish brown	Silty sandy loam	MR
	6	Fill?	89-99	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Silty sandy loam	MR
	7	B	99-110	10YR4/3	Sand	MR/Sterile subsoil/Photos face NE
4	1	A	0-10	10YR3/3 Dark brown	Sandy loam	MR/Newly formed A
	2	Fill	10-33	10YR3/4 Dark yellowish brown	Sandy loam	MR
	3	Fill	33-57	10YR3/1 Very dark gray	Rocky loamy sand	MR
	4	Fill	57-60	10YR4/6 Dark yellowish brown	Silty sandy loam	MR
	5	Fill	60-77	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Rocky loamy sand	MR
	6	B?	77-102	10YR5/6 Yellowish brown	Sand	Fill?/MR
	7	C?	102-107	10YR2/2 Very dark brown	Silty clay loam	Fill?/MR
5	1	A	0-13	10YR3/3 Dark brown	Silty sandy loam	MR
	2	Fill	13-28	10YR4/6 Dark yellowish brown	Silty sandy loam	MR
	3	Fill	28-42	10YR3/4 Dark yellowish brown	Loamy sand	MR
	4	Fill	42-50	10YR3/3 Dark brown	Loamy sand w/ ash	MR
	5	Fill	50-62	10YR4/4 Dark yellowish brown	Sand	MR
	6	Fill	62-75	10YR4/4 Dark yellowish brown mottled 10YR2/1	Rocky loamy sand	MR

AT #	Level	Horizon	Depth (cm)	Soil Color	Soil Texture	Artifacts/Reason for Termination/Comments
	7	A?	75-80	10YR2/1 Black	Silty loam	MR/Moist/Feature?
6	1	A	0-18	10YR4/2 Dark grayish brown	Loamy sand	MR
	2	Fill	18-30	10YR4/4 Dark yellowish brown	Loamy sand	MR
	3	Fill	30-34	10YR5/2 Grayish brown	Sandy gravel	MR
	4	Fill	34-45	10YR4/3 Brown	Sand w/ boulders	MR
7	1	A	0-11	10YR3/3 Dark brown	Sandy loam	Recent A/MR
	2	Fill	11-29	10YR4/4 Dark yellowish brown	Sandy loam	MR
	3	Fill	29-41	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Stony gravelly sandy loam	MR
	4	A?	41-55	10YR2/2 Very dark brown	Silty loam	MR
	5	B?	55-102	10YR4/6 Dark yellowish brown	Silty loam	MR
	6	C?	102-120	10YR4/2 Dark grayish brown	Loamy sand	MR/Photos face N
8	1	A	0-19	10YR3/3 Dark brown	Sandy loam	Recent topsoil over asphalt/MR
	2	Fill	19-41	10YR4/4 Dark yellowish brown	Loamy sand	MR
	3	Fill	41-60	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Loam	MR
	4	A?	60-72	10YR4/3 Brown	Sandy loam	MR
	5	B?	72-107	10YR4/6 Dark yellowish brown	Sandy loam	MR
	6	C	107-131	10YR5/4 Yellowish brown	Gravelly stony sand	MR
9	1	A	0-24	10YR3/4 Dark yellowish brown	Stony sandy loam	Recently formed A/ very dry
	2	Fill	24-33	10YR4/3 Brown	Stony sandy loam	MR
	3	A	33-55	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Stony sandy loam	MR
	4	B	55-93	10YR5/6 Yellowish brown mottled 10YR 4/4 dark yellowish brown	Sandy loam	MR
	5	C	93-122	NA	Mica Schist	MR/Deteriorating bedrock/Photos face S
10	1	A	0-18	10YR3/3 Dark brown	Sandy loam	Recently formed A/Very Dry/MR
	2	Fill	18-24	10YR4/6 Dark yellowish brown	Stony sandy loam	MR
	3	A	24-42	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Sandy loam	Glass*/ Brick foundation from 24-67cm bisects midden
	4	A	42-47	10YR2/2 Very dark brown	Sandy loam w/ shell	Shell, 1 NA pottery, fire-cracked rock, glass, coal, nail, brick fragments
	5	B	47-90	10YR5/6 Yellowish brown	Silty sandy loam	NCM
	6	C	90-135	7.5YR5/6 Strong brown	Stony loamy sand	NCM/Bedrock/Photos face N
11	1	A	0-27	10YR3/3 Dark brown	Clay Loam	MR
	2	Fill	27-31	10YR2/1 Black and 10YR6/1 gray	Ash and charcoal	MR
	3	A	31-56	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Sandy loam	MR
	4	B	56-87	10YR5/6 Yellowish brown	Sandy loam	MR
	5	C	87-157	7.5YR5/6 Strong brown	Loamy sand	MR/Water at 155/ Photos face S
12	1	A	0-21	10YR3/3 Dark brown	Stony sandy loam	MR/Recent A

AT #	Level	Horizon	Depth (cm)	Soil Color	Soil Texture	Artifacts/Reason for Termination/Comments
	2	Fill	21-49	10YR4/4 Dark yellowish brown	Stony sandy loam	MR
	3	Fill	49-50	10YR2/1 Black	Charcoal & ash	historic artifacts*
	4	A	50-68	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Sandy loam	historic artifacts*
	5	A	68-71	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Sandy loam w/ shell	Shell, kaolin pipestem, 6 flakes
	6	A	71-86	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Sandy loam	NCM
	7	B	86-88	10YR5/6	Sandy loam	NCM
13	1	A	0-12	10YR3/4 Dark yellowish brown	Clay Loam	Recent A/MR
	2	Fill	12-40	10YR4/4 Dark yellowish brown	Gravelly Loam	MR
	3	A	40-58	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Sandy loam w/ shell	Shell
	4	A	58-60	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Sandy loam	NCM
	5	B	60-88	10YR4/6 Dark yellowish brown	Silty sandy loam	NCM
14	1	A	0-10	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Sandy loam	MR
	2	Fill	10-42	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Rocky loamy sand w/ ash	MR
	3	Fill	42-55	10YR4/2 Dark grayish brown	Stony Loam	MR
	4	Fill	55+	NA	Rock	Rocks/cobbles/unconsolidated/ possible shaft feature/Photos
15	1	A	0-17	10YR4/2 Dark grayish brown	Sandy loam	MR
	2	B?	17-45	10YR4/4 Dark yellowish brown	Sandy loam	MR/Historics*/Bedrock
16	1	A	0-11	10YR4/2 Dark grayish brown	Sandy loam	MR
	2	B?	11-49	10YR4/4 Dark yellowish brown	Sandy loam	MR/Historics*/Bedrock/Photos
17	1	A	0-8	10YR4/2 Dark grayish brown	Sandy loam	MR
	2	B?	8-58	10YR4/4 Dark yellowish brown	Sandy loam	MR/Historics*/Bedrock/Photos
18	1	A	0-8	10YR5/2 Grayish brown	Sandy loam	MR/Dry
	2	Fill	8-66	10YR5/6 Yellowish brown	Sandy loam	Asphalt*, bottles* at 46cm/Very compact
	3	A?	66-99	10YR3/3 Dark brown	Sandy loam w/shell	Shell in 50cm diameter area/2 flakes/Soil compact
	4	B?	99101	10YR4/6 Dark yellowish brown	Silty sandy loam	Compact/Photos face S
19	1	A	0-24	10YR4/2 Dark grayish brown	Sandy loam	Recent A/MR
	2	Fill	24-85	10YR2/1 Black	Coal, slag, & rock	MR/Coal*, slag*
	3	B?	85-105	10YR5/4 Yellowish brown mottled 2.5Y5/1 Gray	Stony clay loam & clay	MR
20	1	A	0-21	10YR4/2 Dark grayish brown	Sandy loam	MR
	2	Fill	21-42	10YR3/2 Dark grayish brown	Sandy loam	MR

AT #	Level	Horizon	Depth (cm)	Soil Color	Soil Texture	Artifacts/Reason for Termination/Comments
	3	Fill	42-64	2.5Y6/4 Light yellowish brown	Sand	MR
	4	Fill	64-128	10YR2/1 Black	Coal, slag, & sand	MR/Coal*, slag*/ST on fill mound/Photos face S
21	1	A	0-8	10YR4/1 Dark gray	Sandy loam	Recent A/MR
	2	Fill	8-64	10YR3/4 Dark yellowish brown	Sandy loam	MR
	3	Fill	64-100	10YR4/4 Dark yellowish brown	Loamy sand	MR
	4	Fill	100-120	10YR2/1 Black	Coal, slag & sand	MR/Coal*, slag*
	5	B?	120-163	2.5Y5/4 Light olive brown	Sand	MR/Photos face N/ST on fill mound
22	1	Fill	0-60	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown	Sandy loam	MR
	2	Fill	60-119	10YR2/1 Black	Coal, slag & sand	MR/Photos face S

AT#		Level	Horizon	Qty	Category	Mat/Color	Item	Portion	Comments
1		4	A	1	glass	clear	container	fragment	
1		4	A	1	ceramic	earthenware	vessel	fragment	w/ handle base
1		4	A	1	ceramic	earthenware	vessel	fragment	rim w/ handle base
1		4	A	2	ceramic	earthenware	handle	fragment	
1		4	A	1	architectural	iron	nail	fragment	head
1		4	A	1	architectural	iron	nail	fragment	
1		4	A	1	precontact	quartzite	fire-cracked rock	fragment	reddened
1		4	A	1	architectural	brass	electrical connector	whole	
1		4	A	5	food	shell	oyster	fragment	w/ hinge, 59g
1		4	A	7	food	shell	oyster	fragment	30g
1		4	A	20	food	shell	clam	fragment	w/ hinge, 305g
1		4	A	1	food	shell	clam	whole	114g, 88x100mm
1		4	A	8	food	shell	clam	fragment	107g
2		5	A	1	architectural	iron	nail	whole	1 1/2", cut
2		5	A	2	architectural	iron	nail	fragment	corroded
2		5	A	1	other	coal ash	anthracite	fragment	
2		5	A	3	other	coal	anthracite	fragment	
2		5	A	8	food	shell	clam	fragment	w/ valve, 91g
2		5	A	13	food	shell	clam	fragment	278g
10		4	A	1	glass	clear	container	fragment	embossed "A"
10		4	A	1	glass	green	bottle	fragment	modern
10		4	A	1	other	coal	anthracite	fragment	
10		4	A	3	architectural	iron	nail	fragment	corroded
10		4	A	14	architectural	clay	brick	fragment	
10		4	A	1	precontact	clay	pottery	body sherd	interior smooothed, 4g
10		4	A	3	precontact	quartzite	fire-cracked rock	fragment	
10		4	A	534	food	shell	soft-shell clam	fragment	1183g
10		4	A	33	food	shell	soft-shell clam	fragment	w/ hinge, 185g, biggest 60x65mm
10		4	A	1	food	shell	whelk	fragment	interior spiral, 2.5g
12		5	A	1	tobacco pipe	kaolin	stem	fragment	partial heel
12		5	A	1	food	shell	oyster	fragment	1g
12		5	A	4	food	shell	soft-shell clam	fragment	w/ hinge, 28g
12		5	A	2	precontact	black chert	flake	secondary	
12		5	A	1	precontact	gray chert	flake	primary	
12		5	A	2	precontact	black chert	flake	primary	
12		5	A	1	precontact	green shale	flake	secondary	
13		3	A	1	food	shell	oyster	whole	78x52mm, 21g
18		3	A	1	precontact	black chert	flake	secondary	
18		3	A	1	precontact	gray quartzite	flake	secondary	
18		3	A	1	food	shell	oyster	fragment	6g
18		3	A	1	food	shell	oyster	fragment	w/ hinge, 8g
18		3	A	3	food	shell	clam	fragment	24g
18		3	A	1	food	shell	clam	fragment	w/ hinge, 17g

NEW YORK STATE PREHISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE INVENTORY FORM

NYS OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION & HISTORIC PRESERVATION
(518) 237-8643

For Office Use Only--Site Identifier

Project Identifier Pelham Bay Park [South] Waterfront Reconstruction Date September 25, 2012

Your Name William Sandy & Cece Saunders Phone (203)226-7654
Address P.O. Box 529 Westport, CT 06881

Organization (if any): Historical Perspectives, Inc.

1. SITE IDENTIFIER(S) Tallapoosa Middens
2. COUNTY Bronx One of the following: CITY New York
TOWNSHIP
INCORPORATED VILLAGE
UNINCORPORATED VILLAGE OR HAMLET

3. PRESENT OWNER City of New York, Department of Parks and Recreation
Address Olmsted Center, Flushing Meadows-Corona Park. Flushing, NY 11368

4. SITE DESCRIPTION (check all appropriate categories):
Site

__Stray Find	___Cave/Rockshelter	___Workshop
__Pictograph	___Quarry	___Mound
__Burial	_X_ Shell Midden	___Village
__Surface Evidence	___Camp	___Material in plow zone
__Material below plow zone	___Buried evidence	___Intact Occupation floor
__Single component	___Evidence of features	___Stratified
	___Multicomponent	

Location

___Under cultivation	___Never cultivated	___Previously cultivated
___Pastureland	___Woodland	_x_Floodplain
__ Upland		_x_ Sustaining erosion

Soil Drainage: excellent _X__ good ___ fair ___ poor
Slope: flat ___ gentle _X__ moderate ___ steep
Distance to nearest water from site (approx.) 9m (30 ft)
Elevation: 7 – 12 ft (2.2 – 3.6m)

5. SITE INVESTIGATION (append additional sheets, if necessary):
Surface--date(s) Aug. 6-8, 2012
_X_Site map (Submit with form)
___Collection

Subsurface--date(s) Aug. 6-8, 2012
Testing: shovel _X_ coring ___ other_____ unit size
no. of units 22 (Submit plan of units with form)
Excavation: unit size _____ no. of units
Investigator: William Sandy, RPA and Cece Saunders, RPA

Manuscript or published report(s) (reference fully):

Historical Perspectives, Inc.
2012 Phase IB Archaeological Survey Reconstruction of the Waterfront, X039-507M, Pelham Bay Park South, Bronx, New York. On file with NYC Department of Parks and Recreation and the NYS OPRHP.

Present repository of materials
Historical Perspectives, Inc., Westport, CT. / Proposed Repository NYC Dept. of Parks and Recreation, Pelham Bay Park South.

6. COMPONENT(S) (cultural affiliation/dates):

Unspecified Woodland occupation.

7. LIST OF MATERIAL REMAINS (be specific as possible in identifying object and material):

Shellfish present on the site include hard and soft-shell clam, oyster, and whelk. Aboriginal artifacts recovered from the midden deposits include one small, undecorated sherd of Precontact pottery, chert flakes, and fire-cracked rock.

If historic materials are evident, check here and fill out historic site form

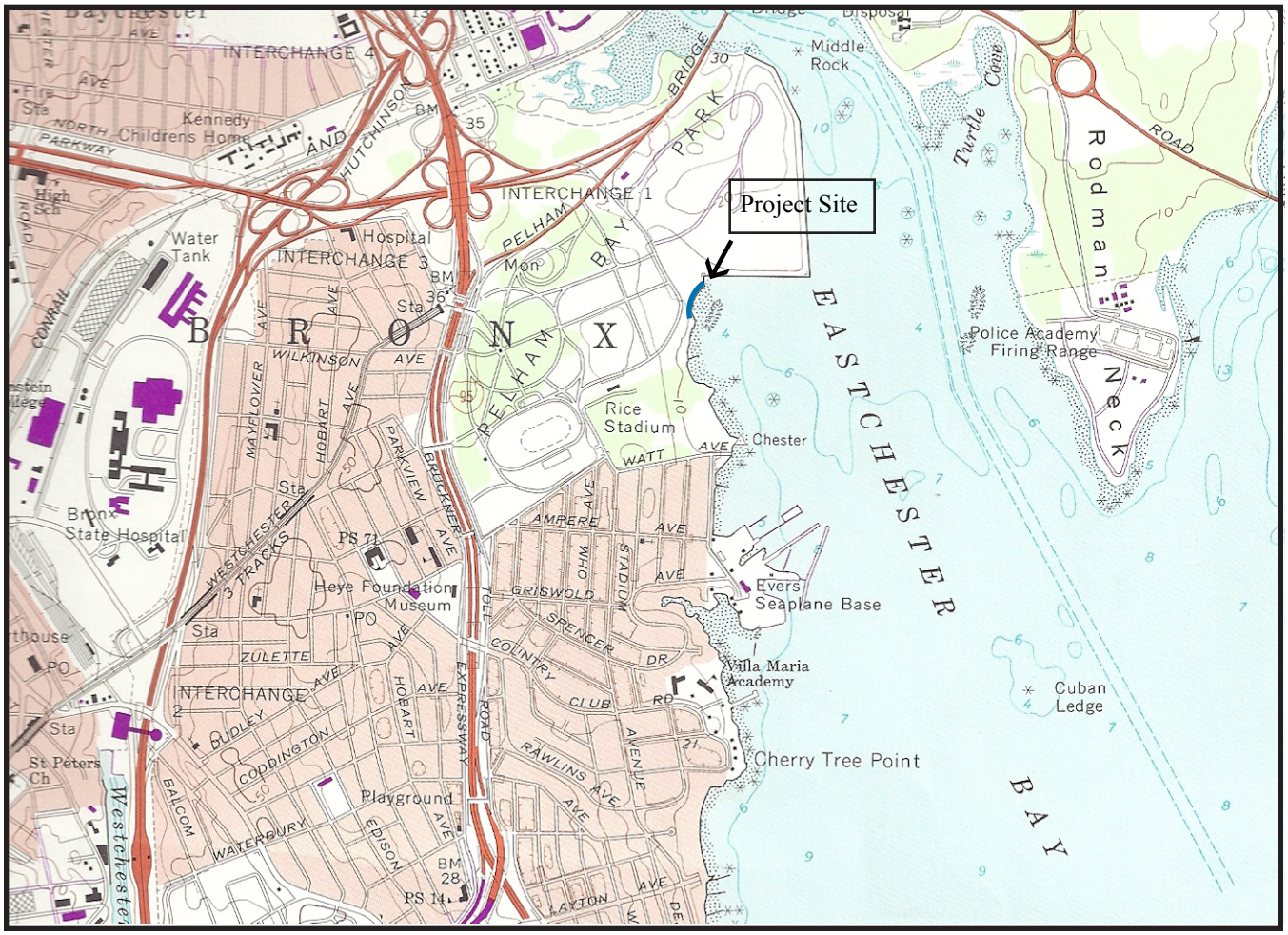
Overlying mixed fill deposits contain artifacts from the late 19th and 20th centuries and are not considered significant.

8. MAP REFERENCES

USGS 7.5 Minute Series Quad Name: Flushing (1966, photo revised 1979)

UTM Coordinates: N452288, E59969

9. Photography



PHASE IB ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY
RECONSTRUCTION OF THE PELHAM BAY PARK
SOUTH WATERFRONT.

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FIGURE 1: Project site on *Flushing, N.Y.* U.S.G.S. 7.5 Minute Quadrangle (U.S.G.S. 1979)