

Provisions for Reporting and Recovering Archeological Finds in Construction Contracts

In accordance with Federal and State laws, all construction contracts must contain a provision for reporting and recovering any archeological finds that may occur during the course of a project. This requirement is noted on the Pre-Bid Construction Contract Application Checklist, Table II, Item A. xvii. Below is template language that may be used to satisfy this requirement. Additions or minor revisions to this language are acceptable, as long as they do not change the methods of required reporting or nature of the procedures to be followed, and will be reviewed during the pre-bid phase.

“Should the Contractor or Engineer discover evidence of remains, such as stone masonry building foundations, bones or other items of archaeological significance, Contractor shall report these findings to (1) Owner, (2) Local Historical Society, (3) State Historic Preservation Office (860) 500-2329, and (4) Resident Project Representative, and shall exercise the utmost care to ensure that these areas remain undisturbed. Contractor shall allow recovery of such finds by the authorities, shall not remove such artifacts under penalty of law, and shall prevent construction or private vehicles from crossing over these areas. In addition, when directed by the Engineer, cover these areas with 1-ft common fill to the limits directed by the Engineer. Be advised that graves and any associated human remains are protected by Connecticut State law (C.G.S. Section 10-388 and 10-390). Any possible human skeletal remains must be reported to the State Archaeologist (860) 486-5248 and the State's Chief Medical Examiner (860) 679-3980 immediately upon discovery. If the State Archaeologist is unavailable, please contact the State Historic Preservation Office at the number above for immediate assistance.”