Public Archaeology Laboratory

Technical Memorandum
Litchfield Solar Project
Litchfield and Torrington, CT

Archaeological Assessment

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PAL Report 3298

Submitted to:

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The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. (PAL) has completed an archaeological sensitivity assessment of the Litchfield Solar Project (hereafter, Project) in Litchfield and Torrington, Connecticut. The Project includes development of a new solar electrical generating plant and associated facilities within an approximately 185-acre area along Wilson Road in Litchfield and the adjacent sections of Rossi Road in Torrington, with a section extending north to Highland Avenue (Figure 1). At the request of Provost + Rovero working on behalf of Silicon Ranch Corporation, PAL conducted an archaeological assessment of the project site to evaluate the potential for significant archaeological resources to be present within the area of proposed construction.

Project Description

The proposed facility will consist ground mounted solar arrays,, electrical equipment, and underground utilities. For the purposes of this assessment, PAL assumed that ground disturbance may occur anywhere within the project limits.

Project Authority

The proposed project will require a NPDES General Permit from the U.S. Department of Environmental Protection (EPA) and must therefore comply with programmatic considerations of historic properties, including archaeological resources, pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (54 U.S.C. 306108; hereafter "Section 106") and the Act's implementing regulations (36 CFR 800 et seq).

This assessment is intended to assist the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) at the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development evaluate the potential for historic properties to be affected by the Project. Historic properties include objects, buildings, structures, sites, and districts that are listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Most historic properties considered under Section 106 have not been previously assessed; particularly in the case of archaeological resources. The goal of the assessment was to collect and synthesize information about the existing conditions within the project site, historic contexts of past land uses which may be

associated with significant archaeological resources, and the types of archaeological or other historic properties subject to consideration under the EPA's NPDES permitting process.

The walkover and archaeological sensitivity assessment of the project area in Litchfield was conducted by PAL staff, Daniel Forrest (principal investigator) and Erin Flynn (project archaeologist) on January 5, 2017, and May 2018.

Research Framework

PAL's evaluation of the potential for archaeological sites to be present within the areas of anticipated ground disturbance draws on existing and past environmental characteristics that would have influenced the use of the project area by people. PAL also completed archival research to identify reported archaeological sites in or near the Project and that might inform our understanding of local land use patterns in the pre- and post-contact periods.

Environmental Context

The Project is located on the Litchfield/Torrington town line in the upper Naugatuck River drainage. This section of the Litchfield Hills is topographically transitional between the rolling hills of north-central Connecticut and the more rugged, mountainous terrain of the upper Housatonic River drainage to the north and west. The hilltops within the Project and the surrounding area are characterized by steep flanking slopes with relatively level to rounded peaks. The hills and ridges show a moderate to strong north-northwest to south-southeast orientation from glacial erosion. Hills are separated by small streams and brooks flowing through deeply incised valleys and gullies formed during previous glaciations. Interspersed among the hills in the region are numerous larger marshes and swamps which developed in former pro-glacial lake and pond basins. A north-draining marsh approximately 0.5 miles (0.7 kilometers) south of the Project is the closest of these larger wetland basins. Drumlin or "drumlinoid" hills in southern New England are typically draped in dense lodgment tills that exert a strong influence on local surface water drainage. Seeps, springs, and wetlands are frequently found along the toes of drumlin slopes; a pattern which is well-expressed within the Project.

The project area is drained by three perennial tributary streams to Gulf Brook. The easternmost stream drains the northeastern and north central sections of the project area. The headwaters for this watercourse are at Miscus Pond, north of the Project. A small branch of this tributary flows from east to west between the two largest drumlin hills in the Project. The headwaters to this small branch stream is an artificial farm pond impounded by an earthen embankment. The central stream runs along the western project boundary north of Litchfield Town Farm Road and joins the eastern stream approximately 120 meters south of the open field in the southwestern corner of the project area. The westernmost of the watercourses only traverses the southwestern corner of the project area, south of the proposed solar array construction.

Soil within the majority of the project area consist of Paxton and Montauk well drained fine sandy loams with 3 to 25 percent slopes (NRCS 2017). Paxton and Montauk soils are associated with dense lodgment tills on drumlins, till plains and ground moraines. Paxton and Montauk loams are found primarily within the open hay fields and hilltops within the project area. The steep slopes along the wetland drainages that separate these hills and ridges consist of Canton and Charlton, extremely stony, fine sandy loams with 3 to 15 percent slopes. Cobbles and rock fragments typically account

for 25 percent of the soil volume in these areas. Smaller areas of Woodbridge fine sandy loam with 3 to 15 percent slopes are identified along the norther portion of the project area. Elevations within the project area range from approximately 1000 to 1240 feet above mean sea level.

Vegetation within wooded sections of the Project is dominated by immature deciduous hardwood species (oak, maple, hickory, and ash) interspersed with Eastern White Pines. White Pine is more abundant on the west and south facing slopes east of Wilson Road. The understory is highly variable, with dense briars and shrub growth along field margins and recently revegetated field sections. Steeper slopes along stream margins are wooded in Eastern Hemlock and birches with a sparse understory of mountain laurel in more open settings. The soils and topography suggest the area would likely have supported stands of several mast (nut-producing) trees during the Pre-Contact Period and early phases of the Post-Contact Period. Hickories and oaks were important elements of the woodland environment for ancient Native Americans, both as a direct food resource, and as important forage for prominent terrestrial game species such as deer and turkey. Mast trees were growing in western Connecticut by at least 10,400 BP and were increasingly abundant after approximately 8,000 BP (e.g. McWeeney 1999).

Pre-Contact Period Context

Very few systematic surveys of Connecticut had been conducted before the late 1970's. The majority of archaeological investigations in the first three-quarters of the twentieth century focused on coastal areas with obvious shell middens and along the Connecticut River Valley, where high densities of sites had been long established. Large-scale, systematic and probabilistic surveys were first undertaken in central and eastern sections of the state in the late 1970's and early 1980's (Wadleigh 1979a; Wadleigh 1979b; McBride 1984). In northwestern Connecticut, surveys conducted by the American Indian Archaeological Institute, now the Institute for American Indian Studies, in the 1970s and 1980s identified numerous sites near large swamps and marshes. These areas, and the northwestern section of the state, in general, had previously been viewed as marginal for pre-contact settlement (Handsman 1982; Nicholas 1988). The archaeological collections from the town of Litchfield include several private collections, surface finds and AIAI site files (Handsman 1982).

The earliest archaeological evidence for human occupation in the region dates from the **PaleoIndian Period (12,500–10,000 B.P.)**, a time of dramatic climatic change in southern New England. The last glaciation to extend over Connecticut reached its maximum extent along the south shore of Long Island approximately 26,000 years ago. Southeastern sections of the state were ice-free by 21,000 years ago, but glacial ice likely persisted in the northwest hills for another 4,000 years. The climate of the early post-glacial period was quite harsh, with areas of permafrost extending southward of the retreating ice front. The vegetation colonizing the deglaciated areas was initially confined to sedges interspersed with willows and other hardy shrub species. By 12,500 years ago when archaeological evidence suggests the earliest Native American settlements were established, there was a mix of open, spruce parkland habitats and woodlands of spruce and cold-hardy oaks (McWeeney 1999). The PaleoIndian Period is sub-divided into Early, Middle, and Late sub-periods marked by changes in settlement patterns and lithic technology.

Sites from all three sub-periods are characterized by distinctive fluted projectile points and flaked stone tool assemblages containing end and side scrapers, gravers, splitting wedges, and drills. Most of the large and well-documented sites from this period are located outside of Connecticut, particularly in northern New England and New York State. To date, only a handful of small, intact

PaleoIndian sites have been subject to professional archaeological investigation in Connecticut. They include the Templeton Site (6-LF-21) located in the Housatonic River drainage in Washington, the Hidden Creek Site (72-163), located on the Mashantucket-Pequot Reservation in Mashantucket, and the Baldwin Ridge Site located on a ridge overlooking the Thames River valley in Groton. The Templeton Site has a radiocarbon date of 10,190 ± 300 B.P. (Moeller 1980; Moeller 1984) and appears to have been the site of a small seasonal camp at which a wide range of stone tool manufacturing, tool maintenance, and domestic activities were carried out. The Great Hill Site in Seymour contained quartz debitage and a complete chert fluted point dating from the Early to Middle PaleoIndian Period (Heitert et al. 2000).

The Hidden Creek site provides evidence of yet another small, seasonal PaleoIndian camp (Jones 1997). Tentatively dating from 9000 to 10,000 B.P., the 100-square foot site is nestled on a kame terrace within the Cedar Swamp Basin, and is characterized by a lithic assemblage dominated by chert unifaces and end scrapers. The Hidden Creek Site yielded a small but diverse lithic stone tool assemblage that includes several lanceolate points and a large number of scrapers (Jones 1997). The small size of the site and its temporary nature suggest that it was occupied by a highly mobile PaleoIndian population using few durable artifacts. The Baldwin Ridge Site, located within the 10-mile terrestrial Long Island Sound study area, yielded the base of a fluted point, end scrapers, and a resharpening flake, a tool assemblage suggestive of a special-purpose location for the hunting and processing of animal resources (McBride 1984; Soulsby et al. 1981). Additionally, the Allens Meadows Site in Wilton contained two fluted points and several dozen artifacts (Wiegand 2008).

The **Archaic Period (10,000–3000 B.P.)** is subdivided into Early, Middle, and Late periods on the basis of changes in environmental conditions, projectile point styles, and apparent settlement patterns (Lavin and Mozzi 1996; McBride 1984; Snow 1980).

The **Early Archaic Period (10,000–8000 B.P.)** coincided with the first two millennia of the Holocene epoch. The early Holocene was marked by warmer and drier conditions than the preceding Pleistocene epoch. Early Archaic peoples likely had a more generalized subsistence base relative to preceding populations in the region, drawing on a wider variety of small to large game, harvesting woodland plants (particularly hickory and hazelnuts), and exploiting wetland roots and tubers (Dumont 1981; Forrest 1999; Kuehn 1998; Meltzer and Smith 1986; Nicholas 1987). Identifying The most commonly recovered artifacts clearly associated with Early Archaic peoples in the region are bifurcate-based projectile points. Concentrations of Early Archaic bifurcate-based projectiles have been identified around the perimeters of ponds, marshes, and wooded wetlands and along major rivers such as the Connecticut (Pfeiffer 1984) and the Housatonic (Moeller 1984). Early Archaic sites are more widely distributed than PaleoIndian sites within both riverine and upland zones, but still quite rare (McBride 1984, Forrest 1999). The majority of known Early Archaic components in Connecticut are represented by isolated projectile point finds within multi-component sites. The concentration of known Early Archaic sites near large inland marsh and swamp locations suggests wetland resources were important elements of Early Archaic subsistence economies (Jones and Forrest 2003; Nicholas 1988).

Although best-known for its PaleoIndian component, the Templeton Site in Washington also yielded one of the largest Early Archaic assemblages in western Connecticut (Moeller 1980). The Dill Farm Site in East Haddam yielded a substantial assemblage of stone tools including five bifurcate-based projectile points and a hearth feature radiocarbon dated to 8560±270 BP (Pfeiffer 1986:31). Pfeiffer interprets Dill Farm as a short-term encampment along the margins of a shallow water lake or marsh.

Excavations at the Sandy Hill Site (72-97) at Mashantucket have uncovered a large and stratigraphically complex Early Archaic occupation manifested as a series of semi-subterranean pit structures excavated into a sandy, south-facing hillside. Hugging the edge of the Great Cedar Swamp, a former glacial lake basin of roughly 500 acres, Sandy Hill has yielded a large quartz assemblage associated with pit features and very few formal stone tools (Forrest 1999). Radiocarbon analysis of charred hazelnut, cattail, and wood charcoal fragments recovered from the well-stratified living surfaces within the pit houses dates the site between 8,400 and 9,000 B.P. (Forrest 1999; Jones and Forrest 2003) Lithic analysis of the site assemblage suggests affinities with the Gulf of Maine Archaic tool tradition in the form of steeply retouched quartz unifaces, small oval cores, and the marked absence of formal bifaces (Forrest 1999).

During the **Middle Archaic Period (8000–5000 B.P.)**, pollen evidence indicates an expansion of mast (nut-bearing) tree species in the region (Dincauze and Mulholland 1977; McWeeney 1999). The rapid increase in oak forest communities may have allowed for a concurrent expansion of important game species in southern New England, including White Tailed Deer and turkey (Dincauze and Mulholland 1977:447). New tool classes associated with this period include grooved axes and other heavy groundstone tools used in woodworking. The presence of net sinkers and plummets indicates the growing importance of marine and riverine resources, particularly anadromous fish (Dincauze 1976; Snow 1980). Typical projectile point types include Neville, Stark, and Merrimack varieties (Dincauze 1976; Dincauze and Mulholland 1977; Jones 1999). Stone used in the manufacture of tools varied by region, with chert examples more common in western sections of Connecticut and quartzite and rhyolite examples more common in the east (e.g. Jones 1999). Multiple sites with Middle Archaic components are located in southeastern Connecticut, the majority of which are clustered around Pequot Cedar Swamp on the Mashantucket Pequot tribal reservation (Jones 1999). Neville points have also been recovered from the multicomponent Harland-Cobb Farm (104-26), Lake of Isles Boyscout Camp (102-33) sites and Site 114-06 in Norwich, North Stonington and Preston respectively. In the case of the Harland-Cobb Farm Site, the pre-contact materials were recovered from disturbed contexts (Jones and Forrest 2004). Comparable numbers of Middle Archaic components are reflected in CT SHPO's site files for northwestern Connecticut, with a strong clustering of known sites around Robbins Swamp in Canaan, where the Institute for American Indian Studies undertook a long-term survey program in the early 1980's (Nicholas 1988; Jones 1999). Investigations of the Robbins Swamp area suggest that former glacial lake basins were focal points in Native American settlement and subsistence patterns before 5,000 B.P.). Larger sites associated with longer-term occupations are expected along the margins of these basins and near large streams and rivers that supported anadromous fish runs.

Late Archaic Period (5000–3000 B.P.) archaeological sites are very well represented in Connecticut. The period is traditionally considered to be a time of cultural fluorescence, as reflected in the elaboration of burial ritual, inferred population increases, and long-distance exchange networks (Ritchie 1969; Snow 1980). The density of Late Archaic sites and the almost exclusive reliance on locally available lithic materials such as quartz suggests increased Native American residency and the development of territories during the period (Dincauze 1975; McBride 1984). The climate continued to be warm and dry, creating an environment that was generally similar to the present day. The relative abundance of fire-adapted trees (pines, oaks, and hickories) during this period suggests natural or anthropogenic forest fires were more common.

Three archaeological traditions, Laurentian, Narrow Stemmed, and the Susquehanna, are identifiable in the regional archaeological record between 5000 and 3000 B.P. The Laurentian Tradition is the

earliest cultural expression of the Late Archaic in the Northeast, which flourished and subsequently waned prior to the end of the period. Materials associated with Laurentian occupations include woodworking tools (hones and adzes), ground slate points and knives, ulus, simple bannerstones, and broad-bladed and side-notched Otter Creek, Vosburg, and Brewerton type projectile points (Ritchie 1980:79). Lithic materials recovered from Laurentian Tradition components in northwestern Connecticut are dominated by high-quality cryptocrystalline materials derived from quarries to the west. Cassedy noted that Brewerton and Vosburg type projectile points recovered from a very large survey along the Housatonic River Valley were made exclusively from Hudson Valley cherts (Cassedy 1999: 134), suggesting strong ties between communities in Connecticut's northwest hills and their contemporaries to the west.

Laurentian Tradition site distributions suggest an interior upland settlement focused on large lakes and wetlands associated with a hunter-gatherer subsistence economy (Ritchie 1980; Snow 1980). The Bahsan Lake Site, a Laurentian campsite, was identified in East Haddam (Pfeiffer 1983). The site yielded hunting and fishing implements, and hearths. The Bliss-Howard Site in Old Lyme contained 21 cremation burials associated with Laurentian diagnostic points and a habitation site (Pfieffer 1984). These sites suggest that larger groups congregated for at least a portion of the year with smaller, highly-mobile family groups following seasonally abundant resources in the intervening months. The mortuary features at Bliss-Howard show several striking similarities to better documented Susquehanna Tradition cemeteries, leading Pfeiffer to suggest that the Susquehanna Tradition in Connecticut developed directly from local Laurentian antecedents (Pfeiffer 1984).

Laurentian Tradition components are well-represented in western Connecticut, though the majority of reported locations appear to have larger Narrow Stemmed Tradition assemblages (Cassedy 1999). Site 270A-4-1 in Newtown was excavated in the 1990's and likely represents a Laurentian Tradition base camp with multiple features, stone tools, and ten Brewerton projectile points. Two Laurentian hearths at the site have been radiocarbon dated to 4500±110 B.P. and 4290±70 B.P. (Cassedy 1999:130).

Diagnostic elements of Narrow Stemmed Tradition occupations include Squibnocket Stemmed, Wading River, Lamoka, and a host of small, narrow-bladed, stemmed projectile points, sometimes in association with woodworking tools, plummets, or choppers (Ritchie 1971; Dincauze 1975). The database of Late Archaic Narrow Stemmed tradition archaeological sites in Connecticut is quite extensive, consisting of thousands of projectiles. Narrow Stemmed projectile points are nearly ubiquitous in archaeological assemblages throughout the region, and are typically recovered five to ten times more frequently than Laurentian Tradition points in large surveys (e.g. McBride 1984, Cassedy 1999). Doucette (2011) recently compared the large narrow stemmed point assemblage from the Tower Hill Road Site (104-28) in Norwich with several other assemblages from eastern Connecticut, resulting in typological clarification of previously established Narrow Stemmed point types, including Burwell (Lavin and Russel 1985), Lamoka (Ritchie 1971), Squibnocket Stemmed (Ritchie 1969), and Wading River (Ritchie 1971; Dincauze 1976). Narrow Stemmed Tradition sites are widely distributed across multiple environmental settings, suggesting that subsistence patterns for this period included intensive use of many different plant and game animal species (e.g. Dincauze 1976; McBride 1984). This pattern is consistent with the increased use of a broad range of resources within constrained territories. Large sites potentially associated with longer term habitations appear to be clustered near major interior wetlands. There is less evidence for large sites along major rivers relative to the Laurentian (McBride 1984). The intensive use of locally available lithic materials, particularly cobble quartz, further suggests that Narrow Stemmed Tradition populations may have

lived in circumscribed territories coinciding with watershed boundaries (Dincauze 1975, 1976; Ritchie 1980).

The earliest expression of the Susquehanna Tradition in Connecticut includes the Salmon Cove Phase dated to 3900 and 2900 B.P. (McBride 1984). The tradition terminates with the Orient Phase (ca. 2600 B.P.), which extended into the early part of the Early Woodland Period (Ritchie 1980). Susquehanna Tradition materials are characterized by broad-bladed points or knives such as Susquehanna Broad and Snook Kill, and narrower Orient Fishtail points, as well as steatite (soapstone) vessels. The earliest uses of mineral-tempered, cord-marked Vinette I pottery in the region appear to be associated with Orient Phase occupations (e.g. McBride 1984; Cassedy 1999). M Susquehanna Tradition mortuary ceremonialism was elaborate, with individual graves often including large drilled, burned, or broken ("ritually killed") knives and projectile points. Multiple large Susquehanna cremation cemeteries have been identified in Massachusetts and Connecticut (e.g. Dincauze 1968; Pagoulatos 1988; Leveillee 1998). Large Susquehanna Tradition sites appear to cluster on terraces overlooking major rivers, suggesting seasonal aggregation to exploit anadromous fish runs in the Spring (McBride 1984; Pagoulatos 1988).

The **Woodland Period (3000–450 B.P.)** in southern New England is characterized by an increased use of ceramic vessels and the eventual introduction of cultigens (maize, beans, and squash). Site size and complexity also increased throughout the Woodland Period, suggesting a trend toward increased sedentism and social complexity in eastern North America (Dragoo 1976). The Woodland Period is usually subdivided into Early, Middle, and Late periods on the basis of projectile point styles, ceramic types and political and social developments (Lavin and Mozzi 1996; Ritchie 1969; Snow 1980).

Early Woodland Period (3000–2000 B.P.) archaeological deposits in Connecticut have traditionally been identified through the presence of Meadowood, Lagoon, Adena and Rossville type projectile points, as well as grit-tempered, cord-marked Vinette I ceramics (McBride 1984; Lavin 1984). Early Woodland sites and components are notably rare relative to those associated with the preceding Late Archaic Period and subsequent Middle Woodland Period (Lavin 1984; McBride 1984; Juli 1999). Settlement and subsistence patterns and some projectile point types for the Early Woodland Period in Connecticut show strong similarities with the Narrow Stemmed Tradition, suggesting continuity of Late Archaic cultures with the additions of stone tobacco pipes, and expansion in the use of pottery, and the possible adoption of the bow and arrow (Julie 1999). Exotic trade items appear in greater frequency at Early Woodland sites in the region, suggesting southern New England populations were participating in exchange networks that extended to the Southeast and Midwest regions (Julie 1999). Evidence for substantial horticulture during the Early Woodland Period in southern New England is generally lacking (e.g. Lavin and Mozzi 1996; McBride 1984), though some cultivation of oily seeds plants, such as Chenopodium, appears to have supplemented the foraging economies (e.g. McBride 1984).

Middle Woodland Period (2000–1000 B.P.) site distributions suggest a more focal use of coastal or riverine ecosystems. Interior Middle Woodland sites were often located at major river bends and confluences. Small hunting camps were contrasted with larger residential habitations, and small "nodal" sites specialized in the circulation of cultural materials through a formalized trade network may have been part of the regional Middle Woodland settlement system (Hecker 1995). Artifacts diagnostic of the period include Jack's Reef Pentagonal and Corner-Notched and Fox Creek type projectile points and rocker- and dentate-stamped and net-impressed ceramics. Middle Woodland occupations in southern New England are commonly marked by a high occurrence of non-local chert

and jasper. 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).

Two Middle Woodland sites are recorded in Ledyard in the Cedar Swamp area, a small number relative to sites from many other time periods. Along with components dating to the Late and Transitional Archaic periods, material from the Museum Parking Site yielded a radiocarbon date of 1700 ± 70 providing an early Middle Woodland dated component for the site. Site 72-88 also yielded material with a Middle Woodland chronological affiliation. A Jack's Reef Corner-Notched point manufactured from Pennsylvania jasper was recovered from the Susquetonscut Brook Pre-Contact Site 12 (53-11) in Franklin (Doucette et al. 2015). Large scale surveys in the Housatonic River drainage suggest the density of Early and Middle Woodland sites on the landscape in the western Connecticut is consistent with other sections of the state; Early Woodland sites are quite rare and Middle Woodland sites are generally more common, though the latter are identified less frequently than those of the preceding Late Archaic Period (Julie 1999).

The **Late Woodland Period (1000–450 B.P.)** is associated with an improvement in ceramic technology and production. Late Woodland Period artifact assemblages include Levanna and Madison point forms and finely made brushed, stamped, incised and cord-marked ceramics (Lavin and Mozzi 1996; Ritchie 1969; Snow 1980). The introduction of maize horticulture in Connecticut coincided with the Late Woodland Period (McBride 1984). Most Late Woodland sites in the region show similarities in site selection and function with earlier periods and degree to which maize cultivation influenced overall subsistence patterns remains subject to debate (Ceci 1980; McBride 1984; Bendremer 1993; Chilton 1996). The distribution of Late Woodland Period archaeological sites appears to be a continuation of the Middle Woodland pattern with Late Woodland archaeological components common within coastal environments, around interior freshwater ponds and wetlands, and adjacent to large tributary streams and rivers (e.g. McBride 1984; Julie 1999; Feder 1999).

The Iron Foundry Site consists of a historical iron foundry, as well as a pre-contact lithic scatter containing quartz debitage, and points diagnostic to the Middle Archaic and Late Woodland periods. Late Woodland diagnostic materials from the site consisted of a Madison projectile point. The Smith Cove Shell Heap was identified in Niantic, and yielded pottery with a pointed-collared rim and impressed design (OSA site files). Few distinct Late Woodland components have been excavated in northwestern Connecticut (Feder 1999:167). The Meadow Road Site near the confluence of the Farmington and Pequabuck rivers in Farmington yielded several Levanna projectile points, scrapers, and a small pottery assemblage. Pottery from the site is very thin-walled with no visible temper and infrequent decoration, and is broadly similar to Hackney Pond type pottery recovered from coastal southeastern Connecticut (Feder 1999:170). The site is radiocarbon dated to 830 ± 70 B.P. (Feder 1999).

Contact and Post-Contact Period Context

At the time of the establishment of the earliest European settlements in Connecticut (ca. 1635), land use patterns were strongly influenced by the complex relationships among Eastern Algonquian tribes inhabiting the area, and is referred to as the **Contact Period (450–300 B.P.)**. The social organization and settlement systems of these groups was affected by contact, trade, and conflict with Europeans,

although the degree of change is difficult to assess. During the late pre-contact and contact periods (prior to 1635), tribes generally were organized in groups of small households, banding together along territorial and ethnic lines in spring and summer and dispersing in other seasons. Hunting, fishing, the gathering of wild plant foods, supplemented with maize horticulture, formed the basis of subsistence. Native American settlements were concentrated on the floodplains of the major river valleys and their tributaries, while wetlands and upland areas were used as seasonal hunting grounds. Sites of seasonal aggregation were located near agricultural lands and fishing points (McBride and Soulsby 1989). Palisaded Indian villages were situated in commanding positions, such as Fort Shantok and Mystic in southeastern Connecticut.

The Litchfield area was inhabited by Native Americans with cultural and historical ties to both the Tunxis Indians along the Farmington River Valley to the east and Mahikan tribal communities in the Hudson and Housatonic river valleys to the west and southwest (DeForest 1852; Lavin 1998). Relationships among the historically-identified tribes in northwestern Connecticut is complex and attributions can be confounded by the cascading effects of post-contact changes to tribal populations, land bases, economies, and settlement amalgamations drawing from multiple Native communities. Principal settlements of seventeenth century Native Americans in the region appear to have centered near the confluence of the Pequabuck and Farmington rivers in present-day Farmington and along the lower Pootatuck River drainage in Newtown, with smaller settlements at Bantam Lake (DeForest 1852:393).

By the mid-seventeenth century, hostilities among the dominant coastal tribes in southeastern New England entangled the Native people of interior Connecticut and Massachusetts. The Pocomtuck to the northeast and Tunxis allied with the Narragansett Tribe against the Mohegans in 1658 (DeForest 1852:254). Although the relative remoteness of Connecticut's northwest hills provided for some greater degree of Native independence from colonial strictures, the great upheavals caused by epidemic disease, dispossession of lands, christianization, and near-constant conflicts roiled local Native communities. Segments of the Tunxis and Pootatuck tribes moved to northwestward from large colonial settlements in the late 1600's and early 1700's; first to Schaghticoke (Kent), then to Stockbridge (DeForest 1852; Lavin 2002). Smaller communities, such as the Lighthouse Village on Ragged Mountain in Barkhamsted, comprising Native Americans from several tribes and other "outcasts" formed in the Litchfield Hills in the eighteenth century (Feder 2009).

English colonial settlement of the Connecticut coast continued after the Pequot War. Having gained control of most coastal areas, the English incrementally settled the interior, upriver sections of southeastern Connecticut. In 1650, trading posts were established at Mohegan (Norwich) and at Poquetanuck Cove in North Groton (Ledyard), across the Thames River from the Mohegan stronghold at Fort Shantok. The town of Litchfield established in the early eighteenth century although a land sale was recorded in 1658. The Tunxis Tribe in Farmington area sold a tract to William Lewis and Samuel Steele called Mattatuck. This transaction may have included parts of Litchfield. The majority of town was part of a sale in 1716 by Pootatuck Indians (Crofut 1937). Settlement remained slow in the Litchfield area until the early eighteenth century (Youngken and Lutke 1997:9). Native American settlements were centered around Pine Island or Bantam Lake, approximately 5-miles south of the project area (Kilbourne 1856).

Many of these developments occurred prior to the formation of the Connecticut Colony itself. This occurred in 1662, with the granting of a charter by King Charles II. Prior to that time, issues of land title and township formation had been regulated by a General Court, guided by the Fundamental

Orders of Connecticut (1639) and the 1650 Code. The establishment of the chartered Connecticut Colony led to the consolidation of New Haven and Saybrook with the greater colony.

In the **Colonial Period (1675 – 1775)** because farming was pivotal to the colonial economy, local geography dictated the social and economic development of colonial townships within the Litchfield area and in its vicinity**.** The first English settlements were oriented around suitable agricultural land, and waterways. Settlement in Litchfield County was restricted until 1732 by legal ownership disputes between the legislature, and the towns of Hartford and Windsor (Crofut 1937).

The economy of the project area was based primarily upon agriculture during the Colonial Period. On large subsistence family farms, grain crops were harvested from newly cleared fields, and livestock grazed in rocky areas less suitable for farming. While the bulk of agricultural produce had been consumed locally prior to 1675, improvements in transportation routes afterward allowed farmers to move products to the growing trade centers of Norwich and New London (Spencer 1993). Mixed husbandry continued throughout the period. Some specialization did occur, however, especially where land was better suited to grazing (Spencer 1993:13, 14).

Ancient Indian trails became colonial cart paths, and with the establishment of new townships, they became main roads, linking farmsteads and mills to village centers. Throughout the period, new thoroughfares were laid out and maintained through taxes on proprietors.

As township populations increased, and generations of descendants subdivided the lots of the original proprietors, the average acreage available to each English family decreased by 1700. Consequently, agricultural activity shifted from grain production to livestock and dairy production. The preparation of goods for the West Indies trade eventually surpassed grain production for local use (Herzan 1997).

Often, younger settlers gravitated to outlying sections of the large townships in the area. Poor roads and increased distances from town centers made it difficult for some to attend Sabbath services. The General Court frequently received petitions calling for the formation of new ecclesiastical societies and local ministries. These satellite villages often evolved into new townships in their own right. This process is reflected in the founding of Torrington. Disputes between the Towns of Hartford and Windsor over divisions of western Connecticut lands were settled in 1726, with Windsor taking control over present-day Torrington, Colebrook, Barkhamsted, and western Harwinton (Orcutt 1878:7). The general assembly approved allotment of Torrington lands to individual owners from Windsor in 1732, and settlements were established in the following decade. The early locus of colonial settlement in the vicinity of the Project was along present-day Highland Avenue (Orcutt 1887). The mid-eighteenth-century Jacob Strong, Jr. House (1167 Highland Avenue) is believed to be oldest standing house in Torrington and was erected during the initial phase of English settlement in the immediate area.

By the time of the American Revolution, the English people inhabiting the townships within the area had established a rural, agrarian way of life. The establishment of Litchfield as the county seat in 1751 brought an increase in population (Kilbourne 1859). Litchfield served as a storage depot and military workshop during the Revolutionary War with Oliver Wolcott, Jr. as quartermaster (Crofut 1937). Oliver Wolcott, Jr. later became Secretary of the United States Treasury, governor of Connecticut, and eventually the owner of woolen mills near Torrington (Crofut 1937).

By the **Federal Period (1775 - 1830)**, the number of new towns in Connecticut proliferated after the American Revolution. Improvements to roads was slow throughout the eighteenth century. The Post Road from New York to Hartford passed through the town by 1792 with at least six toll roads terminating at Litchfield Village. By 1830, a network of turnpikes, ferry crossings and steamboat routes permitted comparatively speedy travel between the regional centers of New York, New Haven, Hartford, New London, Providence, and Boston (Spencer 1993).

The surrounding towns maintained their agricultural orientation, generally foregoing the industrialization, even as they realized the benefits of proximity to the trade centers of Norwich and New London. The economy of the project area continued to be oriented around mixed husbandry. Marshes and tidal river peripheries were sources of fish, peat, and marsh grasses provided feed for livestock (Herzan 1997).

Descendants of the local Native American tribes continued to occupy vestiges of their traditional homelands throughout the nineteenth century. Pequot and Mohegan tribal members were subject to the deprivations of the landless underclass with which they were associated. Many left the area entirely. Those who remained maintained social organizations and aspects of Native culture even while participating in the economic system of white New England society. The Mashantucket Pequots and the Mohegans gained federal recognition as tribal nations in the late twentieth century.

By the **Industrial Period (1830 - 1915)**, the agricultural economy within the area was in decline. Construction of inter-regional railroads presented Connecticut farmers with stiff competition from agricultural producers to the west, and many farmers switched over to dairy and fruit production and market gardening (Herzan 1997). Transportation was especially important in moving agricultural products to market and distributing goods to outlying farmsteads. Many younger people moved westward out of the region, or sought employment in the emerging mill towns of northeastern Connecticut. Litchfield had a wide variety of businesses as compared to surrounding towns, including printer/publishers, musical instrument and surgical instrument makers, and a tailor (U.S. Census 1850). The largest employer was a carriage maker.

Industry brought pervasive change to the region. While they had often proved unsuitable for farming, the rocky hinterlands of Connecticut contained numerous small rivers and watercourses that were harnessed by the new textile mills that nineteenth-century technological innovations had brought into being. A population decrease in the mid-nineteenth century was associated with the incorporation of the town of Morris in 1859, separating from the town of Litchfield. Modest factories were constructed in almost every town in the region, dedicated to the production of a wide variety of goods.

By 1910, the town of Litchfield had a declining population. Agriculture became less profitable as compared to western towns possibly due to the hilly terrain. The town attracted summer visitors around Bantam Lake, which eventually fueled a recovery of the town's local economy.

Results of the Background Research

PAL conducted a review of the site files and survey reports maintained by the Office of the State Archaeologist in Storrs. The file review included both archaeological resources and historic above-ground resources that are listed or evaluated as eligible for listing in the State or National Registers and surveyed properties that have not been evaluated for registration. Relevant cultural resource

management (CRM) reports and town histories and historic maps held at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center at the University of Connecticut were reviewed.

The Litchfield Historic District, now listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NR), was established in 1959 as one of the first historic districts in Connecticut. Considered a significant example of an 18th century New England town, Litchfield Village and its surrounding borough consist of approximately 500 buildings, with a portion also designated as a National Historic Landmark District (site files). Five individual properties on the inventory for the district are located south of the Project along Route 202.

The archaeological sensitivity of the project area is defined by the presence of favorable environmental conditions and the presence of known archaeological sites in similar environmental settings. Variations through time are apparent in the intensity of pre-contact Native American use of specific environmental settings, but several general observations can be made based on three decades of intensive archaeological survey in the region. Sites used by Native Americans for longer periods of time, such as base or seasonal camps, are most likely to be found on where either an important economic resource was available in abundance or a great variety of different resources were found in the vicinity. Well-drained soils on level terrain near large rivers, streams, or marshes, were preferred locations for pre-contact camps and settlements. Short term sites, such as those typically associated with hunting or plant-gathering forays, occur in a wider variety of environmental contexts, likely reflecting transient conditions at the time of occupation or concentration of specific resources in locations at some distance from encampments or larger settlements.

Although there are no pre-contact sites within the project area, there is one pre-contact and one post-contact archaeological site located within a 1-mile radius of the project area; both sites are along Lovers Lane Brook. The Hewitt Site (143-04) was identified approximately 1-mile north of the Project on a low terrace overlooking Lovers Lane Brook in Torrington (site files). The site yielded artifacts diagnostic of the Late Archaic and Woodland periods including steatite and clay pottery. The site form also noted that a colonial era fort was located on the property but not professional excavated or evaluated. One 19th to 20th century domestic site with a short-term pre-contact component (74-12) was identified approximately 1.3 miles south of the Project by a professional survey in 2010. The archaeological survey was conducted on a small section of approximately 12 acres along Torrington Road encompassing previously cut and graded terrain and wetlands (Heritage 2010).

Five pre-contact site were identified within a 5-mile radius of the Project. AIAI identified several sites approximately 1.75 miles south of the Project at the confluence of Spruce Brook and two smaller tributary streams. Three of the AIAI-recorded sites are on a small floodplain bounded by steep hillsides. Site 74-01 site yielded one flake. A 19th century trash pit and Native American camp site with quartz tools and charcoal (74-02) was recorded nearby, along with 74-3, an assemblage of historic and Native American quartz artifacts. A steatite quarry (74-5) was identified approximately 2.75 miles southeast of the Project by local artifact collectors and recorded by AIAI. Much of the site appears to have been destroyed by pothunters. Site 74-6 is a small rockshelter containing pottery and debitage, less than 0.5 miles east of 74-5; the site excavated by avocational archaeologists. Two post-contact sites were identified west of the Project along West Branch Brook. The South Goshen I Site (74-28) is a 18th and 19th century sawmill ruin. The Hervey Brooks Pottery Shop Archaeological Complex (55-77) is approximately 2.5 miles west of the Project and included multiple early to mid-nineteenth century structures, buildings and features, including a pottery kiln and shed (site files).

The site was excavated by Old Sturbridge Village in the 1980s. The production shed superstructure from the former Hervey Brooks Pottery was moved to Old Sturbridge Village and reconstructed as part of the museum's exhibits.

Two surveys were conducted around Bantam Lake southwest of the Project. The AIAI survey identified the Ripley 1 and 2 sites which yielded evidence of a Native American site and a 19th century farmstead (Handsman 1992). The High Bridge Road Bridge Project identified a nineteenth century railroad alignment and historic farmstead features (Raber 2005). South of the Project, a small survey for sewer improvements for Litchfield Village identified a stone wall segment within the Litchfield Historic District but was not considered eligible for NR (Schneiderman-Fox et al. 1997). A more recent survey was conducted north of the project area in Torrington and yielded late historic or modern artifacts (Walwer 2015).

The Jacob Strong, Jr. House (1167 Highland Avenue, Torrington) is located along the southside of the roadway and adjacent to the northern extent of the Project. Historical records suggest the Jacob Strong, Jr. initially constructed a log home on the property when he moved from Windsor in 1739. The existing house replaced the log home. The existing house was likely constructed about 1750 and retains many of its original exterior and interior features. An overhang supported by Corinthian columns was added to the front façade after prominent sculptor Paolo Abbate purchased the property in 1927. Abbate converted an eighteenth-century English-style barn on the property to his sculpture studio, adding new windows and a stucco finish to the exterior and building a large fieldstone fireplace and chimney on the north wall. The barn/studio was reportedly damaged by a fire in 2005, though it remains standing. A circa 1900 ice house with a simple gable roof stands to the rear of the house (State Register Nomination 2011). The property was listed in the State Register of Historic Places in 2012.

A review of historic maps identified the "G.H. Smith" house within the Project on the west side of Wilson Road in Litchfield. The 1859 Clark's Map of Litchfield County depicts the house on the west side of a distinct kink in Wilson Road at road's crossing over a stream (Figure 2; Clark 1859). No house is depicted at the same location in 1869, though the same westward kink in the roadway was still present. Little change in the road alignment or houses is visible between the 1868,1892, and 1904 USGS maps. Comparison of aerial images taken between 1941 and 1991 indicate that multiple stone walls which once defined a series of smaller fields in the eastern half of the project area were gradually removed, consolidating the farmland into the fields present today. The cleared lands in 1944 extended over a larger percentage of the subject property than they do today; woodlands were then largely confined to the southern margins of the property where the terrain is the steepest. A small orchard is also visible in the southwestern field on the 1944 aerial. By 1969, Wilson Road appears to have been realigned slightly to the east, possibly to remove the deviation at the stream crossing, and a small gravel quarry was in place in the south-central portion of the project on the west side of Wilson Road.

PAL's archival research suggests the post-contact land use history of the Project was primarily agricultural. Actively tilled fields, orchards, hayfields, woodlots and "unimproved" woodlands comprised the majority the land area after 1750. Residential use appears to have been confined to the southern margins of Highland Avenue in the northern section with a shorter-period of potential residential use in the southern section, west of or within the current alignment of Wilson Road. No mills or other industrial uses were identified within or adjacent to the Project.

Results of the Walkover Survey

The walkover survey of the project area was conducted to assess the integrity of the ground surface and to collect data on current environmental settings and, together with the background research, to assess the archaeological sensitivity of the project area. Although Native American sites in New England are most often found through subsurface testing, it is not unusual to find artifact scatters exposed on the surface because of cultural or natural processes, including plowing, road use, grading, construction activity, and erosion. Post-contact features, such as cellar holes (depressions), foundations, wells, and trash deposits are often visible during pedestrian survey. PAL staff inspected the project area for evidence of potentially significant archaeological resources and refined sensitivity assessment based on direct observation of any ground disturbance and topographic features, bedrock resources, and drainage patterns which may have influenced past land uses.

The majority of the project area is open fields where visibility during the pedestrian survey was excellent (Figures 3 and 4). Wooded sections to the south were generally open, with limited under brush, providing clear views of the ground surface. The lower hill slopes on the east side of Wilson Road where the agricultural field is no longer mown or maintained and adjacent sections of woodlands were the only areas of limited ground visibility due to dense briar or brush growth. PAL staff walked the overgrown sections to assess ground slope and the presence of surficial boulders or other stone which might be obscured by the vegetation. Adjacent field sections and open woodlands at comparable elevations and distances from surface water features were compared to overgrown areas to refine the assessment of the few densely vegetated sections.

Hillside slopes in the northeastern and northwestern sections of the project are moderate below the hilltops, with steeper margins along the streams. Lower elevations within approximately 50 meters of the streams appeared to be poorly drained or prone to seasonal saturation. The streamlined character of the hills within the northern section of the project area changes near the southern boundary of the existing fields. The hillsides to the south are generally steeper, with several schist outcrops and less regular topography. The lower slope margins in the southern sections east of Wilson Road are steep and moderately rocky, as were the surfaces of several small benches or kame terrace sections overlooking the small stream drainages. Vegetation in this area is dominated by Eastern Hemlock interspersed with White Pine and Yellow Birch. The flora is consistent with generally moist soils within ravines and the lower stream valley flanks. Flat schist cobbles are moderately abundant on the ground surface in these sections. PAL staff inspected the outcrops and large boulders for overhangs that may have been suitable as rockshelters; no such features were identified. None of the exposed bedrock ledge observed by PAL contained visible steatite veins or other stone which may have been quarried during the Pre-Contact Period.

Surficial stone within the agricultural fields was relatively scarce, likely due to mechanical or hand removal. Discontinuous treelines separated the agricultural fields in the eastern section of the project. Each of these treelines contains variable deposits of small to medium sized cobbles, apparently taken from the cultivated or mown sections or former stone walls and dumped at the margins of the current field system. The cobbles PAL observed were consistent with the underlying Rowe Schist bedrock and granitic gneiss, with irregular platy to blocky fracture. A small percentage of the cobbles are of a medium to coarse-grained quartzite or quartz, both minor elements in the local bedrock. The quartzite appears to be suitable for coarse stone tool manufacture; quartz was widely used throughout the Pre-Contact Period and more abundant in most parts of southern New England than any other

tool stone. No worked stone or debitage, debris from stone tool manufacture, was observed by PAL during the survey.

Stone walls were identified throughout parts of the project along Wilson and Old Town Farm Roads, between open fields and in wooded areas (Figure 5). Two stone boundary markers for the town-line of Litchfield and Torrington were identified. One of the stone markers is located within the open field in the northeastern section of the project area appeared to have been damaged by a vehicle, and was clearly askew. Stone piles from possible field clearing were noted along the western project boundary and along the southern central portions of the property. No evidence of the former "G.H. Smith" house depicted on the 1859 county map was observed during the walkover (see Figure 2). Review of the Jacob Strong, Jr. property suggests little previous ground disturbance in the area surrounding the house, barn/studio, and ice house. The fields to the south of the house on this parcel appear to be actively cultivated for row crops. No substantial cuts/fills or artificial topography was noted, suggesting previous ground disturbance was primarily confined to plowing.

No other above-ground historic properties, pre-contact artifacts, or features were identified within the project area. Isolated late historic to modern period artifacts, such as brown bottle glass, ironstone ceramic sherds, and plastic fragments were observed within the dirt roadways in the open fields east of Rossi Road. Very low densities of such materials is typical of incidental refuse disposal in the very late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Areas of modern disturbance were noted within the project area from an old road realignment along the southern central portion of the project area and road improvements along Rossi and Wilson roads. Previous disturbance from a small late twentieth century gravel pit on the west side of Wilson Road near the southern project limits was limited to a small area and included an access road connecting the pit to the roadway. No other large areas of bare mineral soils indicating substantial cutting or filling of the natural landscape were observed.

Results of the Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment

The Litchfield Solar project area encompasses several broadly-defined environmental features associated with reported pre-contact Native American sites in the region and local area. As noted above, many known pre-contact sites are located on level, well-drained terrain near streams, wetlands and stream confluences. This pattern is clearly evident in the small number of previously reported sites near the Project; each of which is located on the relatively limited level terrain available in northeastern Litchfield and the abutting section of Torrington. Those reported sites are also all located within a short distance from streams or substantial wetlands.

The largest areas of relatively level terrain within the project area are the broad hilltops, however pre-contact use of these areas is expected to have been constrained by the vertical and horizontal distances from water sources and relatively small viewsheds bounded by adjacent hills of comparable elevation. Areas with an elevated potential to contain pre-contact archaeological sites are concentrated, instead, on small benches and terraces overlooking the streams and in the better-drained areas within the open fields bordering the streams or peripheral wetlands. An isolated and sheltered swale encompassing approximately 800 square meters was identified in the southwestern section of the project area. Although located more than 200 meters from any surface water features and at a much higher elevation, the swale may have been attractive for short-term use. Another small scale topographic feature with elevated archaeological sensitivity is a small bench overlooking the steep hillside leading southeastward towards Gulf Brook a former glacial pond approximately one

kilometer from the Project limits. Unlike the majority of the higher elevations within the proposed development, this small bench would have afforded an expansive view due to the very steep adjacent slope and may have been used during the Pre-Contact Period to monitor game movements.

Less favorable topographic and environmental characteristics within the project area include the hilly, and occasionally rocky terrain. Soil drainage patterns inferred from the Paxton and Montauk soils and topography and supported by PAL's field observations suggest that much of the level terrain along the lower hill margins, relatively close to the streams, would likely have been too wet for encampments or longer term occupations. Other level terrain in the southeastern sections is relatively rocky and may likewise have been poorly suited for habitation. Pre-contact residents of the area would have had access to more suitable settings for residential sites, such as the margins of former glacial ponds and lakes and substantial streams and rivers. Rockshelters aside, steeper terrain such as present within the project area was more likely to be used on a temporary basis by people collecting resources such tree bark for baskets, containers, or wigwam coverings. Tree nuts were likely gathered on both hilltops and along the hill slopes. Such transient uses, particularly those associated with collecting plants, are unlikely to leave durable archaeological traces.

Areas assessed as having moderate to high archaeological sensitivity include areas adjacent to perennial and intermittent streams and wetlands with well drained, intact soils, and isolated sections sheltered sections or advantageous viewsheds. In aggregate, these areas encompass approximately 9.7 acres. Areas assessed of having a low to moderate archaeological sensitivity include relatively level areas that are further from water but are well drained and undisturbed. These areas include the northeastern hilltops and level area in the northwest corner of the Project and, in aggregate, encompass approximately 24.7 acres. Areas assessed as low archaeological sensitivity primarily includes wetlands, steep rocky slopes, and locations distant from surface water features with limited viewsheds. Areas of clear ground disturbance are also assessed as low sensitivity.

If present, archaeological resources within the area of proposed development are expected to be primarily associated with use of the Jacob Strong, Jr. House. There is a potential for archaeological deposits associated with the standing eighteenth-century house and possibly the earlier log home which was likely located nearby. Such deposits may provide new information on the initial period of English settlement in Torrington and the development of the a northwestern frontier homestead to an established farm. Archaeological sites associated with short-term or transient use of area by pre-contact Native Americans may also be present within the area of proposed development.

The locations of recorded historic sites and preliminary review of historic documents, such as historic maps and aerial photographs, indicated that a 19th century homestead may have been located within or near the project area. No evidence of the "G.H. Smith" house was identified during the field survey. The location of the house depicted in 1859 may have been disturbed by road improvements, including a minor horizontal realignment and graded approaches at the nearby stream crossing. It is possible that buried trashpits, privies, and/or wells still exist in the vicinity.

Recommendations

Based on the results of the sensitivity assessment, PAL recommends consultation with SHPO regarding the potential for the Project to affect historic properties including archaeological sites that may be located within the project limits. Ground disturbance in the vicinity of the historic Jacob Strong, Jr. House or the two historic outbuildings at 1167 Highland Avenue should be avoided. Areas of low to moderate and moderate to high archaeological sensitivity comprise a relatively small percentage of the lands that maybe subject to ground disturbance during construction, but have the potential to contain significant archaeological resources. Subsurface testing may be warranted in these areas to identify any extant archaeological sites in areas of anticipated ground disturbance.

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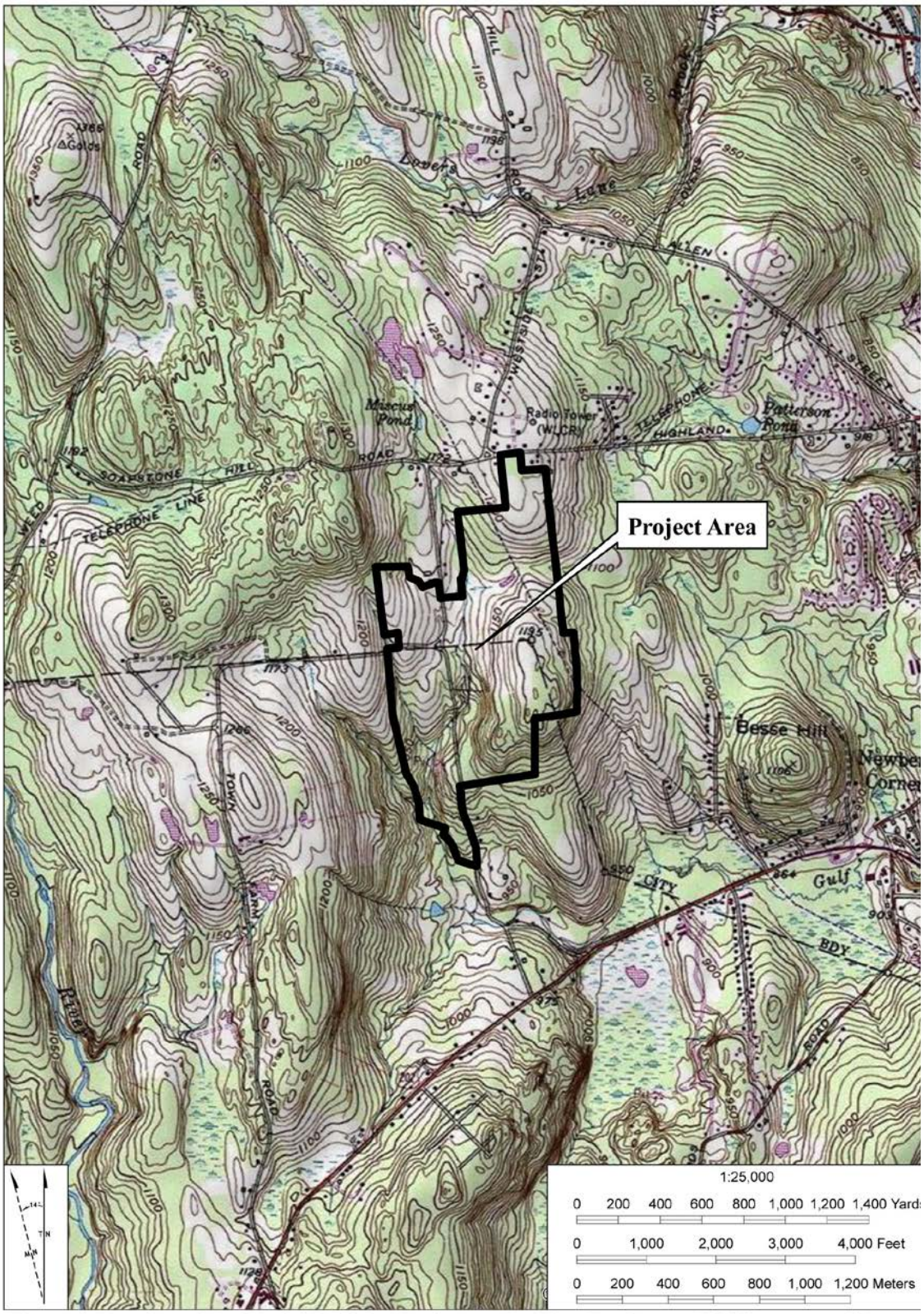

Figure 1. Location of the Litchfield Solar Project on the West Torrington USGS topographic quadrangle, 7.5 minute series.

Figure 2. Location of the Litchfield Solar Project on Clark's Map of Litchfield County (1859).

Figure 3. Intersection of Wilson, Rossi, and Town Farm Roads, view southwest.

Figure 4. General terrain from north-central portion of the Litchfield Solar Project, view west to Rossi and Wilson Road intersection in background.

Figure 5. Example of field stone walls and general terrain within the Litchfield Solar Project.

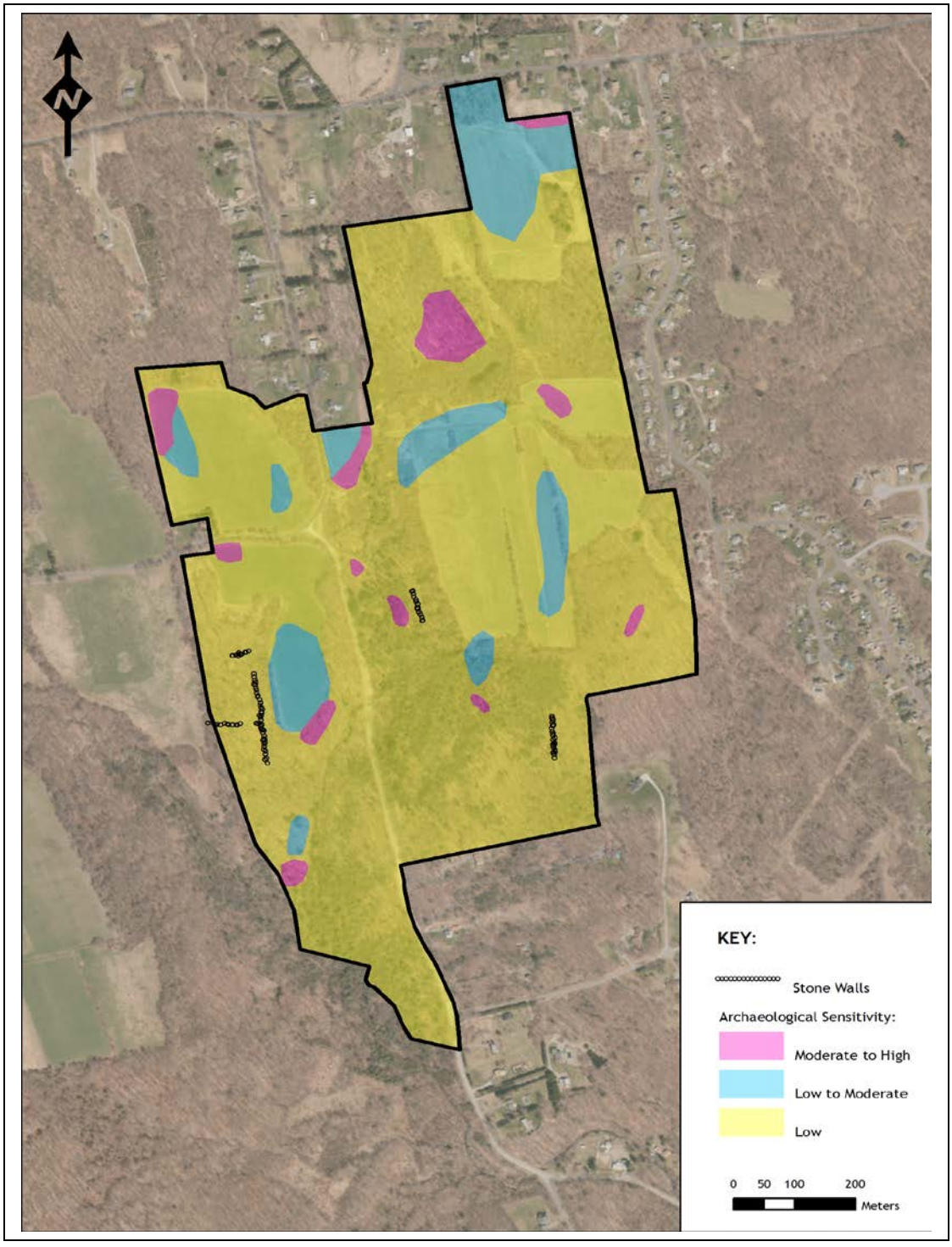

Figure 6. Litchfield Solar Project area with PAL's Sensitivity Assessment.