Supplemental Supporting Information for a Finding of Effect

Project: Westbrook 18637.00
Scope: Intersection Improvements
Finding of Effect: No Adverse Effect

Purpose and Need
The purpose of the action is to improve safety for vehicles and pedestrians at five intersections on Route 25B, known as the Cumberland Mills Rotary, in Westbrook.

The need for this project is because the Cumberland Mills Rotary does not meet current Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) standards or meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance. Additionally, the intersection of Cumberland Street and Warren Avenue is a High Crash Location (HCL) and a pedestrian fatality occurred near the intersection of Main Street and Harnois Avenue.

Proposed Action
The proposed action (Alternative 1) would install four new traffic signals within the Cumberland Mills Rotary, replace an existing traffic signal southeast of the rotary at Main and Forest Streets, coordinate traffic signals to enhance mobility, establish remote communication into the Portland Area Comprehensive Transportation Systems (PACTS) Regional Transportation Management system, install additional travel lanes, and upgrade pedestrian facilities for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance. The updated traffic signal system would include new traffic signal controllers and cabinets, mast arm poles and pedestal posts, ADA compliant pedestrian signals, countdown signal heads, curb ramps with detectable warning fields, overhead lane use signs, new light-based emergency preemptive systems, and new vehicle detection. The mast arm poles and pedestal posts would be painted RAL #6055 green per the City of Westbrook specifications.

Federal Action
Federal funding.

Definition of Area of Potential Effect (APE)
The proposed project is located in Westbrook. The map below shows the APE.
Figure 1. Westbrook 18637.00 Area of Potential Effect
Historic Properties
The proposed project is located in Westbrook. The following descriptions of historic properties found within the project area are based on Maine Historic Preservation Commission (MHPC) survey forms.

S. D. Warren Company Paper Mill, 300 Main Road (S. D. Warren Company, 10+00L to 14+50L)
*Contributing Resource to National Register-Listed Cumberland Mills Historic District*
*Criteria A, B, & C, Architecture, Community Planning & Development, Industry, Social History*

The S. D. Warren Company Paper Mill is a large complex of utilitarian industrial buildings. S. D. Warren founded his paper company in 1854 and transformed the mill into one of the foremost paper mills in Maine by his death in the 1880s. The mill remained vital to Maine’s paper industry well into the twentieth century. By the mid-twentieth century the mill was the second largest printing paper mill in the United States, employing around 3,000 individuals. Most large printing houses used the company’s coated paper for books and magazines. The company continued to focus on research and development, leading the advance of production of release paper, which is used in the production of coated fabrics, including synthetic leather. The period of significance is 1854-1968.

Cumberland Mills Fire Station, 41 Cumberland Street (City of Westbrook, 14+50L to 16+40L)
*National Register-Eligible*
*Criteria A & C, Architecture, Community Planning & Development*

The Cumberland Mills Fire Station is a two-story brick building with a flat roof. It has two garage bay openings on the first story. Three window bays are located on the second story. The station operated as the primary fire station in Westbrook from 1947 to 2004. Although the station opened in 1947, interior work, particularly on the second floor (related to accommodations for firefighters), continued until 1951. The S. D. Warren Company provided the land for the fire station to Westbrook. A square brick bell tower was added in 1961. In c.1975 the City added a third garage bay to accommodate larger firefighting vehicles. Its period of significance is 1947 to 1972.

Nathan Harris House, 425 Main Street (Ray R. Pallas, 19+50 to 19+85R, 37+75L to 39+75L)
*National Register-Listed*
*Criterion C, Art*

The Nathan Harris House, a five-bay, one-and-a-half story house, faces Main Street. The modest Federal-style house has a side-gabled roof and sits on a granite foundation. The house is covered with vinyl siding. It has a central front entry that is adorned with a semi-elliptical panel and sidelights. The house has three brick chimneys and a rear ell. The house was constructed c.1828. The house contains several murals from c.1836 that are attributed to Prior and Hamblen, notable mural artists working in Portland at that time. Its period of significance is c.1836.
Warren Block 12 Cumberland Street (Property Management LLC, 19+ 85R to 21+40R; 39+75L to 41+40L)

National Register-Listed
Criteria A & C, Architecture, Social History

The Warren Block is an elaborate Queen Anne-style commercial building with an irregular roofline that includes hipped and pedimented gables. It also has a central square turret along with two prominent brick chimneys. The first two stories are brick, while the third story is frame and clad with wood shingles. The north and east elevations have oriel windows on the third story. The oriel windows are topped with pedimented gables. The first story storefronts have been altered but retain large display windows. The second story windows have segmental arch openings and have double-hung windows topped with transoms. A gabled hood sits above a first story opening supported by heavy brackets. A two-story addition sits on the east elevation and fills the triangular shape of land at Main and Cumberland streets. The building was designed by prominent Maine architect John Calvin Stevens. The building was commissioned by S. D. Warren, owner of the S. D. Warren Company Paper Mill, as a retail and public space. The building retains a high level of integrity, despite an addition to the east elevation by 1958. The period of significance is 1882.

Forest Street Grammar School, 19 Forest Street (Mary S. Conroy, 47+05L to 48+00)

National Register-Eligible
Criteria A & C, Architecture, Education

The Forest Street Grammar School is a two-story brick building with a hipped roof and a large octagonal central cupola. The roofline has large modillions and an elaborate cornice. The central wing contains a pedimented gable dormer that features a classical window surround. Below the dormer is a three-sided oriel window with a Palladian-esque window that extends between the first and second stories. Decorative relief panels fill the upper portion of the oriel window. Two rounded arch windows with brick hoods flank the oriel window. A central front portico is supported by four Ionic columns and two brick columns. The porch knee wall features rusticated brickwork. Two front entries flank the paneled oriel window which extends below the porch roofline. The entries are composed of a door with a sidelight, topped with a two-part transom. The outer wings of the school are brick and feature a group of four windows in the front and two sets of three windows located on the south and north elevations. A watertable course serves as the bottom sill of the first story windows. Decorative brickwork is found between the first and second story windows. A name and date block composed of terra cotta is located on the south elevation. The building was constructed in 1894 and designed by famed Maine architect, John Calvin Stevens. Its period of significance is 1894 to 1968.

Archeological Resources
There are no archaeological resources in the project area.

Impacts to Property
The following addresses potential impacts to properties as a result of the proposed action.
S. D. Warren Company Paper Mill, 300 Main Road (S. D. Warren Company, 10+00L to 14+50L)

Contributing Resource to National Register-Listed Cumberland Mills Historic District
Criteria A, B, & C, Architecture, Community Planning & Development, Industry, Social History

The proposed action would result in **No Adverse Effect** to the S. D. Warren Company Paper Mill. The proposed action would install a mast arm traffic signal (Sta. 14+50) at the intersection of Cumberland Street and Harnois Avenue, near the southeasternmost edge of the paper mill. Additional work at this location would include sidewalk reconstruction for detectible warning landing pads and the replacement of a large traffic island with a smaller traffic island. The smaller traffic island would accommodate additional turning lanes at Harnois Avenue. All work is slated for completion within the MaineDOT right-of-way. Given the substantial nature of the S. D. Warren Company Paper Mill and its related structures, this action would not significantly diminish its integrity of setting, feeling, or association. The proposed action would not physically alter any structures related to the S. D. Warren Company Paper Mill.

Cumberland Mills Fire Station, 41 Cumberland Street (City of Westbrook, 14+50L to 16+40L)

National Register-Eligible
Criteria A & C, Architecture, Community Planning & Development

The proposed action would result in **No Adverse Effect** to the Cumberland Mills Fire Station. The proposed action would install a mast arm traffic signal (Sta. 14+50) at the intersection of Cumberland Street and Harnois Avenue, west of the fire station. Additional work at this location would include sidewalk reconstruction for detectible warning landing pads and replacement of a large traffic island with a smaller traffic island. The smaller traffic island would accommodate additional turning lanes at Harnois Avenue. A second mast arm traffic signal (Sta. 15+90) would be installed west of the intersection of Cumberland and Warren Avenue. All work is slated for completion within the MaineDOT right-of-way. The introduction of mast arm traffic signals would not significantly diminish the fire station’s integrity of setting, feeling, and association.

Nathan Harris House, 425 Main Street (Ray R. Pallas, 19+50 to 19+85R, 37+75L to 39+75L)

National Register-Listed
Criterion C, Art

The proposed action would result in **No Adverse Effect** to the Nathan Harris House. The proposed action would include installing a mast arm signal at Sta. 37+75 approximately 100’ west of the house on Main Street. The proposed action would also call for the installation of a mast arm signal at Sta. 19+75 on Cumberland Street (behind the Nathan Harris House). The mast arm signal would have a cast-in-place reinforced concrete drilled shaft. The installation of mast arm traffic signals would not significantly diminish this property’s integrity of setting, which has already been compromised by loss of green space to a parking lot and added guardrail. The installation of the mast arm signals would not affect the murals located within the house. The soil composition at these locations consists of Presumpscot clay formation, which is soft and would prevent vibration inside the Nathan Harris House.
Harris House. Bedrock is located approximately 10-70’ below the surface. Should a mast arm signal be installed in bedrock, the foundation would be a multi-pin type and would require a smaller drill for several holes. Thus, the use of a smaller drill would also prevent any vibration from affecting the murals in the Nathan Harris House.

Warren Block, 12 Cumberland Street (Property Management LLC, 19+ 85R to 21+40R; 39+75L to 41+40L)
National Register-Listed
Criteria A & C, Architecture, Social History
The proposed action would result in No Adverse Effect to the Warren Block. The proposed action would include the removal of a traffic island at Main and Cumberland Streets and installation of a larger triangular island with sidewalks and curbing. Two mast arm traffic signals would be installed in the traffic island. Detectible landing pad ramps would be installed at each pedestrian crossing. Sidewalk pavement and curbing would be replaced with in-kind materials (hot mix asphalt, granite curbing). All work would be completed within the MaineDOT right-of-way. The installation of mast arm traffic signals would not further diminish this property’s integrity of setting, which has already been compromised by changes to the surrounding building stock on Cumberland Street.

Forest Street Grammar School, 19 Forest Street (Mary S. Conroy, 47+05L to 48+00)
National Register-Eligible
Criteria A & C, Architecture, Education
The proposed action would result in No Adverse Effect to the Forest Street Grammar School. The proposed action would replace a wire-hung traffic signals with mast arm traffic signals at the intersection of Forest and Main Streets. The change from wire-hung traffic signals to a mast arm traffic signals is minimal and would not significantly diminish the school’s integrity of setting, feeling, and association.

Archaeological Resources
No archaeological properties would be affected by the proposed undertaking.

Avoidance and Minimization Efforts
The proposed action avoids any physical impacts to historic buildings or structures. The proposed action also minimizes effects by retaining most mature trees located at Sta. 105+00 to 106+000.

Dismissed Alternatives
No Build The No Build alternative takes no action and does not meet the purpose and need of the project and was therefore removed from further consideration.

Public Involvement
MaineDOT held a Public Hearing in Westbrook on May 17, 2017.
MaineDOT contacted the four federally recognized Native American tribes in Maine. The Penobscot Nation and Passamaquoddy Nation replied with no concern about the undertaking.

**Proposed Materials**
Mast arm traffic signals, granite curbing, hot mix asphalt.

**Plans**
Westbrook, Cumberland County, Signalization of Cumberland Mills Rotary, Maine Department of Transportation, January 3, 2018.

**Attachments**
Art Spiess, MHPC, to Megan Hopkin, MaineDOT, May 9, 2016.
Kirk F. Mohney, MHPC, to Julie Senk, MaineDOT, September 14, 2017.
May 9, 2016

To: Ms. Megan Hopkin, MDOT/ESD

From: Arthur Spiess, Senior Archaeologist

Subject: WIN 18637.00, Route 25B, rotary intersections, Westbrook (MHPC #0686-16)

After reviewing our archaeological survey records and maps, including historic maps and surficial geology maps, and comparing this information with a predictive model of archaeological site locations, we find that no archaeological fieldwork is necessary for this project, based on the [plans, description] received May 6th. It is extremely unlikely that an archaeological site would be affected by this project, in our opinion.

In following the procedures specified in the Federal Highway/MHPC/MDOT programmatic agreement, we recommend a finding “that there will be no archaeological properties affected by the proposed undertaking.”
STATE OF MAINE
MEMORANDUM

July 6, 2016

To: Megan M. Hopkin, ENV/Maine Department of Transportation
From: Kirk F. Moloney, State Historic Preservation Officer

Subject: 18637; intersection improvements, Westbrook; MHPC #0686-16

In response to your recent request, I have reviewed the information received June 28, 2016 to continue consultation on the above referenced undertaking pursuant to the Maine Programmatic Agreement and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

Identification of Historic Properties

The Commission agrees with the MDOT’s conclusion that the following properties in the project’s area of potential effect are either listed in or are eligible to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NR):

- Warren Block, 10 Cumberland Street (SM #12), NR listed
- Nathan Harris House, 425 Main Street (SM #13), NR listed
- Forest Street Grammar School, 19 Forest Street (SM #19), previously determined eligible
- S. D. Warren Company Paper Mill, 300 Warren Avenue (SM #s 27-39), contributing resource in the NR listed Cumberland Mills Historic District

The Commission requests additional information about the history of the Fire Station located at 41 Cumberland Street (SM #26). Please confirm the date of construction, architect and dates of any alterations or additions. It would also be helpful to compare the existing building to historic images, if they are available.

With the possible exception of the Fire Station, no other properties in the APE appear to be eligible for listing in the National Register.

If you have any questions regarding our comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.
STATE OF MAINE
MEMORANDUM

September 14, 2017

To: Julie Senk, ENV/Maine Department of Transportation

From: Kirk F. Mohney, State Historic Preservation Officer

Subject: 18637.00; Route 25B Intersection Improvements, Westbrook; MHPC #0686-16

In response to your recent request, I have reviewed the information received September 6, 2017 to continue consultation on the above referenced undertaking pursuant to the Maine Programmatic Agreement and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

Based on the information provided, we concur with MDOT’s conclusion that the former Cumberland Mills Fire Station (SM #26) located at 41 Cumberland Street, Westbrook appears to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. We also believe that despite the alterations and additions, the building may be eligible under Criterion C at a local level of significance for its expression of modern architecture.

If you have any questions regarding our comments, please contact Megan Hopkin at Megan.M.Hopkin@maine.gov.
National Register Listed