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THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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Commissioner

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Deputy Commissioner

PELHAM  
X-A001(151)  
16145  
RPR 5902

Adverse Effect Memo

For the purpose of compliance with regulations of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's *Procedures for the Protection of Historic Properties* (36 CFR 800), the NH Division of the Federal Highway Administration and the NH Division of Historical Resources have coordinated the identification and evaluation of historic and archeological properties with plans to replace the Main Street Bridge over Beaver Book (110/090) in Pelham, New Hampshire.

Project Description:

The purpose of the project is to improve hydraulic capacity, to alleviate flooding concerns, to remove the two bridges from the NH Red List, and to resolve scour concerns. Pelham bridge 110/090 was built in 1839 with an I-beam section added on to widen the bridge in 1929. The Pelham 111/090 Culvert has section loss and was built in 1988. The need for the project is shown by the deteriorated condition of the bridges with structural deficiencies and inadequate hydraulic capacity. The Town has expressed concerns about downstream and upstream flooding. The proposed project will replace the two bridges with a 100' single span bridge. The new roadway will maintain its horizontal geometry, but the vertical profile will change with the new bridge.

Identification:

Based on a review pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4 of the architectural and/or historical significance of resources in the project area, we agree that:

- The Main Steet Bridge (110/090) is individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for its engineering. Built in 1839, the structure embodies the characteristics of the early period of stone arch bridge construction in New Hampshire. It is the second oldest extant double arch bridge in New Hampshire, preceded only by the nearby Abbott Bridge (109/081).
- The Pelham Town Center Historic District has been determined eligible for the National Register under Criteria A and C. Under Criterion A, the district illustrates how the 18<sup>th</sup> century ideas of planning, road development and transportation networks contributed to the development of the village center which continues to be an important town center today. The historic resources of the Town Center Historic District are also eligible under Criterion C.

- The St. Patrick Church Complex is significant under Criterion A for its associations with the growth and development of Pelham's Roman Catholic community. The St. Patrick Church Complex is also significant under Criterion C for architecture.

The Pelham 111/090 Culvert was not evaluated for eligibility due to its age, built in 1988.

Archaeological investigations included a Phase IA Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment confirming that no archaeological sites or areas of sensitivity were identified due to extensive disturbance. No further study was recommended (Monadnock Archaeological Consulting 6.2020). NHDHR concurred with the results of the survey and recommendation of no further investigation (6.15.2021).

Following the addition of a western extension to the project, an additional Phase IA Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment was conducted (Monadnock Archaeological Consulting 4/2023; concurred by NHDHR 5.26.2023). No constraints or significant impacts to archaeological resources were confirmed, although three historic resources were noted at west end of project area. Avoidance is recommended for:

- the historic granite hitching posts/pillars and a millstone in front of the National Register listed Pelham Library and Memorial Building at 5 Main Street
- any northern extensions of the APE into Lot 8-118 and the John Woodbury property due to previously recorded archaeological remains associated with the Pelham Blacksmith Shop site (27-HB-540).

In addition, the NHDOT Cultural Resources Program should be contacted in order to document and photograph any intact foundation elements that may be encountered under the St. Patrick Church parking lot on Main Street. These may be associated with a historic trolley barn.

Public Consultation:

Outreach letters were sent by the NHDOT to the various departments within the town, the Pelham Historical Society, and the Pelham Conservation Commission.

The following consulting parties have been identified:

Diane Chubb – President of the Pelham Historical Society  
Kimberly Abare – NH State Rep, Hillsborough  
Jenn Beauregard – Pelham Planning Director  
Joseph Roark – Pelham Town Administrator

Cultural Resources Agency meetings were held July 2014, April 2021, October 2022, November 2022, February 2023, June 2023, and July 2023.

A Pelham Selectboard meeting was held on April 18, 2023, a public informational meeting was held on May 31, 2023, and a Public Hearing will be held in summer 2024.

**Determination of Effect:**

Applying the criteria of effect at 36 CFR 800.5, we have determined that the project will have an adverse effect on the bridge due to its removal, and an adverse effect to the Pelham Town Center District due to the removal of one of its contributing features.

There will be no adverse effect to the St Patrick’s School, as the preferred alternative will not alter the use of the property. Most of the property will remain untouched including the historic buildings. The new treatment swale and alterations to the existing parking lot will not change the resource’s setting and contributing features.

A more detailed adverse effect review of the eligible resources can be found in NHDOT files.

**Mitigation Measures:**

Appropriate mitigation for the removal of the stone arch bridge and impacts to the Pelham Town Center Historic District will be recorded in a Memorandum of Agreement.

The result of identification and evaluation for the proposed contract is a finding of **Adverse Effect**.

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|---|--|--|--|---|
| <b>Section 4(f)</b> (to be completed by FHWA) | <i>There Will Be:</i>  | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No 4(f);</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Programmatic 4(f);</b> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Full 4 (f); or</b> |
|   | <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>A finding of <i>de minimis</i> 4(f) impact as stated:</b> In addition, with NHDHR concurrence of no adverse effect for the above undertaking, and in accordance with 23 CFR 774.3, FHWA intends to, and by signature below, does make a finding of <i>de minimis</i> impact. NHDHR’s signature represents concurrence with both the no adverse effect determination and the <i>de minimis</i> findings. Parties to the Section 106 process have been consulted and their concerns have been taken into account. Therefore, the requirements of Section 4(f) have been satisfied.</p> |  |  |   |

FHWA is suggested the following 4(f) determinations that will be finalized in the Environmental documentation for the project, overall the project will result in a full 4(f) determination. By signing below, NHDHR as the official with jurisdiction agrees to the following determinations concerning the historic resources:

- Pelham Town Center Historic District, Including Main Steet Bridge (110/090) - Full 4(f)
- St. Patrick Church Complex – *de minimis* 4(f)

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In accordance with the Advisory Council's regulations, consultation will continue, as appropriate, as this project proceeds.

*for* Patrick Bauer, Administrator  
Federal Highway Administrator  
Patrick Bauer, Administrator  
Federal Highway Administrator  
Date 4/10/24

Jill Edelman  
Jill Edelman  
Cultural Resources Manager  
Date 3/14/2024

Concurred with by the NH State Historic Preservation Officer:

Nadine Miller, DstHP  
Nadine Miller  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
NH Division of Historical Resources  
Date 4/1/24

- c.c. Jamie Sikora, FHWA
- David Scott, NHDOT
- Liz Schneible, NHDHR
- Rebecca Martin, NHDOT