West Warwick Comprehensive Plan
Natural and Cultural Resources
Chapter V
CHAPTER V

NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES
River drops 100 feet in elevation by the time it reaches the Warwick line, and at the Cranston City line is less than 50 feet above sea level.\(^4\)

Topography has not played a major factor in the Town's development. All but the steepest slopes, which occur along the rivers, have been subject to development. The Town's landform, however, contributes significantly to its visual character. Views from higher elevations provide encompassing views of the rivers and valleys below. Locations along Wakefield Street, and at St. Joseph's cemetery, in particular provide outstanding views of the community.

Soils - An assessment of West Warwick's soil types is important when considering future development potential. A mixture of unsorted soil and rocks, commonly known as till, covers most of West Warwick. Glacial till is characterized as consisting of clay, silt, sand and boulders transported and deposited by glacial ice. Outwash deposits are found in the valleys along rivers and other low-lying areas. Outwash is stratified sand and gravel produced by glaciers and carried, sorted and deposited by water that originated mainly from the melting of glacial ice. These are areas which tend to carry larger volumes of water and is the material which has the best potential for groundwater. Areas of outwash are found along portions of the South and North branches of the Pawtuxet River. A small lobe of outwash extends east, away from the South Branch outwash area and then hooks south along Hardig Brook to East Greenwich Avenue.

Certain soil characteristics lend themselves to use for building or transportation routes, while others may serve well as locations for crops and pastures. Soils with poor drainage and high flooding frequency may be unsuitable for development. Soils with a high water table, rapid permeability or shallow depth to bedrock may preclude installation of on-site septic systems unless special design features are incorporated to mitigate these problems.

The Soil Survey for Rhode Island was issued in 1981 and is limited in the information it provides. Any decisions regarding development applications should be based upon site specific soils data. For the purposes of this Plan, soils are defined as follows (Appendix V-A includes soils types in each soil group):

- **Soils with moderate constraints to development** (Residential soil group A) - generally suited to residential development. Some soils in this group have moderate soil constraints for development and evaluations must be made on a case by case basis. The constraints consist of: 1) very rapidly permeable soils which have a higher potential for groundwater contamination; 2) slowly permeable soils which tend to have greater septic system failure rates and 3) extremely stony soils, which are expensive to excavate and grade for residential development. Also included are disturbed areas which are often suitable for residential development, but which need site specific evaluation. Examples include gravel pits, cut and fill areas, and paved areas.

- **Seasonal high water table** (19 inches to 42 inches depth) (Residential soil group B)- soils in this group have a seasonal high water table at a depth of 1.5 to 3.5 feet from the surface for significant periods during the year. Many of these soils have additional constraints to development, such as slow permeability or, in a few instances, very rapid permeability.

- **Soils with bedrock and slope constraints** (greater than 15 percent slope - 15 feet of vertical rise over 100 feet of horizontal distance) (Residential soil group C) - soils in

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Paneling elements - esthetic appeal, educational value, recreational value, buffer

Policy for food forests: •

Policy control - ability of a woodland to reduce food velocity and provide storage •

Provide several important functions which, in West Warwick, are classified as follows:

1. The Town's total acres, 11 percent, or 256 acres, are classified as 'Wetlands.

2. The soil exceeds the amount necessary for the growth of most plants. The formation of wetlands are generally defined as those areas in which the amount of moisture in the soil is always present.

3. Hydric soils are more often found in the southern part of the Town, although small pockets are also located in the northern central part of the Town. Hydric soils are more often found in the southern part of the Town, although small pockets are also located in the northern central part of the Town.

4. Hydric soils generally have a lower slope and slope constants that are lower than necessary for slight slope limitations. Severe constraints on development have similar characteristics, but to a lesser extent. In some cases, this constraint may occur in locations of slopes of 1:5 or 1:10 or steeper. These areas have been developed, producing food, face, Pasture, timber, and some crops, and also available for these uses. These soils are generally classified as "hydric soils". These soils, because of their high water content, require greater care in construction of roads, buildings, and other structures. The steep slopes increase the potential for soil erosion during construction of roads, buildings, and other structures, making construction of roads, buildings, and other structures difficult. Shallow soils, and

5. Seepage systems. This group have slopes in excess of 15 percent and have significant channelization.
• **Ecological parameters** - value to wildlife, wildlife diversity, wetland size, type of site (streamside, lakeside, pondside), and vegetative diversity; and,

• **Groundwater potential** - the ability of a wetland to contribute to collect runoff from surrounding areas and recharge the groundwater system, as well as acting as filters for polluted runoff;

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has classified wetlands and water bodies in the wetlands of Rhode Island as part of the National Wetlands Inventory (see Figure V-1). Wetlands are classified by ecological system and further by bottom characteristics and vegetation types.

The ecological systems include estuarine, palustrine (vegetated wetlands), riverine (rivers, streams and brooks), marine and lacustrine (lakes and ponds). Wetlands in West Warwick are either palustrine, riverine or lacustrine.

The dominant type of palustrine wetland in West Warwick is the forested wetland, commonly known as the wooded swamp. All of the wooded swamps are vegetated with broad-leaved deciduous trees and include a variety of species including red maples, gum, oak and others. The scrub/shrub swamp, another wetland type within the palustrine ecological system, though not as common as the wooded swamp, is found in most areas of the Town. They are characterized by a dominance of shrubs or tree saplings less than 20 feet tall, broad-leaved shrubs and other low growing plants including bottombush, sweetgale, highbush blueberry, swamp azalea, winterberries, and many others. Emergent wetlands are vegetated by nonpersistent grasses, rushes, sedges, and other herbaceous or grass-like plants. Emergent wetlands are often associated with the shrub/scrub or wooded swamps.

**Rhode Island Freshwater Wetlands Act** - This act requires that a permit be obtained from RIDEM Freshwater Wetlands Section before any freshwater wetland is altered in any way. Filling, grading, clearing of vegetation or construction is considered alteration of a wetland.

The Act protects land that is clearly wet, such as ponds, rivers, marshes, streams and bogs, as well as those areas which may seem dry for much of the year, such as wooded swamps, where water is not observed on the surface, and areas subject to storm flowage and flooding. The law also considers as wetlands, certain areas which might be dry all year round, such as the area 50 feet around ponds, marshes, swamps and bogs, along with the area 100 feet from flowing bodies of water less than 10 feet in width and the area 200 feet from flowing bodies of water greater than 10 feet in width. The Town has the option of placing more restrictive regulations upon wetlands within its boundaries, but may not require less than that required by the State.

**Drainage Basins** - West Warwick lies within the Narragansett Basin, the largest of the State's six major drainage basins. Portions of four smaller sub-basins are found within West Warwick's borders. Drainage basins, or watersheds, are defined by topography which governs the path that water follows as it moves from higher to lower elevations.
The South Branch Basin, unlike the North Branch Basin, is underlain by extensive outwash deposits of the Poconos and Providence Rivers.

The southern portion of West Warwick. The Providence River is included in the Providence-Warwick drainage area which encompasses a large portion of the city. The eastern portion of the town, the north central part of Coventry, and a small portion of East Greenwich are included in the Providence-Warwick and West Warwick.

The north western part of the town is included in the Providence-Warwick and West Warwick drainages, and the southern most reaches in the Providence-Warwick and West Warwick drainages.

Coventry and East Greenwich are located in the village of North Scituate and in the southern most reaches in the Providence-Warwick and West Warwick drainages.

West Warwick and small portion of Foster, Smithfield and Coventry. The basin is sparsely populated the highest population center, the largest population centers in the valley, are located in the west and southern sections of the state. The largest population centers in the valley, are located in the west and southern sections of the state.
intercept this slow moving resource before it reaches natural points of discharge, such as wetlands and streams.\(^9\)

Two types of water sources, direct and indirect recharge, replenish stratified drift aquifers. The major source of direct recharge is precipitation that falls directly on and infiltrates into the ground, flows through the unsaturated zone to the water table, and then down the hydraulic gradient to streams and ponds. Under natural conditions, groundwater will move from the aquifer to the stream. If a pumping well is located near the stream, the water table gradient may be reversed and water from the stream may infiltrate the aquifer and flow toward the center of the pumping, and is defined as indirect or induced recharge.

Stratified drift is unconsolidated, sorted sediment composed of layers of sand, gravel, silt or clay, deposited by meltwater from glaciers. Coarse-grained stratified drift contains space between the gravel and sand particles which can hold large amounts of water without restricting its flow. Stratified drift deposits with a saturated thickness of greater than 40 feet, and which have a transmissivity of 4,000 feet per day are considered to be groundwater reservoirs and have an excellent chance of yielding large quantities of water.

A mixture of unsorted soil and rocks, commonly known as till, covers most of West Warwick. Glacial till is characterized as consisting of clay, silt, sand and boulders transported and deposited by glacial ice. Outwash deposits are found in the valleys along rivers and other low-lying areas. Outwash is stratified sand and gravel produced by glaciers and carried, sorted and deposited by water that originated mainly from the melting of glacial ice. These are areas which tend to carry larger volumes of water and is the material which has the best potential for groundwater. Areas of outwash are found along portions of the South and North branches of the Pawtuxet River. A small lobe of outwash extends east, away from the South Branch outwash area and then hooks south along Hardig Brook to East Greenwich Avenue.

The largest outwash deposits in West Warwick are found in a narrow channel which extends from the Flat River Reservoir in the South Branch Pawtuxet River Basin. This channel which swings north at the West Warwick border has a lenses of sand and gravel which have a saturated thickness of more than 100 feet in some areas. Much of the flow in the South Branch Pawtuxet River is derived from ground-water discharge.\(^10\) A lobe of stratified drift extends south and east away from the South Branch Pawtuxet River and stops just short of the West Warwick-Warwick Town line in the Crompton Village area. Another smaller area of this type of deposit is located along the North Branch of the Pawtuxet River from the Clyde Village area east along the Pawtuxet, and into Warwick. The State has also mapped a groundwater reservoir which lies primarily in the City of Warwick, but extends into West Warwick in the vicinity of the wastewater treatment plant.

While outwash deposits in West Warwick are thick enough to be considered groundwater reservoirs, Kent County Water Authority does not currently utilize them for water supply. The Water Authority operates groundwater wells in Coventry and East Greenwich, utilizing the South Branch Pawtuxet River aquifer and the Hunt-Annaquatucket-Pettaquamscutt aquifer system.

**Shared Resource** - A small portion of the Hunt-Annaquatucket-Pettaquamscutt aquifer system extends into West Warwick in the southern part of Town. This aquifer is considered a sole source aquifer. Land use practices within the sole source aquifer should be carefully

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\(^10\) Gonthier Joseph B. Hydrologic Data for the South Branch Pawtuxet River Basin, Rhode Island.
Natural and Cultural Resources

CHAPTER 4

March 1992

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, The State of the State's Groundwater. April

Surface Water Resources - West Warwick is dominated by the Pawtucket River, one of the State's largest rivers. The Pawtucket River, which forms a portion of the Town's north-eastern border, is considered an important water resource.

In addition to these natural sources, others may exist which represent an equal or greater threat for pollution to the Town's water system.

- Annual Industrial Park
- New England Industrial Park
- Hopkins Avenue
- Rensselaer Avenue
- Koch Enterprises, Main Street
- Jiglaf Street
- Incinerator, West Warwick Landfill, at Ripton Point
- West Warwick Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Demarest, Riverside Avenue

In West Warwick, identified sources of potential groundwater pollution include:

Rhode Island's Right-to-Know Law

Information which is available through the Town's Right-to-Know Law includes, but is not limited to, information which is contained in the Hazardous Materials Inventory. The list includes a list of those businesses and industries which store or use hazardous materials. The Department of Labor, in its role as the agency responsible for the enforcement of this law, has access to this information. Potential Sources of Groundwater Contamination - Known or Potential Sources of Groundwater Contamination

Potential Sources of Groundwater Contamination:

- Providence to the North
- Newport to the South

In addition, RIDEM has embarked on a program of assessing aquifers and recharge areas.

Groundwater management is local zoning enforcement and local regulations, with a focus on public education and training, groundwater monitoring, enforcement, and education. The Town will develop a groundwater protection plan, which will include the development of protection zones, and the establishment of recharge areas. Assistance and funding is available to local protection programs. RIDEM will be responsible for the enforcement of state and federal regulations and other technical assistance.

Restaurants, schools, etc.

Rhode Island's Right-to-Know Law

The inclusion of communities with severe pollution problems such as el derly parks, nursing homes, and non-community wells is a severe problem. The law applies to public wells which are used by public drinking water systems. It applies to public wells which are used by public drinking water systems. It applies to public wells which are used by public drinking water systems. It applies to public wells which are used by public drinking water systems.
boundary with Warwick, is created by the junction of the North Branch and South Branch rivers. The North Branch flows from the Scituate Reservoir north and west of the Town, and flows through the the villages of Phoenix, Lippitt, and Clyde before joining the South Branch in River Point. The South Branch flows generally north through West Warwick, and originates at the Flat River Reservoir in Coventry and West Greenwich. The South Branch flows through Crompton, Centerville and Arctic before reaching River Point. River flow is interrupted by dams at the Crompton mill complex, in Arctic and again by a dam just short of the confluence. From the confluence the Pawtuxet River backs up into long, narrow Natick Pond. The River turns north shortly after passing the dam at the eastern end of Natick Pond, and forms the boundary between West Warwick and Warwick for less than a mile before meandering into Warwick.

The Pawtuxet River and the North and South Branches of the Pawtuxet are considered Class-C waters. Class C can be considered for recreational use, fish and wildlife agricultural and industrial water supply, industrial cooling, sewerage discharges and other legitimate uses, including navigation. A list of other brooks and streams is found in Table V-1.

Table V-1
Small Brooks and Watercourses
West Warwick, Rhode Island

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of System</th>
<th>Origin</th>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hawkinson Brook</td>
<td>Wetlands at the East Greenwich town line.</td>
<td>South Branch</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pawtuxet River</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cedar Brook</td>
<td>Pond and wetlands in north of Greenwich Ave.</td>
<td>Harwig Brook</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardig Brook</td>
<td>Wetlands in the Crompton Village area</td>
<td>Apponaug Cove</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lippitt Brook</td>
<td>Wetlands at the base of Lippitt Hill in Cranston</td>
<td>North Branch</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pawtuxet River</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Numerous un-named and unclassified brooks and drainageways are found in the Town. Unclassified water bodies are assumed to be Class-B water unless they flow into a Class-A water body. No Class-A water is found in West Warwick, therefore all unclassified streams are given a Class-B rating by default.

Lakes and Ponds - West Warwick's landscape is dotted with small ponds. Some are man-made, however most are natural water bodies left by the receding Laurentide glacier. Natick Pond, the largest water body, is formed by the damming of the Pawtuxet River in the northeastern part of Town. Matteson Pond, is located on the Coventry border in the Centerville area. None of the surface water bodies are used for drinking water supply.

The potential contamination of the Town's surface water resources is of concern, in terms of both point and nonpoint pollution sources. Point sources are those which are discharged from

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As forest and natural areas were cleared, the forest remnants that were left were often fragmented and isolated from each other. This fragmentation can lead to a number of negative impacts on biodiversity, such as reduced gene flow and increased vulnerability to local extinctions. The result is a loss of the ecological integrity of the forest ecosystem.

To address this issue, several strategies have been developed to reconnect fragmented forest areas. These include the creation of wildlife corridors, which are strips of land that allow animals to move between fragments of forest, and the restoration of degraded forest areas. These strategies can help to enhance connectivity and improve the overall health of forest ecosystems.
Vegetation and Wildlife - Much of the forestland which covered West Warwick was cleared for farming. Subsequently, most of the farmland has been developed for housing, commercial and industrial uses. Remnants of the once productive forest and agricultural lands are found in the less intensively developed areas north of the Pawtuxet River between Natick and Clyde villages, and in areas south of Crompton village. Stands of mixed hardwoods dominated by maples and oaks are found in wet areas which are unsuitable for development.

Wooded areas, even though they are surrounded by urban development, support a variety of wildlife including pheasants, quail, redtail hawks, sparrow hawks, doves, and woodcock. In addition to avian species, these areas are also inhabited by a number of mammals which typically exist in Rhode Island, i.e., fox, rabbit, skunk, woodchuck, deer, etc. Wetlands and the land immediately surrounding them are often left in their natural state and provide another valuable type of wildlife habitat. Animals utilizing these habitats include wood ducks, black ducks, mallards, snipe, rails, herons, kingfishers, marsh hawks, muskrats, mink and otter.

Wildlife preservation, particularly in an urban area such as West Warwick, requires larger expanses of undeveloped land for species to form territories. Clearly this is a difficult proposition in West Warwick, as large open spaces are non-existent. One area which still serves as habitat to numerous plant and animal species, Wakefield Hill, is an important resource in terms of its ability to provide living space for wildlife. The ecological integrity of this area is high due in part to the large number of acres which exist as a single block of land, the variation of habitat types and vegetational communities represented, the presence of the river, lack of land development within the continuous acreage and relative low human disturbance factors.\footnote{Rhode Island Rural Development Committee, Rural Enterprise Team, West Warwick, Rhode Island, March 1988.}

Rare and Endangered Species and Habitats - The historical and current status of species of plants and animals suspected of being rare or declining has been monitored for the past decade by the Rhode Island Natural Heritage Program (NHP). Currently there are no species of plants or animals in West Warwick which the NHP considers rare or endangered. It is important for the Town to stay in contact with the NHP for an annual update on rare and endangered species within Town boundaries.

Agricultural Land - Prime agricultural land is defined as: land best suited for producing food, tree, forage, fiber and oilseed crops, and also available for these uses.\footnote{The source of this information, and that which follows regarding the definition of prime agricultural land is from the U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service, Eastern Rhode Island Conservation District Newport County. Important Farmlands.} It has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce high yields of crops economically when treated and managed, including water management, according to modern farming methods. In West Warwick, the Soil Conservation Service has identified prime agricultural soils throughout the Town. A large area of prime farmland soil is located along Wakefield Street in the northern part of Town, and small pockets of prime farmland soils are found throughout the southern portion of the Town. Many prime farmland areas identified in the 1980 SCS survey have since been developed with land uses which are considered irreversible, and therefore can no longer be considered prime farmland.
I. View of Town from St. Joseph Cemetery:

The Town of West Warwick is characterized by areas of unusual natural and managed beauty. Views of mill buildings and villages, historic districts, wooded areas, together with the

Perimeter River, small ponds and streams give the town a unique character. Important views include, but are not limited to the following:

- Waterfront
- Ponds and streams
- Historic areas
- Wooded areas
- Rolling hills

II. Views from Viewpoint Park:

Views from Viewpoint Park offer a grand perspective of the town, emphasizing its

aesthetic and visual attributes. The town is surrounded by an extensive network of

parks, hiking trails, and open spaces. These resources provide opportunities for

recreational activities and outdoor education.

III. Public Access:

Public access to the town's natural and aesthetic resources is essential. The town has

implemented policies to ensure public access to these resources.

IV. West Warwick's Urban Form:

West Warwick's urban form is characterized by a mixture of small rural and

urban settings. The town is transitioning from rural to urban, reflecting the growth

and development of the town.

V. Cultural Resources:

Cultural resources are an integral part of West Warwick's identity. These resources

include historic sites, buildings, and cultural artifacts. The town has a rich cultural

history, which is reflected in its architecture and public spaces.

VI. Natural and Aesthetic Resources:

Natural resources, such as parks, forests, and streams, contribute to the

aesthetic and visual appeal of the town.

VII. Planning Efforts:

Planning efforts in West Warwick focus on preserving the town's cultural and

natural resources. The town has implemented policies to protect these resources.

VIII. Conclusion:

West Warwick is a community that values its natural and aesthetic resources. The town has

embraced the importance of preserving these resources for future generations.

March 1992
3. View from Wakefield Street south to Arctic/other villages;
4. View from Murray Square north along Pawtuxet River toward mill buildings;

Preservation of the scenic qualities of the community is one way of preserving the character which residents value highly. Various techniques exist to achieve this, including scenic criteria and design guidelines in the zoning ordinance, site plan review, visual easements, and public education programs.

Protection of these visually important spaces may be achieved through a variety of techniques, including:

- Purchase acquisition of land;

- Conservation restrictions - limits what an owner can do with his/her property and/or enables others to use the property for specific purposes. State law defines such restrictions. Conservation restrictions may be drafted to conform to almost any situation, such as a restriction against cutting trees or removing stone walls.

- Purchase of development rights - acquisition of a conservation easement for the rights of development of a parcel to ensure preservation of the property as an undeveloped open space in perpetuity.

- Visual easements - a conservation restriction or easement which protects the visual or scenic elements of a parcel of land;

- Revised zoning and subdivision regulations with scenic criteria and design guidelines included; and,

- Public education.

V.2 Cultural Resources
The purpose of this section is to protect and preserve the Town's historic resources and to integrate historic preservation into the comprehensive planning process. The intent of this planning process is to integrate the Cultural Resources Element into the overall Comprehensive Plan. While the element alone is a complete planning document, with independent goals, policies and implementation actions, it also merges preservation goals with those of other Plan elements. This interrelationship defines the comprehensiveness of the Plan, as opposed to an assemblage of unrelated plans.

The West Warwick Planning Board is the agency charged with primary responsibility for the Comprehensive Plan, with advisory assistance from the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee (CPAC). The CPAC is composed of representatives of the Planning Board and citizen members. Its membership is open to all major interests and constituencies to assist Town planning staff and consultants to develop the overall comprehensive plan. In addition, the research for the Cultural Resources Element included the participation of the Pawtuxet Valley Preservation and Historical Society (Historical Society) and the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission (HPC).

Context For Preservation Planning - The Cultural Resources Element responds to the following questions posed by the HPC:

1. What historic resources exist? Where are they located? In what fashion do they relate to the past and future development of the community?
Historical and Archaeological Resources of West Warwick, Rhode Island: A Preliminary Report, Rhode Island

Historical Overview - West Warwick is located near the geographical center of Rhode Island, and one of the most densely populated towns in the state of Rhode Island. The town has been a part of the Pawtuxet Valley, an important settlement site in the history of Rhode Island, with a long history of Native American occupation and European settlement.

Preservation planning was developed from an inventory with members of the Historic Preservation Committee. The inventory included the town's historic resources, including buildings, structures, and archaeological sites.

The document provides an overview of historical resources in the town, including an inventory of significant resources and a set of priorities for addressing issues. The document is intended to guide the town in its preservation activities and to ensure that the resources are protected and preserved for future generations.

Questions:
1. What resources have been identified for preservation?
2. How have these resources been evaluated?
3. How have the identified resources been documented?
4. How are the town's historical resources interpreted?
5. What are the town's goals for its historical resources?
6. How will the town achieve these goals?
7. To what extent is preservation part of the town's overall plan for development?
8. Given the identified resources and the town's level of preservation activity, what are the challenges and actions that are necessary to achieve these goals?
Colonists moving out from Samuel Gorton's Warwick, first settled in the area in the Seventeenth Century. No known material evidence of these early settlers remains.

In the Eighteenth Century, the Town was home to a thinly scattered farming population, and the common unit of settlement was the family farm. Although they are no longer surrounded by fields and have been somewhat altered, at least three Eighteenth-Century farmhouses remain. The Carr-Levalley House (c.1722) at 42 Fairview Avenue is probably the oldest structure remaining in West Warwick, the Nathaniel Arnold House (c.1760) at 101 Quaker Lane has a similar size and roof shape, and the James Greene House at 75 West Warwick Avenue is a somewhat later and larger structure. Agriculture remained the principle economic activity in the Town throughout the century.

During the Nineteenth Century, West Warwick was transformed from a farming area into one of Rhode Island's most heavily industrialized towns. Textile mills were built along the Town's rivers and became the nuclei of small villages. The creation of these villages - Centerville, Crompton, Natick, Lippitt, Phenix, Riverpoint, Clyde, and Arctic - gave the Town its characteristic arrangement and flavor which it retains even now. Significant structures from this era, such as the Lippitt Manufacturing Company Mill, one of earliest and best preserved of Rhode Island's textile factories, and the mill houses at Phenix, which may be the oldest of their type in West Warwick, remain at almost all of these villages.

Later in the century, some of these villages, especially Phenix and Arctic, grew into genuine urban centers. Several new factories were constructed in West Warwick and many additions were made to existing mills to accommodate both increased production and refinements in textile technology. Textile manufacturing companies continued to build large numbers of houses for their workers. As the scale of production increased in the Town's mills, the growth of the villages surrounding them kept pace. The mill villages, which began as small hamlets, acquired many of the institutions which would serve the needs of the community - schools, churches, post offices, stores, and banks - and became the focus of the area's economic and social life.

This steady growth is visible in the architectural resources of Arctic Village today. The village retains an array of buildings that are interesting both architecturally and historically. The core of this village, the Arctic Mill Village Historic District at Border and Earl Streets, contains a large collection of well-preserved and maintained nineteenth-century buildings which reflect its earlier growth and prosperity. This complex includes Arctic's original mill, all the original worker's houses, several stone buildings, associated water control structures, and a former store. All of the structures in the village, ranging from these mid-nineteenth century mill buildings to late twentieth century gasoline stations, are makers in the continuum of history. All contribute to an understanding of the history, growth, and development of the area and are part of West Warwick's treasury of cultural resources.

In 1913, West Warwick was incorporated as a separate town. Development in the preceding century had no focused on a single institution or commercial center; the Town was essentially a federation of mill villages. The new town set up its administrative center in the Pike House, at 20 Pike Street.

Although West Warwick remains a factory town, the decline of the textile industry after World War I affected great physical and social changes, almost as great as the change from agriculture to manufacturing a century earlier. The resultant uneasy economic situation of the 1920's and 1930's had hindered residential building in West Warwick. Some one - and two - family houses filled the side streets of the villages, and a few two and three - decker houses were built. More typical of this period are the bungalows ; such as 44 Highland Street; cottages,
valley queen mill, 200 providence street.

lilliput mill, 829 main street; and

commission free library, main street; commission.

silver creek house, east greenwich avenue.

st. mary's church and cemetery, church street; commission.

five sites in west warwick are included in the national register of historic places.

the preliminary report inventory is intended to be used primarily for informational purposes.

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CHAPTER V
Natural and Cultural Resources

The National Register of Historic Places includes the State's most important historic places, and is the nation's official list of significant historic properties worthy of preservation. The benefits of being on the National Register include official recognition of the property's importance; eligibility to apply for federal planning and restoration grants when funds are available; eligibility to apply for federal planning and restoration grants when funds are available; eligibility for federal investment tax credits for certified substantial rehabilitations of income-producing properties; and protection from the adverse effects of state or federally funded or licensed projects through a review and assessment program. Listing on the Register does not require the owner to preserve or maintain the property. Unless the owner applies for and receives special federal or state benefits, she/he can do anything with the property which is permitted by local ordinances.

The HPC has also prepared a list of properties which may be eligible for listing on the National Register or the State Register. These properties require additional research and documentation to determine whether they fall within the National Register guidelines. They are as follows:

1. Arctic Mill Historic District; Border and Earl Streets, Arctic
2. Fairview Avenue Historic District, Fairview Avenue, Phenix
3. Phenix Historic District, Main Street, Phenix
4. Arctic Mill Complex, 33 Factory Street, Arctic
5. Arctic Mill Store, 12 Factory Street, Arctic
6. United States Post Office, 1190 Main Street, Arctic
7. Centerville National Bank, 1218 Main Street, Arctic
9. Donant Archambault Building, 115-16 Washington Street, Arctic
10. Centerville Mill Complex, Bridal Avenue, Centerville
11. Waterhouse Mills/Kent Manufacturing Company Complex, 1454 Main Street, Centerville
12. Centerville United Methodist Church, Main Street, Centerville
13. Centerville Bridge, Centerville Road, Centerville
14. Crompton Mills Complex, Manchester and Pulaski Streets, Crompton
15. Crompton New Village, Hepburn Street, Crompton
16. Crompton Company Houses, Hepburn and Manchester Streets, Crompton
17. Carey Dyer House/Episcopal Rectory, 1565 Main Street, Crompton
18. Superintendent's House, 696 Providence Street, Natick
19. O.S. Baker's Building, 703 Providence Street, Natick
20. Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, 840 Providence Street, Natick
21. St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, 854 Providence Street, Natick
22. Natick Bridge, Providence Street, West Warwick and Warwick
23. Royal Mills Bridge, Providence Street
24. Phenix Fire Station/Harris Fire Department, 701 Main Street Phenix
25. Frank Block, 743 Main Street, Phenix
26. Phenix Mill Complex, 771 Main Street, Phenix
27. Pike Mansion, Pike Street
28. Nathaniel Arnold House, 101 Quaker Lane
29. Royal Mills Complex, 200 Providence Street, Riverpoint
30. Riverpoint Mill Houses, East Main and Providence Streets, Riverpoint
31. Riverpoint Congregational Church and Parsonage, 73 Providence Street, Riverpoint
32. Westcott Mill Houses, Providence Street, Westcott

17 This paragraph is excerpted from the Historical and Architectural Resources of West Warwick, Rhode Island: A Preliminary Report, Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, 1987, page 28.
Historic Preservation Activities - The effectiveness of preservation activities may be

militate and associate with housing and other buildings

inventories to determine the overall theme of an identified historic area. Examples include

inventories or collections of oral/Western building traditions. The condition criteria and

inventories in many cases are representative of specific architectural styles or themes.

Another criterion is architectural style. Structures that have been included in the
town's historic districts are considered also.

Citation: For the age of a structure as defined by the National Register of Historic Places is

be identified. Other sites which should be considered as potential candidates include:

be conducted, and as the Town changes, other potential candidates may

The above list of recommended projects should not be considered final. As new research is

in the vicinity of the Town, its historic resources should be developed using criteria that

Cathedral House, 49 Parry Avenue, and:

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 9 New London Avenue;

Spencer houses:

Paul, Peter and Paul Church;

Park Service, not the National Register Guidelines. The criteria include building age,

of the above mentioned projects described above and found

d. Consideration of Federal or State agency requirements.

36. Greenhouse, 22 Woodside Avenue
35. West Winds (former Governor Chin House), 300 Wakefield Street
34. Binghamton Farm, Wakefield Street
33. Wesleyan New Village, 47-57 Providence Street, Woonsocket

Key:

34. Binghamton Farm, Wakefield Street
33. Wesleyan New Village, 47-57 Providence Street, Woonsocket
32. Governor's House, 49 Parry Avenue
31. Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 9 New London Avenue
30. Spencer houses:
29. Cathedral House, 49 Parry Avenue, and:
28. Paul, Peter and Paul Church;
been less than fully effective. The preliminary inventory provides a solid base which may be expanded and modified. However, those resources identified within the inventory are currently afforded no real protection from decay, demolition and indifferent renovation, and will continue to be lost as long as this protection is not available.

Preservation activities in West Warwick have primarily been directed by individuals, the State HPC and the Pawtuxet Valley Preservation and Historical Society (Historical Society). The Historical Society was established in 1976, and has grown from 10 members to 100+ members. Activities have included the following:

- Historical Society holds regular monthly meetings for the purposes of addressing historical preservation issues in West Warwick;
- An historical house marker program for certain properties judged to have historical significance by the Historical Society;
- Maintenance of archival materials and a library of historical materials at the Historical Society office in Arctic, and staffing of the office by volunteers;
- Development of a video tape promoting historical preservation, prepared through a State funded grant;
- Historical Society member lectures at local schools and other groups;
- Some cleaning and maintenance of historical cemeteries;
- Preparation of a monthly newsletter for Historical Society members outlining historical preservation activities;
- Provision of a scholarship for a West Warwick high school student for outstanding history students.
- Preparation of exhibits for display in local libraries, schools etc.;

The goal of Historical Society is the education of local residents about the importance of historical preservation. Members feel that their efforts to date have been successful, and point to the increase in membership as an indicator of their effectiveness. The Historical Society should strive to become active in other aspects of preservation planning, such as lobbying for the enactment of historic district zoning, and/or an environmental review article within the subdivision regulations.

There is no municipal body or regulation charged with overseeing the historical heritage of the community. Some interest has been expressed in historic district zoning, and the establishment of an historic district commission, but concerns over additional property regulation have kept this idea from being promoted.

This is perhaps the main weakness of preservation planning in West Warwick. Without a local ordinance designed specifically to preserve important historical resources in the Town, properties, even those on the National Register, can be demolished or significantly altered. If the community's goal is to preserve those structures and areas which were important contributors to its heritage, there is a need to consider historic district zoning as a form of protection. The Town should establish stronger preservation mechanisms through zoning and explore ways to protect historic properties, historic structures, historic landscapes, as well as potential archaeological sites, and cemeteries and graveyards which may be impacted by such development.
residential units, retail outlet stores, banking/business offices, and others. Office in
concentration. Many adaptive reuse options exist for mill sites in town, including
conversion to commercial use. These include the following:

- 125 and 200 Providence Street (1813)
- Providence Mills (Providence Mills, Gorcey Mills, Royal Mills, Valley Queen Mill)
- Turlock Mill Complex, Main Street (1810)
- Comstock Mills Complex, Plattsburg and Main Street (1807)
- Calaveras Mill Complex, Main Street (1807)
- 1826 and 1828 Main Street (1807)
- 1898 and 1899 Main Street (1807)
- Artic Mill Complex, 2nd and 3rd Factor Street (1834-1965)

In West Warwick, most of the remaining mill complexes are in some type of
commercial use. These include the following:

- Support will save them.
- conditions affecting the market may disperse the site. For example, the
  buildings that exist on the site may be more valuable without
  the encroachment of the new buildings. However, the market may be
  more valuable if the buildings are
- years to the point that any remaining of the original buildings remain. The market
  may not support the point that any remaining of the original buildings remain.

Examples of historical resources within each of these categories, how they are
identified, and

- 1. Large mill complexes and associated mill housing
- 2. Individual structures and fixtures
- 3. Coupled and separate resources
- 4. Town archives and records
- 5. Archaeological sites
- Development forces or other interests. At risk resources fall into the following
categories:
- environmental consequences such as wetlands, Many of the Town's historic resources are
  exposed in ways that need protection and remain a threat to the economy.
- development pressure, followed by commercial development.

In West Warwick, residential development has been a trend, followed by
commercial development. In urban sections, many of the mill ruins are now
part of the national economy. At risk resources fall into the following
categories:
- environmental consequences such as wetlands, Many of the Town's historic resources are
  exposed in ways that need protection and remain a threat to the economy.
- development pressure, followed by commercial development.

Evaluation of Known Threats to Historic Resources - Numerous

March, 1992
CHAPTER V
Nature and Cultural Resources
centives to small scale manufacturing businesses and warehousing operations who are willing to occupy structurally sound mill structures is another viable method to reusing mill structures.

The historic mills of West Warwick are an historically important resource, as well as an economic asset. The Town should establish a working relationship with the mill owners, determine their plans for these structures and provide assistance in preserving the buildings for future use. The zoning ordinance should be reviewed to ensure that obstacles to innovative use of these buildings are minimized, and appropriate mixed uses should be encouraged.

**Individual/Isolated Structures**
Discussion with local preservation groups revealed a number of individual sites which were considered threatened for a number of reasons, including lack of maintenance and/or development pressures. The sites were not identified on the basis of a particular set of criteria, but rather as representative of at risk sites throughout the Town. Potentially threatened sites/areas include the Carr-LeValley house at 42 Fairview Avenue, mill houses in Arctic hill and on Sisson Street in Phenix, and the Fairview Avenue Historic District.

**Cemeteries and Graveyards**
All of West Warwick's historic cemeteries and graveyards are considered to be at risk. West Warwick developed as an agricultural community and many of its farmsteads incorporated family graveyards. While many farms have disappeared with the advance of suburban development, the graveyards remain and can be found throughout the Town. These "hidden" graveyards are claimed by no one, and exist as private property. While theoretically protected from development, they are threatened by the development of adjacent land, vandalism, and neglect.

The Historical Society provides occasional maintenance for historic cemeteries, but finds that it is difficult to perform the extensive work on a regular basis with volunteers. While volunteer efforts have been attempted to clear sites of rubbish and overgrowth, these efforts cannot deal with the problems posed by headstones, mausoleums, and walls damaged by vandals and the elements. The inventory indicates the sites of some known cemeteries and graveyards, but does not include so called "hidden" graveyards (i.e. sites for which records no longer exist). For the purposes of this discussion, these "hidden" sites should be treated like archaeological sites, needing protection but difficult to protect since they are in many cases not clearly defined as to location.

**Town Archives**
Historical Town archives are threatened to some extent in that while they are housed in the Historical Society offices, the area is not the optimal for storage of aging paper and other media. Loss of these valuable resources due to poor climate conditions is inevitable unless a suitable fire proof, climate controlled structure is found. The Historical Society is actively seeking a suitable site but budget constraints have limited their options.

Future options for a historical library/Historical Society/historical preservation commission headquarters include vacant mill space, the Phenix fire station or the Crompton Free Library. The library, while a National Register building, has limited parking area and difficult access. The Phenix fire station, housed in a structure which is over 100 years old, may be an ideal site, with available parking. This structure would require significant investment in terms of internal improvements to provide office and storage space. Should the Town relocate the Town Hall, consideration should be given to providing historical archive storage space within the Town Hall itself, as well as meeting space for the local historical organizations.
interdisciplinary efforts and bring them to the attention of the appropriate boards and commissions.

Archaeological resources are at risk in the absence of local authority to protect archaeological sites which have not been designated through an archaeological survey for State or Federal-archaeological resources are at risk in the absence of local authority to protect archaeologically significant, but currently listed on the Register. The loss of these sites and the lack of incentive for local action has hindered progress in a new road to power the Town has no means for identifying, protecting, and preserving the historical significance of these sites. The Town should consider its historical resources as an economic asset to the community.

The Town should consider its historical resources and the effect development has on the integrity and cultural value of the Town. The Town's historic resources, buildings and commissions on the conservation of historical resources, and the Town's historic resources, buildings and commissions on the conservation of historical resources, and the Town's historic resources, buildings and commissions on the conservation of historical resources, and the Town's historic resources, buildings and commissions on the conservation of historical resources.

The Town should examine the possibility of establishing an Historic Preservation Commission and creating a historic district zoning. The Town should examine the possibility of establishing an Historic Preservation Commission and creating a historic district zoning. The Town should examine the possibility of establishing an Historic Preservation Commission and creating a historic district zoning. The Town should examine the possibility of establishing an Historic Preservation Commission and creating a historic district zoning.
V.3 Goals, Policies and Implementation Actions

The ultimate goal of this Plan is to preserve and protect the natural, historical, cultural and archaeological resources and heritage of the Town of West Warwick. The following goals, policies and implementation actions lead to the achievement of this vision.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>V. Natural &amp; Cultural Resource Goals</th>
<th>Policies</th>
<th>Implementation Actions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. To ensure that current and future development does not adversely affect natural or cultural resources of West Warwick, and that environmentally sensitive areas are protected.</td>
<td>a. Encourage new development which is designed sympathetically to site topography, watercourses and waterbodies, and unique natural features of the site.</td>
<td>1. Amend the Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations to require that developments be designed to blend with the natural surroundings of a site, and harmonize with the natural features of the area.</td>
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<td>2. Use of a particular site should be compatible with adjacent land uses.</td>
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<td>3. Amend the Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations to require that building height, materials, setback from the street and landscaping harmonize with neighboring structures.</td>
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<td>4. Amend the Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations to require that buildings, signs and parking areas do not block vistas from roads and other public areas.</td>
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<td>5. Amend the Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations to require that roads follow the contours of the site, and the natural assets of the site are preserved.</td>
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<td>6. Amend the Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations to require that roads in subdivisions use curves and cul-de-sacs to improve the visual quality of the subdivision, increase privacy and reduce unnecessary noise and traffic.</td>
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<td>7. Amend the Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations to require that residential areas be separated from major roadways, commercial and manufacturing areas by vegetated buffer areas.</td>
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11. Undergo a different process to obtain an.

10. A new plan to manage connected to require a new.

9. Promote the use of.

8. Enforce creative use of property.

7. Ensure consistent decision-making and avoidance of.

6. Promote the use of.

5. Ensure consistency in the.

4. Maintain integrity.

3. Ensure consistent
decisions.

2. Implement policies.

1. Promote the use of.

Resource Goals

Cultural Resource

Chapter 4

Natural Resources
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<td>b. Flood zones will continue to be protected from intensive development for the safety and protection of residents and the environment.</td>
<td>1. 100-year flood zones will be reserved for open space, recreation or agricultural purposes where possible. Areas flooded only rarely may be considered for limited development with adequate precautions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>c. Wetlands will be maintained in their current state to the extent possible as critical elements of groundwater recharge, wildlife habitat, flood storage and recreation.</td>
<td>1. Wetlands will not be filled or built upon where reasonable avoidance measures may be taken. A permit must be obtained from the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management for any wetland alteration.</td>
<td>2. Wetland areas will be excluded from zoning density calculations in standard subdivisions, cluster subdivisions, multifamily developments and nonresidential developments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>d. Sloping land (15%+ slope) is regarded as prohibitive to most standard construction.</td>
<td>1. Site design for locations sloping more than 15 percent will be required to comprehensively address such slope conditions.</td>
<td>2. Require drainage basin, subcatchment area and drainage system analysis and design for the two year and 100-year storm by a registered professional engineer, and require system designs to meter stormwater runoff at predevelopment rates.</td>
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<td>e. The existing quality of surface water bodies will be maintained and improved.</td>
<td>1. Mitigate water quality impacts of stormwater runoff and provide for drainage controls in all new development. Post-construction site runoff will not exceed pre-construction runoff.</td>
<td>2. Acquire or otherwise protect land around Flat Top Pond and Matteson Pond toward achieving improved water quality and providing additional recreational opportunities.</td>
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<td>f. Continue to work toward reducing stream and river pollution to levels set in the State’s stream classification plan, particularly in relation to the Pawtuxet River.</td>
<td>1. Work with the surrounding communities to eliminate pollution of the Pawtuxet River from stormwater drainage systems.</td>
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<td>Implementation Actions</td>
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<td>Management of Wetland</td>
<td>Resource Goals</td>
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<td>Wetland Management</td>
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<td>2. To preserve biological diversity by identifying, preserving and managing state and federally-listed rare, endangered and threatened plant and animal species and unique natural communities.</td>
<td>a. Wildlife and vegetation, inclusive of mature trees, are considered important natural and economic resources to be preserved.</td>
<td>1. Coordinate with the Rhode Island Natural Heritage Program on a regular basis to determine sensitive habitat locations.</td>
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<td>2. Develop a series of protection and management recommendations for each identified habitat location in coordination with the Rhode Island Natural Heritage Program.</td>
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<td>3. Include the Rhode Island Natural Heritage Program staff in consultation on development proposals which may potentially impact an identified site.</td>
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<td>3. All salt piles and sand/salt mixtures will be enclosed.</td>
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<td>4. The State and Town highway departments will minimize their use of road salt in winter road maintenance.</td>
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<td>5. Ensure that the Town's lakes, ponds, rivers and streams meet the water pollution levels set in the State's water quality classification plan.</td>
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<td>6. Land disturbance during construction will be minimized, and natural vegetation left intact to the greatest extent possible. If natural vegetation is removed, the area will be revegetated as soon as possible.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Support measures which reduce vehicle pollution levels.</td>
<td>Natural and Cultural Resources Goals</td>
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<td>2. Require the new commercial and industrial development to exceed national clean air standards.</td>
<td>Cultural Resource Goals</td>
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<td>3. Lobby adjacent communities to ensure a quick address to potential air quality problems within their boundaries.</td>
<td>Natural &amp; Cultural Resource Goals</td>
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<td>4. Establish a West Warwick historic district.</td>
<td>Historic Preservation Districts</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Provide the HDC with a maintenance and storage space.</td>
<td>Local Historic Districts</td>
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<td>3. Provide the HDC with a suitable operating building.</td>
<td>Local Historic Districts</td>
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<td>4. Through the HDC, grant Conditional Local Resources.</td>
<td>Local Historic Districts</td>
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<td>5. Procure the HDC by a suitable operating building.</td>
<td>Local Historic Districts</td>
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- To carry out preservation activities needed to protect government (CLG) sites, CLG site's allows governmental (CLG) activities, etc. |
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<td>b. Establish the necessary land use regulations to provide protection to the Town's historic sites, structures and artifacts.</td>
<td></td>
<td>1. The Planning Board, working with the HDC, will review historic district zoning regulations of other communities, designate those areas of the community which will be targeted for such preservation efforts and after holding required public hearing(s), prepare legislation to permit historic district zoning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. The Town Planner, Planning Board, Town Council, HDC and others as appropriate, will cooperatively prepare design guidelines for adoption as part of the historic district regulations to enforce the purposes of historic district zoning.</td>
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<td>3. Establish a site plan review process for large scale residential single family, multifamily developments, commercial and industrial developments.</td>
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<td>4. Establish an environmental review process within the subdivision regulations and site plan review process (once established) which will permit the Planning Board to request an on-site archaeological investigation if the State Archaeologist indicates there is potential for an archaeological site on the premises.</td>
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<td>4. Establish an environmental review process within the subdivision regulations and site plan review process (once established) which will permit the Planning Board to request an on-site archaeological investigation if the State Archaeologist indicates there is potential for an archaeological site on the premises.</td>
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<td>5. Identify known archaeological sites on a Town base map in a generalized manner, i.e., twenty-acre radius around one or more sites so as not to pinpoint a particular site. Maintain this map as a resource in the Planning Department to let property owners know locations which may have archaeological sensitivity.</td>
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<td>5. Identify known archaeological sites on a Town base map in a generalized manner, i.e., twenty-acre radius around one or more sites so as not to pinpoint a particular site. Maintain this map as a resource in the Planning Department to let property owners know locations which may have archaeological sensitivity.</td>
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<td>6. The Town's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) assisted housing rehabilitation program and other housing programs administered by the Town will give priority to historic structures, and require compliance with historic district guidelines, if appropriate.</td>
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<tr>
<td>c. Ensure the physical preservation of existing historical archives.</td>
<td></td>
<td>1. Assist the Pawtuxet Valley Historical Preservation Society in providing suitable fireproof, climate-controlled space to archive historical Town records and materials.</td>
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<td>Implementation Actions</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Resource Goals</strong></td>
<td><strong>Natural &amp; Cultural Resources</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Preserve the Town's rich historical heritage</td>
<td>- Promote the Town's rich historical heritage</td>
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<td>2. Develop an adaptive reuse program for historic mill sites</td>
<td>- Preserve the Town's rich historical heritage</td>
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<td>3. Support the development of a network of historic trail routes</td>
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<td>4. Interpret and interpretive tours</td>
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<td>5. Local offices</td>
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<td>6. Economic development activities</td>
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<td>Archaeological Sites</td>
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<td>Other Programs as appropriate</td>
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<th>Chapter A</th>
<th>March, 1992</th>
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 NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES |

**CHAPTER A**

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<thead>
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<th>March, 1992</th>
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**NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES**

- Preserve the Town's rich historical heritage
- Support the development of a network of historic trail routes
- Interpret and interpretive tours
- Local offices
- Economic development activities
- Historic Places
- Archaeological Sites
- Other Programs as appropriate

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<td><strong>Natural &amp; Cultural Resources</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Preserve the Town's rich historical heritage</td>
<td>- Promote the Town's rich historical heritage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Develop an adaptive reuse program for historic mill sites</td>
<td>- Preserve the Town's rich historical heritage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Support the development of a network of historic trail routes</td>
<td>- Support the development of a network of historic trail routes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Interpret and interpretive tours</td>
<td>- Interpret and interpretive tours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Local offices</td>
<td>- Local offices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Economic development activities</td>
<td>- Economic development activities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES**

- Preserve the Town's rich historical heritage
- Support the development of a network of historic trail routes
- Interpret and interpretive tours
- Local offices
- Economic development activities
- Historic Places
- Archaeological Sites
- Other Programs as appropriate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Implementation Actions</th>
<th>Policies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Resource Goals</strong></td>
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<td>- Local offices</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES**

- Preserve the Town's rich historical heritage
- Support the development of a network of historic trail routes
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- Local offices
- Economic development activities
- Historic Places
- Archaeological Sites
- Other Programs as appropriate
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>V. Natural &amp; Cultural Resource Goals</th>
<th>Policies</th>
<th>Implementation Actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5. Use the area's historical resources in promoting the revitalization of the Arctic business district. Provide the area with an appropriate historical streetscape with lighting, sign and awning guidelines and other amenities.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Review land use regulations to encourage preservation and reuse of historic mill structures. Modify such regulations to achieve this objective, if necessary.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Continue to encourage the appreciation of the distinct mill villages through a signing program.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Ensure the appropriate maintenance of historic cemeteries in the Town.</td>
<td>1. Establish a cemetery commission as a subcommittee of the HDC which would oversee maintenance of historic cemeteries, assess the cemeteries' general conditions, and provide information for people seeking genealogical information.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Fund an historic cemetery maintenance program. A budget item for historic cemetery maintenance will be set through the HDC.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>g. Promote inter-office and inter-agency coordination and and cooperation in historical preservation activities.</td>
<td>1. Once established, the HDC will receive agenda material from the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Review. Members of the HDC are encouraged to attend Planning and Zoning Board meetings and to testify on matters affecting historical and archaeological resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>h. Ensure that historically significant sites and structures are identified and recognized.</td>
<td>1. Work with the HPC to determine the potential of the Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Saints Peter and Paul Church, the Carr-LeValley house, and the Spencer house on Maple Street for inclusion in the National Register.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2. Provide technical assistance to HPC to secure the National Register listing of the Fairview Avenue Historic District.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
with promoting its recreational resources for economic development purposes. West Warwick's newly developed marine harbor will also enhance the town's role in meeting and other similar purposes.

3. Preserve the town's rich historical heritage to attract tourism and other visitors.

- The purposes of preserving the town's historic sites, structures, and artifacts:
- Establish historic district zoning regulations with distinct guidelines for each.
- Preserve to preserve the town's historic sites, structures, and artifacts.
- Establish a municipal board/commission to develop the regulations.

I. Considered the order of priority:
- and other with similar consultants. As building consultants, the following order to be considered:
- Any activities can be implemented concurrently, some with volunteers, efforts by town staff.
- In recognition of the importance of preservation and providing the means by which these activities can be achieved, protection, the town needs to develop an organized implementation.

II. Priorities for Addressing Historical and Cultural Issues:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policies</th>
<th>Resource Goals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Provide public education on history and culture.</td>
<td>A. Natural Cultural Heritage Resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Enhance the public's awareness of local history.</td>
<td>West Warwick's understanding of its historical past and future development.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Form a coalition of local preservation interests.</td>
<td>5. To promote an appreciation for the importance of preserving historic resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town's schools: methods to teach about local history in the classroom.</td>
<td>4. Resource Goals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools and other local partners who wish to be part.</td>
<td>1. Preparing and integrating programs on the local society.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- and other with similar consultants. As building consultants, the following order to be considered:
- Any activities can be implemented concurrently, some with volunteers, efforts by town staff.
- In recognition of the importance of preservation and providing the means by which these activities can be achieved, protection, the town needs to develop an organized implementation.

In recognition of the above, the town should have two initial priorities: making the public aware of the development pressures posed by the town's historic areas and ensuring that these areas are protected and preserved.

March 1992

CHAPTER A

Natural and Cultural Resources
4. Coordinate recreational opportunities along the Pawtuxet River with interpretive programs on the Town's heritage.

Expansion of the Phenix-Harris Riverwalk is a good opportunity to initiate this type of program.

5. Expand the Town's knowledge and documentation of historical and archaeological sites and structures.

Expansion of the existing inventory of sites and structures should be encouraged as an activity of the HDC and its coalition of preservation interest groups.

6. Ensure the physical preservation of existing historical archives.

Assembling the Town’s historic archives into a central location, fire-proof and climate controlled for long-term storage is critical. A complete inventory of archival material should be made and maintained in Town Hall.
use regulation and policy.

Finally, Figure 4 is the Future Land Use map adopted by the Town of West Warwick to guide land use development potential.

Figure 3 gives a geospatial distribution of parameters associated with soils as an indicator of soil quality. Figure 2 provides a generalized map indicating those areas where the most productive soils occur.

Table 1 was constructed for all fields with the exception of high-potential fields, which due to privacy are expressed in terms of overall intensity, bins, and polygons, attaining bay grass.

The Town of West Warwick has conducted an analysis of "best farming" within its jurisdiction.

Analysis

Its best farming, for active agricultural purposes, is included as policy under Element 152. "Proclamation of Proceedings Open Space and Critical Resources" in the "Proclamation of Proceedings Open Space and Critical Resources" by the Director of the Department of Environmental Protection, June 1992 as adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection.

Agricultural lands

Correlation and other concerns in physical, social, and economic issues. Specific and public sections within this framework of policies and programs and advise the private and public sectors within this framework of policies and programs for the state's comprehensive activities of the Rhode Island Department of Administration.

Legal: Chapter 4-2 of the General Laws establishes the statewide Planning Program.

Supplement E
**Strategies**

*Develop site design guideline provision* for those undeveloped areas identified as having valuable agricultural soils. The site design guidelines would encourage development proposals which cluster building and infrastructure placement on parcels in order to preserve the maximum feasible natural surface. As a result, rural open space preservation would be encouraged on privately owned, developed parcels.

Work toward amending the Subdivision and Land Development regulations to include a site review requirement whereby developers of agriculturally sensitive lands address ways in which they propose preserving such lands as part of the overall development scheme.

For areas specified as valuable agricultural soils, promote through the site plan review process the establishment of conservation easements in the recording of plats.

Pursue purchase of development rights and open space acquisition in perpetuity for prime agricultural parcels. Participate in the Rhode Island Heritage Commission's Open Space Bonding program.
## Table 1

### Soils for Crop and Pasture

**Crop Yield Tonnages by Soil Name**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Soil</th>
<th>Sweet Corn</th>
<th>Corn Silage</th>
<th>Alfalfa Hay</th>
<th>Grass/Legume Hay</th>
<th>Grass Hay</th>
<th>Pasture</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agawarm</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>51.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agawarn</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>39.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birchwood</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>117.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridgehampton</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>103.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadbrook</td>
<td>13.5</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>146.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canton</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>14.5</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>24.5</td>
<td>37.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deerfield</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>112.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enfield</td>
<td>13.5</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>28.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hlneckley</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>37.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merrimac</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>109.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narragansett</td>
<td>13.5</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>104.50</td>
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<td>Newport</td>
<td>13.5</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>70.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ninigret</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>46.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paxton</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>49.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pittstown</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podunk</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poquonook</td>
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<td>32</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>78.00</td>
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<td>Quonset</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>28.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainbow</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raypol</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>39.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ridgebury</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>39.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Runney</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>48.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solo</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>37.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stillings</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>41.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sudbury</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>49.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sutton</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>47.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tisbury</td>
<td>5.5</td>
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<td>3.5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>46.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walpole</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wapping</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>49.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Windsor</td>
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<td>2.5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>31.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodbridge</td>
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<td>48</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>97.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Devonport Group B-Slate Group Consists of a black fertile clay with a layer of dark, organic material near the surface. It is classified as an organic soil type, Wu-91.

Devonport Group C-Steep slopes in excess of 15 percent.

Devonport Group D-Skaltsaiu high water table from 3.5 to 7.5 feet below the surface. Green, mottled, and wet. Farmland.

Devonport Group E-Recent deposits of gravel and sand on a levee.

**Soil Quality**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>A non-agricultural soil determined by visual and physical examination of the soil.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>The soil is not suitable for agriculture due to the presence of gravel and sand.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>The soil is not suitable for agriculture due to the presence of gravel and sand.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Soil Type**

- **Soil-Name**: Wu-91
- **Soil-Num**: Wu-91
- **Develop**: Yes
- **Score**: 2
- **Drainage**: Poor
- **Bedrock**: slate
- **C-Perm**: slate
- **Resist**: normal
- **Sepctic**: normal
- **Corrosion**: normal
- **Hydro-Group**: Not applicable

**Attributes**

- Texture: Moderately fine.
- Acidity: pH 6.7.
- Electrical Conductivity: 0.7 mS/cm.
- Organic Carbon: 2.5%.
- Moisture Content: 13.5%.
- Temperature: 15°C.

**Summary**

- The Devonport Group B-Slate Group is a black fertile clay with a layer of dark, organic material near the surface. It is classified as an organic soil type, Wu-91. The soil is not suitable for agriculture due to the presence of gravel and sand. The soil is moderately fine, with a pH of 6.7 and a moisture content of 13.5%.
### Soil Slope Groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Slope Group No.</th>
<th>Percent Slope Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>0-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>0-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>0-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>0-15</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>0-25</td>
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<td>0-35</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>0-50</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>3-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>3-15</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>8-15</td>
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<tr>
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<td>15-25</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>15-35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>25-65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Water Table Depths

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group No.</th>
<th>Depth To Water Table (ft.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>+ 1.0 - 0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>+ 1.0 - 0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>+ 1.0 - 1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>+ 0.5 - 1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.0 - 1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.0 - 1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>1.5 - 3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>&gt; 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>&gt; 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>Too variable to rate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Soil Permeability Groupings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group No.</th>
<th>Permeability Range (in./hr.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>&lt; 0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.2 - 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.6 - 2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.5 - 0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.6 - 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>2.0 - 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>2.0 - 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>&gt; 2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>6 - 20</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>&gt; 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>&gt; 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>Too variable to rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>&lt; 0.2 or 0.6-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>&lt; 0.2 or Too variable to rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>0.6 - 2.0 or 0.6-6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>0.6 - 2.0 or Too variable to rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>0.6 - 6.0 or Too variable to rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>0.6 - 6.0 or 2.0-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>2.0 - 6.0 or Too variable to rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>0.6 - 6.0 or &gt; 2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>0.6 - 2.0 or 6-20</td>
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<td>21</td>
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<td>22</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>6 - 20 or &gt;20</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>6 - 20 or Too variable to rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>&gt;6 or &gt;20</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

http://www.edc.uri.edu/rigis-spf/Metadata/Soils/soilat.html
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bedrock Values</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>% Surface Covered by Outcrops</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extremely Stony</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10 - 35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Stony</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2 - 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stony</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0 - 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Descriptive Name</td>
<td>Code</td>
<td>% Surface Covered</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Stoniness**