

**MAINE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
HIGHWAY PROGRAM  
GEOTECHNICAL SECTION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

**GEOTECHNICAL DESIGN REPORT**

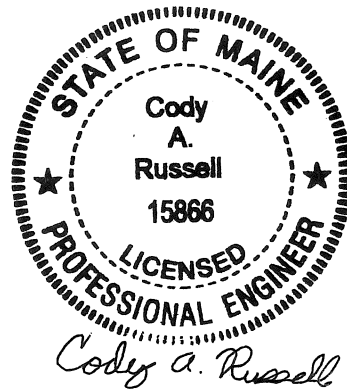
*For the Replacement of*

**LARGE CULVERT #228492  
ROUTE 127  
WOOLWICH, MAINE**

*Prepared by:*

Yueh-Ti Lee

Assistant Geotechnical Engineer



*Reviewed by:*

Cody Russell, P.E.

Senior Geotechnical Engineer

## **PROJECT DETAILS**

The purpose of this Geotechnical Design Report is to present subsurface information and make geotechnical design and construction recommendations for the replacement of an existing large culvert (#228492) consisting of a 72-inch diameter, 50-foot long aluminum pipe on Route 127 in Woolwich. The existing culvert is in poor condition and needs replacement both from an infrastructure and environmental standpoint. The culvert is located approximately 0.90 of a mile north of the Old Stage Road as shown in the attached Location Map. Route 127 is a Highway Corridor Priority 4 road.

The proposed replacement structure will be an 84-inch diameter, 88-foot long polymer coated corrugated steel pipe culvert. The invert of the proposed culvert is approximately 11.9 feet below the existing road grade at the roadway centerline. The roadway embankment slopes at the proposed culvert inlet and outlet shall be no steeper than 2H:1V to protect against erosion.

## **SUBSURFACE INVESTIGATION**

One (1) boring (HB-WOO-101) and three (3) probes (HB-WOO-102, HB-WOO-103, and HB-WOO-104) were drilled for this project on September 6, 2023 by the MaineDOT drill crew using a trailer-mounted drill rig. Exploration locations are shown on the attached Boring Location Plan & Interpretive Subsurface Profile. Details and sampling methods used, field data obtained, and soil and groundwater conditions encountered are shown on the attached Boring Logs.

Boring HB-WOO-101 was drilled using solid stem auger, cased wash boring, and rock core drilling techniques. Soil samples were obtained in boring HB-WOO-101 at 5-foot intervals using Standard Penetration Test (SPT) methods. The MaineDOT drill rig is equipped with an automatic hammer to drive the split spoon. The MaineDOT calibrated automatic hammer delivers approximately 51 percent more energy during driving than the standard rope and cathead system. All N-values discussed in this report are corrected values ( $N_{60}$ ) computed by applying an average energy transfer factor of 0.906 to the raw field N-values. Probes HB-WOO-102, HB-WOO-103, and HB-WOO-104 were drilled using solid stem auger drilling techniques. No soil samples were obtained in the probes.

The MaineDOT Geotechnical Team member selected the boring and probes locations, drilling methods, designated type and depth of sampling, reviewed field logs for accuracy and identified field and laboratory testing requirements. A NorthEast Transportation Training and Certification (NETTCP) certified Subsurface Investigator logged the subsurface conditions encountered. The boring and probe were located in the field by taping to surveyed site features after completion of the drilling program.

## **LABORATORY TESTING**

A laboratory testing program was conducted to assist in soil classification, evaluation of engineering properties of the soils and geologic assessment of the project site. Laboratory testing consisted of three (3) standard grain size analyses with natural water content. The results of the

laboratory testing program are discussed in the following section and are shown on the attached Boring Logs, Laboratory Testing Summary Sheet, and Grain Size Distribution Curve sheet.

**SUBSURFACE CONDITIONS**

Subsurface conditions encountered in the test boring and probes were generally fill consisting of gravelly sand and sand underlain by glacial till consisting of sand underlain by bedrock. An interpretive subsurface profile depicting the generalized soil stratigraphy at the boring location is shown on the attached Boring Location Plan & Interpretive Subsurface Profile.

Boring HB-WOO-101 was drilled to refusal at a depth of approximately 12.6 feet below ground surface (bgs). Bedrock was cored in the boring for a total boring depth of approximately 17.6 feet bgs. Probes HB-WOO-102, HB-WOO-103, and HB-WOO-104 were drilled to depths of approximately 11.8 feet, 16.7 feet, and 14.0 feet bgs, respectively, where a refusal surface was encountered. The exact nature of the refusal surface was not determined in the probes.

The table below summarizes the field and laboratory information obtained in boring HB-WOO-101:

Approx. Depth BGS <sup>1</sup> (feet)	Soil Description	AASHTO <sup>2</sup> Classification	USCS <sup>3</sup>	WC% <sup>4</sup>
0.0 – 1.0	HMA Pavement	--	--	--
1.0 – 12.0	Fill: Brown, damp, gravelly fine to coarse sand, trace silt.	A-1-b	SW-SM	3.2
	Brown, damp, fine to coarse sand, some silt, some gravel. Boulder from 10.0 feet to 11.6 feet bgs.	A-2-4	SM	10.4
	Till: Grey, wet, fine to coarse sand, some silt, some gravel.	A-2-4	SM	21.3
12.6 – 17.6	Bedrock	--	--	--

<sup>1</sup>BGS = below ground surface

<sup>2</sup>AASHTO = American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials

<sup>3</sup>USCS = Unified Soil Classification System

<sup>4</sup>WC% = Water content in percent

Two (2) N<sub>60</sub>-values obtained in the fill were 20 blows per foot (bpf) and 26 bpf, indicating that the fill is medium dense in consistency. No N<sub>60</sub>-values were obtained in the glacial till.

Bedrock or a refusal surface was encountered at elevations ranging from approximately 36.3 feet to 41.5 feet in the vicinity of the proposed culvert. The approximate elevations of the top of bedrock or a refusal surface encountered at the boring and probe locations are shown in the attached Boring Logs.

The bedrock consists of interbedded pelite and sandstone of the Cape Elizabeth Formation. The Rock Quality Designation (RQD) of the bedrock was 72%, correlating to a Rock Quality of Fair.

Groundwater was not recorded in boring and probes. Groundwater levels can be expected to fluctuate subject to seasonal variations, local soil conditions, topography, precipitation, and construction activity.

## **GEOTECHNICAL DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION RECOMMENDATIONS**

The following sections discuss geotechnical recommendations for the design and construction of the proposed polymer-coated corrugated steel pipe culvert.

**Polymer-Coated Corrugated Steel Pipe Culvert Design and Construction** – The proposed replacement structure will consist of a 84-inch diameter, 88-foot long polymer-coated corrugated steel pipe culvert. The proposed structure inlet and outlet slopes shall be riprapped with slopes no steeper than 2H:1V to protect against erosion. The proposed polymer-coated corrugated steel pipe culvert shall be designed and constructed in accordance with MaineDOT Standard Specification 603. The invert of the proposed polymer-coated corrugated steel pipe culvert ranges from approximately 42.19 feet at the inlet end to approximately 40.62 feet at the outlet end with a slope of approximately 1.7%.

The full nature of the proposed culvert bearing surface will not become evident until the culvert excavation is made. Any cobbles or boulders encountered in excess of 6 inches shall be removed and replaced with compacted Granular Borrow Material for Underwater Backfill or Crushed Stone  $\frac{3}{4}$ -Inch. The prepared subgrade shall be proof-rolled using a static roller to visually confirm the prepared subgrade is firm and stable. The exposed subgrade shall be free of ponded water so that bedding material placement and compaction can be completed in the dry.

The proposed structure shall be bedded on a 1-foot thick layer of Granular Borrow, Material for Underwater Backfill meeting the requirements of MaineDOT Standard Specification 703.19. The soil envelope and backfill shall consist of Standard Specification 703.19 - Granular Borrow with a maximum particle size of 4 inches. The granular borrow bedding and backfill material shall be placed in lifts of 6 to 8 inches loose measure and compacted to the manufacturer's specifications or, in the absence of manufacturer's specifications. The bedding and backfill soil shall be compacted to at least 92 percent of the AASHTO T-180 maximum dry density. All subgrade surfaces should be protected from construction traffic in order to limit disturbance.

**Bedrock Removal and Subgrade Preparation** – The approximate invert of the proposed culvert ranges from an elevation of 42.19 feet at the inlet to 40.62 feet at the outlet. Constructing the culvert at this elevation may require removal of bedrock. The need for and depth of weathered bedrock removal will vary over the length of the polymer-coated corrugated steel pipe culvert. The bottom elevation of the excavation shall take into account the wall thickness of the culvert bottom and the required 1-foot layer of bedding material. The boring indicates that the Rock Quality of the bedrock is fair with a RQD of approximately 72 percent.

The bedrock surface shall be prepared in accordance with MaineDOT standard practices. The nature, slope, and degree of fracturing in the bedrock bearing surfaces will not be evident until the excavation from the polymer-coated corrugated steel pipe culvert is made. Construction activities should not be permitted to create any open fissures in the bedrock to remain. Any irregularities in the existing bedrock surface or irregularities created during the excavation process should be backfilled with crushed stone to the bottom of the required bedding material.

The Contractor shall remove any overburden soil and bedrock that can be removed using ordinary excavation equipment to expose the proposed bearing surface at the required elevation. The cleanliness and condition of the bedrock surface should be confirmed and accepted by the Resident prior to placing the structural bedding material. If soil is encountered at bedding material subgrade it shall be proof-rolled using multiple passes of a static roller to achieve a firm and stable surface for construction. Any cobbles, boulders, or loose bedrock encountered in excess of 6 inches shall be removed and replaced with compacted Granular Borrow Material for Underwater Backfill or Crushed Stone  $\frac{3}{4}$ -Inch.

Blasting shall be conducted in accordance with MaineDOT Standard Specifications Sections 105.2.7 and 203. The Contractor is required to conduct pre- and post-blast surveys, as well as blast vibrations monitoring at nearby structures in accordance with industry standards at the time of the blast.

It is anticipated that there will be seepage of water from fractures and joints exposed in the bedrock surface. Water should be controlled by pumping from sumps. The Contractor should maintain the excavation so that all work is completed in the dry.

**Settlement** – No settlement issues are anticipated at the site. The proposed polymer-coated corrugated steel pipe culvert is larger than the existing culvert and will result in a net unloading of the site soils at the proposed structure location. Placement of fill soils at the location of the existing structure is not anticipated to exceed the past loading condition of the site soils. Any settlement due to elastic compression of the bedding material will be immediate and negligible.

**Scour and Riprap** – Both the inlet and outlet of the polymer-coated corrugated steel pipe culvert shall be protected against scour with riprap conforming to MaineDOT Standard Specification Section 703.26 Plain and Hand Laid Riprap. The roadway embankment slopes at the proposed culvert inlet and outlet shall be no steeper than 2H:1V. No specific scour protection recommendations are needed other than armoring with riprap. The riprap on the slopes shall be underlain by a non-woven, Class 1 Erosion Control Geotextile meeting the requirements of MaineDOT Standard Specification 722.03 that is underlain by a 1-foot layer of protective aggregate cushion consisting of Granular Borrow Material for Underwater Backfill (703.19). The toe of the riprap sections shall be keyed into the existing soils 1 foot below the streambed elevation.

**Construction Considerations** – Construction activities will include construction of cofferdams and earth support systems to control stream flow during construction. Construction activities will also include common earth excavation. Construction of the corrugated metal pipe culvert will require soil excavation. Earth support systems shall be implemented if laying back slopes is not feasible. It is likely that the use of complex (four-sided) braced excavations with dewatering will

be necessary due to the depth of the excavation. If this is the case, adequate embedment into the native soils will be necessary to allow for the excavation and maintenance of a stable excavation bottom. All earth support systems shall be designed by a Professional Engineer licensed in the State of Maine. Regardless of the method of excavation, all excavations and earth support systems shall meet all applicable OSHA regulations.

The Contractor shall control groundwater and surface water infiltration using temporary ditches, sumps, granular drainage blankets, stone ditch protection or hand-laid riprap with geotextile underlayment to divert groundwater and surface water as needed to maintain a stable excavation and allow work in the dry.

Using the excavated native soils as backfill around the culvert shall not be permitted. The native soils may only be used as Common Borrow in accordance with MaineDOT Standard Specifications 203 and 703.

The Contractor will have to excavate the existing subbase and subgrade fill soils in the vicinity of the culvert. These materials should not be used to re-base the roadway. Excavated subbase sand and gravel may be used as fill below roadway subgrade level in fill areas provided all other requirements of MaineDOT Standard Specifications 203 and 703 are met.

## **CLOSURE**

This report has been prepared for the use of the MaineDOT Highway Program and their project design consultant for specific application to the proposed replacement of a large culvert (#228492) under Route 127 in Woolwich, Maine in accordance with generally accepted geotechnical and foundation engineering practices. No other intended use or warranty is expressed or implied.

In the event that any changes in the nature, design, or location of the proposed project are planned, this report should be reviewed by a geotechnical engineer to assess the appropriateness of the conclusions and recommendations and to modify the recommendations as appropriate to reflect the changes in design. These analyses and recommendations are based in part upon a limited subsurface investigation at discrete exploratory location completed at the site. If variations from the conditions encountered during the investigation appear evident during construction, it may also become necessary to re-evaluate the recommendations made in this report.

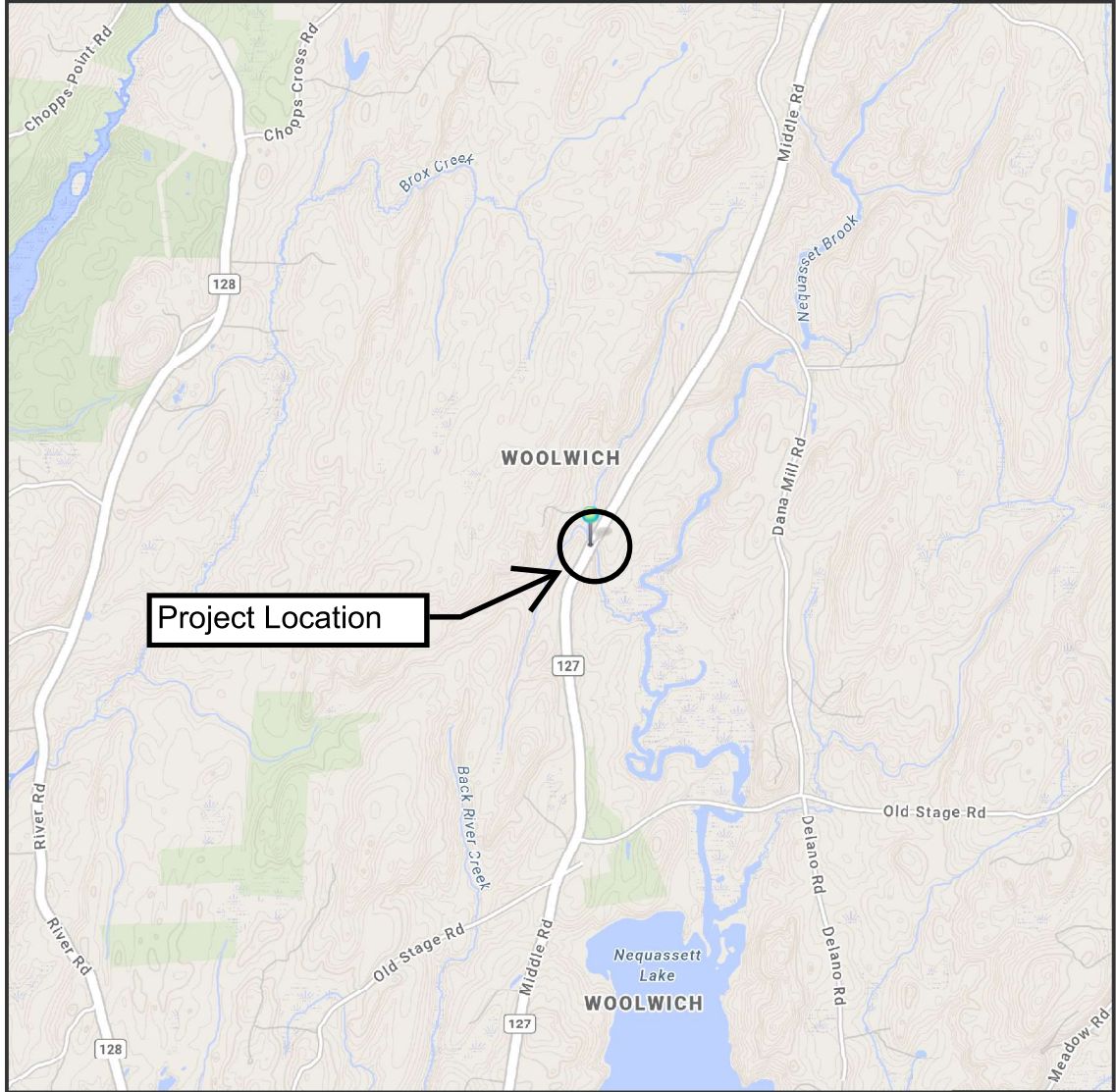
It is recommended that a geotechnical engineer be provided the opportunity for a review of the design and specifications in order that the earthwork and foundation recommendations and construction considerations presented in this report are properly interpreted and implemented in the design and specifications.

**Attachments:**

Location Map  
Boring Location Plan & Interpretive Subsurface Profile  
Key to Soil and Rock Descriptions and Terms  
Boring Logs  
Laboratory Testing Summary Sheet  
Grain Size Distribution Curve Sheet



# WOOLWICH, MAINE



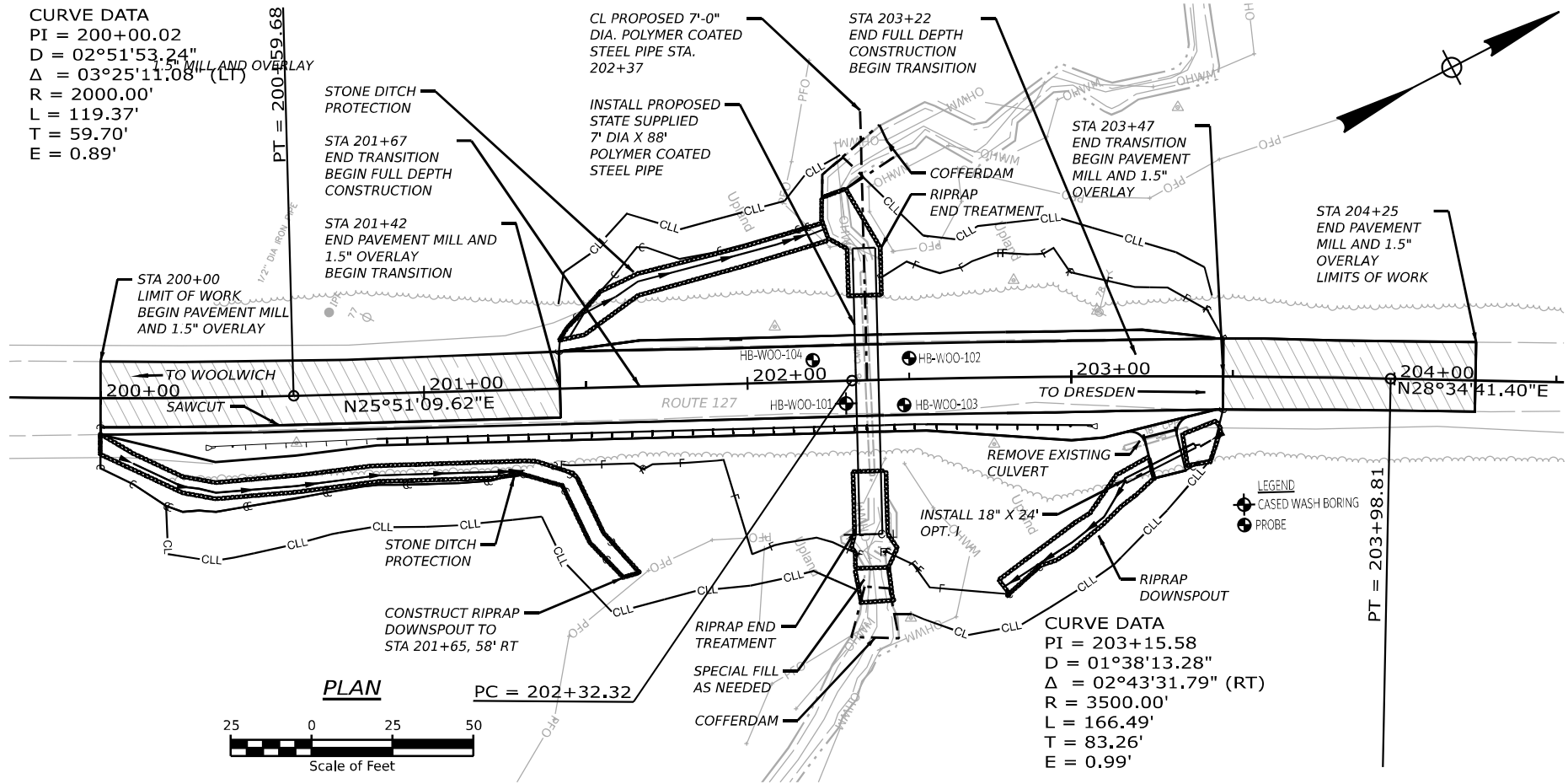
The Maine Department of Transportation provides this publication for information only. Reliance upon this information is at user risk. It is subject to revision and may be incomplete depending upon changing conditions. The Department assumes no liability if injuries or damages result from this information. This map is not intended to support emergency dispatch.

0.5 Miles  
1 inch = 0.57 miles

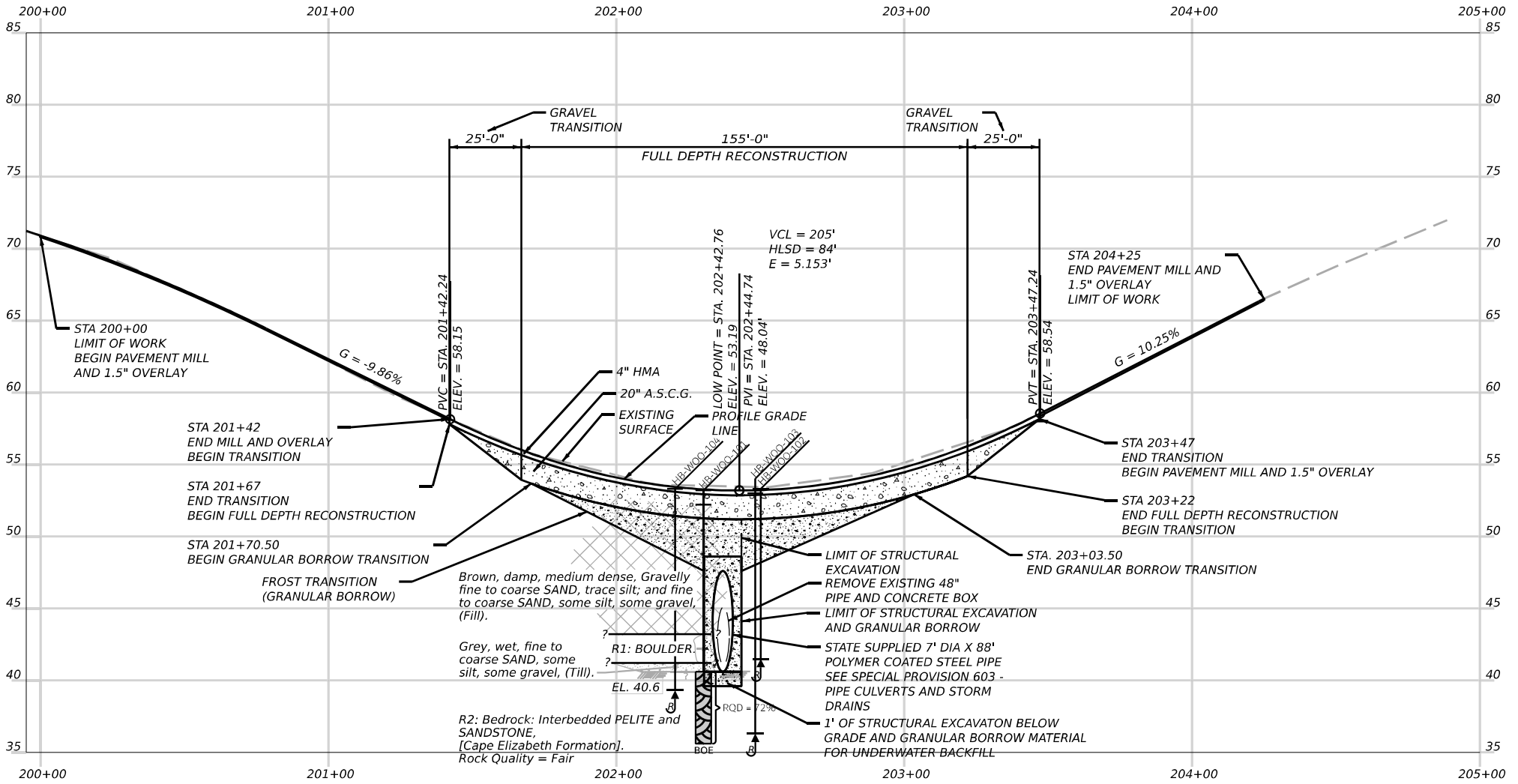
Date: 3/4/2026  
Time: 10:14:38 AM

<p>SHEET NUMBER</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; text-align: center;">1</p> <p>OF 2</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">WOOLWICH ROUTE 127</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">LOCATION MAP</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">WIN 027174.02      HIGHWAY PLANS</p>
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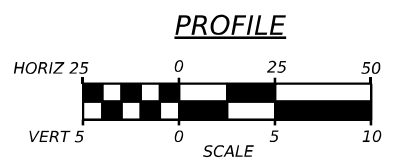
**CURVE DATA**  
 PI = 200+00.02  
 D = 02°51'53.24"  
 Δ = 03°25'11.08" (LT)  
 R = 2000.00'  
 L = 119.37'  
 T = 59.70'  
 E = 0.89'



**CURVE DATA**  
 PI = 203+15.58  
 D = 01°38'13.28"  
 Δ = 02°43'31.79" (RT)  
 R = 3500.00'  
 L = 166.49'  
 T = 83.26'  
 E = 0.99'



**LEGEND**  
 Weathered Bedrock, if applicable  
 Approximate Top of Bedrock  
 Bottom of Exploration  
 Pavement Thickness, if applicable  
 Rock Quality Designation of Bedrock Core Sample  
 NR = No Refusal  
 R = Refusal



Note: This generalized interpretive soil profile is intended to convey trends in subsurface conditions. The boundaries between strata are approximate and idealized, and have been developed by interpretations of widely spaced explorations and samples. Actual soil transitions may vary and are probably more erratic. For more specific information refer to the exploration logs.

STATE OF MAINE  
 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
 27174-02  
 WIN  
 027174.02  
 HIGHWAY PLANS

PROJ. MANAGER	BY	DATE
M. ROONEY	J. KELLY	03/02/26
CHECKED/REMOVED	J. WHITE	MAR 2026
DESIGNED/PALEOB		
REVISIONS 1		
REVISIONS 2		
REVISIONS 3		
REVISIONS 4		
FIELD CHANGES		

**WOOLWICH  
 ROUTE 127  
 BORING LOCATION PLAN &  
 INTERPRETIVE SUBSURFACE PROFILE**

**SHEET NUMBER**  
 2  
 OF 2



<b>Driller:</b> MaineDOT	<b>Elevation (ft.):</b> 53.2	<b>Auger ID/OD:</b> 5" Solid Stem
<b>Operator:</b> Daggett/Andrle	<b>Datum:</b> NAVD88	<b>Sampler:</b> Standard Split Spoon
<b>Logged By:</b> C. Russell	<b>Rig Type:</b> CME 45C	<b>Hammer Wt./Fall:</b> 140#/30"
<b>Date Start/Finish:</b> 9/6/2023; 08:30-10:30	<b>Drilling Method:</b> Cased Wash Boring	<b>Core Barrel:</b> NQ-2"
<b>Boring Location:</b> 202+30.3, 7.0 ft Rt.	<b>Casing ID/OD:</b> NW-3"	<b>Water Level*:</b> Hole caved at 7.4 ft bgs.

**Hammer Efficiency Factor:** 0.906      **Hammer Type:** Automatic     Hydraulic     Rope & Cathead

Definitions:      R = Rock Core Sample      S<sub>u</sub> = Peak/Remolded Field Vane Undrained Shear Strength (psf)      T<sub>v</sub> = Pocket Torvane Shear Strength (psf)  
 D = Split Spoon Sample      SSA = Solid Stem Auger      S<sub>u(lab)</sub> = Lab Vane Undrained Shear Strength (psf)      WC = Water Content, percent  
 MD = Unsuccessful Split Spoon Sample Attempt      HSA = Hollow Stem Auger      q<sub>p</sub> = Unconfined Compressive Strength (ksf)      LL = Liquid Limit  
 U = Thin Wall Tube Sample      RC = Roller Cone      N-uncorrected = Raw Field SPT N-value      PL = Plastic Limit  
 MU = Unsuccessful Thin Wall Tube Sample Attempt      WOH = Weight of 140lb. Hammer      Hammer Efficiency Factor = Rig Specific Annual Calibration Value      PI = Plasticity Index  
 V = Field Vane Shear Test,    PP = Pocket Penetrometer      WOR/C = Weight of Rods or Casing      N<sub>60</sub> = SPT N-uncorrected Corrected for Hammer Efficiency      G = Grain Size Analysis  
 MV = Unsuccessful Field Vane Shear Test Attempt      WO1P = Weight of One Person      N<sub>60</sub> = (Hammer Efficiency Factor/60%)\*N-uncorrected      C = Consolidation Test

Depth (ft.)	Sample Information							Elevation (ft.)	Graphic Log	Visual Description and Remarks	Laboratory Testing Results/ AASHTO and Unified Class.
	Sample No.	Pen./Rec. (in.)	Sample Depth (ft.)	Blows (/6 in.) Shear Strength (psf) or RQD (%)	N-uncorrected	N <sub>60</sub>	Casing Blows				
0								52.2	12" HMA.		
	1D	24/4	1.00 - 3.00	5/6/7/5	13	20		52.2	Brown, damp, medium dense, Gravelly fine to coarse SAND, trace silt, (Fill).	G#379654 A-1-b, SW-SM WC=3.2%	
5	2D	24/15	5.00 - 7.00	16/11/6/8	17	26			Brown, damp, medium dense, fine to coarse SAND, some silt, some gravel, (Fill).	G#379655 A-2-4, SM WC=10.4%	
10	R1	19.2/17	10.00 - 11.60					43.2	Auger REFUSAL at 10.0 ft bgs. Dropped in NW Casing. R1: BOULDER.		
								41.2	R1: Core Times (min:sec) 10.0-11.0 ft (1:07) dropped from 10.8-11.0 ft bgs. 11.0-11.6 ft (1:03)		
	3D R2	2.4/2.4 60/54	12.00 - 12.20 12.60 - 17.60	30(2.4") RQD = 72%	---	a30 NQ-2		40.6	a30 blows for 0.6 ft. Grey, wet, fine to coarse SAND, some silt, some gravel, (Till).	G#379656 A-2-4, SM WC=21.3%	
15								35.6	Top of Bedrock at Elev. 40.6 R2: Bedrock: Interbedded PELITE and SANDSTONE, [Cape Elizabeth Formation]. Rock Quality = Fair R2: Core Times (min:sec) 12.6-13.6 ft (2:02) 13.6-14.6 ft (2:07) 14.6-15.6 ft (2:57) 15.6-16.6 ft (3:14) 16.6-17.6 ft (2:53) 90% Recovery		
20									Bottom of Exploration at 17.6 feet below ground surface.		
25											

**Remarks:**





<b>Maine Department of Transportation</b> Soil/Rock Exploration Log US CUSTOMARY UNITS	<b>Project:</b> Route 127 Large Culvert Replacement  <b>Location:</b> Woolwich, Maine	<b>Boring No.:</b> HB-WOO-104  <b>WIN:</b> 27174.00
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<b>Drilling Contractor:</b> MaineDOT	<b>Elevation (ft.):</b> 53.3	<b>Auger ID/OD:</b> 5" Dia.
<b>Operator:</b> Daggett/Andrle	<b>Datum:</b> NAVD88	<b>Sampler:</b> N/A
<b>Logged By:</b> C. Russell	<b>Rig Type:</b> CME 45C	<b>Hammer Wt./Fall:</b> N/A
<b>Date Start/Finish:</b> 9/6/2023; 11:15-11:40	<b>Drilling Method:</b> Solid Stem Auger	<b>Core Barrel:</b> N/A
<b>Boring Location:</b> 202+20.4, 6.6 ft Lt.	<b>Casing ID/OD:</b> N/A	<b>Water Level*:</b> None Observed

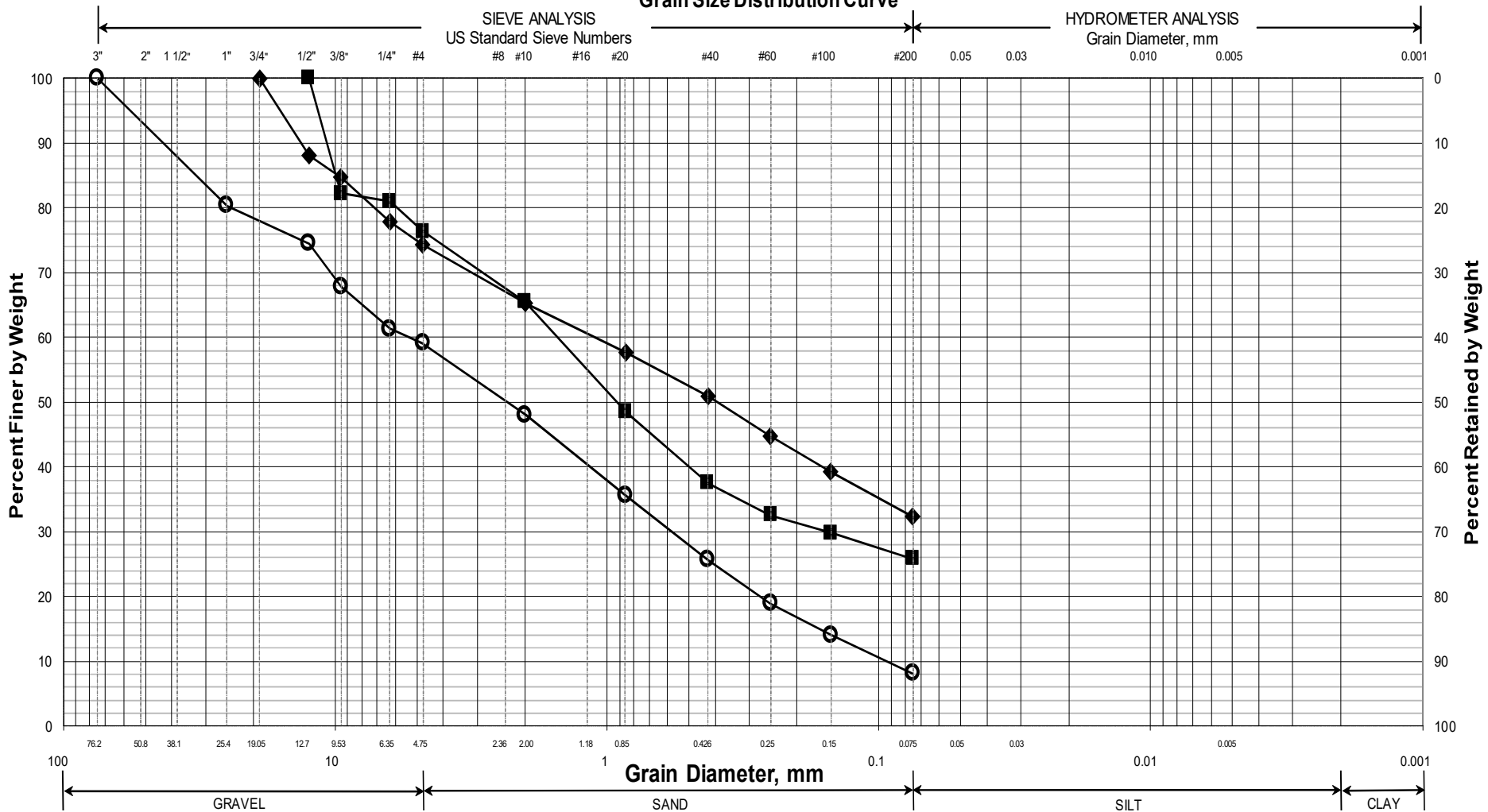
Definitions: D = Spilt Spoon Sample      MU = Unsuccessful Thin Wall Tube Sample Attempt      W01P = Weight of 1 Person  
 S = Sample off Auger Flights              R = Rock Core Sample                              S<sub>u</sub> = Peak/Remolded Field Vane Undrained Shear Strength (psf)  
 B = Bucket Sample off Auger Flights      SSA = Solid Stem Auger                              S<sub>u(lab)</sub> = Lab Vane Undrained Shear Strength (psf)      LL = Liquid Limit  
 MD = Unsuccessful Split Spoon Sample Attempt      HSA = Hollow Stem Auger                              q<sub>p</sub> = Unconfined Compressive Strength (ksf)      PL = Plastic Limit  
 U = Thin Wall Tube Sample                      RC = Roller Cone                                      N-value = Raw Field SPT N-value                      G = Grain Size Analysis  
 MV = Unsuccessful Field Vane Shear Test Attempt      WOH = Weight of 140lb. Hammer                      T<sub>v</sub> = Pocket Torvane Shear Strength (psf)  
 V = Field Vane Shear Test, PP= Pocket Penetrometer      WOR/C = Weight of Rods or Casing                      WC = Water Content, percent      ≐ = Similar or Equal too                      C = Consolidation Test

Depth (ft.)	Sample Information								Visual Description and Remarks	Laboratory Testing Results/ AASHTO and Unified Class.
	Sample No.	Pen./Rec. (in.)	Sample Depth (ft.)	Blows (/6 in.) Shear Strength (psf) or RQD (%)	N-value	Casing Blows	Elevation (ft.)	Graphic Log		
0						SSA			Probe, no material samples taken.	
5										
10										
15								39.3	<b>Bottom of Exploration at 14.0 feet below ground surface.</b> Auger REFUSAL	14.0
20										
25										

**Remarks:**



## Maine Department of Transportation Grain Size Distribution Curve



UNIFIED CLASSIFICATION

	Boring/Sample No.	Station	Offset, ft	Depth, ft	Description	WC, %	LL	PL	PI
○	HB-WOO-101/1D	202+30.3	7.0 RT	1.0-3.0	Gravelly SAND, trace silt.	3.2			
◆	HB-WOO-101/2D	202+30.3	7.0 RT	5.0-7.0	SAND, some silt, some gravel.	10.4			
■	HB-WOO-101/3D	202+30.3	7.0 RT	12.0-12.2	SAND, some silt, some gravel.	21.3			
●									
▲									
×									

WIN
027174.02
Town
Woolwich
Reported by/Date
WHITE, TERRY A      1/30/2026