

July 10, 2019

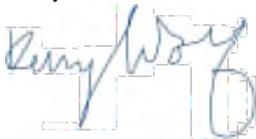
### **Phase III Archaeology Update**

We have opened 17 test units as of this week. 14 of those are complete and we have three that are currently active. We are projecting to be completed with this portion of the work by the end of next week (as long as the weather cooperates!). Many of our test units have been placed within the trail corridor and we have been able to help advise Carver County Parks and WSB on the best placement of the trail to help avoid some of the major archaeological features on the island. Two of the test units we opened were located within the landscaped backyard of a former private cabin. We were able to identify the remains of the clay sewer pipe. As we recreate the historic landscape in the lab this winter through the artifacts that are recovered we can place findings like the sewer pipe within the bigger picture of the island and begin to answer research questions.

As we have been working, a crew has been clearing the vegetation in preparation for the trail construction. This work has helped us to see archaeological features that we had not been able to see before. For example, the northwest point, called Amblard's Point, was once heavily landscaped with garden beds and rock walls. Some of these rock walls became more apparent after the vegetation has been cleared.

Artifacts being recovered still include precontact material (stone from making tools, pottery fragments, and animal and fish bone) and historic material (glass, metal nails, metal cans, and ceramics). These artifacts and other data we are collecting during this excavation will be analyzed further over the winter where we will be able to put more of the historic puzzle pieces together and build on the Coney Island historical narrative.

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