

NITHPO

Narragansett Indian Tribal Historic Preservation Office

4425 A South County Trail
Charlestown, RI 02813



19 June 2013

Nancy Mc Shea, Recreation Director
RECREATION DEPARTMENT
TOWN OF WAYLAND
41 COCHITUATE ROAD, Wayland, Massachusetts 01778-269

Re: Request for Ceremonial Stone Landscape survey

Greetings, Director Mc Shea:

The Narragansett Indian Tribal Historic Preservation Office (NITHPO) is honored to assist the Wayland Recreation Department with its request for a ceremonial stone landscape survey at the 8.4 acre Loker Recreation area.

Ceremonial stone landscapes are ancient Tribal traditional cultural places (TCPs). Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, once surveyed (stone groupings identified and their bounds confirmed), they may be confirmed at the federal level. At this point the National Register requires Tribal verification of the cultural resource in order for it to receive a "determination of eligibility" for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. Certified by the National Park Service as a Tribal Historic Preservation Office, NITHPO frequently offers its verification expertise on federally permitted projects. For the past six years, we have worked with a group of survey specialists who have collaborated with Tribes to develop mapping techniques that serve the cultural needs of Regional Tribes in identifying and mapping Tribal Ceremonial Stone Landscapes. This group of specialists operates from the Technology Integration Group, Inc. (TIG) of Carlisle, MA. With TIG, NITHPO is currently completing surveys under US Army Corps of Engineers permits with Connecticut Light and Power and with National Grid in Rhode Island.

The TIG fee structure is currently set at \$16,000 per identified and surveyed ceremonial stone landscape. With Tribal consultation, TIG identifies initial stone groupings and then locates the outer bounds of the ceremonial landscape. The interior stone groupings are then mapped and all perceived topographical and astronomical alignments are identified. NITHPO would charge a 20% fee (\$3,200) for coordination the cultural components of the survey and providing the Tribal verifications. The ceremonial landscape identified at Loker may extend beyond the bounds of Loker. The above costs would cover the full survey and bounds identification and the delivery of a map and final report. For TIG's schedule availability and fee confirmation, please contact Tim Fohl, TIG President at (978) 371-0194 or tfoot@tigco.com.

Sincerely,

Doug Harris, Preservationist for Ceremonial Landscapes
Narragansett Indian Tribal Historic Preservation Office
(401) 474-5907; <dhnthpo@gmail.com>