

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (CULTURAL RESOURCES)
NORWALK RAILROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT
NORWALK, CONNECTICUT**

The State of Connecticut is replacing the 1896 railroad swing bridge over the Norwalk River in Norwalk, Connecticut. Historic properties affected by the project include the bridge itself, which is listed in the National Register; the high towers and other catenary structures; and smaller bridges and stone retaining walls that carry the elevated railway through downtown Norwalk, which are all components of the overall historic rail line. The project will also affect National Register-listed or potentially eligible historic districts adjacent to the right-of-way or to construction staging/access areas. The historic districts on both sides of the river are closely associated with the railroad and the bridge.



AHS is providing all cultural resource management-related services for the project, including identifying and evaluating impacts to historic resources affected by the replacement of the bridge and the removal of the high-tower catenary system. AHS identified and documented historic districts, buildings, bridges, and other above-ground resources that will be affected by the project, and also conducted archaeological testing of impact areas.

AHS is coordinating with consultants, local stakeholders, the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) and the State Historic Preservation Office (CT SHPO) to avoid or mitigate impacts to standing and archaeological cultural resources. In addition to addressing state and federal requirements in the EA/EIE, AHS prepared the cultural resources technical report and drafted the Memorandum of Agreement among the Federal Transit Administration, CTDOT, and CT SHPO.