



West Side Planning Inventory, Aquidneck Island, Rhode Island

CLIENT NAME

Aquidneck Island Planning Commission
(in conjunction with URI Coastal Resources Center)

REFERENCE CONTACT

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2003

MPS partnered with Newport Collaborative Architects, Inc. to provide GIS decision-making services for the Aquidneck Island Planning Commission's West Side Master Plan Task Force's *West Side Planning Inventory*.

MPS conducted the Aquidneck Island *Preferred Preservation Mapping (PPM)* project. All major social, environmental, infrastructure capacities and constraints were identified and integrated into the West Side GIS database for the 7.2 sq mile area. Using ESRI's Spatial Analyst a raster (or grid-based) analysis was performed on a 30 x 30-meter call basis.

Land use and natural resources were classified and rated into six resource areas; Water, Agricultural and Silvicultural, Coastal, Recreation, Cultural and Historical, and Biodiversity.

The *PPM* analysis supported a variety of planning and development uses. For example, the identification of areas important for preservation, those more suitable for development, areas with the least impact upon a particular resource or multiple resources, or areas that could take advantage of the resources and provide opportunities for development scenarios upon them. It also enabled decision-makers to compare and contrast the West Side Master Plan area to other environmentally significant areas on Aquidneck Island.

The PPM project received **First Place in the NEARC 2003 Map Poster Competition** at the 18th Annual North East ARC Users Group Conference, November 2003, Newport, Rhode Island.

