

## **2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION**



## **2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION**

### **2.1 Environmental Setting**

The project area is underlain by Fill land (Ft). Fill land consists of areas that have been filled with more than 0.6 meters (2.0 ft) of soil. Soils of this nature usually result from dredging or pumping from nearby bays or waterways (Figure 2). In some instances, soil has been transported from borrow pits (USDA 1974:18).

### **2.2 Land Use**

Evidence of extensive urban usage is found throughout the recommended project APE. Aboveground alterations such as sidewalks, buildings, electric and phone line utilities, parking lots, streets, and other evidence of modern improvements are found throughout the recommended project APE (Photograph 1). Below the ground, a variety of utility lines, including sewer, water, electric, communications and stormwater runoff, traverse the length of Southwest Front Street and the recommended project APE (Photograph 2).

Located in the downtown commercial section of Milford, the recommended project APE is surrounded by an assortment of mid-nineteenth- to mid-twentieth-century brick warehouses and commercial businesses on the south side of the river. A mixture of late-eighteenth- to early-nineteenth-century brick and frame historic residential dwellings are found on the north side of the river in the viewshed of the recommended project APE. While the Mispillion River is not a navigable waterway at the project location, it does serve as a recreational fishing area and scenic waterway. Evidence of bulkheads, pilings, and landfill along the waterfront testify to the urban encroachment upon the river. The recommended project APE is adjacent to a large asphalt municipal parking lot that serves the downtown shopping district and adjacent office building (Photograph 3).



**Photograph 1:** Aboveground utilities along Southwest Front Street at south end of recommended project APE, view looking south (September 2001).



**Photograph 2:** Drains emptying into river, view looking north (September 2001).



**Photograph 3:** Parking lot adjacent to recommended project APE, view looking north (September 2001).