

From: [Martin, Tracy](#)
To: [Galloway, Jackie A](#)
Cc: [Shepherd, Rebecca E.](#)
Subject: Excess ROW I-85 near Locust Grove-Spartanburg
Date: Friday, November 15, 2019 11:04:00 AM
Attachments: [ExcessROW-I-85 near Locust Grove-SpartanburgCo Project Map.pdf](#)

Jackie,

The proposed undertaking involves the sale, or transfer, of two parcels totaling approximately 9.25 acres in size and located between Interstate 85 (Joe Griffin Expressway), Daytona Drive, and Locust Grove Road in Spartanburg County. I have reviewed the proposed excess right-of-way (ROW) location in ArchSite, Google Earth, USGS Web Soil Survey, and the SCDOT plans library, as well as examined historical topographic and soil maps, and historic aerial photographs that show the location.

According to the Spartanburg County tax records, SCDOT acquired the property in 1999. A cultural resources background review indicated that the northwestern boundary of proposed excess ROW location was included in cultural resources survey done in 1983 by SCDOT archaeologists for the I-85 Northern Alternative. One archaeological site (38SP89) partially lies in the northern tip of the proposed excess ROW. At the time the site was recorded it was located in floodplain along the western side of a sewage lagoon. Artifacts recovered dated to the Archaic Period and consisted of a low artifact density but a high tool to flake ratio which included two distal fragments of unidentified quartz projectile points, one quartz Savannah River Stemmed projectile point, and four quartz flakes. Despite the ground disturbance, the site was recommended for further work due to the fact that the site was on a floodplain that exhibited little to no erosion, which would preserve site integrity.

A Web Soil Survey examination of soils within the proposed excess ROW location showed that almost 61 percent of the soils were moderately to severely eroded, and 33 percent were frequently flooded. Historic maps and aeriels showed that the excess ROW location was sparsely settled through the mid-twentieth century. The area was partially forested and most all of the nearby area was used for agricultural purposes.

A cultural resources survey of the proposed excess ROW location was conducted November 12, 2019. The smaller parcel to the southwest was found to be all slope with soils disturbed from road construction and erosion. No shovel testing occurred in this parcel. The larger parcel was found to consist almost entirely of slope on the eastern and western sides. There are two unnamed tributaries of Lawsons Fork running through the parcel and they are surrounded by narrow band of frequently flooded soil. A large portion of this low area is heavily disturbed by a buried water utility line that runs southwest to northeast through the proposed excess ROW. Two shovel tests were excavated within the larger parcel. Shovel test 1 was dark brown (10YR 3/3) sandy loam and terminated at rock at 15 centimeters below surface (cmbs). The second shovel test featured a Stratum I of dark brown (10YR 3/3) sandy loam to 15 cmbs. This was followed by mottled yellowish-brown (10YR 5/6) and reddish brown (5YR 5/4) clay to at least 25 cmbs. Both shovel tests were sterile and no artifacts or archaeological features were identified. An attempt was made to relocate site 38SP89 in the northern tip of the proposed excess ROW location. However, the portion of this site within the ROW was heavily sloped. The rest of the site was located on private property.

One historic resource (Site Number 1495) was recorded. This resource is located between the two parcels and is a residential structure constructed in 1952. The house is vacant and in a state of disrepair. This resource is recommended not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

In conclusion, the two proposed excess ROW locations are heavily disturbed and mostly sloped or frequently flooded. Taking this into account, there is little likelihood that significant previously undiscovered cultural resources are present within these parcels. As such, there are no cultural

resources concerns for this transaction. If you have any questions please let me know.

Tracy Martin

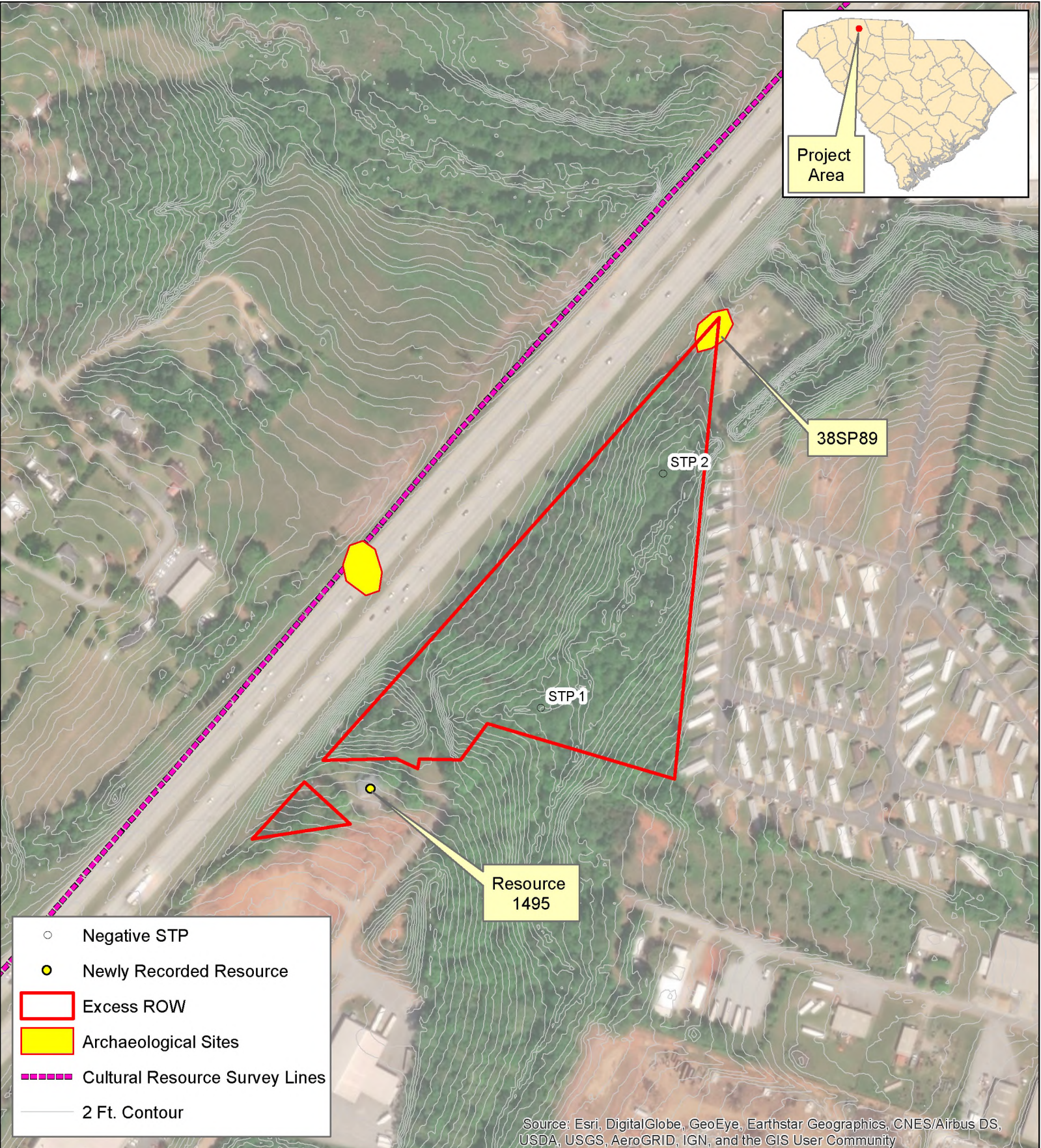
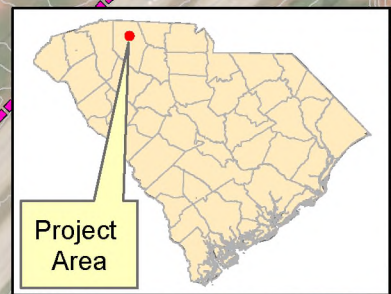
Chief Archaeologist

SC Department of Transportation

955 Park Street, Columbia SC, 29201

(O) 803-737-6371(C) 803-206-1223





Date:
November 15, 2019



**I-85 Near Locust
Grove Excess ROW**

**Spartanburg
County**

Project ID: n/a

