

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD REPORT  
SCDOT ENVIRONMENTAL SECTION  
**SCDOT**

**TITLE:** Cultural Resources Reconnaissance for Proposed Intersection Improvements at US 29 and S-904 (Snow Road), Anderson County, South Carolina

**DATE OF RESEARCH:** June 11, 2018

**COUNTY:** Anderson

**PIN:** P030230

**ARCHAEOLOGIST:** Jeff Craver

**ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN:** David Kelly

**PROJECT:** Intersection Improvements – US 29 at S-904 (Snow Road)

**DESCRIPTION:** The Department is proposing improvements to the intersection of US Route 29 and S-904 (Snow Road) in Anderson County, South Carolina (**Figure 1**). This includes improvements to turning radii, the addition of a turn lane onto S-904, pavement marking, driveway relocation, and the installation of a concrete median (**Figure 2**). The archaeological area of potential effect (APE) for the survey consisted of land within the existing right-of-way (ROW) and new ROW that may be impacted by the proposed undertaking. The architectural APE consisted of a 200 foot buffer placed around the archaeological APE (**Figure 3**).

**LOCATION:** The project area is located in central Anderson County just northeast of the town of Anderson.

**USGS QUADRANGLE:** Jackson

**DATE:** 1989

**SCALE:** 7.5'

**APE Centroid:**

**UTM:** NAD 27

**ZONE:** 17

**EASTING:** 427523.82

**NORTHING:** 3687507.75

**UTM:** WGS 84

**ZONE:** 17

**EASTING:** 427540.91

**NORTHING:** 3687715.81

**ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING:** The project area is located in the Piedmont physiographic province. The lands within the project APE consist of heavily disturbed grassy, paved, or graveled areas within the current ROW and within the proposed areas of new ROW. Ground disturbances in the project area consist of buried and above ground utility lines, roadside ditches, and previous as well as current paved areas and driveways.

**NEAREST RIVER/STREAM AND DISTANCE:** The closest water source to the project area is an intermittent unnamed tributary approximately 0.6 miles to the northeast.

**SOIL TYPE:** One soil type is present within the project area. Cecil sandy loam, 2 – 6 percent slopes.

**REFERENCE FOR SOILS INFORMATION:** Soil Survey Staff, Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture. Web Soil Survey. Available online at: <http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/>. Accessed [June 11, 2018].

**GROUND SURFACE VISIBILITY:** 1-25% \_\_\_ 26-50% X 51-75% \_\_\_ 76-100% \_\_\_

**CURRENT VEGETATION:** Because the project area is limited to current and minor amounts of new right-of-way, vegetation within the project area is mostly comprised of grasses and weeds.

**BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION:** Prior to the field investigation the online GIS database (ArchSite) was examined to determine if any previously identified archaeological sites, historic structures or National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) sites were present within a quarter mile of the project area (**Figure 4**). Background investigations indicated that no archaeological sites and no historic resources had been recorded within or within a quarter of mile of the project area. A previous survey of the US 29 and S-48 intersection located south of the proposed intersection was conducted in 2005 by Brockington and recorded no historic or archaeological sites (2005 Chambliss et al).

In addition, historical maps and aerial photos dating to between 1932 and 1971 were examined to determine if any structures or architectural features could be identified within the project area (SCSHD 1937, 1957, 1966; USGS 1957). The General Highway Maps do show structures within the proposed project APE (**Figure 5**).

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY:** An archaeological survey of the project area was conducted on November 20, 2017. Field methods consisted of a pedestrian reconnaissance of the entire project area.

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY RESULTS:** The APE included new ROW that extended from 33' to 45' along the east side of US 29 and the addition of between 7 and 22 feet of new right of way along the west side of US 29 and along S-904, which was found to be uniformly disturbed by modern construction. Disturbances consisted of road construction, roadside ditches, and buried and above ground utility lines.

**ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY:** A historical resources survey of the project area was conducted on May 9th, 2018. Site survey methods consisted of a visual examination of all structures within the project APE.

**ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY RESULTS:** One historic structure was identified during these investigations. **Figure 2** shows the locations of Site # 1461 the former Dowis Motor Court complex (circa 1950), now known as the "North Star Motel." This site consists of an office building, two flanking lodging buildings, and a manager/staff residential building at the rear of the property (sites #s 1461-1461.03) (Figure 3). This complex has no known association with a significant historic event or significant historic figure (NRHP Criteria A & B). Although the complex maintains its architectural integrity it is not a noteworthy example of a mid-century motor court and is not considered significant under NRHP Criterion C. It is therefore recommended that the complex comprising site # 1461 is not eligible for the NRHP.

**REMARKS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:** The cultural resources survey of the SC-125 and S-62 intersection improvements project area resulted in the identification no new archaeological sites and one new above ground resource. The newly recorded historic resource, site # 1461, is a circa 1950 motor court. It is not considered NRHP eligible. No additional cultural resources investigations are recommended.

**SIGNATURE:** Jeff Craver **DATE:** July 06, 2018

## References Cited

Chambliss, M. et al

- 2005 CR Survey of US 29 at S-48 Intersection Improvement Project. Brockington and Associates. Charleston, South Carolina.

South Carolina State Highway Department (SCSHD)

- 1937 General Highway and Transportation Map of Anderson County, South Carolina. Retrieved from University of South Carolina University Libraries, Maps Department, Digital Collections < <http://digital.tcl.sc.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/scrm/id/46/rec/1>>.
- 1957 General Highway and Transportation Map of Anderson County, South Carolina. Retrieved from University of South Carolina University Libraries, Maps Department, Digital Collections < <http://digital.tcl.sc.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/scrm/id/41/rec/3>>.
- 1966 General Highway and Transportation Map of Anderson County, South Carolina. Retrieved from University of South Carolina University Libraries, Maps Department, Digital Collections < <http://digital.tcl.sc.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/scrm/id/12/rec/6>>.

United States Geological Survey (USGS)

- 1957 1957 Saylor's Crossroads 1:24,000 Scale Topographic Anderson Quadrangle. Retrieved from USGS Historical Topographic Map Explorer < <http://historicalmaps.arcgis.com/usgs/>>.

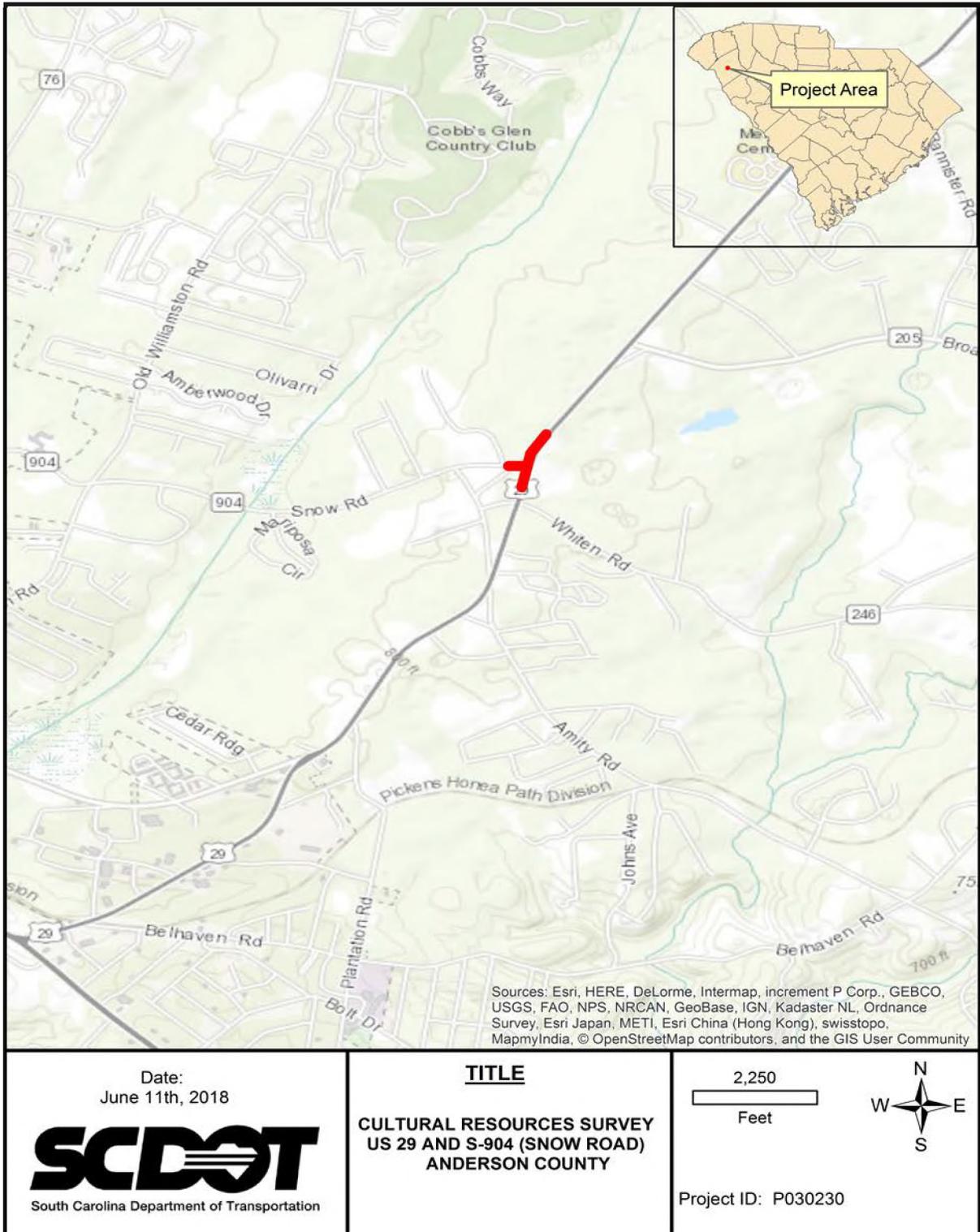


Figure 1. Project Location

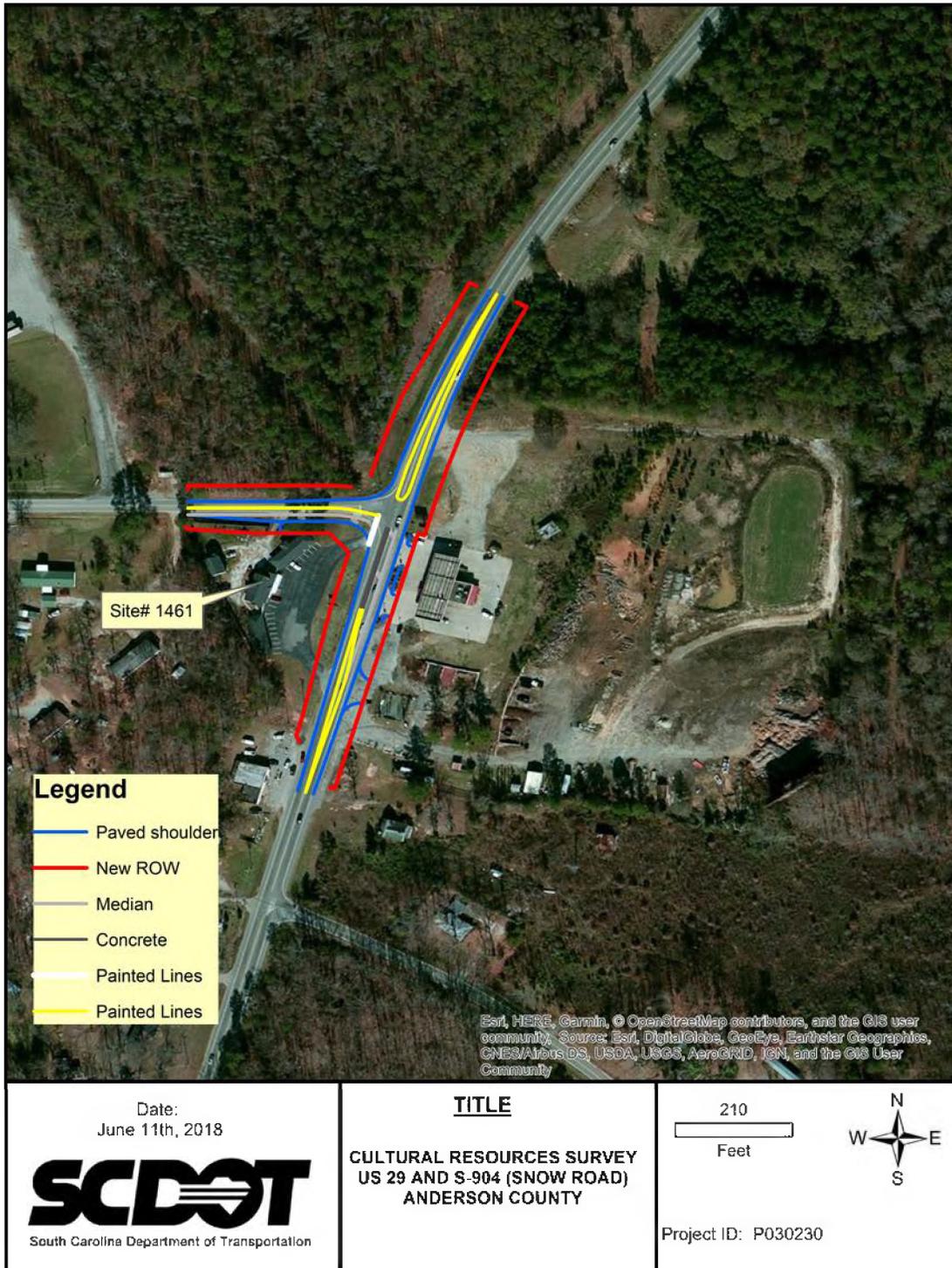
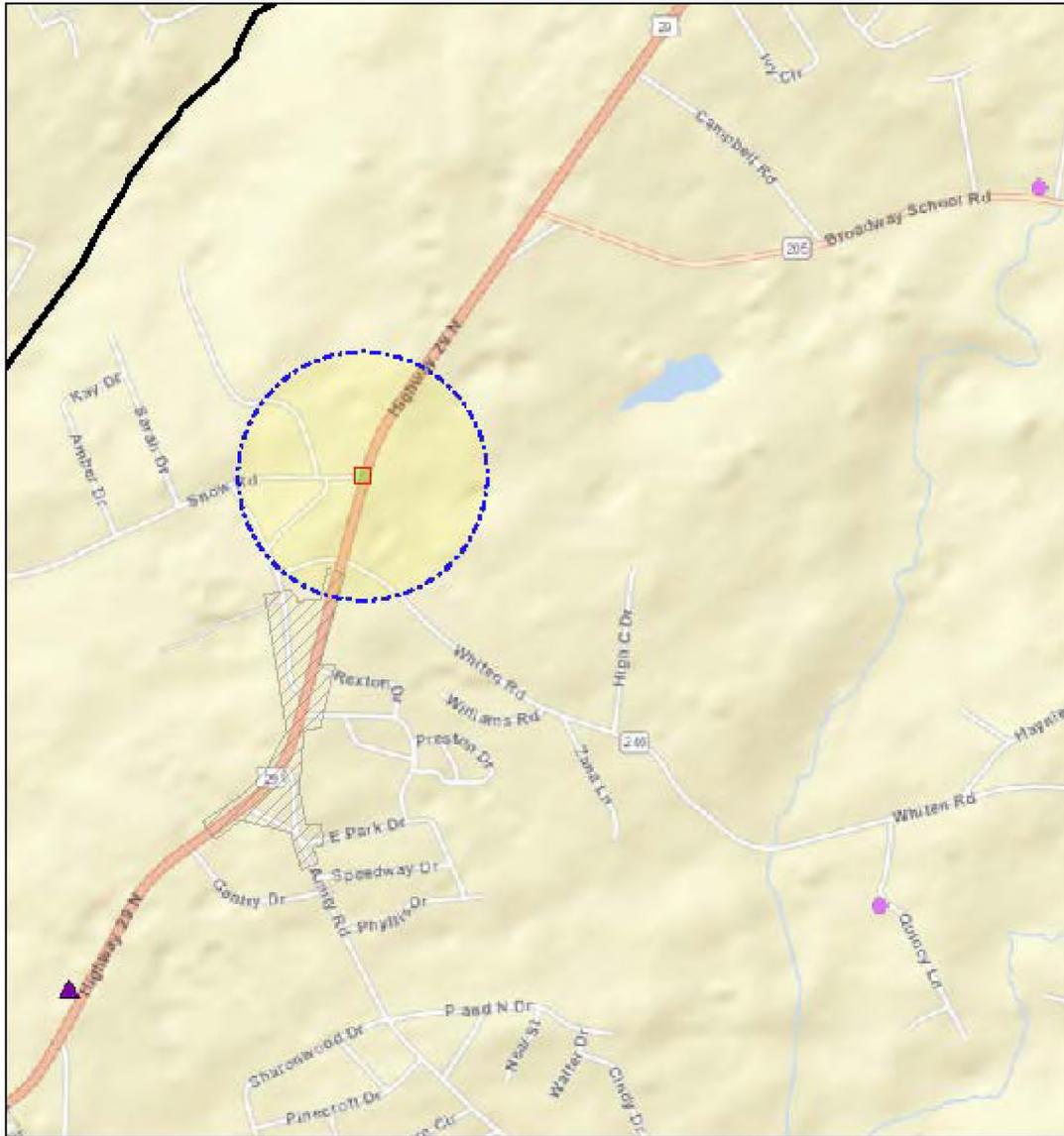


Figure 2. Proposed project shown on an aerial



Figure 3. Architectural APE and Site #1461 -1461.03

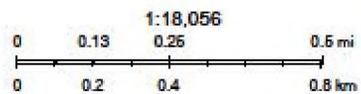
# US 29 and S-904



July 5, 2018

ArchSite\_Prod\_7423

- Not Eligible or Requires Evaluation
- ▲ Eligible
- ArchSite\_Prod\_9966
- ArchSite\_Prod\_4897



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

ArchSite  
ArchSite 2015

Figure 4. Archsite map showing no recorded archaeological or architectural sites



1957 General Highway Map showing Site #1461 is not shown.



1966 General Highway Map showing Site # 1461

Figure 5. General Highway Maps showing the project area