

September 5, 2019

Joseph E. Wilkinson
Review Coordinator for Transportation Projects
State Historic Preservation Office
South Carolina Department of Archives & History
8301 Parklane Road
Columbia, South Carolina 29223-4905

Re: ***New South Associates' Phase I Cultural Resource Survey of the I-26 Widening Project, MM 187 – 194, Berkeley County, SCDOT PIN P029263***

Dear Mr. Wilkinson:

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) proposes to widen Interstate 26 (I-26) from SC 27 (Exit 187) near Ridgeville on the western terminus to Jedburg Road/S-8-16 (Exit 194) near Summerville on the eastern terminus. The study area for the proposed project extends approximately one mile along SC 27 in each direction from I-26 (Exit 187) to provide for potential interchange improvements and SC 27 widening at Exit 187.

Archaeological investigations for the project revisited two (2) previously unrecorded archaeological sites (38DR495 & 38DR496) and identified two isolated finds. Site 38DR495 is an archaeological component associated with a previously recorded historic resource, Cypress Methodist Campground, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The eligibility of 38DR495 under Criterion D is currently considered unassessed. Site 38DR496, a historic artifact scatter, is recommended as not eligible for the NRHP.

The historic architectural survey identified 26 previously unrecorded historic resources and revisited 15 historic resources that had previously been identified. None of the newly surveyed resources are recommended eligible for the NRHP. One previously identified resource, the Cypress Methodist Campground, is listed on the NRHP. No other newly or previously surveyed resources are recommended eligible for the NRHP. The construction limits of the proposed project are well over a thousand feet to the east of the Cypress Methodist Campground (see attached exhibit) and will have no direct or visual/secondary effect on the eligible boundary of this resource. **It is therefore recommended that the proposed project will not affect historic resources.**

In accordance with the memorandum of agreement approved by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), November 29, 2011, SCDOT is providing this information as agency official designee, as defined under 36 CFR 800.2, to ensure compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

It is requested that you review the enclosed material and, if appropriate, indicate your concurrence with SCDOT findings. Please respond within 30 days if you have any objections or if you have need of additional information.

Sincerely,

David P. Kelly
NEPA Coordinator, RPG 4

DPK:dk

Enclosures: Cultural resources report, survey forms, Cypress Methodist Campground exhibit

I (do not) concur in the above determination.

Signed: Joseph E. Wilkinson Date: 9/5/2019

cc: Shane Belcher, FHWA
LeeAnne Wendt, Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Elizabeth Toombs, Cherokee Nation

cc: Wenonah G. Haire, Catawba Nation THPO
Keith Derting, SCIAA

