



South Carolina
Department of Transportation

May 29, 2018

Ms. Elizabeth Johnson
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
South Carolina Department of Archives and History
8301 Parklane Road
Columbia, SC 29223-4905

RE: Phase I Cultural Resources Survey for US 521 over Old Railroad Bed, Kershaw County, South Carolina.

Dear Ms. Johnson:

Please find enclosed two copies of the above-referenced report that describes cultural resources investigations conducted for the proposed replacement of a bridge that carries US 521 over an old railroad bed in **Kershaw County**, South Carolina. Concurrent with the bridge replacement the intersection of US 521 and DeKalb School will be realigned so that DeKalb School Road joins US 521 at a right angle. A small amount of new right of way will be required to complete the project.

The proposed bridge replacement and intersection improvement project area extends for a distance of approximately 1870 feet along US 521 and about 445 feet along DeKalb School Road, and varies in width from approximately 72 to 180 feet. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for archaeological resources for the project consists of land that will be acquired as new right of way as well as those areas within the existing right of way that might be affected by the undertaking. The APE for architectural resources consists of a 300 foot buffer around the archaeological APE.

The archaeological survey resulted in the discovery of two new sites. Site 38KE1174 consists of a small scatter of prehistoric artifacts along the east side of US 521 near the northern end of the project area. The site was defined by two positive shovel tests that yielded a total of eleven artifacts, including six flakes and five prehistoric sherds. The site has been heavily disturbed by road construction and was assessed as **not eligible** for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

Site 38KE1175 is a large historic and prehistoric site consisting of a prehistoric lithic scatter and a historic farmstead. The site is situated on both sides of US 521 near the southern end of the project area. The farmstead remains include a partially collapsed house, an outhouse, and a partially collapsed outbuilding of unknown function. Historic artifacts recovered from the site include metal fragments, container glass, nails, and historic ceramics. Prehistoric artifacts recovered include a quartz biface fragment and three flakes. Artifacts were found in eleven of the thirteen shovel test pits excavated on the site. Shovel testing was confined to the project APE; therefore the exact boundaries of the site could not be determined, and the NRHP eligibility of the entire site could not be assessed. However, that portion of the site that lies within the project APE has been heavily disturbed by the construction of US 521 and is not likely to yield important information about regional history or prehistory. Therefore this portion of the site was assessed as **noncontributing** to the NRHP eligibility status of the resource.

Four newly identified above-ground resources were also recorded during the cultural resources investigation. These resources include Site # 1842, the circa 1930 Baron DeKalb School; Site # 1843, a circa 1940 vernacular residence; Site # 1844, the existing US 521 bridge over the old railroad bed, and Site 1845, the late 1880s railroad cut that bisects the project area. Of these resources, Site # 1842 is recommended **eligible** for the NRHP under Criteria A (Education) and C (Architecture). However the current undertaking will not have any impact on the school. Sites # 1843 – 1845 were all assessed as **not eligible** for the NRHP.

Based on the results of the background research and field investigations, the Department has determined that **no historic properties will be affected** by the proposed undertaking.

Per the terms of the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement executed on October 6, 2017, the Department is providing this information on behalf of the Federal Highway Administration. It is requested that you review the enclosed material, and, if appropriate, indicate your concurrence in the Department's findings. Please respond within 30 days if you have any objections or if you have need of additional information.

Sincerely,

Bill Jurgelski

Bill Jurgelski
Archaeologist

WMJ:wmj

I (do not) concur in the above determination.

Signed: *Reilly Lewis* Date: 05/30/18

cc: Shane Belcher, FHWA
Bryan Printup, Tuscarora Nation
Russell Townsend, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Stephen J. Yerka, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Elizabeth Toombs, Cherokee Nation
LeeAnne Wendt, Muscogee (Creek) Nation

cc: Wenonah G. Haire, Catawba Nation
Sheila Bird, United Keetoowah
Keith Derting, SCIAA

File: ENV/WMJ