



South Carolina
Department of Transportation

LEE
#26940
17-EJ0136

December 14, 2018

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

***RE: Reconnaissance-Level Archaeological Survey of Bishopville Truck Route
Segments, Lee County, South Carolina***

Dear Mr. Wilkinson:

Please find attached a copy of the above-referenced report that describes reconnaissance level archaeological investigations conducted for the proposed Bishopville Truck Route in Lee County, South Carolina. The investigations consisted of background research and field examination of areas characterized as having high archaeological potential. The purpose of the archaeological reconnaissance study was to alert project planners to obvious archaeological resource issues. It was not meant to identify all sites within the segments. Once a preferred alignment is chosen, a Phase I archaeological survey will be performed.

The Bishopville Truck Route project area is configured so that an "a la carte" approach can be used to determine the best alignment for the proposed road. As such, the area under consideration for the location of the truck route was divided into 26 segments ranging in width from 500 to 1000 feet and in length from 480 – 18,700 feet. Twenty-four of these segments were examined at the reconnaissance level during the current investigation.

As a result of the reconnaissance survey two new archaeological sites (38LE1040 and 38LE1041), a small family cemetery (38LE1042 – U/61/0091), and a second possible cemetery (no number assigned) were recorded. In addition, a previously identified site, 38LE1037, was revisited.

Sites 38LE1040 and 38LE1041 are heavily disturbed historic scatters dating to the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. These sites are recommended as **not eligible** for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

The NRHP eligibility of the small family cemetery, known as the Albert Family Cemetery (assigned archaeological site # 38LE1042 and above ground resource # U/61/0091) was **not assessed during the current investigation. An additional evaluation of this resource will be necessary if it is determined to be in an area that will be affected by the proposed truck route.** However, since cemeteries are protected by state law (e.g., South Carolina Code of Laws 16-17-600), avoidance of the resource is recommended.

The location of the possible cemetery (no number assigned) was indicated by a local informant, but could not be verified based on above-ground evidence. **Additional investigations to verify the presence of and determine the NRHP eligibility of this resource will be necessary if it falls in the path of the proposed truck route.** In addition, since cemeteries are protected by

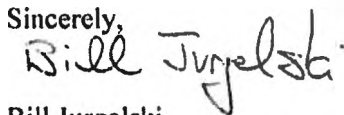
state law (e.g., South Carolina Code of Laws 16-17-600), avoidance of the resource if it is determined to be a cemetery is recommended.

The previously identified site, 38LE1037, described as a tenant house or occupation, was revisited during the current investigation and found to be in the same condition as when it was initially recorded in 2012. **The NRHP eligibility of this site is unassessed. Additional testing to define the NRHP status of the site is recommended should it fall in the path of the proposed truck route.**

Based on the results of the background research and field investigations, the Department has determined that **two resources are present within the study area that will require additional evaluation if it is determined that they will be impacted by the proposed undertaking. In addition, the presence of and NRHP eligibility of a third potential resource, a possible cemetery, will need to be determined if it falls within the area that will be affected by the proposed undertaking. Finally, once a preferred alignment for the proposed truck route is chosen, an intensive cultural resources survey of that alignment will need to be conducted.**

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
Archaeologist

WMJ:wmj

I (~~do not~~) concur in the above determination.

Signed: Joseph E. Wilkinson Date: 12/19/18

ec: Shane Belcher, FHWA
Bryan Printup, Tuscarora Nation

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

File: ENV/WMJ