

12-06-0086

NO PREHISTORIC OR HISTORIC PROPERTIES PRESENT/AFFECTED FORM

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project No: Str # 610157 County: Montgomery
 WBS No: 17BP.8.R.27 Document: Minimum Criteria Document
 F.A. No: n/a Funding: ☒ State ☐ Federal

Federal (USACE) Permit Required? ☒ Yes ☐ No Permit Type: NWP14 or NWP3

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: *Replace Bridge #157 over Barnes Creek on SR1303 (Ophir Rd) in Montgomery County, North Carolina. The present bridge will be replaced with a new structure on the existing location. It is anticipated that the proposed construction effort will utilize an off-site detour during construction activities thereby minimizing the effects to the surrounding land surfaces. The construction footprint is unlikely to extend beyond the existing ditch-lines. The archaeological Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the project measures 400ft. in length (200ft. from each bridge end-point) by 100ft. in width (50ft. laterally from each side of the SR1303 center-line).*

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) reviewed the subject project and determined:

Historic Architecture/Landscapes

- ☐ There are no National Register-listed or Study Listed properties within the project's area of potential effects.
- ☐ There are no properties less than fifty years old which are considered to meet Criteria Consideration G within the project's area of potential effects.
- ☐ There are no properties within the project's area of potential effects.
- ☐ There are properties over fifty years old within the area of potential effects, but they do not meet the criteria for listing on the National Register.
- ☐ All properties greater than 50 years of age located in the APE have been considered and all compliance for historic architecture with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and GS 121-12(a) has been completed for this project.
- ☐ There are no historic properties present or affected by this project. *(Attach any notes or documents as needed)*

Archaeology

- ☒ There are no National Register-listed or Study Listed properties within the project's area of potential effects.
- ☐ No subsurface archaeological investigations are required for this project.
- ☒ Subsurface investigations did not reveal the presence of any archaeological resources.
- ☒ Subsurface investigations did not reveal the presence of any archaeological resources considered eligible for the National Register.
- ☐ All identified Archaeological sites located within the APE have been considered and all compliance for archaeological resources with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and GS 121-12(a) has been completed for this project.
- ☒ There are no historic properties present or affected by this project. *(Attach any notes or documents as needed)*

SUMMARY OF CULTURAL RESOURCES REVIEW

Brief description of review activities, results of review, and conclusions:

A map review and site file search conducted at the Office of State Archaeology on Tuesday, June 25, 2012 determined that no previously recorded archaeological sites are located within the bounds of or directly adjacent to the defined APE. A cultural resource survey for the proposed Morris Mountain Timber Sale, Compartment 20, Uwharrie Ranger District (Harmon 1992) located four archaeological sites (31MG981-984) less than a mile to the east of Bridge 157. Three of these resources were surface/subsurface lithic scatters recommended for no additional work, and the last, 31MG982, consisted of a historic cemetery on a hilltop. The location contained three grave depressions marked by fieldstones. Avoidance through preservation was advocated and a 50ft. buffer was made visible around the resource. The sites recorded by the 1992 survey demonstrate that prehistoric lithic sites appear to be consolidated to upland landforms such as saddles, ridge-tops, and hilltops. Because the APE is largely characterized by floodplain topography, the types of nearby sites are unlikely to be found in the project construction footprint. However, this overall area of Montgomery County, as illustrated by the numerous recorded sites on the Lovejoy topographic map maintained at the Office of State Archaeology (OSA), was a hotbed of activity throughout prehistoric times. Despite variances in local topographic and pedological site preferences, the Bridge 157 project area contains some potential for archaeological resources.

Examination of National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), State Study Listed (SL), Locally Designated (LD), Determined Eligible (DE), and Surveyed Site (SS) properties employing resources available on the NCSHPO website concluded that none of the above designated properties with possible archaeological deposits were located in the vicinity of the project area. In general, this work established that no existing NRHP listed properties or prevailing unassessed archaeological sites will be impacted by the bridge replacement endeavor.

Topographic, historic, and USDA soil survey maps (CnA), and historical/archaeological reference materials were inspected to assay environmental, cultural, and other factors that may have resulted in past occupation within the project limits. Aerial/project photos were also utilized in assessing the level of modern, agricultural, hydrological, and other erosive-type disturbances which may have previously destroyed or dismantled unknown archaeological deposits or features within and the APE. An expedient in-field survey/reconnaissance of the APE is recommended as a modest potential exists for the recovery of prehistoric artifacts in the immediate vicinity of the Bridge 157 structure.

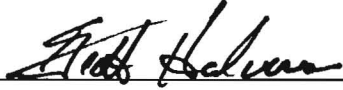
Survey of the Bridge 157 project area in Montgomery County, North Carolina was accomplished on August 21, 2012. Initially, a reconnaissance investigation of the entire project area was conducted. This served to identify any above-ground archaeological or historical remains and to determine the location and extent of subsurface investigation necessary for project compliance. Disturbance from past logging, utility installation, or other heavy machinery utilization was evident (vegetation & ground surface indicative) along the eastern side of Ophir Rd. Next, two shovel test pits were excavated within each of the four project quadrants. The test pits were placed approximately 50ft. from the SR1303 center-line at 50ft and 150ft from the creek. While some variation was noted between shovel test pit soil profiles, the northern quadrants contained brown and yellowish brown silt loam to 30-40cms atop a second stratum consisting of strong brown or yellowish red clay loam subsoil. The southern quadrants contained red and yellowish red clay loam to 20-30cms over slightly darker subsoil clays. No artifacts, features, or deposits of prehistoric or historic origin were documented during the excavation of the eight project shovel test pits. Full descriptions of the shovel test pits can be found within the project folder in the Archaeology Group library.

A survey investigation of the defined APE documented no evidence of occupation or past human activity. Since the replacement effort is anticipated to be diminutive in scope and because the project will not impact the areas beyond the existing right-of-way, significant cultural deposits eligible for listing on the NRHP are highly unlikely to be affected. No further work is recommended for this rural, state-funded bridge replacement as proposed.

SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION

See attached: Map(s), Previous Survey Info, Photos, Correspondence, Photocopy of notes from survey.

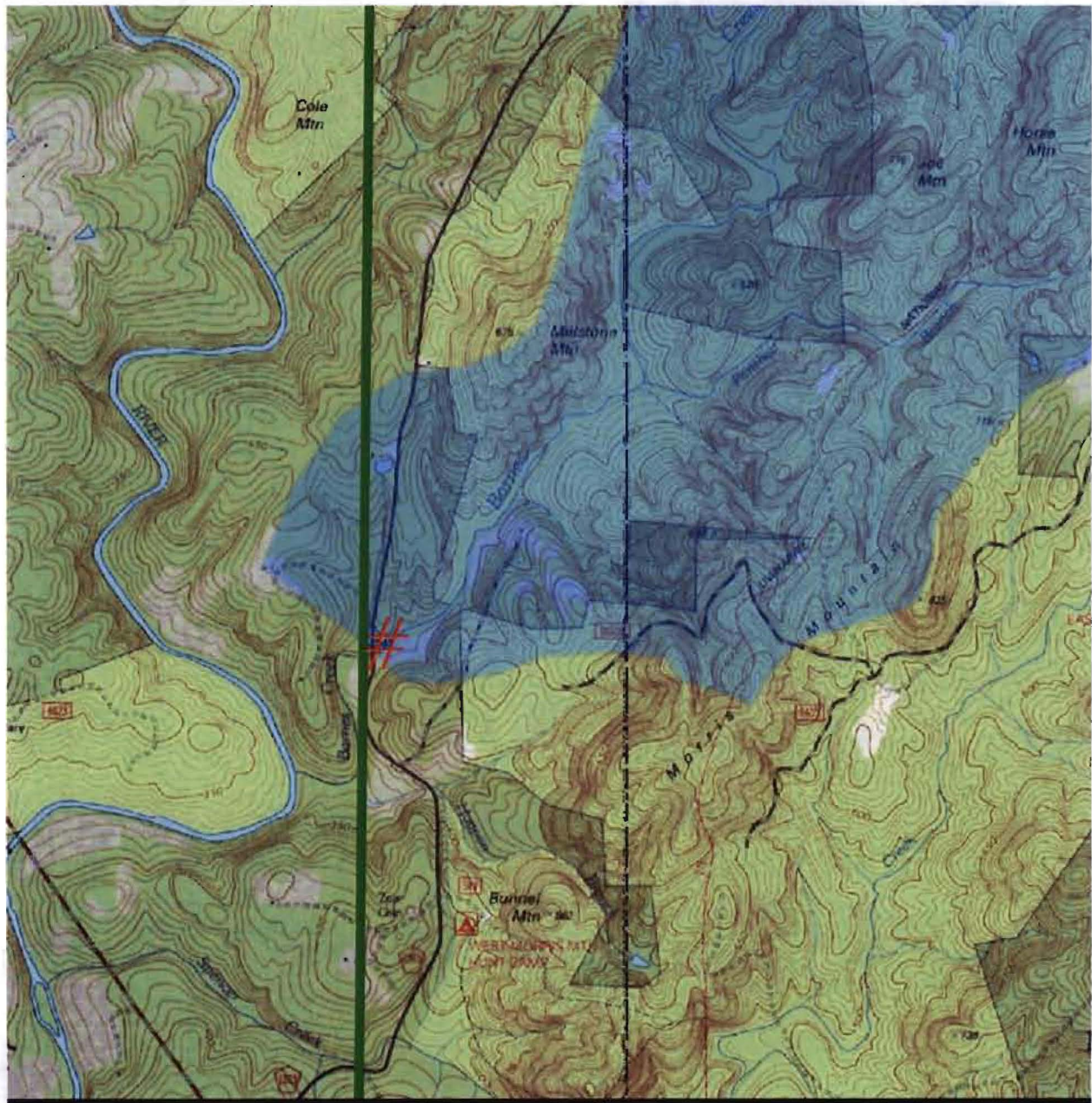
Signed:



Cultural Resources Specialist, NCDOT

8/24/2012

Date



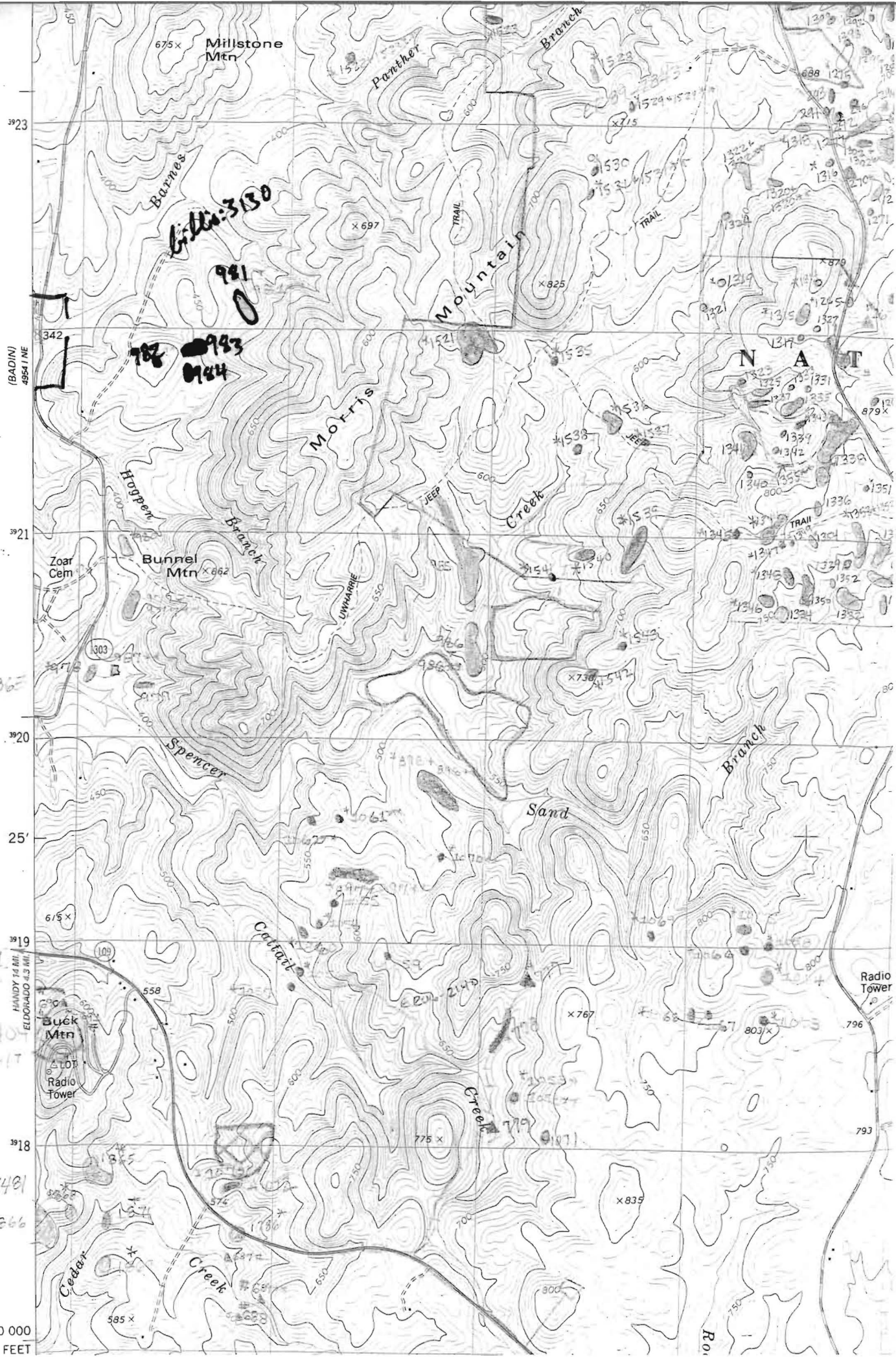


CnA-Ch^{enneby} silty silt loam; 0 to 2% slopes, frequently flooded; in floodplains;
 silty alluvium derived from igneous & metamorphic rocks,
 silt loam to SFTbs.

15 to 25% slopes → north

2 to 8% slopes → southeast

62-0190



3923

(BADIN)
45541 NE

3921

3920

25'

3919

3918

600 000
FEET

ER90-7865

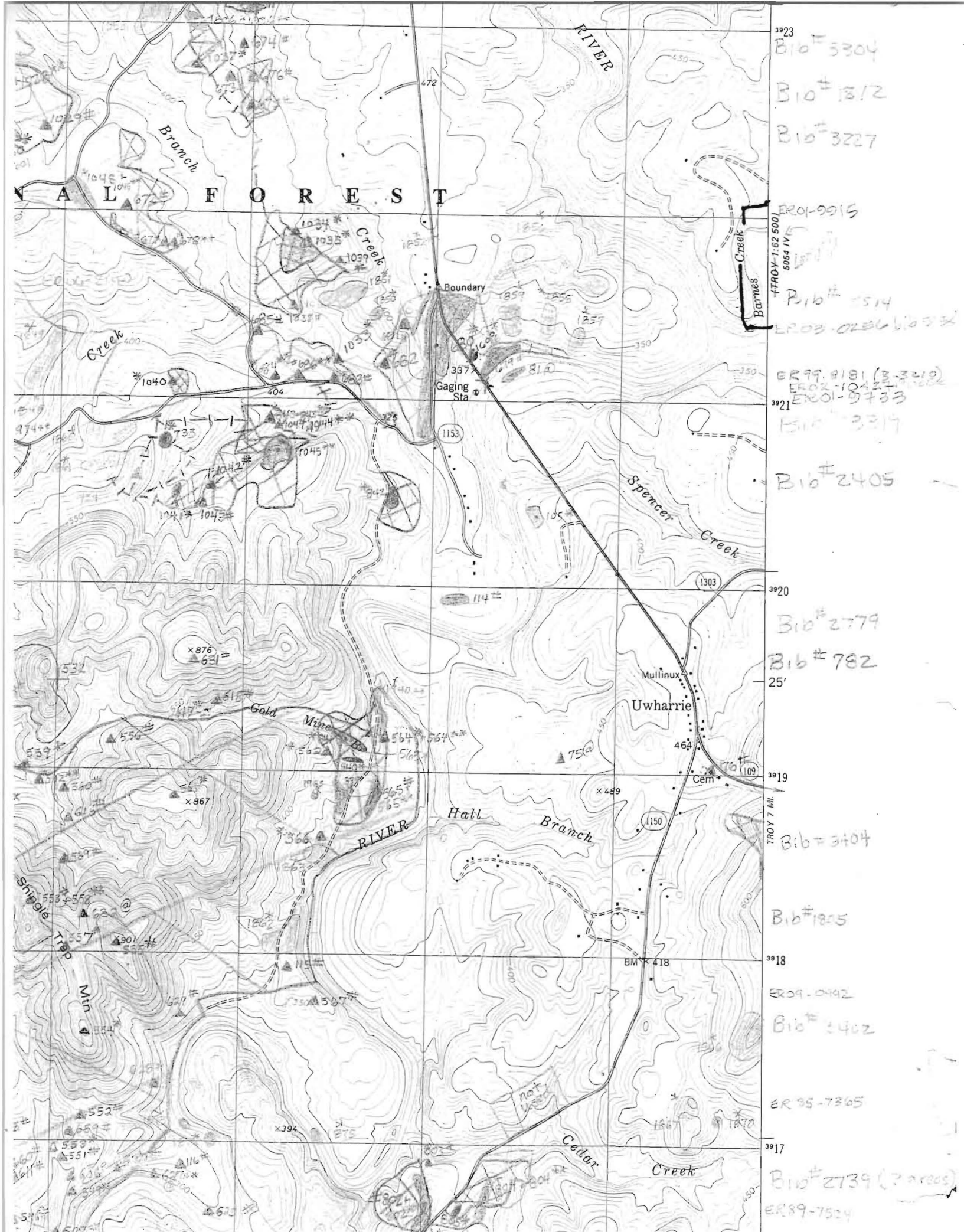
ER90-7814

Bib 3404
CTCG-417

ER90-7481

1866

Radio
Tower



My Map



Copyright 2011 Esri. All rights reserved. Fri Jun 29 2012 10:12:56 AM.





**REQUEST FOR CULTURAL
RESOURCES REVIEW FORM**

12-06-0086

MEMORANDUM TO: Drew Joyner, Human Environment Unit
1598 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1598

ATTENTION: Matt Wilkerson, Archaeology Supervisor
Mary Pope Furr, Historic Architecture Supervisor

FROM: Pamela R. Williams
Priority Projects Engineer

SUBJECT: Request for Cultural Resources Review

DATE: May 10, 2012

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

Project No: Str. # **610157** *County:* **MONTGOMERY**
LIBR data Sheet (PCE) or

WBS No: **17BP.8.R.27** *Document:* Minimum Criteria checklist

F.A. No: N/A *Funding:* ☒ State ☐ Federal

USGS Quad: **LOVEJOY**

Project Description: **BRIDGE #157 OVER BARNES CREEK ON SR 1303**

Ophir Rd.

Replace structure in kind. There will be minor ditch-line impacts. Area of potential effects is 75' either side from the centerline of the roadway/bridge and 300' from either end of the bridge.

Purpose & Need: Bridge is in poor condition and selected to be replaced under the State Funded Bridge Replacement Program-Design-Build Year 2.

SCHEDULING AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Date Needed: 07/25/2012

Engineer: Pam Williams *Tel* 919-707-6608 *Email* prwilliams@ncdot.gov

DESIGN INFORMATION

Project Length: **Approximately 500 feet**

Exist. R/W: 60 feet or from ditch line to ditch line maintained *Proposed R/W:* Varies

Exist. Speed Limit: N/A *Proposed Speed Limit:* N/A

Exist. X-Section: One lane in each direction

Detour Route: Off-Site

Structure Type: Bridge *Year Built:* **1935**