

13-08-0007



**NO NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
ELIGIBLE OR LISTED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES
PRESENT OR AFFECTED FORM**



This form only pertains to ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES for this project. It is not valid for Historic Architecture and Landscapes. You must consult separately with the Historic Architecture and Landscapes Group.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project No: **Str. #010071** County: **Alexander**
 WBS No: **17BP.12.R.46** Document: **PCE or MCC**
 F.A. No: **NA** Funding: ☒ State ☐ Federal

Federal Permit Required? ☒ Yes ☐ No Permit Type: **NWP 3, NWP 14, TVA**

Project Description: NCDOT intends to replace Bridge No. 71 on SR 1338, St. Clair Road, over Grassy Creek. The proposal calls for the replacement of the bridge in its existing location and at the existing alignment with minor changes to right-of-way (ROW). For the purposes of the current review, the Area of Potential Effects (APE) is considered to extend 300 feet (91.44 meters) from either end of the bridge and 75 feet (22.86 meters) out from centerline. Thus, the APE encompasses more than 1.03 acres (approximately 0.42 hectares).

SUMMARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDINGS

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

- ☒ **There are no National Register listed ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES 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 National Register Eligible or Listed ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES present or affected by this project. (Attach any notes or documents as needed)**

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

A review of the archaeological site files housed at the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology was conducted on September 9, 2013, by personnel from the North Carolina Department of Transportation, Resources Unit, Archaeology Group. The review resulted in a finding that no previously identified archaeological resources are recorded in the APE, as defined above, and no archaeological investigations have been performed in the project's immediate vicinity. In addition, it was determined that the APE consists of both moderately eroded upland and frequently flooded alluvial soils. These include Codorus loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded; Dan River and Comus soils, 0 to 4 percent slopes, occasionally flooded; Danripple sandy clay loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, moderately eroded; Fairview sandy clay loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, moderately eroded; and Fairview sandy loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes. Further archaeological investigation was recommended to determine if archaeological artifacts and/or deposits are present in the APE.

Archaeologists from The Louis Berger Group, Inc. (Louis Berger), completed an intensive archaeological survey of the entire APE on November 13 and 15, 2013. The survey was conducted by archaeologists Lee Tippet, MA (principal investigator) and Lucas Richardson. The entire APE was surveyed by a combination of pedestrian inspection and judgmental shovel tests. In general, upland wooded areas were visually inspected for abandoned historic cemeteries, historic house foundations, ornamental plants, and topographic anomalies indicative of wells, cellars, and privies. The pedestrian survey was also conducted to identify prehistoric upland resources, such as lithic quarry and petroglyph sites.

Louis Berger excavated a total of 11 shovel tests in the APE, located at intervals of from 10 to 30 meters depending on the local topographic circumstances. Shovel testing was mainly conducted in floodplain contexts likely to contain buried and preserved archaeological deposits. Alluvial conditions in the APE were investigated by eight shovel tests, of which Shovel Tests J4 and J7 are typical. Shovel Tests J1, J2, and J6, as well as numerous surface exposures, confirmed the eroded nature of the upland soils.

No archaeological sites, isolated artifacts, or buried cultural deposits were identified in the APE. Louis Berger recommends no further archaeological investigation at the site of this proposed bridge replacement.

SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION

See attached: ☒ Map(s) ☐ Previous Survey Info ☒ Photos ☐ Correspondence

Other: Representative Shovel Test Data Table

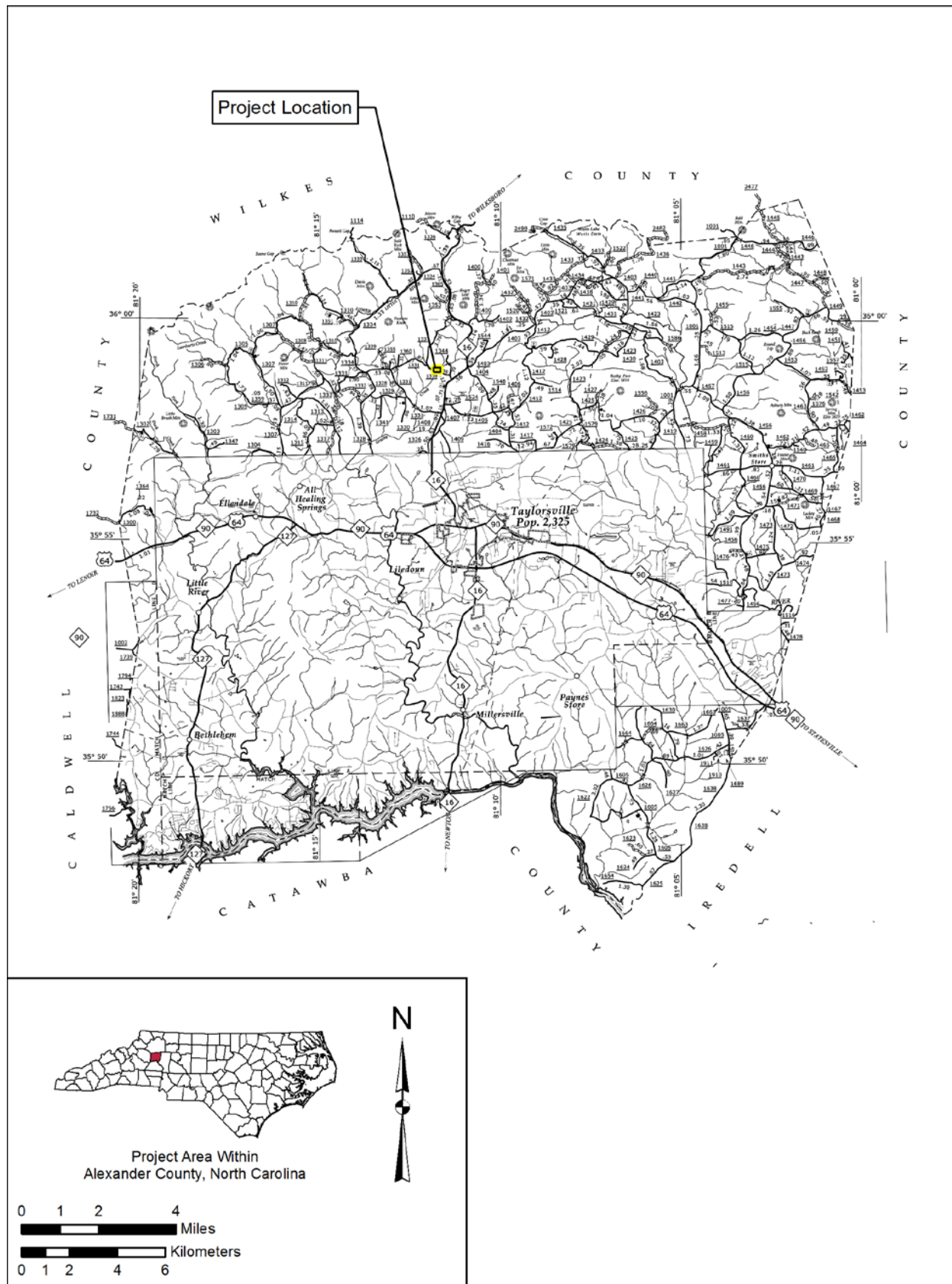
Signed:



NCDOT ARCHAEOLOGIST

12-12-13

Date





Aerial Photograph of Project Showing Judgmental Shovel Test Locations

SOURCE: ESRI 2013



Photograph of western end of the project area showing sloped and eroded terrain (looking east)



Photograph of Eastern End of the Project Area Showing Floodplain, Looking West

Representative Shovel Test Data from Upland and Floodplain Contexts in the APE

Shovel Test No.	Stratum	Depth Top cm.	Depth Bottom cm.	Munsell	Color	Texture	Artifacts
J1	A	0	89	2.5YR 3/6	dark red	silty clay loam	No
J6	A	0	14	7.5YR 4/4	brown	sandy clay loam	No
J6	B	14	29	2.5YR 4/8	red	sandy clay loam	No
J4*	A	0	40	7.5YR 4/4	brown	silty clay loam	No
J4*	B	40	58	2.5YR 3/6	dark red	silty clay loam	No
J4*	C	58	96	7.5YR 3/4	dark brown	silty clay loam	No
J4*	D	96	141	7.5YR 5/6	strong brown	sandy clay loam	No
J7	A	0	57	7.5YR 4/4	brown	sandy loam	No
J7	B	57	96	7.5YR 5/4	brown	sandy loam	No

*shovel/bucket auger test