

13-08-0016



**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: **Structure 110014** County: **Burke**
LIBR Data Sheet (PCE) or
WBS No: **17BP.13.R.122** Document: **Minimum Criteria Checklist**
F.A. No: **N/A** Funding: ☒ State ☐ Federal

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

Project Description: NCDOT intends to replace Bridge No. 14 on SR 1746, Cub Creek Circle, over Cub Creek in Burke County. The bridge will be replaced on the existing alignment and in the same location; an off-site detour will be utilized during construction. The archaeological Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the project is defined as extending 75 feet (22.9 m) from the existing centerline and 300 feet (91.4 m) from each end of the existing bridge.

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*)

RECOMMENDATION:

An archaeological investigation of Bridge No. 14 on SR 1746 (Cub Creek Circle) over Cub Creek in Burke County was conducted in October 2013 by URS Corporation (URS). This included site file research, collection of background environmental data, and a field inspection. Field inspection was conducted on October 23, 2013. The northwest and southeast quadrants of the APE were shovel tested; no cultural materials were recovered. The northeast and southwest quadrants of the APE were not subjected to shovel testing due to disturbance and slope.

Based on the results presented, no further archaeological investigations are required for this bridge replacement project. A finding of "no historic properties" is considered appropriate in association with this bridge replacement project. I concur with this recommendation since the proposed bridge replacement will not impact significant archaeological resources. Should the description of this project or design plans change prior to construction, then additional consultation regarding archaeology will be required.

SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION

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

Other: **Cultural Review provided by URS Corporation**

Signed:



November 6, 2013

NCDOT ARCHAEOLOGIST

Date

CULTURAL RESOURCES REVIEW

The project area is located on SR 1746 (Cub Creek Circle) south of the crossroads community of Abee Chapel (FIGURE 1). Bridge No. 14 crosses Cub Creek at this location, and is at an elevation of approximately 1200 feet ASL. Cub Creek flows southeastward from the project area into Henry Fork. Long Mountain is immediately south of the project; Mineral Springs Mountain, Smith Mountain, and Hildebran Mountain lie to the north, northeast, and east of the project area, respectively.

An examination of the maps and files archived at the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology was conducted by NCDOT staff on August 20, 2013 and again by URS Corporation staff on October 17, 2013. No recorded sites exist within 1.5 miles (7900 feet; 2408 m) of the project area. Early to mid-20th century maps examined do not document any structures in the project area.

In the APE, soils are primarily mapped as Colvard sandy loam, 0-3 percent slopes, occasionally flooded (CvA). The southwestern quadrant of the project area, however, is Meadowfield-Fairview complex, 15-25 percent slopes (MeD). The CvA soil type is described as present on floodplains, and derived from loamy and sandy alluvium. CvA is prime farmland that is well-drained; flooding frequency is occasional to none. A typical CvA soil profile consists of fine sandy loam overlying gravelly sand subsoil. The MeD soil type is present on slopes and derived from schist and/or gneiss saprolite. The soil profile typically exhibits gravelly sandy loam overlying very cobbly loam.

A field inspection was made by URS archaeologists on October 23, 2013. Shovel testing was conducted in two of the four quadrants of the APE; no subsurface testing was conducted in the other two quadrants (FIGURE 2). The northeast quadrant consists of the berm for Mineral Springs Mountain Road (FIGURE 3); the southwest quadrant consists of steep slope that has been cut for creation of the Cub Creek Circle roadbed (FIGURE 4). No subsurface testing was conducted in either the northeast or southwest quadrants due to slope and/or disturbance. The northwest quadrant is a relatively level manicured lawn (FIGURE 5). This quadrant was shovel tested at 30 meter intervals. Two STPs were excavated (a third was not dug due to localized utility pole disturbance); no cultural materials were recovered. Soils in the northwest quadrant consisted of a strong brown (7.5YR 5/6) sandy loam overlying red (2.5YR 5/6) sand. The southeast quadrant consists of relatively level immature growth and dense brush (FIGURE 6). The southeast quadrant was shovel tested at 30 meter intervals. Two STPs were excavated (a third was not dug due to localized disturbance); no cultural materials were recovered. Soils in the southeast quadrant were identical to those described above for the northwest quadrant.

Based on the field inspection, it was determined that half of the APE was either disturbed by cut/fill activities and/or was steeply sloped; this portion was not subjected to systematic subsurface testing. Systematic archaeological survey was performed on half of the APE. No cultural materials were recovered. No significant archaeological sites are situated within the APE.

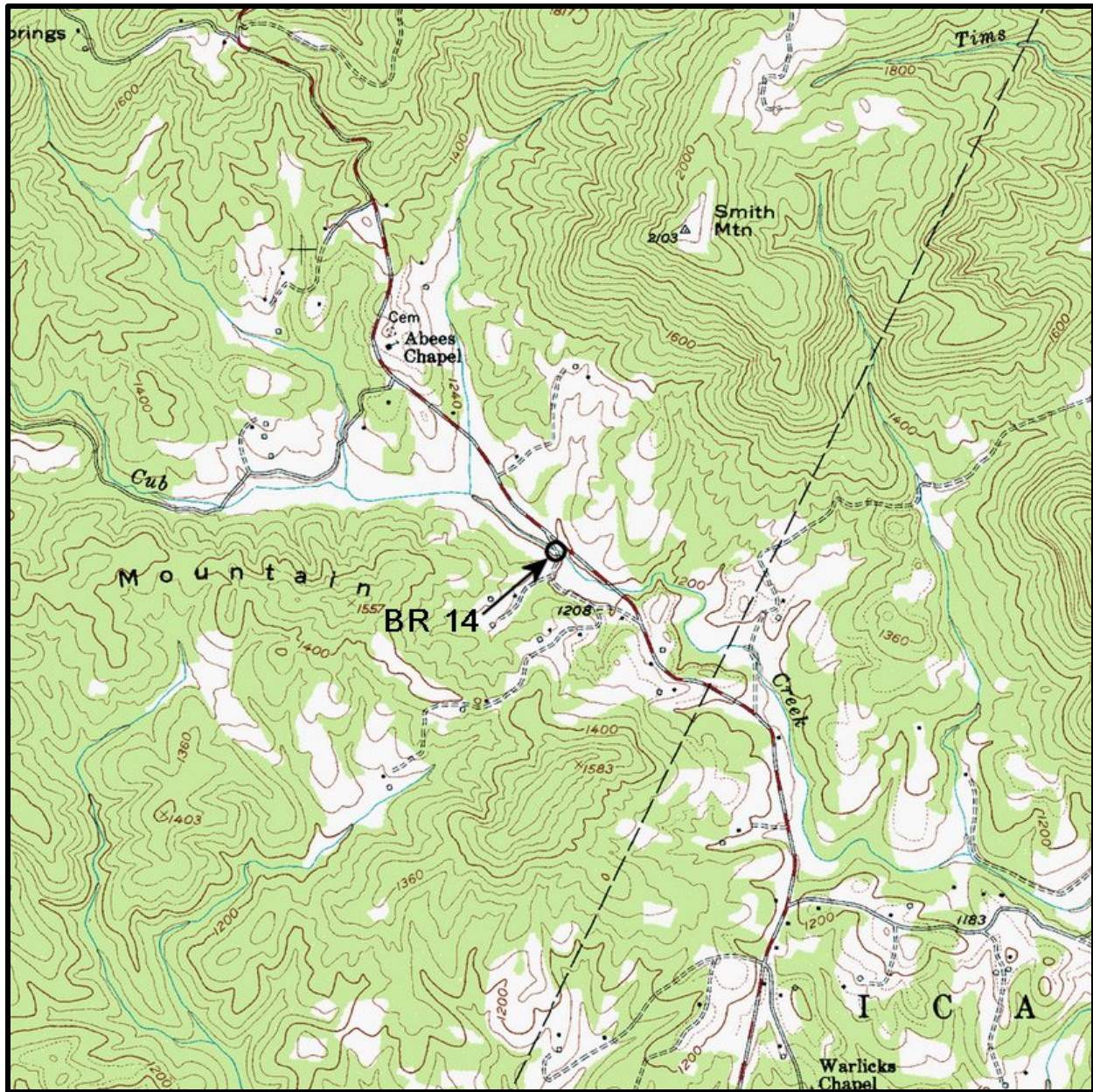


Figure 1. Topographic Setting of the Project Area (Valdeese Quad Map [USGS 1993]).



Figure 2. Aerial Photograph of Project Area Depicting Area of Potential Effects (Source: Google Earth 2013).



Figure 3. Northeast quadrant of APE, View Southeast.



Figure 4. Southwest quadrant of APE, View West (from Southeast quadrant).



Figure 5. Northwest quadrant of APE, View Northwest from STP Bu14nw1.



Figure 6. Southeast quadrant of APE, View South from STP Bu14se1.