

13-08-0019



**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

<i>Project No:</i>	Structure 110035	<i>County:</i>	Burke
			LIBR Data Sheet (PCE) or
<i>WBS No:</i>	17BP.13.R.146	<i>Document:</i>	Minimum Criteria Checklist
<i>F.A. No:</i>	N/A	<i>Funding:</i>	☒ State ☐ Federal

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

Project Description: NCDOT intends to replace Bridge No. 35 on SR 1907, Rhoney Road, over an Unnamed Tributary (UT) of Jacob Fork. 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*)

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

An archaeological investigation of Bridge No. 35 on SR 1907 (Rhoney Road) over an unnamed tributary of Jacob Fork in Burke County was conducted in October 2013 by URS Corporation. This included site file research, collection of background environmental data, and a field inspection. Field inspection was carried out on October 21, 2013. Systematic field survey was performed in three of the four quadrants of the APE; the fourth quadrant was not subjected to subsurface testing due to excessive disturbance by recent clear cutting. No cultural materials were recovered from the APE.

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 near Shoups Ford at an elevation of approximately 1090 feet ASL (FIGURE 1). Bridge No. 35 crosses an UT of Jacob Fork, which flows generally eastward for some distance into Catawba County, where it meets the South Fork Catawba River.

An examination of the maps and files archived at the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology was conducted by NCDOT staff on August 19, 2013 and again by URS Corporation staff on October 17, 2013. No recorded sites exist within 1.5 miles of the project area. Early to mid-20th century maps examined do not document any structures in the project area, although all showed light density of structures some distance up and down the Jacob Fork valley.

Soils in the APE are predominantly mapped as Colvard sandy loam, 0-3 percent slopes, occasionally flooded (CvA). The eastern edge of the project area, however, is Fairview sandy clay loam, 15-25 percent slopes, moderately eroded (FaD2). 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 FaD2 soil type is present on slopes and derived from schist and/or gneiss saprolite. The soil profile typically exhibits sandy clay loam overlying a series of clay and clay loam subsoils.

A field inspection was made by URS archaeologists on October 21, 2013. Three of the four quadrants in the APE warranted subsurface shovel testing (FIGURE 2). The northwest quadrant of the APE had been recently clear cut and as a result, heavily disturbed (FIGURE 3); no subsurface testing was performed in the northwest quadrant. An April 2011 air photo in Google Earth depicts active logging activity at that time (see FIGURE 2). The southwest quadrant consisted of a relatively level pasture (FIGURE 4). Two STPs were excavated at a 30 meter interval in the pasture; no cultural materials were recovered. Soils in STP Bu35sw1 consisted of dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) sandy loam overlying light brownish gray (10YR 6/2) wet sand with mineral stains indicative of frequent wetness. Further from the creek, STP Bu35sw2 exhibited dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) saturated sandy loam with heavy mineral stains. The northeastern quadrant was largely steep slope covered in dense brush due to clear cutting in the past (FIGURE 5). One STP was placed near the Unnamed Tributary in this quadrant; no cultural materials were recovered from the northeast quadrant of the APE. Soils in this STP exhibited a layer of recent mixed colluvium overlying dark brown (10YR 3/3) sandy loam, which was underlain by pinkish gray (7.5YR 6/2) sand. The southeast quadrant consisted of a pasture with a gentle slope (FIGURE 6). Two STPs were placed in this quadrant; no cultural materials were recovered. Both STPs in this quadrant exhibited eroded soils with yellowish red (5YR 5/6) sandy clay loam at the surface.

Based on the field inspection, it was determined that the northwest quadrant of the APE was heavily disturbed by recent clear cutting; this portion was not subjected to systematic subsurface testing. Systematic archaeological survey was performed on the remaining three quadrants of the APE. No cultural materials were recovered. No significant archaeological sites are situated within the APE.

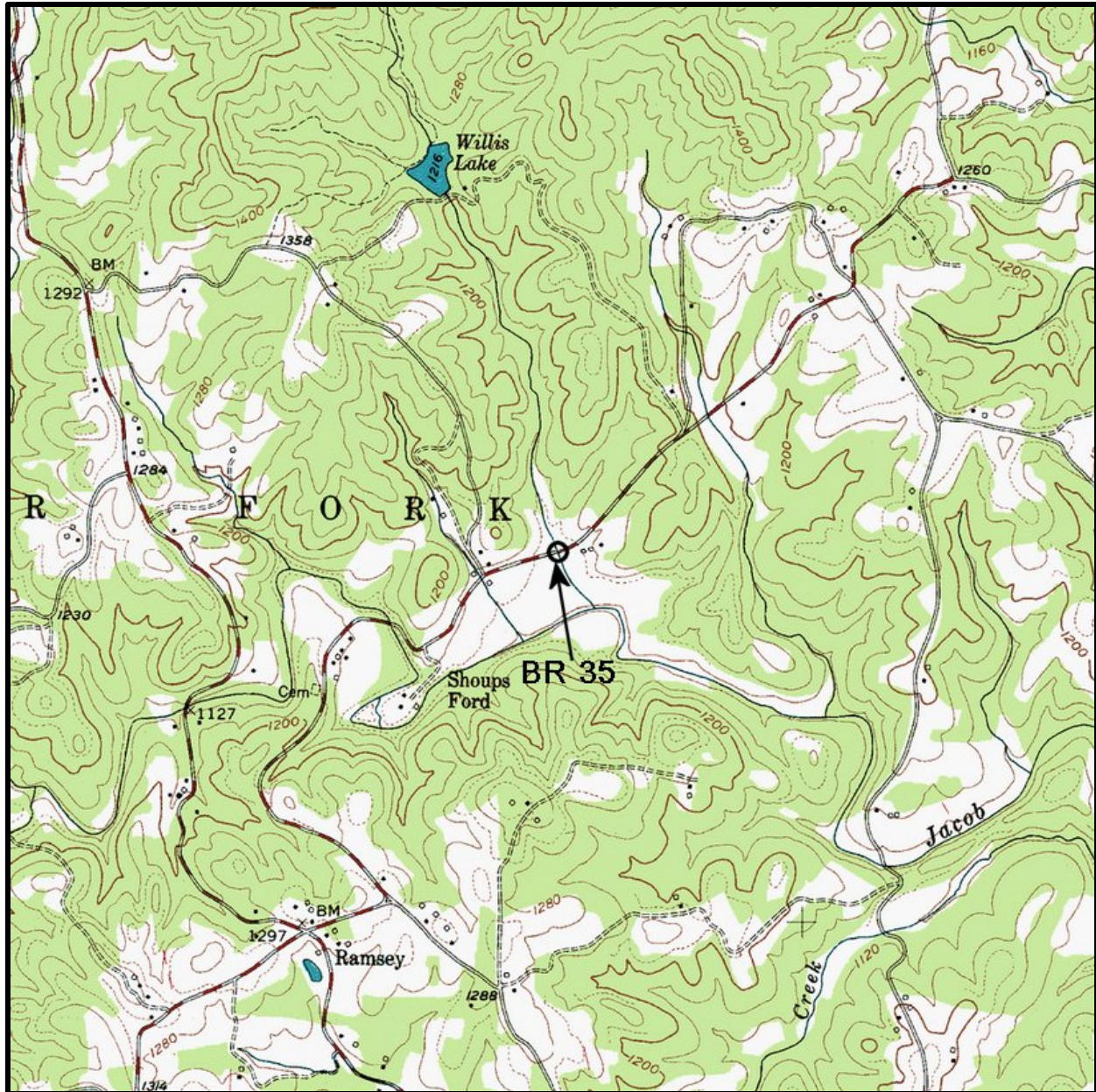


Figure 1. Topographic Setting of the Project Area (Casar Quad Map [USGS 1956]).



Figure 2. Aerial Photograph of Project Area Depicting Area of Potential Effects (Source: Google Earth 2013 showing April 2011 air photo; note logging activity in northwest quadrant).



Figure 3. Northwest quadrant of APE, View East.



Figure 4. Southwest quadrant of APE, View West.



Figure 5. Northeast quadrant of APE (diagonally across road/bridge), View Northeast from Southwest quadrant.



Figure 6. Southeast quadrant of APE, View West.