



**NO NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
ELIGIBLE OR LISTED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES
PRESENT 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: **Bridge 133** County: **Alleghany**
 WBS No: **17BP.11.R.159** Document: **Federal CE**
 F.A. No: **N/A** Funding: ☐ State ☒ Federal

Federal Permit Required? ☒ Yes ☐ No Permit Type: **USACE**

Project Description: NCDOT is proposing to replace Bridge No. 133 on SR 1433 over Little River in Alleghany County, North Carolina. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) measures 1,000 feet (304.8 meters) in length and 150 feet (45.72 meters) in width (75 feet [22.86 meters] from the SR 1433 centerline). The APE encompasses 3.44 acres (nearly 1.39 hectare) and encompasses all areas of potential ground disturbance.

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 or eligible ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES present within the project's area of potential effects. (Attach any notes or documents as needed)**
- ☐ No subsurface archaeological investigations were 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.**

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

The APE was defined as the area of potential direct construction impacts from the proposed replacement of Bridge No. 133 on SR 1433 over Little River (Figure 1). A map review and site file search were conducted at the Office of State Archaeology (OSA) on November 1, 2019. No previously recorded sites were identified within or adjacent to the APE. Additionally, no sites are located within one mile of it.

Data available on the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office HPOWEB GIS Service (<http://gis.ncdcr.gov/hpoweb/>) revealed no recorded historic properties or known cemeteries within or near the APE. Topographic maps, historic maps on the NCMAPS website, USDA soil survey maps, and aerial photographs were reviewed to gauge environmental factors that might have influenced historic or precontact settlement within the project limits and to assess the level of modern, slope, agricultural, hydrological, and other erosive-type disturbances within and surrounding the archaeological APE. The earliest detailed maps of the project area include the 1889 Whytheville topographic map, which depicts the road in the same general location as at present. The map shows no structures within the APE.

An examination of soils in Alleghany Count presented on the National Resources Conservation Services Web Soil Survey (<http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>) indicated the following USDA soil types in the APE: Chandler silty loam, 45-65 percent slopes; Chester loam, 10-25% slopes; and Watauga loam, 25-45 percent slopes. Table 1 summarizes information about these soil types (Soil Survey Staff 2020). The soils mapped in the APE include well drained to somewhat excessively drained silt loam and loams on slopes and ridges.

Table 1. Soil Types in the Area of Potential Effects (APE)

Soil Type	Map Unit Symbol	Percent of Survey Area	Permeability	Locations
Chandler stony silt loam, 45-65% slopes	CdG	44.2	Somewhat excessively drained	Mountain slopes, ridges
Chester loam 10-25% slopes	CeE	17.0	Well drained	Mountain slopes, ridges
Water	W	7.5		
Watauga loam 25-45% slopes	WaF	31.3	Well drained	Mountain slopes, ridges

ARCHAEOLOGY SURVEY

New South Associates, Inc. (New South) conducted an intensive archaeological survey of the APE on February 3, 2020 (Figure 2). The survey sought to identify and evaluate archaeological sites for NRHP eligibility according to criteria outlined in 36 CFR §60.4, and included a visual inspection and systematic shovel testing of the APE.

The project area is in the Blue Ridge Mountains physiographic province. Topography primarily consists of sloping ridges. Vegetation in the APE includes pasture and mixed pine and hardwoods with an understory of rhododendrons. There are residential properties in the southern portion of the APE on graded landforms (Figures 3-4).

Shovel tests were pre-plotted at 15-meter intervals and shovel test transect was excavated on each side of the road. Excavated tests measured 30-centimeters in diameter and were excavated to sterile subsoil or impenetrable substrate. Soils were screened through 0.25-inch hardware cloth. Shovel test results were recorded using smartphones equipped with a *Memento* data collection application. Information collected for excavated tests included Munsell soil color designation, USDA NRCS texture class, depths, and the presence/absence of cultural material. A total of 45 shovel tests were pre-plotted. Field technicians visited all test locations during the survey and omitted 22 test locations from excavation because of disturbance, residential properties, water, and excessive slope. Twenty-three shovel tests were excavated and no archaeological resources were identified (Appendix A).

The soils within the APE were disturbed by modern construction of roads, the bridge, and driveways, as well grading and erosion from up slope of the APE. Representative soil profiles include Shovel Test 6 in the southern portion of the project area and Shovel Test 16 in the northern half. Shovel Test 6 was located

in the northwestern floodplain of Little River and exhibited a 15-centimeter deep grayish brown (10YR 5/2) silt loam A horizon above brown (10YR 5/3) micaceous silt loam that terminated at a rock impasse 60 centimeters below surface (cmb) (Figure 5A). Shovel Test 16 was on a ridge and the profile consisted of a 10-centimeter deep grayish brown (10YR 5/2) silt loam A horizon atop by 15 centimeters of brownish yellow (10YR 6/6) silty clay loam that reflected a Bw1 horizon. This was over a yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) silty clay Bw2 horizon (Figure 5B).

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

New South conducted an intensive survey of the APE for the proposed replacement of Bridge No. 133 on SR 1433 over Little River in Alleghany County, North Carolina. Background research indicated there were no previously recorded resources within or near the APE. Fieldwork included the investigation of 45 shovel test locations and excavation of 23 shovel tests. The survey did not identify any archaeological materials or sites within the APE. Therefore, no additional work is recommended. If the project design should change and would impact subsurface areas beyond the current APE, further archaeological studies may be necessary.

This project falls within a North Carolina County in which the Catawba Indian Nation, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indian, the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, and the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indian has expressed an interest: Alleghany County. It is recommended that you contact each federal agency involved with your project to determine their Section 106 Tribal consultation requirements.

Sarah Stephens
Archaeologist
New South Associates, Inc.

REFERENCE CITED

Soil Survey Staff

2020 *Web Soil Survey of Selected Area in Stanly County, North Carolina*. Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION

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

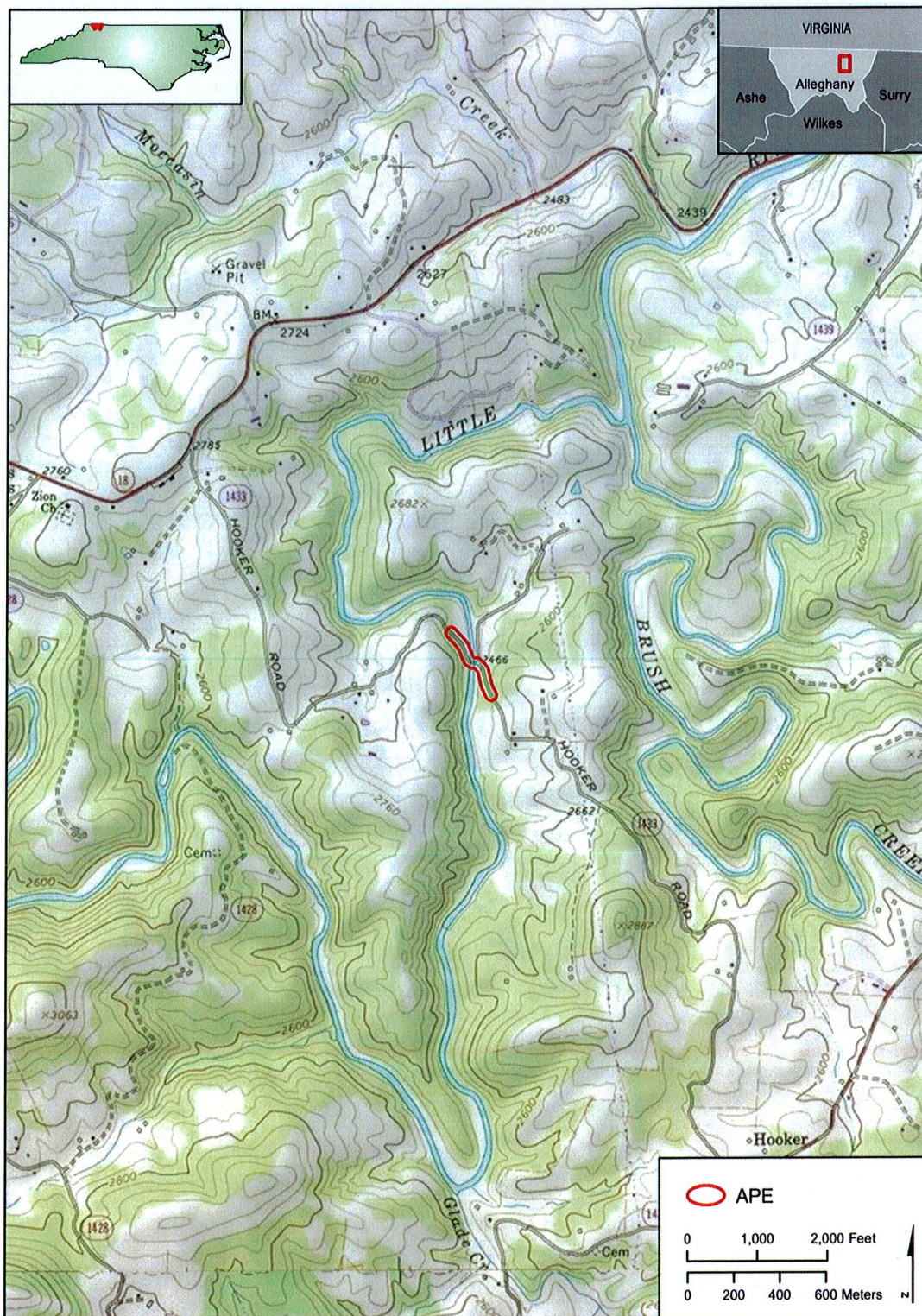
NCDOT ARCHAEOLOGIST

Griff Halverson

Date

3.20.2020

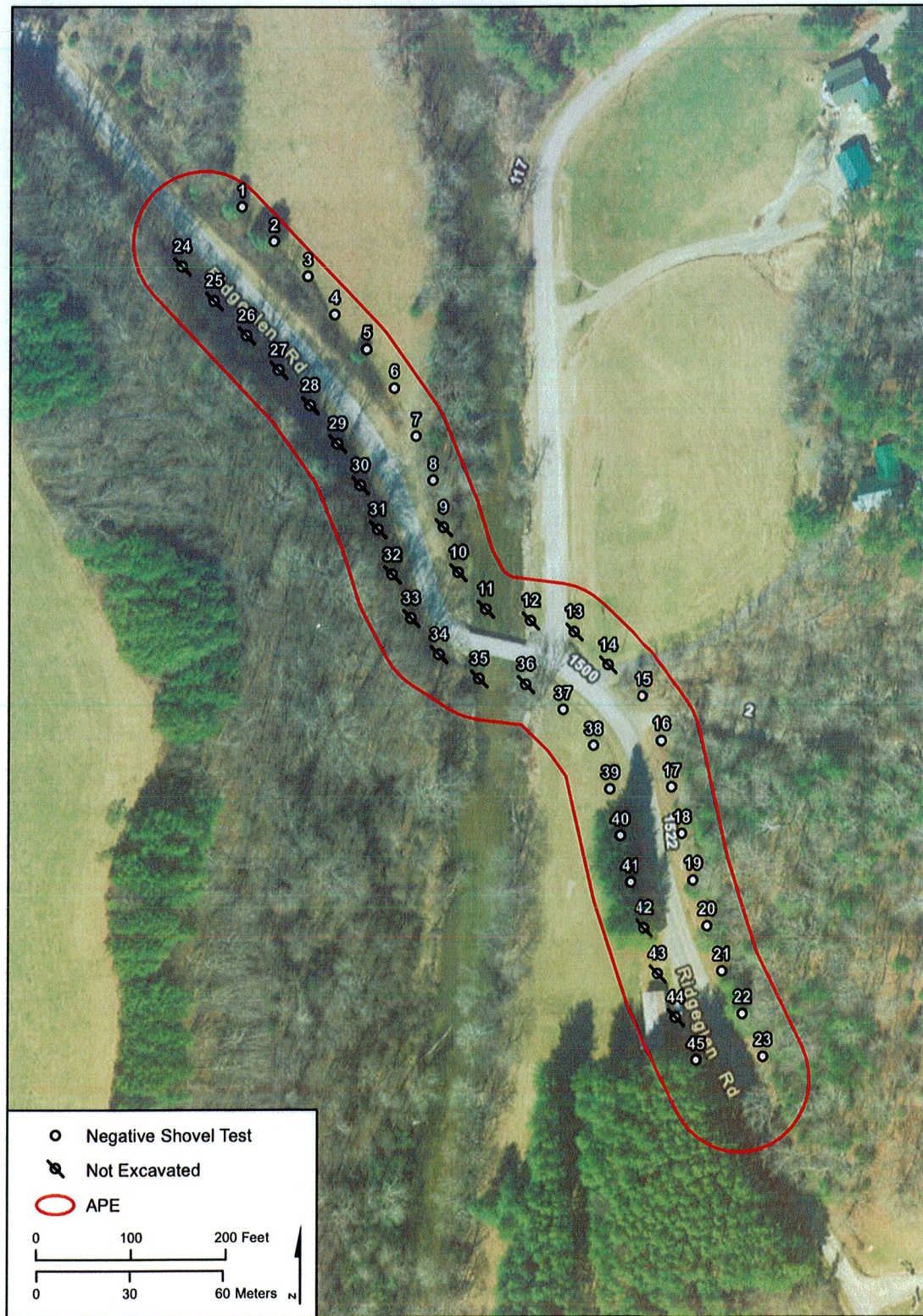
Figure 1. Project Location Map



Source: USGS 7.5-minute Sparta East (1983) Topographic Quadrangle

"NO NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBLE OR LISTED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES PRESENT"
 form for Minor Transportation Projects as Qualified in the 2007 Programmatic Agreement.

Figure 2. Survey Map



Source: ESRI, NC CGIA (2018)

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Figure 3. Photographs of the APE, 1 of 2



A. Southern Portion of the APE, Facing North



B. Northern Portion of the APE, Facing North

Figure 4. Photographs of the APE, 2 of 2



A. Central Portion of the APE, Facing North



B. Central Portion of the APE, Facing South

Figure 5. Representative Shovel Test Profiles



A. Shovel Test 6



B. Shovel Test 16

Appendix A: Shovel Test Data

Shovel Test No.	Stratum	STP Results	Soil Profile	Notes
1	I	Negative	0-30 Dark Grayish Brown Sandy Clay Loam	mottled. fill gravel
2	I	Negative	0-50 Brown Sandy Loam	mottled with gray, micaceous and very rocky, wash from road slope, rock impasse
3	I	Negative	0-100 Brown Silt Loam	floodplain alluvium
4	I II	Negative	0-70 Grayish Brown Silt Loam 70-80 Gray Sandy Loam	micaceous mottled with brown, very micaceous
5	I II	Negative	0-80 Brown Silt Loam 80-90 Light Yellowish Brown Sandy Clay	floodplain alluvium
6	I II	Negative	0-15 Grayish Brown Silt Loam 15-60 Brown Silt Loam	micaceous with rock impasse
7	I	Negative	0-5 Gray Silt Loam	construction gravel, heavily disturbed gravel driveway
8	I	Negative	0-20 Light Brownish Gray Silt Loam	micaceous alluvium
15	I	Negative	0-10 Brown Silt Loam	rock impasse
16	I II III	Negative	0-10 Grayish Brown Silt Loam 10-25 Brownish Yellow Silty Clay Loam 25-35 Yellowish Brown Silty Clay	
17	I II	Negative	0-20 Brown Silty Clay Loam 20-30 Strong Brown Silty Clay	rock impasse
18	I II III	Negative	0-5 Grayish Brown Silt Loam 5-15 Brownish Yellow Silty Clay Loam 15-25 Yellowish Brown Silty Clay	
19	I II	Negative	0-15 Dark Brown Silt Loam 15-25 Strong Brown Silty Clay	rock impasse
20	I II III	Negative	0-5 Grayish Brown Silt Loam 5-20 Brownish Yellow Silty Clay Loam 20-30 Yellowish Brown Silty Clay	rocky, weathered bedrock
21	I II	Negative	0-25 Dark Brown Silty Clay Loam 25-35 Strong Brown Silty Clay	possibility disturbed rock impasse
22	I II III	Negative	0-5 Grayish Brown Silt Loam 5-20 Brownish Yellow Silty Clay Loam 20-30 Yellowish Brown Silty Clay	rocky, weathered bedrock
23	I II	Negative	0-20 Dark Brown Silty Clay Loam 20-28 Strong Brown Silty Clay	rock impasse
37	I II	Negative	0-5 Light Brownish Gray Silt 5-70 Grayish Brown Silt	micaceous mottled with some gray, very micaceous, stopped at root impasse

Shovel Test No.	Stratum	STP Results	Soil Profile	Notes
38	I	Negative	0-40 Dark Brown Silt Loam	edge of flood plain. roadside gravel fill at bottom
39	I II	Negative	0-20 Dark Gray Silt Loam 20-30 Reddish Brown Silty Clay	micaceous micaceous with rock
40	I	Negative	0-10 Dark Grayish Brown Sandy Clay Loam	roadside disturbed. gravel fill
41	I	Negative	0-10 Dark Grayish Brown Sandy Clay Loam	roadside disturbed. gravel fill
45	I II	Negative	0-5 Dark Grayish Brown 5-15 Yellowish Brown Silty Clay	modern trash in stratum disturbed, micaceous