

NO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY REQUIRED 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 Team.



PROJECT INFORMATION

Project No:	B-5893		County:	Mitchell	
WBS No:	48086.1.1		Document:	State Minimum Criteria Checklist	
Federal Aid No:			Funding:	State	☐ Federal
Federal Permit Required?		× Yes	☐ No	Permit Type:	USACE

Project Description:

Replace Bridge 19 on NC 226 over Cub Creek in Mitchell County (Figures 1-2). The (2016) Area of Potential Effects (A.P.E.), based on the study area provided by the project manager, was approximately 549 meters (1,800 ft.) long and 92 meters (300 ft.) wide. The project will require federal permits, so this review is conducted pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

NOTE: This is an update of the No Archaeological Survey Required form submitted on 4/3/2016. It includes the 90% design plans provided in March 2023, and is submitted here as part of the construction consultation. The design plans show the A.P.E. is approximately 244 meters (800 ft.) long and 15 meters (50 ft.) wide (Figure 3). The new bridge will be constructed along the north side of the existing bridge.

SUMMARY OF CULTURAL RESOURCES REVIEW

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

The (2016) review included an examination of a topographic map, an aerial photograph, and listings of previously recorded sites, previous archaeological surveys, and previous environmental reviews at the Office of State Archaeology (O.S.A.). Also, a visual reconnaissance of the project area was conducted on 2/25/2016. The bridge is oriented at 130° (approximately east-west).

The topographic map (Bakersville, N.C.) shows the A.P.E. is located in a narrow creek valley with steep walls (Figure 4). Sweet Creek joins Cub Creek a short distance to the north of the bridge. Cub Creek joins Cane Creek a short distance to the south of the bridge. NC 226 runs approximately east-west along the north side of Cane Creek. The landform in the northwest quadrant appears to be level land along the north side of Cane Creek, in the valley where Sweet Creek and Cub Creek join it. The landform in the southwest and southeast quadrants appears to be a narrow strip of land between NC 226 and Cane Creek. The landform in the northeast quadrant appears to be the base of a steep slope.

The aerial photograph shows that most of the A.P.E. is wooded (Figure 5). There are three structures in the northwest quadrant, one in the northeast quadrant, and one in the southeast quadrant.

A review of information at the O.S.A. shows there are no previously recorded sites within or adjacent to the A.P.E. The A.P.E. has not been previously surveyed for archaeological sites. The A.P.E. is not within any areas that have been reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Office (HPO).

A visual reconnaissance of the project area was conducted by NCDOT archaeologists Scott Halvorsen and Caleb Smith on 2/25/2016. The reconnaissance found that the landforms within the A.P.E. have a low potential for archaeological sites. The A.P.E. in the northwest quadrant is occupied by a parking area, a residential yard, and then a sloped hillside (Figures 6-7). There is a collapsed structure on the north side of NC 226 approximately 120 meters (394 ft.) west of the bridge. The southwest quadrant is a narrow strip of land between NC 226 and Cane Creek (Figure 8). The southeast quadrant is a driveway next to the bridge, and then a narrow strip between NC 226 and Cane Creek (Figure 9). The northeast quadrant is a level, elevated terrace from the creek east for approximately 20 meters (66 ft.), then Cub Creek Rd. (SR 1300), and then a steep hillside (Figures 10-11). The level terrace is too narrow to have much archaeological potential, and may have been disturbed by roadside uses.

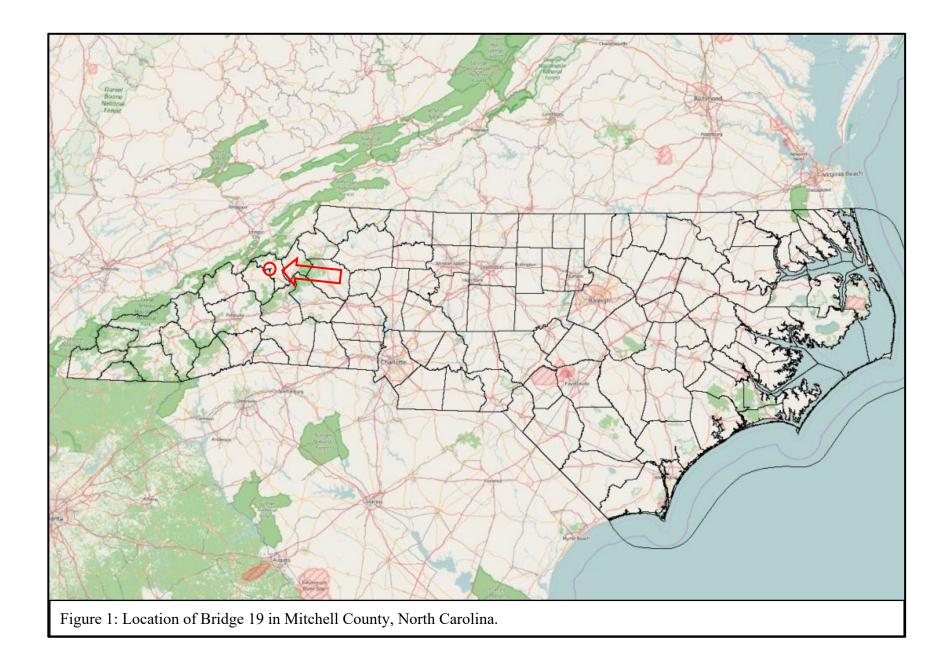
The 2023 design plans show the new bridge will be constructed along the north side of the existing bridge (see Figure 3). The new bridge and road alignment will impact approximately 8 meters (25 ft.) of new location along the north side of the existing alignment. This A.P.E. is within the larger 2016 study area and the 2016 review still applies. No further work is recommended.

(This project falls within a North Carolina County in which the following federally recognized tribes have expressed an interest: the Cherokee Nation; the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians; the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians; the Catawba Indian Nation; the Muscogee (Creek) Indian Nation. We recommend that you ensure that this documentation is forwarded to these tribes using the process described in the current NCDOT Tribal Protocol and PA Procedures Manual.)

Brief Explanation of why the available information provides a reliable basis for reasonably predicting that there are no unidentified historic properties in the APE:

A No Archaeological Survey Required form for this project was submitted in April 2016. Design plans submitted in March 2023 show the bridge will be replaced along the north side of the existing bridge. The current A.P.E. for the project is within the study area reviewed in 2016. The 2016 recommendation still applies, and no further work is recommended.

SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION								
See attached:	See attached: Map(s) Previous Su Other:		Notos Photos	Correspondence				
FINDING BY NCDOT ARCHAEOLOGIST: NO ARCHAEOLOGY SURVEY REQUIRED								
Caleb Smith			3/23/2023					
NCDOT ARCHAEOLOGIST II			Date					



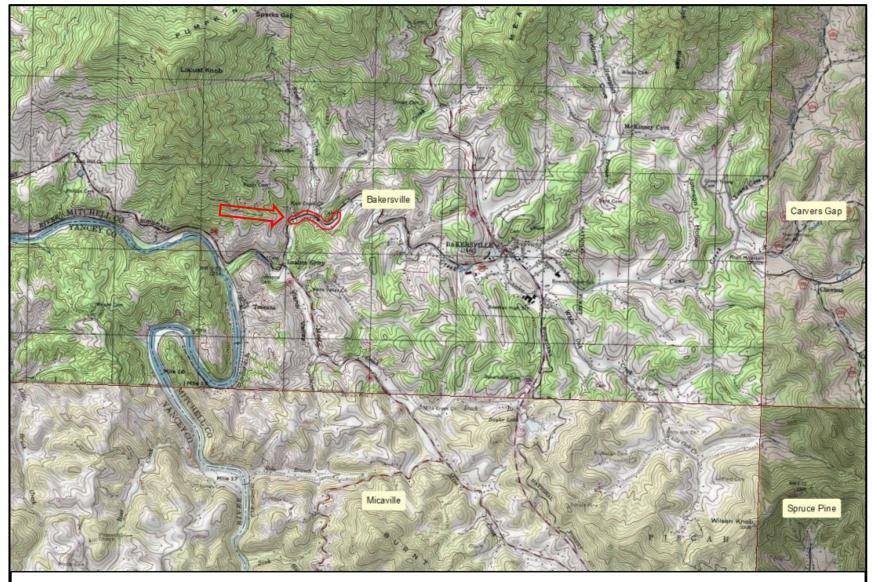
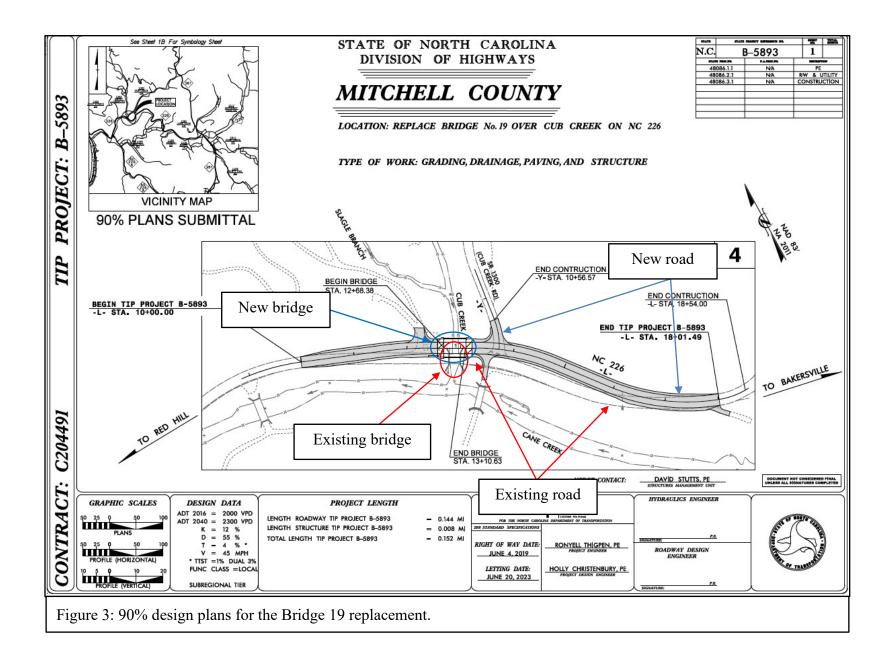
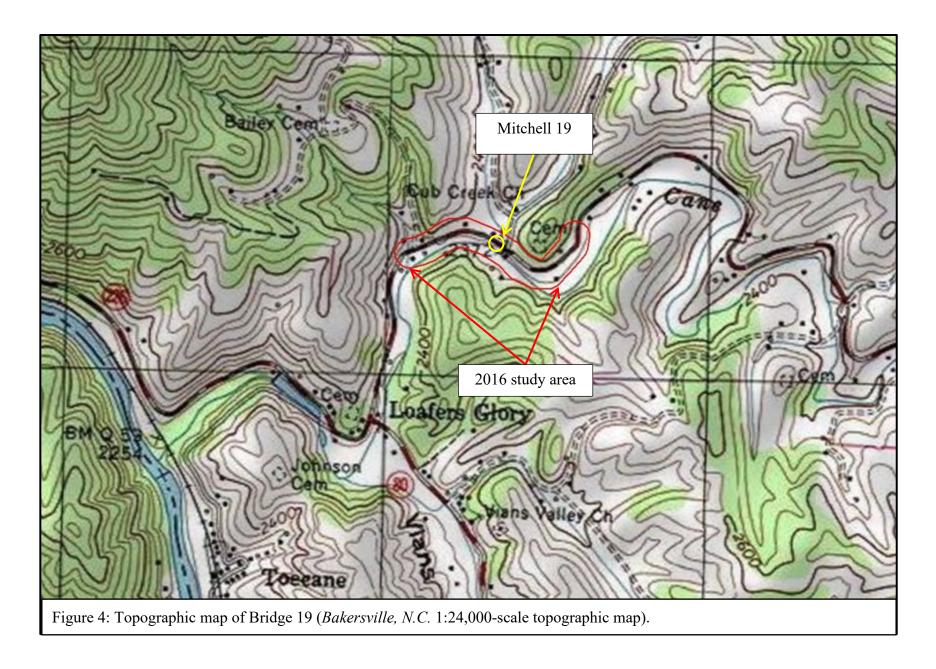


Figure 2: Location of Bridge 19 on the *Bakersville, N.C.* 1:24,000-scale topographic map.





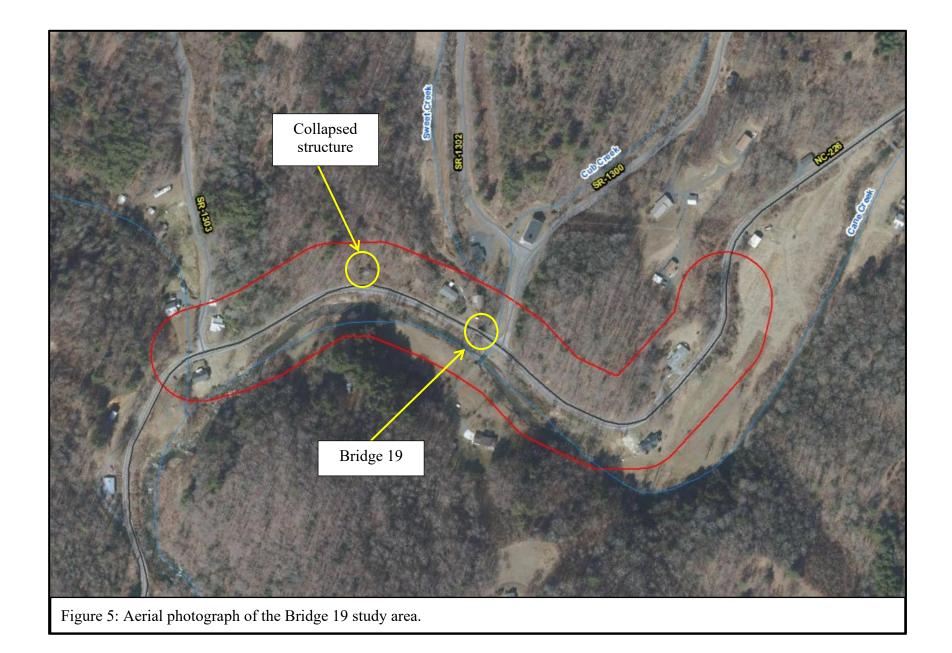




Figure 6: West view of Bridge 19.

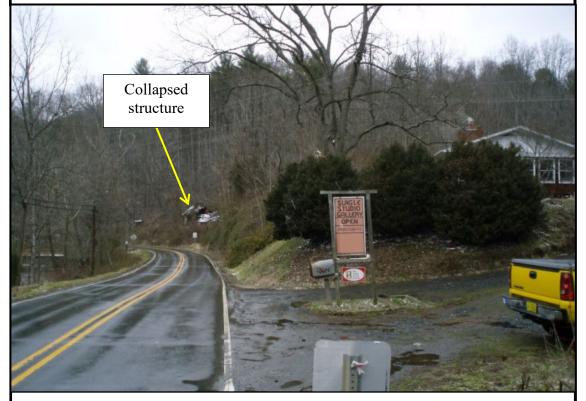


Figure 7: West view of the northwest quadrant.



Figure 8: West view of the southwest quadrant.



Figure 9: Southeast view of the southeast quadrant.



Figure 10: North view of the level terrace in the northeast quadrant.



Figure 11: Southeast view of the northeast quadrant.