

APPENDIX B: PHASE IA SCOPE OF WORK (SOW)



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June 13, 2008

David S. Clarke
DelDOT Archaeologist
Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 778-800 Bay Road
Dover, DE 19903

Re: Revised, Technical and Cost Proposal
Task 3, Parent Agreement Firm 1417
Phase IA (Reconnaissance-Level) Archaeological Survey
U.S. Route 301 Mainline, Contract 3 MD/DE Line to North of Levels Road
St. Georges Hundred and Town of Middletown, New Castle County, Delaware and Electoral District 1, Cecil County, Maryland

Dear Mr. Clarke:

Richard Grubb & Associates (RGA) is pleased to present this revised technical and cost proposal for Phase IA archaeological survey work for Contract 3 of the proposed U.S. Route 301 project in St. Georges Hundred and the Town of Middletown, New Castle County, Delaware and Electoral District 1 in Cecil County, Maryland. Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) proposes to construct the Contract 3 portion of U.S. Route 301 immediately north of existing Route 301. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) includes all portions of the proposed U.S. Route 301 Mainline starting near the MD/DE Line to North of Levels Road, a distance of approximately 4.5 miles. Stormwater management areas, concrete barriers, earth berms, bridges, relocation of Warwick Road, and the construction of an interchange with associated ramps are also proposed. A small portion (approximately 2200 linear feet) of Contract 3 extends into Cecil County, Maryland. The APE lies at the western limits of the preferred U.S. Route 301, Green Alternative (North Option) in Delaware.

U.S. Route 301 is a proposed four-lane toll highway that will extend approximately 17.5 miles from the Maryland-Delaware border to State Route (SR) 1, just south of the SR 1 bridge over the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal. This new corridor will facilitate traffic movements between Maryland and SR 896 and SR Route 1 south of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal.

It is the understanding of RGA that a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the U.S. Route 301 Development project was completed in December of 2007, and that a Record of Decision (ROD) was issued by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on April 30, 2008. Consultation with the FHWA and Delaware State Historic Preservation Office (DESHPO) has taken place, and a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) has been developed between the FHWA, DelDOT, DESHPO, and Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) (executed in November and December of 2007). Stipulation 1.A. of the MOA requires the completion of Identification/Evaluation-level (i.e. Phase I/II) archaeological surveys to determine if archaeological historic properties (i.e. National Register eligible) are present in the APE for the U.S. Route 301 project.

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All work will be performed in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation* and the *Guidelines for Architectural and Archaeological Surveys in Delaware* (1993) issued by the DESHPO and the *Standards and Guidelines for Archeological Investigations in Maryland* issued by the Maryland Historical Trust (Shaffer and Cole 1994). Since federal funds are being used, this work will be completed under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its regulations (36 CFR 800).

The Scope of Work and Schedule for the Phase IA archaeological survey work are presented below. The costs are presented in a separate spreadsheet.

SCOPE OF WORK

At the request of DelDOT, in an emails dated April 28, 2008, this scope of work includes the completion of a Phase IA archaeological survey for the Contract 3 portion of the proposed U.S. Route 301 project. Modifications to the scope of work were also made based on the request of DelDOT, dated June 9, 2008. The survey includes the completion of background research, a pedestrian reconnaissance of the APE, development of a Phase I field strategy and report preparation. In addition, the completion of a Certificate of Appreciation is included in this scope of work under report preparation.

A brief description of the work completed under each item is presented below.

a) Background Research

Background research tasks will include documenting the environmental settings present in the APE, consultation with individuals knowledgeable about the APE and vicinity, research on recorded archaeological sites, the review of cultural resource management reports, and the development of site-specific prehistoric and historic contexts to aid in the identification and interpretation of archaeological sites. Detailed site-specific documentary research will aid in determining the kinds of historic archaeological resources that could be identified within the APE. The main goal of this work will be to provide solid background research on the APE that will guide the development of a research design or field strategy for the Phase I archaeological survey. More details regarding the tasks for completion are presented below.

Environmental Setting

Research on the various topographic settings, soils, and drainages present in the APE will be performed. Soil surveys for New Castle County, DE and Cecil County, MD will be closely examined. It is anticipated that the geomorphological work performed by Hayes & Monaghan for the Levels Road Stormwater Management Area will contribute toward the development of an environmental context. All of the drainages crossing the APE (i.e. Sandy Branch, tributary of Great Bohemia Creek) are part of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

Consultation

Individuals knowledgeable about the prehistory and history of northern Delaware and the vicinity of the APE will be consulted during the background research. In particular, New Castle County Department of Land Use staff involved with historic planning will be consulted regarding the presence of archaeological and historical resources in the APE. Data obtained from consultations completed during the Phase IA survey for the Levels Road project will be applied to this project.

Site File Research and Cultural Resource Management Investigations

Archaeological site records maintained by the DESHPO and the MHT, in conjunction with archaeological survey reports on file at the DelDOT and the DESHPO will be reviewed. Pertinent archaeological survey reports at the DESHPO and MHT will also be reviewed. The Archaeological Predictive Model report for the U.S. Route 301 project prepared by A.D. Marble & Company (August 2005), Rumsey Farm (NR: N00113) National Register Nomination, and the U.S. Route 301 Architectural Survey report will be reviewed and utilized during the course of background research. In addition, existing background research pertaining to the National Register-eligible Shahan Farm (NRE: N14388), C. Polk House Estate (NRE: N05221) and Summerton (NRE: N00112), and National Register Nomination for the listed B.F. Hanson House (NR: N05225) will be reviewed.

The goal of this research is to document the distribution of known sites within a two-mile radius of the APE. This information will aid in the assessment of the likelihood of encountering prehistoric resources and determining the site types that could be expected within the APE. This research may also help reveal patterns of historic land use and assess the potential of the APE for historic sites not depicted on nineteenth century maps and atlases. The locations of known 17th and 18th century sites within a two-mile radius will also be closely examined in comparison with the APE.

Prehistoric Context

The results of research on previously documented sites and archaeological surveys in the APE and vicinity will aid in predicting the nature of prehistoric occupations in the APE. Site distributions will be compiled, with a focus upon the frequency of the utilization of particular landforms, lithic utilization patterns, and chronological and settlement pattern data. The results of this research will be presented in the Phase IA report. Data derived from the U.S. Route 301 Predictive Model Report by A.D. Marble and the Levels Road Stormwater Management Area project will also be utilized.

Historic Context

Background research will aid in the formulation of an appropriate historic context for the identification and interpretation of historic period archaeological sites within the APE. A thorough review of historic atlases and maps will be completed, and secondary source histories closely reviewed. Primary source research will be completed. In addition, historic research derived from the Levels Road project will be utilized for this project.

The Archaeological Predictive Model report by A.D. Marble & Company and DelDOT map submitted to RGA in May 2008 shows areas of high probability for historic archaeological resources within and immediately adjacent to the APE. However, it is unknown what most of these areas represent. RGA will closely examine historic maps and documents to determine what each area of historic sensitivity consists of and present it in a tabular form.

Site-specific research for this project will produce a detailed historic context including land usage and a picture of the ownership of the proposed Route 301 corridor (Contract 3 Section) from the late seventeenth century to the present day. Several National Register listed or eligible farmsteads, including the Shahan Farm, B.F. Hanson House, C. Polk Estate and Rumsey Farm, lie within or immediately adjacent to the Contract 3 Section. Detailed historical documentation from the latter resources will be closely reviewed and utilized. Work during this stage will include a thorough review of relevant surveys, maps, deeds, probate records, tax assessments, and other documents. Because ownership may have passed through several generations of one or more families, work during this stage could require the creation of one or more genealogies for the Polks, the Cochrans, and other families, as needed. If necessary, genealogical work will be based on both published and electronic family histories, as well as United States population census manuscript returns; deeds; birth and marriage records; church documents; and probate records. Genealogies may also help to identify possible unrecorded occupants of the property, including children, women, enslaved Africans, and laborers.

Primary source research for this project will be carried out at some or all of the following repositories:

Delaware State Archives, Hall of Records, Dover

- New Castle County Orphan's Court Records, 1680-1850
- New Castle County Wills, 1680-1925
- New Castle County Deeds, 1680-1831
- New Castle County Tax Assessments, 1803-04; 1816-1817
- New Castle County Surveyor General Records
- New Castle County Warrants and Surveys

New Castle County Administration Offices, Wilmington

- New Castle County Recorder of Deeds, 1831-present
- New Castle County Recorder of Wills, 1925-present

Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington
Special Collections, Morris Library, University of Delaware, Newark
University of Delaware Center for Historic Architecture and Design
Middletown Historical Society, Middletown
Maryland State Archives, Annapolis
Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
Pennsylvania State Archives, Harrisburg
Cecil County Public Library, Elkton, Maryland

Through the completion of this research, RGA will revisit the areas of historic sensitivity mapped by A.D. Marble & Company and determine if any new areas of sensitivity exist (i.e. based on our Phase IA research). This work will provide a thorough synthesis of historic development of the Contract 3 portion of the alignment, identify areas of sensitivity for historic archaeological resources and provide necessary information for developing a testing strategy for identifying such resources.

b) Pedestrian Reconnaissance

A pedestrian reconnaissance or walkover will be performed by the Principal Investigator after background research is completed. The goal is to examine the corridor via pedestrian means and/or a windshield survey, where appropriate, to determine the current land use patterns in the APE, identify and assess whether zones of archaeological potential are present and have been impacted. Various topographic settings will be observed and their presence noted. Further, areas showing structures on historic atlases and maps will be examined to determine if the structure remains extant or whether foundations and structural remains or depressions exist. Locations of registered archaeological sites in the APE, if any, will be visited to record existing conditions at each site. Artifact collection from the ground surface is not proposed at this time. Should any cultural diagnostics or tools be observed (i.e. projectile points, scrapers, early ceramics), RGA will note their presence on the project base map, map their approximate location and consult with DelDOT archaeologists regarding their collection. If any concentrations of prehistoric or early historic artifacts are observed on the ground surface, their approximate location will be noted on the project base maps. Existing conditions will be recorded via field notes and digital photography.

c) Field Strategy

After the completion of the background research and the site visit, RGA will prepare a stratified testing strategy for the subsequent Phase I archaeological survey. The Phase I field strategy will be based largely on the results of

background research and observations made during the site visit. Areas of Contract 3 where Phase I fieldwork is proposed will be illustrated on the project base maps supplied by DelDOT. Areas where systematic subsurface archaeological testing and plowing and disking are proposed will also be depicted. Suggested testing intervals, where necessary, will be based on the expected site sizes and types determined from background research. Justification for pedestrian surveys will also be provided. It is anticipated that the results of geomorphological research performed by Hayes & Monaghan for the Levels Road Stormwater Management Area will be useful with regards to assessing the potential depths of prehistoric resources and also landforms that could contain deeply buried deposits. The results of A.D. Marble's *Archaeological Predictive Model* for the U.S. Route 301 corridor will be taken into consideration along with the new data derived from our Phase IA efforts. In all, a stratified approach to the Phase I archaeological survey will be recommended based on the areas of high, moderate and low potential for prehistoric and historic archaeological resources.

d) Report Preparation

A complete Phase IA archaeological survey report will be prepared in accordance with the reporting requirements of the DESHPO and MHT. One (1) Draft report will be prepared for submission to both review agencies. Chapters to be prepared include an introduction, environmental setting, background research, including site specific prehistoric and historic contexts, the results of the site visit, preparation of a field strategy for Phase I archaeological fieldwork based on background research and site visit, and preparation of management recommendations. The APE will be depicted on several historic atlases and maps. In addition, photograph locations and angles will be plotted on project base maps. Appropriate appendices will be included, as needed. The Draft report will provide sufficient information to allow DESHPO and MHT to make an independent assessment of the utility of the proposed Phase I field strategy.

A Certificate of Appreciation for submission to landowners will also be prepared and submitted to DelDOT for review. The Certificate will be handed out during the course of the pedestrian survey and future phases of archaeological survey, as needed.

COSTS

The costs for the Phase IA archaeological survey are presented on a separate spreadsheet.

SCHEDULE

RGA will begin the project immediately upon the notice to proceed from DelDOT. RGA will follow the schedule devised by DelDOT for the U.S. Route 301 Mainline. As such, it is anticipated that background research and Phase IA-level archaeological fieldwork will be completed between July and September 2008. A conference call with DelDOT and DESHPO is proposed prior to submission of the draft report. The preliminary results of our Phase IA survey will be presented in the conference call. It is anticipated that the conference call will take place in October or early November 2008. A draft report will be submitted to DelDOT by the end of November 2008.

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U.S. Route 301 Mainline, Contract 3
June 13, 2008
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RGA looks forward to starting the Phase IA archaeological survey of Contract 3 of the U.S. Route 301 Mainline project. Please contact me at 609-655-0692, ext. 309, or Richard Grubb at ext. 320 with any comments or questions regarding the proposal.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul J. McEachen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paul J. McEachen, M.A.
Principal Senior Archaeologist
PJM:cd

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