

Part Three - Adverse Effects on the Historic Resources

Extensive consultation and coordination has been undertaken with the DE SHPO, local preservationists, and interest groups concerning the development of plans and the scope of work for this project. Design and treatment measures have been incorporated or added into the project based on many recommendations and requests suggested of these individuals or groups.

As a result of the proposed rehabilitation action, DeIDOT via FHWA has agreed on the proposed rehabilitation option that best suits the bridge and project area while upgrading and meeting all safety and design standards set forth by AASHTO. While some of the proposed actions are changes which constitute an adverse effect, all interested parties and groups readily agree that this is the best option for the bridge and Project area.

Therefore, the some of the modifications incorporated into the bridge rehabilitation will have an effect, and this effect is considered adverse not only on the historic resource itself, but the Brandywine Park Historic District.

The proposed action involves removal of the entire deck, partial superstructure, and parapets to repair and rehabilitate the bridge. The work will also permanently remove the encased 48" water line and earth fill (now crusher run) and the original design of the ornate balustrade parapet. As a result, because there will be an alteration and destruction to part of this historic structure, adverse effect Criterion 800.9(b)(1) is applicable.

The Van Buren Street Bridge, itself, will also be adversely effected under Criterion 800.9(b)(1) in that original balustrade parapet designs will be removed and replaced under a slightly different design.

The project will have an adverse effect under Criterion 800.9(b)(2) by altering significant features of the bridge (i.e., parapet), the project will alter the character of the setting of Brandywine Park Historic District.

The Van Buren Street Bridge and Brandywine Park Historic District will also be adversely effected under Criterion 800.9(b)(3) by the introduction of visual elements which alter the visual quality of both settings. The visuals element consist of adding protective rip-rap along the existing piers and streambank area to protect the bridge and stream bank from scouring and erosion. Original parapet designs will also be removed and replaced with a new, but modified, design.

The remaining criteria of adverse effect under 36 CFR 800.9(b) do not apply.

The proposed rehabilitation work will not perpetuate deterioration of the bridge and Brandywine Park Historic District under Criterion 4.

Under Criterion 5, the proposed rehabilitation work will not result in transfer, lease, or sale of either property.

Based on the given scope of work, potential archaeological resources are not expected within the project area.

Based on the foregoing analysis is our opinion that the Van Buren Street Bridge and Brandywine Park Historic District will suffer adverse effects as a result of the federal undertaking.