



**OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION
Office of Environmental Services**

TO: Michael C. Flynn, District 8 Deputy Director **DATE:** June 2, 2006
Attention: Hans Jindal, District Environmental Coordinator

FROM: Timothy M. Hill, Administrator, Office of Environmental Services
Timothy M. Hill

SUBJECT: Section 106 Consultation Guidance

PROJECT: (CRS): HAM-75-2.30 PID: 76257

On May 31, 2006, a project meeting was held for the subject undertaking. The Area of Potential Effects (APE), Phase II history/architecture investigations, and Section 106 Consultation were discussed. The meeting included a field review of the proposed APE. Attendees included: Nancy Campbell, OSHPO; Stefan Spinosa, District 8/ODOT; Noel Alcala, Paul Graham, Susan Gasbarro, and Joan Randall, OES/ODOT; and Andy Schneider, TranSystems. It was concluded that prior to presenting the APE to the OSHPO review and the identified Section 106 Consulting Parties, a meeting with FHWA would be conducted.

Previously, Phase I investigations resulted in the identification of 10 history/architecture resources that may require Phase II investigations. Phase II investigations are currently underway for 5 of the resources. The following information is provided to facilitate District's efforts to identify Section 106 Consulting Parties and manage the Consultation process:

- *AASHTO Center for Environmental Excellence Practitioner's Guide Consulting under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Draft-12-23-2005)*
- October 26, 2005 OSHPO concurrence letter
- Example of Public Open House Notice for Historic Bridge
- Handout – When Do Consulting Parties Participate in the Section 106 Process?
- E-mail from the OSHPO listing potential Section 106 Consulting Parties
- Copy of the Cleveland Innerbelt Section 106 Consultation Letter invitation
- Section 106 Cleveland Innerbelt Consultation Meeting Handouts
- HAM-75-2.30 PID: 76257 Study Area Map
- Mill Creek Expressway HAM-75-2.30 PID: 76257 Alternative Maps

Let us know if we may be of further assistance.

TMH:sg
 Enclosures

c: S. Spinosa, D-8; L. Hoffman, ODOT; N. Campbell, OSHPO; N. Alcala, ODOT; M. Vonder Embse, FHWA; Joan Randall, OES/ODOT; Project File; Reading File



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

CENTRAL OFFICE, P.O. Box 899, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43216-0899

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

September 28, 2005

Mr. Mark Epstein, Department Head
 Resource Protection and Review
 Ohio Historic Preservation Office
 567 East Hudson Street
 Columbus, Ohio 43211

RECEIVED
 OCT 28 2005
 OFFICE OF
 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Attn: Nancy Campbell, ODOT Review Manager, History/Architecture

Project: HAM-75-2.30 PID 76257
 Additional Phase I History/Architecture Coordination (Mt. Storm Park)

Dear Mr. Epstein:

Enclosed for your information and review is a letter (bound with supporting figures, plates, and Ohio Historic Inventory [OHI] forms) prepared by ASC Group, Inc. on September 23, 2005 at the request of ODOT's Office of Environmental Services. That letter documents Mt. Storm Park, a cultural resource that had been overlooked during the original survey for the subject project as documented in the report *Phase I History/Architecture Survey for the Proposed I-75 Mill Creek Expressway Study (HAM-75-2.30; PID 76257) in Cincinnati, St. Bernard, and Elmwood Place, Hamilton County, Ohio* prepared by ASC Group, Inc. for TransSystems Corporation on June 30, 2005.

Also enclosed is a copy of the original coordination letter for this project dated August 3, 2005 and concurred with by your office on September 9, 2005.

Project Description

The subject project is located in the Mill Creek valley of metropolitan Cincinnati, including Interstate 75 (I-75) between Paddock Road and the Western Hills Viaduct and Interstate 74 (I-74) between its intersection with I-75 and with Montana Avenue. It is part of an overall plan to improve the safety, efficiency, and reliability of transportation networks in the area by studying this corridor, among others, with input from the public and stakeholders. The survey study area was centered on the above-defined sections of I-75 and I-74 and the interchanges within those sections of I-75 and I-74.

Previous Coordination

In a letter dated August 3, 2005, ODOT presented your office with the Phase I report of June 30, 2005, finding that:

- eight entities identified during the history/architecture survey require additional work to determine their eligibility for inclusion in the NRHP:
 - the B&O Railroad Depot (HAM-5141-45)

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- the NA Tower (HAM-7627-45)
- St. John's Cemetery (HAM-5168-45)
- Wesleyan Cemetery (HAM-6343-27)
- the Cincinnati Street Railway Colerain Avenue Substation (HAM-7628-40)
- the proposed Rachel-Sidney Historic District
- Mills House (HAM-1696-40)
- the Ahrens-Fox Engine Company Building (HAM-7420-40);
- both sections of the Western Hills Viaduct will require further investigation for National Register eligibility by ODOT when the preferred alternative is developed; and
- none of the other pre-1956 properties or entities identified during the survey is eligible.

Your office indicated that it did not object to our findings by affixing an appropriate signature to our coordination letter on September 9, 2005.

Literature Review

A literature review conducted by ASC Group, Inc. in November and December of 2004 and May of 2005 for the original 2005 Phase I survey noted that Mt. Storm Park-Sacred Heart Academy had been designated an historic district by the city of Cincinnati, but was not listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). A Greek Revival water-reservoir/pavilion (The Temple of Love) on the property is documented in the OHI as HAM-1613-7. An OHI form for a storage building/caretakers quarters on the property has been prepared but has not been assigned an OHI number.

The Investigation of Mt. Storm Park

ASC Group, Inc. conducted a field survey of Mt. Storm Park on September 9, 2005, supported that information with further research, and prepared an OHI form for it (HAM-7675-07).

It was found that Mt. Storm Park was originally the private estate of dry goods and railroad magnate Robert Bonner Bowler, with a mansion and with grounds designed by Spring Grove Cemetery designer Adolph Strauch in the mid-nineteenth century. Bowler's heirs sold the estate to the city of Cincinnati in 1911 for the establishment of a park in accordance with George Kessler's 1907 master plan for the city. The mansion, its associated structures (except for the ca. 1845 Temple of Love and the carriage house/caretaker's building), and many landscape features were destroyed in 1917 to develop a more park-like landscape. A stone Depression Modern-style park shelter designed by Samuel Hannaford & Sons architects with spectacular views to the Mill Creek Valley was constructed on the site in 1935. The carriage house/caretaker's building has been converted to condominiums. Otherwise, the park is grassy, with trees, some flowerbeds, and twentieth-century circulation paths and roads.

In 1983 the National Park Service denied a nomination of Mt. Storm Park-Sacred Heart as an historic district due to lack of integrity, continuity, and the failure to establish the property's significance.

The report recommends further investigation to determine if Mt. Storm Park is eligible under Criterion A as a good example of early urban planning in its adaptation of a nineteenth-century estate for use as a public park.

Conclusion

As a result of the investigation of Mt. Storm Park described in the ASC Group, Inc. letter of September 23, 2005, ODOT has found that,

- in addition to the nine entities recommended for further investigation in our letter of August 3, 2005 (and cited in the fourth paragraph of this letter),
- Mt. Storm Park requires Phase II investigation to determine its eligibility for inclusion in the NRHP, and
- none of the other pre-1956 properties or entities identified during the survey documented in the report of June 30, 2005 is eligible for the NRHP.

We would appreciate the return of this letter, signed to indicate that you do not object to our cultural resources findings. If no objection is received within 30 days, in accordance with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's current regulations under 36 CFR Part 800.3(c)(4), ODOT will proceed to the next step in the process based on these findings.

If you have any questions or comments regarding history/architecture they may be directed to Joan Randall, Staff Historian, at 614-752-2171, or via e-mail at joan.randall@dot.state.oh.us.

Respectfully,



Timothy M. Hill
Administrator
Office of Environmental Services

TMH:jr, attachment

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Nancy H. Campbell

10-26-05

(Date)

c: Hans Jindal, District 8 DEC; File, W/att.; Reading File