



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

NATURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES, HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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JON S. CORZINE  
Governor

MARK N. MAURIELLO  
Acting Commissioner

February 11, 2009

Mr. Karl A. Pehnke P.E. Principal  
CMX  
200 State Highway 9  
Post Office Box 900  
Manalapan, New Jersey 07726-0900

**RE: Voebel Road / North Main Street and US Route 130  
Modification and Expansion of Intersection Township of  
Robbinsville, Mercer County CMX Project Number 050394265**

Dear Mr. Pehnke:

I thank you for providing the Historic Preservation Office (HPO) with an opportunity to provide technical assistance comments on the potential for the above-referenced proposed project to affect historic and archaeological resources. You have requested these comments in anticipation of the submission of a Land Use Regulation Program permit application.

The proposed project site is within the **Camden & Amboy Railroad Historic District** (Opinion of Eligibility 10/4/1991 and subsequent). In addition, limited Phase I archaeological testing conducted in 1983 within the proposed project site identified archaeological evidence for the Robbins/Homes House site (within the proposed North Main Street realignment quadrant) and the Coleman/Perrine House site (within the proposed jug-handle quadrant). The 1983 cultural resources survey is accessioned in the HPO report collection as MER F127. This indicates a high potential for the presence of significant archeological deposits within the project site.

The Historic Preservation Office reviews projects for their effects on historic resources when federal funding, licensing or permitting is involved. The HPO also reviews projects requiring Freshwater Wetlands permits, Waterfront Development permits, and CAFRA permits issued by the State of New Jersey's Land Use Regulation Program. **If this project requires review under any of the above regulatory process, the HPO would request a Phase I archaeological survey, and as necessary a Phase II archaeological survey, be conducted on the project site to identify the presence or absence of Camden & Amboy Railroad and other historic period archaeological resources within the**

archaeological area of potential effects.

The Phase I survey shall be excavated into sterile subsoil and will allow identification of the presence or absence of archaeological properties on the project site. If archaeological properties are identified, a Phase II survey will provide for evaluation of the National Register of Historic Places eligibility of the site(s) and assessment of project impacts. For properties on or eligible for inclusion in the National Register, recommendations (alternatives) must be provided for the avoidance of impacts. If impacts cannot be avoided, analyses must be provided exploring alternatives to minimize and/or mitigate impacts. Means to avoid, minimize and/or mitigate impacts to National Register of Historic Places eligible properties will need to be developed and undertaken prior to project implementation.

All phases of the archaeological survey and reporting will need to be in keeping with the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation*, and N.J.A.C. 7:4-8.4 and 8.5. Evaluations to determine the National Register eligibility of archaeological sites must be in keeping with the National Park Service's 2000 National Register Bulletin, *Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Archaeological Properties*. The individual(s) conducting the work will need to meet the relevant Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for archaeology survey (48 FR 44738-9)

If potential human burials or human skeletal remains are encountered, all ground disturbing activities in the vicinity shall cease immediately and the Historic Preservation Office should be contacted, as well as any appropriate legal officials. The potential burials shall be left in place unless imminently threatened by human or natural displacement.

#### **Additional Comments**

The information in this letter regarding known historic properties is provided as informal technical assistance to you, and does not constitute an identification level cultural resources survey under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act or other law or regulation. Likewise, these technical assistance comments do not constitute project review under any state or federal law and the absence of previously identified cultural resources does not imply that there are no eligible historic properties in the project area. As noted above, further identification of cultural resources may be required under one or more historic preservation review processes depending on project funding, licensing or permitting.

Your letter noted the conclusion of the consultation regarding the removal of the Route 33 Bridge over the RIT, also in Robbinsville. While Section 106 consultation has been completed for the proposed Route 33 Bridge Replacement project over the RIT, it is important to note that Section 106 consultation for the proposed abandonment of the Robbinsville Industrial Track, as proposed by Conrail, is ongoing.

If you have any questions regarding the assessment of historic resources or effects, please contact Charles Scott at (609) 633-2396 or [Charles.Scott@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:Charles.Scott@dep.state.nj.us)

Sincerely,



Daniel D. Saunders  
Acting Administrator

c: Amy Cradic, Assistant Commissioner, NJDEP  
Robert M. Miller, Acting Assistant Commissioner, NJDOT  
Catherine Glidden, Surface Transportation Boards  
Katy Harris, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation  
John K. Enright, Conrail  
Dominick Critelli, NJDOT  
Lauralee Rappleye, NJDOT  
John Ward, DVRPC  
Donna Lewis, Mercer County Planning  
Mary Caffrey, Administrator, Township of Robbinsville  
Julie Petix  
Richard Willinger  
Ron Emrich, Preservation NJ  
Sean Simon, C&A Trail Conservancy  
Bonnie Tillery, NJ Chapter Sierra Club  
Nancy Tindall, Windsor Historical Society  
Janet Van Nest, Windsor Historical Society  
Burlington County Planning Office  
Alan Buchan, PPR Technical and Historical Society  
John Kilbride, Camden and Amboy Railroad Historical Group  
Richard Roberts, NJ Transit