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JPL

VIA UPS OVERNIGHT MAIL

November 5, 2007

Mr. Mark A. Miles
Director and Deputy
State Historic Preservation Officer
Department of Natural Resources
State of Missouri
1101 Riverside Drive
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Re: Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 450X); BNSF Railway Company Abandonment in Kearney, Clay County, Missouri (SHPO Log Number: 041-CL-07)

Dear Mr. Miles:

Please reference your letter dated March 22, 2007, addressed to Sidney L. Strickland, Jr. (BNSF outside counsel) regarding the above-referenced rail line. Enclosed for your review are two copies of a *Cultural Resource Investigations Phase I Survey BNSF Line Segment 0018 North of Kearney, Clay County, Missouri*. After your review, please provide us with a letter regarding your suggested mitigation or finding of "No Adverse Effect." We will then submit a copy of this report and your letter to the STB for final disposition of existing conditions under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 470f.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (817) 352-3394.

Sincerely,

Jake P. DeBoever

JPD/js

Enclosure

cc: Judith Deel, SHPO
Diana Wood, STB (w/enclosure)
Susan Odom
John Sims

**CULTURAL RESOURCE INVESTIGATIONS
PHASE I SURVEY
BNSF LINE SEGMENT 0018 NORTH OF KEARNEY
CLAY COUNTY, MISSOURI**

Prepared for:
BNSF Railway Company
Fort Worth, Texas

Prepared by:
Environmental Research Center of Missouri, Inc.
Jefferson City, Missouri

NOVEMBER 2007

County: Clay
DNR Study Unit: WEST MISSOURI
USGS Quadrangle: HOLT 7.5

ABSTRACT

In October and November 2007 Environmental Research Center of Missouri, Inc. (ERC) carried out a Phase I cultural resource survey for approximately one mile of corridor on the north side of Kearney in Clay County, Missouri. The corridor consists of mile 199.07 to 200.13 of the retired Cameron to Kansas City rail road line.

The records and literature review determined that no National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) are located within or near the proposed project boundaries. There is one previously recorded archaeology site adjacent or within the proposed project boundaries. The site, 23CL418, is a historic scatter of railroad related debris on the west side of the project corridor. The Phase I cultural resource survey identified the site in 1998 and recommended that it not be considered eligible for the NRHP. The Missouri State Historic Preservation Office agreed with this recommendation and 23CO418 is not eligible for inclusion on the NRHP. There are no DNR Historic Architecture sites within or adjacent to the project zone.

The field investigation was carried out under mixed surface visibility conditions in a brush, timber and developed setting. Visibility averaged slightly less than 25%. Previously recorded 23CO418 has been removed by construction of an electrical substation. Cultural resources identified along the corridor include remnants of early Clear Creek railroad bridge crossing elements, historic dumping and fills, city constructed ball fields, a road along the corridor leading to a city park on the north end of the corridor, and occasional scatters of small amounts of brick and other construction rubble. None of these resources meet the investigators' site designation criteria. None of these resources would meet NRHP eligibility criteria.

On the basis of the negative findings resulting from the present Phase I cultural resource survey, it is recommended that the project corridor be defined as not containing possibly significant cultural resources. Future land use within the project corridor would not threaten possibly significant cultural resources.

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INTRODUCTION

Purpose of Study

In compliance with current environmental regulations and policies, BNSF Railway Company of Fort Worth, Texas entered into a contractual agreement with Environmental Research Center of Missouri, Inc. (ERC) to conduct a Phase I cultural resource survey of a one mile corridor in Clay County, Missouri. The study followed the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) "Guidelines for Cultural Resource Contract Reports and Professional Qualifications" and is submitted in accordance with current environmental regulations and policies and in agreement with the study contract.

The project actions included discussion of the project with Missouri Department of Natural Resources/Historic Preservation Program staff, a records and literature review, and an intensive pedestrian field investigation of the project area. The study methods used are described and the results of the findings of these actions are presented in terms of cultural resource descriptions, when present, and recommendations for cultural resource compliance in reference to the proposed project actions. The project area cultural and environmental settings are briefly described.

Under state and federal legislation and policies outlined by the Antiquities Act of 1906, the Historic Sites Act of 1935, the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 as amended, the National Environmental Policy Act of 1970, the 1986 Protection of Historic Properties and other regulations regarding specific activities such as strip mining, it is necessary to inventory archaeological and historical resources located within proposed project areas which may be threatened by federally regulated or funded actions and evaluate any disruptive effects these actions might have on resources that are present. Briefly, the National Historic Preservation Act requires that an area threatened by a federally funded and/or regulated project consider cultural resources which might be impacted by project related actions; the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and/or federal agency involved may request that a cultural resource survey be conducted prior to granting permission to proceed with the proposed project actions. If any cultural resources are identified, they are evaluated in terms of National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility criteria. Where NRHP eligible sites are found to occupy compliance project areas, consultation is initiated which may include the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Council), the SHPO, and the governmental agency involved in the project. If an eligible site cannot be avoided, a Memorandum of Agreement may be prepared which would stipulate specific compliance actions to be initiated prior to project actions. The project initiator, if not a federal agency, may be requested to concur. The present project is partially funded or regulated by a federal agency. As a result, cultural resource compliance has been implemented by a federal agency and Missouri SHPO and the present survey has been carried out in order to meet NHPA requirements.

Project Personnel and Schedule

The present field investigation was carried out during October 2007. Principal Investigator and report author is Craig Sturdevant. Sturdevant has a Master of Arts degree in Anthropology from the University of Iowa, Iowa City and meets state and federal requirements for Principal Investigator for cultural resource compliance projects. John Carrel (ERC research associate) and Sturdevant were field technicians for the project.

The Project

No specific project plan was included with the scope of work besides the statement from BNSF that the corridor was to be abandoned. The investigation included an approximate 150' wide corridor beginning on the northwest corner of Kearney, Missouri from mile mark 200.13 to 199.07 of the existing abandoned railroad line. It was assumed that any cultural resources located within the corridor could be subject to future project related threat. The project area is located in Sections 22 and 27, Township 53 North, Range 31 West, Clay County, Missouri (Figure 1).

The present investigation has been carried out utilizing Phase I survey procedures as outlined in the methods section of this report and all available standard procedures for determining presence/absence of buried and surficial resources have been attempted (observation of vegetation-free surfaces, stream cut banks and erosion cuts, bank profiling, and shovel testing). Findings and recommendations are made with the understanding that it sometimes may not be possible to identify all possibly significant resources within a project area.

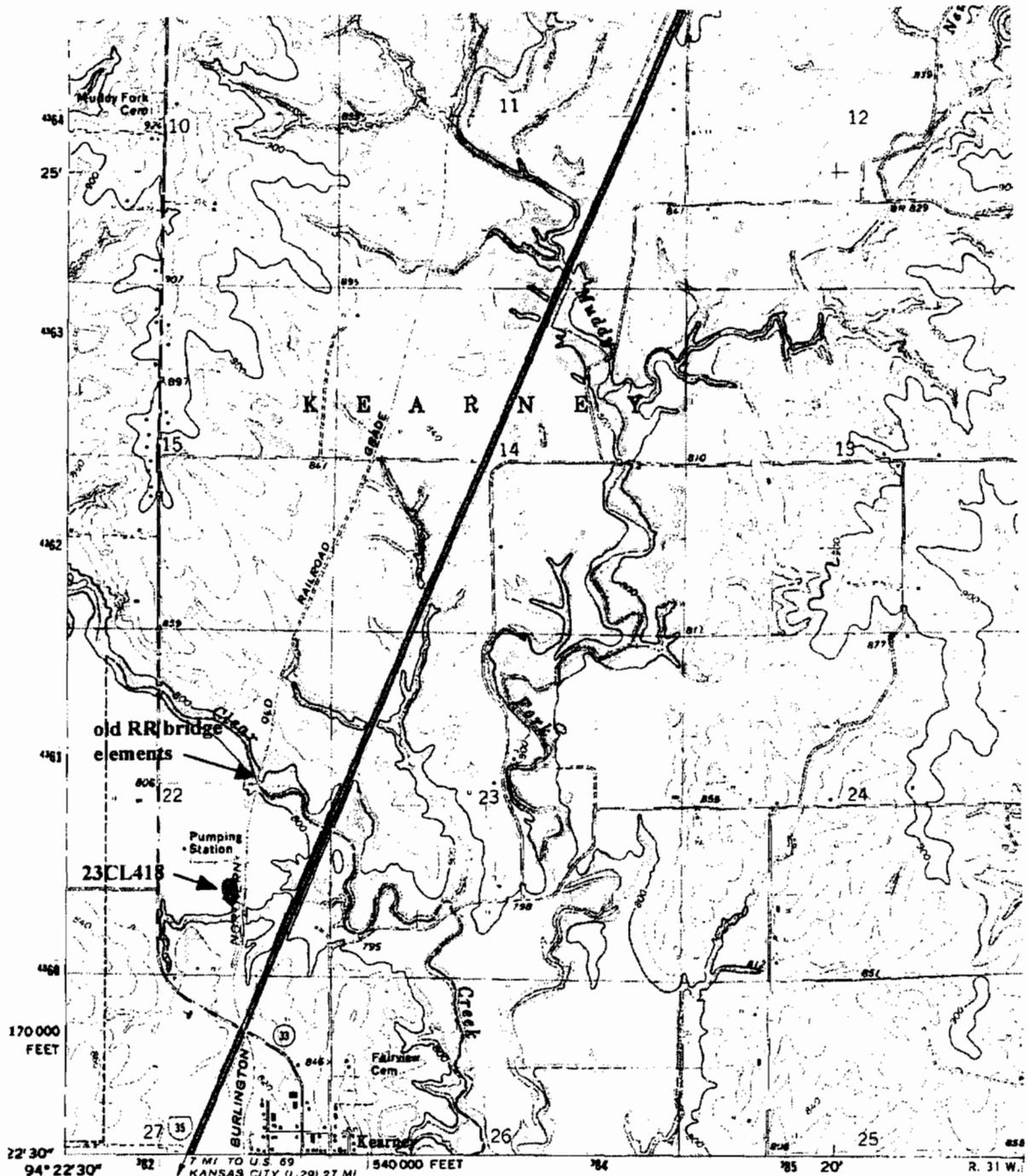
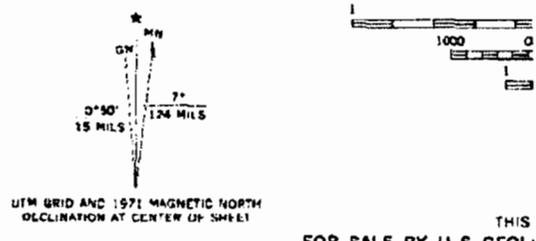


Figure 1.
*USGS Quadrangle Location of Project
 Corridor Surveyed (YELLOW) & Cultural
 Resources*



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INVESTIGATION METHODS

Introduction

The major goal of the present study was the inventory and evaluation of cultural resources within the designated project zone through the use of currently accepted Phase I survey techniques and records and literature review. It is important that sufficient data are collected to allow development of appropriate recommendations concerning the significance of the identified cultural resources in the project zone in terms of NRHP eligibility criteria. The methods and techniques used during the present investigation allowed an intensity of coverage that should have identified all potentially significant cultural resources. Deeply buried sites and very low material density sites are possible to miss no matter how intensive the survey techniques. This study has been initiated in order to carry out federally mandated compliance regulations. The scope of work placed emphasis upon identification and description leading toward eventual NRHP evaluation of eligibility of cultural resources located within the defined proposed project boundaries.

The following section includes a discussion of the methods that have been employed in this study. These consist of a pre-field evaluation of pertinent literature and records from which the field survey techniques and site designation criteria are developed, an intensive pedestrian survey of the project area, an attempt to recover sufficient data for site designation and evaluation in terms of NRHP eligibility requirements, notation of locational information regarding site provenience and physiographic setting, post-field activities involving data analysis, and report preparation. The methods and techniques and justifications for interpretations are discussed below.

Records & Literature Review

A thorough review of relevant publications and records prior to the field component of the study is important as it aids in establishing a comprehensive understanding of the project area cultural sequence and knowledge of types of cultural resources which might be expected to occur. In addition, previously reported cultural resources may also be present within a proposed project zone that might be threatened by project actions. The process begins with review of cultural resource management reports that have been produced for the areas near the project zone. These reports are housed in the MoDNR Historic Preservation Program library, Jefferson City, Missouri and are catalogued by county as well as author. The repository also includes historic - architecture site forms for the state, NRHP forms for Missouri, and correspondence regarding the proposed project. Secondly, the Archaeological Survey of Missouri (ASM) records are reviewed. These records are an important source of data concerning previously reported cultural resources within and near the project boundaries. Located on the University of Missouri, Columbia campus, the ASM contains information on reported archaeological sites in Missouri that have been gathered for over 50 years. These site

forms are catalogued by county and section, township, and range and recently UTM coordinates. As a result, the known archaeological resources possibly in or near the project can be readily checked and then evaluated in the field. There are many areas of the state that have not been inventoried for archaeological sites and the lack of archaeological records for a specific area does not mean there is a low potential for presence of important cultural resources. Microfiche files containing ASM site forms are available for review at the Missouri DNR CRM library in Jefferson City. Other resources consulted that contain important data include the state library in Jefferson City, local historic societies when appropriate, and the State Historic Society in Columbia. Other archaeologists and architectural historians, particularly those employed by the state that are involved with Section 106 procedures, are consulted regarding their knowledge of potentially significant cultural resources in a project area.

Field Procedures

The archaeological field component of the present study involved pedestrian coverage of the entire project areas by ERC personnel. Transect width utilized was approximately 5m. All vegetation-free zones were observed for presence of prehistoric cultural materials. Throughout most of Missouri, this can include lithic debitage (chert flakes and shatter), fire-cracked rock, pottery sherds and occasionally bone and shell fragments. Features such as fire hearths and burial tumuli may also be encountered. Historic sites are discussed below. Where vegetation covered the surface for over 4m, shovel tests were carried out. This involved removal of around a 50cm by 50cm area of sod and then controlled removal of subsurface soil matrix to depths of up to 50cm below surface. Soils are carefully observed to determine presence/absence of cultural evidence. Where soil conditions allow, soils are screened through a portable 1/4 inch screen. Shovel testing that does not include screening of matrix are implemented where larger numbers of shovel tests are necessary and surface visibility conditions are poor. In this instance, soil matrix is removed by shovel and carefully scraped with a trowel to look for prehistoric/early historic evidence. During the present study, screened and unscreened shovel tests were necessary since the project areas exhibited varied surface visibility conditions.

Where evidence of presence of a cultural resource is defined, the location is noted on a U.S.G.S. quadrangle and a sketch and description of the site area is field prepared. Where features or structures were encountered, photographs are taken. The field procedures incorporated in the pedestrian survey were directed toward two major goals: The first was the inventory of all potentially significant cultural resources within the project zone and the second an attempt to recover sufficient information to allow interpretation of NRHP potential of the sites which have been identified within the proposed project zone.

While subjective, ERC has developed a set of criteria for determining presence of a cultural resource, which are currently accepted by the SHPO as appropriate. These criteria are not presented as appropriated for all situations but as the general practice

followed by ERC in making decisions regarding presence/absence of cultural resources for cultural resource compliance purposes. One extreme would record a site where any evidence of cultural activity occurs. The other extreme would require a significant cultural resource to be present to result in recording a site. The present approach attempts to find a middle ground, which hopefully allows for further consideration for both the cultural resource and the proposed project action prior to threat to either.

A cultural resource site is designated where the following specific criteria are met:

- a. The site must exhibit evidence of historic and/or prehistoric use
- b. Where prehistoric features are observed, the area is designated as a site
- c. Where no features are observed, 2 or more artifacts must be identified within a 10 by 10m area to designate a site
- d. Where a shovel test recovers 2 or more artifacts, a site is designated.

Where criterion a. and one or more additional criteria are met, the area was designated as a site and an ASM form prepared.

Where a site is identified and when the landowner grants permission, materials recovered by the field investigation are placed in appropriately marked collection bags. If permission is not attained, materials are observed and potential diagnostics and tools measured, photographed and left in the field or given to the landowner when requested. When a permanent site number is assigned, retained materials are curated with the site designation. Where material density at a site is obviously high, only a "grab sample" is retained.

Historic resources include architecture and sometimes artifacts or evidence of past structures. Where structures were present, they were photographed and sufficient data gathered to fill out the MoDNR Historic Architecture Form where the structure was over 50 years old or exhibited some form of possible exceptional significance. Aside from photographing, historic structures were not recorded where it was obvious that the structures were less than 50 years old and not significant in any respect. If historic materials would be identified that appear older than 50 years, the situation would be assessed in terms of significance potential and a form prepared where any indication of NRHP potential is present. Low-density historic scatters are usually not recorded given their ubiquitous nature in rural Missouri settings. Where an area of potential effect (APE) has been established beyond the physical APE, architectural resources within this defined APE are photographed and given preliminary evaluation regarding possible NRHP significance.

Analysis Procedures

Significance of cultural resources is interpreted from National Register of Historic Place eligibility criteria that are listed below:

"The quality of significance in American History, architecture, archaeology, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association, and:

A) that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or

B) that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or

C) that embody the distinctive characteristics of type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant distinguishing entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or

D) that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history: (36 CFR Part 60.6).

Archaeological sites that were identified during the Phase I survey were evaluated in terms of meeting one or more of the above criteria. In general, archaeological sites most often are evaluated with reference to D above. A statewide planning document was prepared by the DNR/HPP that allows minimal means for evaluation of potential significance of cultural resources (Weichman and Weston 1986). The statewide plan includes information regarding traditions, types of traditions expected, forms of data that may be potentially important, and research questions that can be incorporated in the interpretation of cultural resource significance where available. Generally, a cultural resource will be evaluated on the bases of types of materials recovered (uniqueness, affiliation, type), resource integrity (degree of disturbance), and material/feature density (density and quantity of artifacts and presence and number of potentially extant features such as hearths, house sites, and burial tumuli). Usually, if an archaeological site exhibits sub-plow zone integrity and produces diagnostic artifacts or features, the site is interpreted as significant in that it would very likely contain sufficient data to contribute to the understanding of the cultural history of the area and meet NRHP eligibility criterion D. The consultant only makes recommendations regarding NRHP eligibility. The determination of eligibility process requires consultation with the SHPO and the federal agency involved in the project.

Statement of Findings and Recommendations

During the present investigation, where evidence of cultural resources was identified the area was reported as a site when site designation criteria outlined above were met. Where the resource is located within the appropriate APE, recommendations are made to the SHPO and the federal agency involved and a decision would be made at that level in regard to potential NRHP eligibility of the resource. Recommendations made include not eligible for NRHP status, eligible for NRHP status, or possibly eligible for NRHP status. Where a recommendation of not eligible is accepted by the SHPO and federal agency, a proposed compliance project can proceed as planned; a recommendation of possibly eligible usually results in a request that the project be modified to avoid the resource or tested by Phase II procedures in order to establish NRHP significance and allow development of an appropriate management plan should the Phase II testing determine the site warrants NRHP status; a recommendation of eligible usually results in a request to modify the project to avoid the cultural resource or proceed with the consultation process as outlined by 36 CFR Part 800: Protection of Historic Properties that governs the Section 106 review process established by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended.

GENERAL PROJECT SETTING

Environmental Setting

Physiographically the project zone occupies the southern margin of the Dissected Till Plains subprovince (Raisz 1957). Movement of Nebraskan and Kansan glaciers to the immediate north area during the early Pleistocene resulted in the deposition of glacial drift material (till) over the underlying Pennsylvanian age bedrock formations. The surface is comprised of unconsolidated clays, sands, gravels, pebbles and boulders; this drift material is irregular in both depth and distribution throughout the region. Loess deposition during the late Pleistocene and Holocene subsequently covered this drift material. Erosional actions has since extensively modified the post-glacial landforms of the region, producing the present general setting which is characterized by undulating to rolling uplands which become hilly and dissected near stream valleys.

Outcroppings of Pennsylvanian age slate and limestone strata are occasionally exposed along the edges of the stream valley in the general vicinity. Aboriginal inhabitants undoubtedly utilized the limestone from these formations for a variety of purposes as well as cherts and granites from glacial drift. Some of the cherts found in regional sites appear to have come from Mississippian formations to the south and east. Little information is currently available regarding prehistoric chert selection in this project area at present.

Soils of the project zone are in the Grundy - Lagonda associations of the Deep Loess and Drift region (Allgood and Persinger 1979). These soils were formed under a mixed woodland and prairie setting which included Bluestem, Indian Grass, Switch Grass, Side-oats Grama, Plains Muhly, Buffalo Grass, and Blue and Hairy Grama on the ridge top prairies and forest slopes containing oak-hickory (Allgood and Persinger 1979).

Prior to Euro-American settlement and subsequent extensive modification of native vegetation, the general study area would have been characterized by a mosaic pattern of tall grass prairie uplands, interspersed with relatively small areas of deciduous forests along the stream valley and adjacent slopes. The slope forest zone would have supported a near climax community consisting of various species of oaks, hickories, elms, and ashes, as well as basswood, hackberry, black walnut, and redbud. The understory of this community would have included a variety of shade tolerant herbaceous and woody plants. Government Land Office (GLO) maps indicate that the project is located within a presettlement prairie setting (Schroeder 1981:31).

Records describing faunal assemblage possibilities for the general area are available from early history accounts indicate presence of bison, elk, deer, bears, wolves, beaver, turkey, geese, ducks, and many other species (cf. Thwaites 1904). It can be assumed that streams in the area contained a wide variety of fish, amphibians, and mussels that could have been effectively incorporated in prehistoric subsistence patterns.

The climatic conditions in the area are modified midcontinental with frequent and rapid changes in weather. Annual precipitation is around 38 inches with most in the spring. Temperatures range from below 0 degrees F to over 100 degrees F with a growing season of around 180 days and an annual average temperature of around 54 degrees F.

Cultural Setting

Located in the West Missouri drainage basin (Figure 2), the prehistoric/early historic cultural sequence for the area has been delineated by several archaeologists over the past several years (cf. Chapman 1975; 1980) and varies in terms of number of hypothesized traditions from six to twelve separate prehistoric through proto-historic/early historic American Indian traditions. Chapman has delineated the traditions as follows:

Early Man	pre-12000 B.C.
Paleo-Indian	12000 to 8000 B.C.
Dalton	8000 to 7000 B.C.
Early Archaic	7000 to 5000 B.C.
Middle Archaic	5000 to 3000 B.C.
Late Archaic	3000 to 1000 B.C.
Early Woodland	1000 to 500 B.C.
Middle Woodland	500 B.C. to A.D. 400
Late Woodland	A.D. 400 to 900
Early Mississippian	A.D. 900 to 1250
Middle Mississippian	A.D. 1250 to 1450
Early Historic	A.D. 1700 +

Each of these cultural - chronological periods or traditions represents a prehistoric and historic period of time that can be defined by cultural materials and/or events. The prehistoric periods can only be hypothesized to have occurred in the project area in that too little data are presently available to allow designation of each specific tradition. The historic periods have been relatively well documented by available historic records. Each of the prehistoric and historic periods is briefly described below along with listings of material cultural items, features, and/or architectural forms which would be associated with the specific tradition.

Early Man: An Early Man (or "Pre-Clovis") tradition is hypothesized for the northwest region of Missouri although there is little evidence to support the presence of the tradition in Missouri or Kansas. It is probable that small nomadic populations utilized the Midwest. Some evidence of the period has been reported from northwest Missouri counties in the form of deeply buried modified lithics (cf. Reagan and Evans 1978). No specific tool complex has been defined for this elusive period and it is probable that

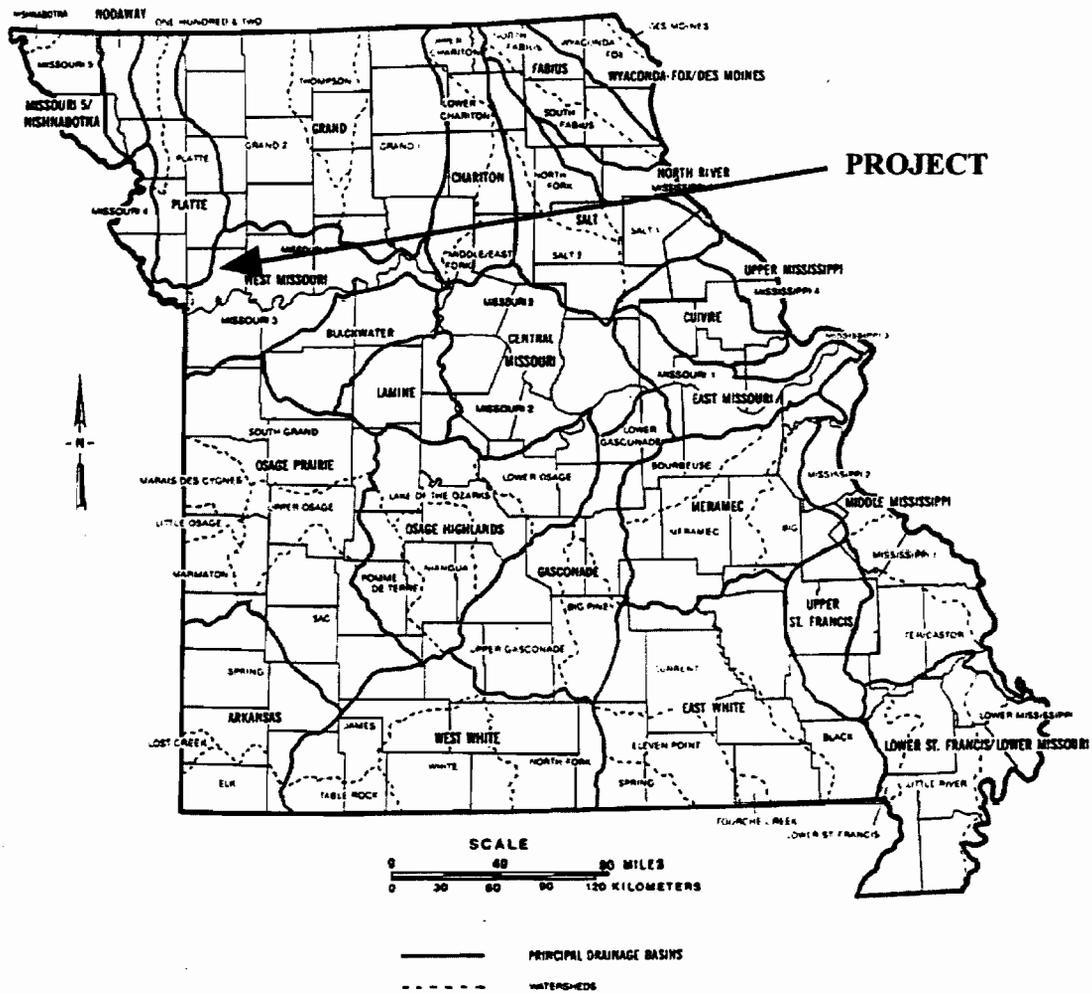


Figure 2.
DNR Drainage Map/Study Unit Location of Project

identification of an Early Man occupation would be very serendipitous. There are no data regarding potential terrain setting within which this early period may occur. No Early Man sites have been identified in the area.

Paleo-Indian (12000 to 8000 B.C.): This early tradition has not been established as present in the general area aside from a small number of fluted Paleo-Indian points reported by Shippee (1964) and Chapman (1975:67). The tradition utilized a nomadic settlement pattern and subsistence was primarily based on large game hunting and flora collecting. The tradition has not been well defined due to lack of identified Paleo-Indian sites. The antiquity of the period along with the nomadic settlement pattern and probable small population base results in a sparse potential database. The most diagnostic artifacts associated with the Paleo-Indian tradition are fluted lanceolate spear or knife points known as Clovis and Folsom.

Dalton (8000 to 7000 B.C.): This tradition is characterized as a transitional period to "...encompass the time of change from major emphasis on hunting to foraging, a transitional period between the Paleo-Indian and the Archaic" (Chapman 1975:29). Few data are available concerning this tradition in the general area although private collections contain examples of Dalton Serrated points, which are diagnostic of the period (Shippee 1964). Specific terrain locations of Dalton occupation have not been well established for the area although it is probable that Dalton populations utilized the area on a short-term basis.

Early Archaic (7000 to 5000 B.C.): The Early Archaic is also poorly known in the area. The socio-cultural patterns of the tradition were probably very similar to Dalton and included a forager subsistence pattern which exhibited small temporary extraction sites along with somewhat less temporary base camp sites (cf. Chapman 1975). The few possible Early Archaic occupations which have been identified in the drainage have been located in upland locations near major streams. The major diagnostic of the period is the Graham Cave Notched lithic point.

Middle Archaic (5000 to 3000 B.C.): Middle Archaic is somewhat better represented in the area than the previous traditions. This foraging tradition was less nomadic than earlier populations and quite probably included a settlement pattern that exhibited semi-permanent base camps with smaller extraction and process sites radiating from base camps. Diagnostics include small side-notched projectiles while the latter includes large expanding stemmed and corner-notched lithic forms. The period is poorly understood in this region and presence of Middle Archaic occupations with some degree of integrity would quite likely be interpreted by the Missouri SHPO as indicating presence of a significant cultural resource.

Late Archaic (3000 to 1000 B.C.): This foraging tradition has better representation in the archaeological record than previous periods. It is probable that the population base was expanding during the period and that settlement patterns were becoming less temporary and/or including more permanent base camps or village centers. With the Late Archaic comes an expansion of tool types quite probably related to an expansion in types of floral and faunal resources exploited. In the general area, Nebo Hill is one of the important Late Archaic complexes that have been identified. Diagnostics of the Late Archaic include Nebo Hill lanceolates, a wide variety of stemmed lithic tools including Sedalia forms and Stone Square Stemmed, Clear Fork Gouge, Smith Basal Notched, and 3/4 grooved axes along with other ground/pecked implements. Several Late Archaic sites have been identified in the region, particularly along the major stream valleys (Chapman 1975).

Early Woodland (1000 to 500 B.C.): This period has not been well defined throughout most of the western Midwest. The area has been hypothesized to include the tradition although there are few good examples of Early Woodland occupation. On the basis of presence of contracting stemmed points as diagnostics, there was a relatively

extensive series of these occupations along Fishing River to the south, according to Martin (1976).

Middle Woodland (500 B.C. to A.D. 400): The Middle Woodland has been the focus of a great deal of archaeological attention in northwest Missouri (cf. Wedel 1943; Kay 1980). Presence of the tradition is defined from grit and sand tempered ceramics often exhibiting relatively exotic decorative stamps, cross hatching, punctates, and impressions (cf. Chapman 1980). Sites often extend over a four to six acre area and were apparently intensively occupied as suggested by thick coverings of refuse and numerous trash pits identified (cf. Wedel 1943:22). A mortuary complex has also been associated with the Kansas City Hopewell, which includes earthen mounds typically located upon ridge tops (Wedel 1943). Lithic diagnostics include Snyders and Steuben points along with other hypothesized forms. It is apparent that the population increased in the area during the Middle Woodland period. Around A.D. 500 the Kansas City Hopewell apparently abruptly disappeared. Johnson argues that this termination of occupation was related to the southward movement of central Plains Woodland influences and that the disappearance was a result of a syncretism of Plains Woodland and Kansas City Hopewell (1976).

Late Woodland (A.D. 400 to 900): This period is not particularly well represented in the watershed although Late Woodland components are identified on Missouri site forms from the region. A continued reliance upon a hunting and gathering subsistence base, possibly supplemented by cultigens, has been postulation for this tradition (cf. Chapman 1980; Shippee 1968). Diagnostics of the period include small side notched and unnotched arrow points, Steuben points, and plain and cord marked grit and sand tempered pottery.

Mississippian - Protohistoric (A.D. 900 to 1600): These periods are primarily represented by Steed-Kisker tradition to the south of the project area and by Plains traditions to the north. Diagnostics include shell tempered ceramics, burial tumuli, and triangular arrow points. Materials include cordmarked and plain surface shell tempered pottery along with triangular notched and unnotched arrow points. The Oneota culture is represented in some sites in the region. The main Oneota villages in central Missouri are located along the Missouri River. Diagnostics of the period include shell-tempered ceramics with distinctive decorative motif. Historic accounts of the Indians in central Missouri began as early as the LaSalle expedition. Both Missouri and Osage Indians had villages in central Missouri by the early 19th century. The Osage apparently were the more recent occupants of the area. Sac and Fox as well as Ioway appear to have penetrated into northern Missouri with the Sac ambushing the main body of the already declining Missouri Indians in 1798 (Henning 1970). The Miamis located themselves at the foot of the bluffs where the town of Miami is located today. They were removed to the west by 1815. Historic Indian occupation of this general area of Missouri has not been well defined or interpreted and fewer than 12 historic Indian sites are known in the drainage. Presence of Historic Indian occupation should be considered an important cultural resource by the Missouri SHPO.

Historic: Clay County was organized in 1822. That same year, Liberty was founded and chosen as the county seat. The county was reduced to its present boundaries in 1833 (Conard 1901). The county was named after Henry Clay, "the brilliant statesman of Kentucky" (History of Clay and Platte Counties 1885). In 1833, the Mormons were driven out of Jackson County. They settled in Clay County and were then forced out into Caldwell and Daviess counties. Numerous Civil War actions occurred in the general area but none apparently were located within the project zone. The project is located west of the village of Nashua that had its beginnings primarily as a result of construction of the OK Railroad in the late 1880s. The area was not extensively developed until the past few decades associated with expansion of the metropolitan area to the south.

INVESTIGATION FINDINGS

National Register Properties

Clay County, Missouri currently contains twenty-nine (29) National Register of Historic Place (NRHP) properties. These include the following:

AKER CEMETERY, northeast of Smithville off MO W

ANTIOCH CHRISTIAN CHURCH, 4805 Northeast Antioch Road, Kansas City

ARTHUR-LEONARD HISTORIC DISTRICT, Liberty

CLAYBROOK HOUSE, Kearney vicinity

CLAY COUNTY SAVINGS ASSOCIATION BUILDING
104 East Franklin, Liberty

CLINTON HOUSE, 404 South Leonard Street, Liberty

DR. JAMES COMPTON HOUSE, 5410 Northeast Oak Ridge Road, Kansas City

DOUGHERTY-PROSPECT HEIGHTS HISTORIC DISTRICT, roughly Bounded by Mississippi Street, Gallatin Street, Schrader Street, and Fairview Avenue

ELMS HOTEL, Regent & Elms Blvd., Excelsior Springs

HALL OF WATERS, 201 East Broadway, Excelsior Springs

HALL OF WATERS COMMERCIAL DISTRICT EAST, Excelsior Springs

HALL OF WATERS COMMERCIAL DISTRICT WEST, Excelsior Springs

GARRISON SCHOOL HISTORIC DISTRICT, Liberty

FRANK HUGHES MEMORIAL LIBRARY, 210 East Franklin, Liberty

I00F LIBERTY LODGE #49, 16-18 East Franklin, Liberty

JAMES BROTHERS' HOUSE AND FARM, 2.25 miles northeast of Kearney

JAMES BROTHERS' HOUSE AND FARM (BOUNDARY INCREASE), northeast of Kearney

JEWELL HALL, Jewell Street between Kansas & Mississippi Streets, Liberty

JEWELL-LIGHTBURNE HISTORIC DISTRICT, Liberty

MAJOR HOTEL, 112 East Franklin, Liberty

MILLER BUILDING, 2 East Franklin, Liberty

NEBO HILL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE, (23CL11), Liberty vicinity

ODD FELLOWS HOME DISTRICT, MO 291, Liberty

SEARS, ROEBUCK AND COMPANY WAREHOUSE BUILDINGS, 715 Armour Road, North Kansas City

SOUTH LIBERTY COURTHOUSE SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT, S. Main and E. Kansas streets, Liberty

WATKINS MILL, 6 miles northwest of Excelsior (NATIONAL LANDMARK)

WEST LIBERTY COURTHOUSE SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT, N. Main Street, Liberty

WHEELING CORRUGATING COMPANY BUILDING, 820 East 14th Avenue, North Kansas City

WOODNEATH, (ELBRIDGE ARNOLD HOMESTEAD), 8900 N.E. Flintlock Road, Kansas City.

None of these NRHP properties is located within the proposed project boundaries. The Kearney NRHP properties are located outside of the project corridor. No NRHP property is threatened by the proposed project actions

Records and Literature Review

Review of available records and documents pertaining to the proposed project area produced no evidence of the presence of previously reported possibly significant cultural resources within or near the proposed project. Archaeology site 23CL418 appears to be located within the proposed project boundaries. The site was recorded as a

result of a Phase I survey of an electric transmission line and substation project (Sturdevant 1998). The site consisted of a historic scatter of probable railroad related debris. It was determined not eligible for NRHP status by the Missouri SHPO following review of the 1998 report. There are no DNR Historic – Architecture sites within or near the project zone; no landmarks are located near the project; early plat maps include no indication of structures in the project area. Most of the archaeological work in the general area has taken place in association with Smithville reservoir planning along with smaller area CRM sewer, waterline, bridge replacement, transmission line, and road projects scattered throughout the county (MoDNR CRM Library Files). While cultural resource investigations have taken place in the general area, few intensive studies concerning specific cultural tradition history of the area has been carried out. It is highly probable that prehistoric or early historic resources retaining some degree of integrity would be considered significant by the MoSHPO.

Rail Corridor History: The project includes approximately one mile of abandoned railroad line beginning on the northwest edge of Kearney, Missouri and running north. The line was part of the Cameron to Kansas City cut-off from the Hannibal to St. Joseph Railroad.

Planning for the Hannibal to St. Joseph line was chartered by the Missouri Legislature in 1847 to determine the advantages of completing such a railroad and determined means to secure legislative and congressional aid for the project (Conard 1901). In 1852 congress procured 600,000 acres of public land to aid in the project development and construction. Following a lengthy survey, the railroad was under construction by 1857 and completed on February 22, 1859 (Conard 1901).

Concern that St. Joseph might pre-empt the pre-Civil War commercial position of Kansas City, a route running to Kansas City from the east and north was seen as imperative by Kansas City. There were, however, problems with crossing the Missouri River: steamboat ownership was concerned that construction of a bridge at Kansas City would be the beginning of a movement that would place bridges every 40 or 50 miles and intrude on steamboat movement on the river (in 1856 a bridge was constructed across the Mississippi to connect the Chicago & Rock Island and Mississippi & Missouri railroads. A steamboat suspiciously ran into it and burst into flames and destroyed it the opening evening) (Drury 1985:88). Following several years of debate about bridging the rivers, the U.S. Supreme Court held for the railroads in 1866 and several bridge applications were immediately requested (Drury 1985:88). One of the bridges applied for was over the Missouri on a proposed line that would connect the Hannibal & St. Joseph railroad between Cameron Junction and Kansas City.

Kersey Coates and Robert T. Van Horn of Kansas City had persuaded the Hannibal & St. Joseph railroad to build a cut-off from Cameron to North Kansas City in 1865. In 1866 Charles E. Kearney, who had come to Kansas City in 1852 from Texas as an outfitter for those leaving on the Oregon Trail and Santa Fe Trail from Westport, was put in charge of the project. William Qualey was awarded a \$225,000 contract to construct the railroad which was completed in 1867 (Glaab 1962:150). A bridge over the

Missouri River at Kansas City soon followed at the south end of the Kansas and Cameron Railroad that was completed in 1869 and remained until 1917 when it was replaced.

The portion of the Cameron – Kansas City line included in the present project is on the north side of the City of Kearney, Missouri. The town was founded in 1856 by David T. Duncan & W. R. Cave and called Centerville (the southwest portion of the current town). Kearney was laid out by John Lawrence in 1867 along the newly constructed railroad and possibly named for Charles E. Kearney who oversaw the railroad project (Conard 1901). The Kearney Visitors & Newcomers Guide 2007, however, notes that it was named by John Lawrence who was a former resident of Fort Kearney, Nebraska (Kearney...2007:6). Kearney and Centerville merged in 1869 (Conard 1901). The Cameron – Kansas City railroad changed hands several times over the years including Jay Gould who acquired control of the Hannibal & St. Joseph in 1871. Following several mergers, the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad gained control of the Hannibal & St. Joseph including the Cameron to Kansas City route (Drury 1985:71). In 1901 nearly 98% of the Burlington's stock was purchased by the Great Northern and the Northern Pacific railroads. By the 1920's local residents stated that between 50 and 60 trains came through Kearney each day. The Cameron to Kansas City line was abandoned in 1962. The last train to run on the track to commemorate the closing was steam locomotive Number 5652. The abandoned line was part of the 1970 merger between the Great Northern Railway, Northern Pacific Railway, Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, and the Spokane, Portland & Seattle Railway which became the Burlington Northern Railway. It became the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway (BNSF) in 1996 with the merger with the Atchison, Topeka & the Santa Fe. The project corridor has been partially incorporated in Kearney park developments since the 1962 closing as well as an NW Electric Cooperative transmission line and substation project.

The line to the immediate south of the project corridor is still in operation. A potato processing factory on the south end of the corridor receives potatoes by rail each week

Field Investigation Findings

The field investigation was carried out under mixed surface visibility conditions in a brush, small timber, and developed setting (Figure 3). Shovel tests were necessary to determine presence/absence of cultural resources in approximate 25% visibility setting.

The field investigation failed to identify the presence of any evidence of prehistoric occupation within the project corridor. Typically in this region of Missouri, such evidence would be present in the form of chert debitage, fire-cracked rock, and in some instances ceramics. Shovel tests and profiling of stream bank cuts and road cuts produced no indication of possible buried prehistoric evidence which would typically include at minimum presence of charcoal fragments.

Historic resources in the project area include the abandoned rail line itself which also exhibits elements of the 1867-8 bridge (Photograph 1) and the 1923 bridge (Photograph 2), historic dumps and fills, small scatters of brick fragments and other construction rubble, late 20th century ball fields, a recent electric substation, and a road. A concrete culvert bridges a small cut off of Clear Creek on the south (Photograph 3). Previously recorded 23CL418 is located within an electric substation and new road. The site has apparently been destroyed. The site was determined not eligible for NRHP status as a result of a previous Phase I cultural resource survey that included the proposed substation area (Sturdevant 1998).



Photograph 1. 1867-8 Railroad Bridge Abutment



Photograph 2. 1923 Railroad Bridge Abutment

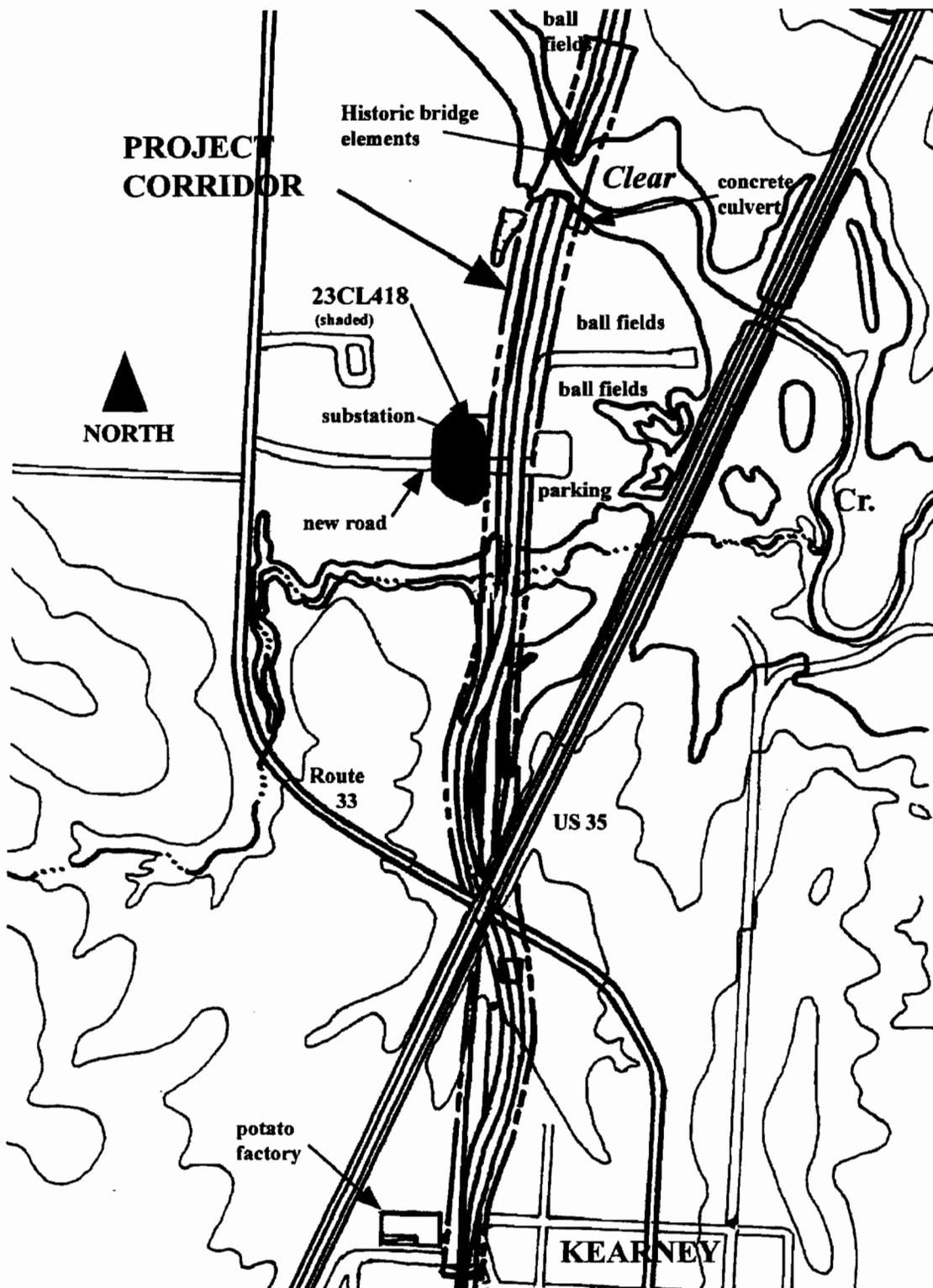


Figure 3.
 Sketch Map of Project Corridor and Cultural Resources (NO SCALE)

None of these meet the investigators' historic site designation criteria as discussed in the methods section of this report and no historic sites were recorded.

It is finding of this Phase I cultural resource survey that the project area does not contain possibly significant cultural resources. On the basis of negative shovel tests, stream and road cut profiles, and erosion cuts in terms of identification of cultural resource evidence, it is also very unlikely that buried cultural resources could be present. Future Section 106 compliance projects will not threaten possibly significant cultural resources within the project boundaries.



Photograph 3. Concrete Culvert on South Side of Clear Creek

RECOMMENDATIONS

In October and November 2007 Environmental Research Center of Missouri, Inc. (ERC) carried out a Phase I cultural resource survey for approximately one mile of corridor on the north side of Kearney in Clay County, Missouri. The corridor consists of mile 199.07 to 200.13 of the retired Cameron to Kansas City rail road line.

The records and literature review determined that no National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) are located within or near the proposed project boundaries. There is one previously recorded archaeology site within or adjacent to the proposed project boundaries. The site, 23CL418, is a historic scatter of railroad related debris on the west side of the project corridor. The Phase I cultural resource survey identified the site in 1998 and recommended that it not be considered eligible for the NRHP. The Missouri State Historic Preservation Office agreed with this recommendation and 23CO418 is not eligible for inclusion on the NRHP. There are no DNR Historic Architecture sites within or adjacent to the project zone.

The field investigation was carried out under mixed surface visibility conditions in a brush, timber and developed setting. Visibility averaged slightly less than 25%. Previously recorded 23CO418 has been removed by construction of an electrical substation. Cultural resources identified along the corridor include remnants of early Clear Creek railroad bridge crossing elements, historic dumping and fills, city constructed ball fields, a road along the corridor leading to a city park on the north end of the corridor, and occasional scatters of small amounts of brick and other construction rubble. None of these resources meet the investigators' site designation criteria. None of these resources would meet NRHP eligibility criteria.

On the basis of the negative findings resulting from the present Phase I cultural resource survey, it is recommended that the project corridor be defined as not containing possibly significant cultural resources. Future land use within the project corridor would not threaten possibly significant cultural resources.

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