

Gerald M. Ross, P.E., Commissioner/Chief Engineer



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

One Georgia Center, 600 West Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30308
Telephone: (404) 631-1000

E1-17585

Red SEA
4/29/09

March 20, 2009

Georgia DNR Office of
Historic Preservation Division

MAR 27 2009

RECEIVED

Dr. W. Ray Luce, Director and
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Historic Preservation Division
34 Peachtree Street, NW
Suite 1600
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-2316

RE: Projects NH-012-1(85)(86), Floyd County, P.I.#s 621660 & 621670 and HP-940505-004:
Norfolk Southern Railway Company Proposed Rail Line Abandonment HP-081230-004

Dear Dr. Luce:

Recently, our office was contacted regarding an issue surrounding the abandonment of a 12.31 miles segment of Norfolk Southern Railway in Floyd County. We were asked for additional information pertaining to any GDOT project in the vicinity of the railroad, specifically if additional Section 106 review was warranted due to the proposed abandonment. Projects NH-012-1(85)(86), Floyd County, the proposed construction of the West Rome Bypass, were identified in the vicinity of the proposed abandonment.

The subject projects were originally surveyed for historic resources in 1998. This survey identified the Givens House, the Watson/Pledger House, and the Colonial Heights Farm as eligible resources. An Assessment of Effects Document was prepared in November 1998. As a result of this document, it was determined that this undertaking would have an adverse effect to the Givens House and no adverse effect to the Watson/Pledger House and the Colonial Heights Farm. A Memorandum of Agreement was signed by GDOT, the FHWA and your office in February 1999. All proposed mitigation was completed.

The proposed projects were revised in 2002, changing proposed right-of-way and adding the realignment of an interchange. A Survey Report Addendum was submitted to your office on October 7, 2002 identifying the Norfolk Southern Railway in the expanded APE. This report recommended eligibility, and SHPO concurred in a letter dated October 23, 2002.

An Assessment of Effects document was prepared in March 2003. As a result of this document, it was determined that the proposed undertaking would have no adverse effect to the Norfolk Southern Railway. This determination was concurred with by SHPO in a letter dated May 6, 2003 (see letter attached).

Since that time, no design changes have been made to the proposed projects that would change the effect of the proposed undertaking to any of the eligible resources, and no further documentation is needed under Section 106.

If additional information is required, please contact Sharman Southall (404-699-4414 or ssouthall@dot.ga.gov) or Sandy Lawrence (404-699-4425 or slawrence@dot.ga.gov) of the Office of Environment and Location. We appreciate your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,



Glenn Bowman, P.E.
State Environmental/Location Engineer

GB/SRS
Enclosure

cc: Coosa Valley Regional Development Center
Terry Rogers, Project Manager, Office of Program Delivery