



Indiana Department
of Natural Resources

Eric Holcomb, Governor
Cameron F. Clark, Director

Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology 402 W. Washington Street, W274 Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739
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January 2, 2018

Gene Payne
CSX Transportation, Inc.
500 Water Street - J-315
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Federal Agency: Surface Transportation Board

Re: Information concerning the abandonment of 62.3 miles of rail line between milepost 00Q251.7 (near Bedford) and milepost 00Q314.0 (near New Albany) [STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 775X) (DHPA #21934)]

Dear Mr. Payne:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. § 306108) and 36 C.F.R. Part 800, the staff of the Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer ("Indiana SHPO") has conducted an analysis of the materials dated November 28, 2017 and received on December 1, 2017, for the above indicated project in Clark, Floyd, Lawrence, Orange and Washington Counties, Indiana.

In terms of archaeology, no currently known archaeological resources eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places have been recorded within the proposed project area. However, archaeological site 12-Or-0618, a prehistoric campsite, is located immediately adjacent to the proposed project area and should be avoided by ground disturbing activities. It is our understanding that the rail and cross ties, which may potentially date to 1854, will be removed as part of the abandonment process. If the rail line, or portions thereof, are original, then they will need to be documented further prior to removal.

It appears that the Adkins Cemetery (CR-10-13), in Carr Township, Clark County, Indiana is adjacent to the project area. Please be aware of the cemetery development plan requirements in Indiana Code 14-21-1-26.5 (<http://www.in.gov/legislative/ic/code/title14/ar21/ch1.html>) regarding any proposed ground disturbance within 100 feet of a cemetery.

If any prehistoric or historic archaeological artifacts or human remains are uncovered during construction, demolition, or earthmoving activities, state law (Indiana Code 14-21-1-27 and 29) requires that the discovery must be reported to the Department of Natural Resources within two (2) business days. In that event, please call (317) 232-1646. Be advised that adherence to Indiana Code 14-21-1-27 and 29 does not obviate the need to adhere to applicable federal statutes and regulations, including but not limited to 36 C.F.R. 800.

In regard to buildings and structures, we have noted the following structures within the probable area of potential effects, and we believe that they may meet the criteria of eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places:

Bridge 282.2 (site #175-567-26148)
Bridge 284.9
Bridge 289.8

Additionally, we have identified the following property within the probable area of potential effects, and we believe that it meets the criteria of eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places due to its historical and architectural significance:

B & O Passenger Station (CSX Railroad Office) in Mitchell, (site #093-416-42067)

Furthermore, we have identified the following properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places within the probable area of potential effects:

Orleans Historic District, listed September 24, 2009

Salem Downtown Historic District, listed October 10, 1997 --[the limestone embankment constructed for the Louisville New Albany and Salem Railroad in the 1850's is the southwest boundary and is a contributing resource to the district representing some of the earliest construction in the district.]

To enable our office to provide views on effects pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 800.4(d)(2), please provide the following information:

1. If the information provided to our office in 2009 is different than or supplemental to the information in the current submission please provide that information. Our office no longer has this information as files are sent to archives after three years.
2. Please clarify if the CSX Railroad office in Mitchell (identified above) will be closed as part of this abandonment. If the office will be closed what are the plans for the building?
3. Please clarify if there are any historic features that still exist along the rail line such as semaphore signals. If there are historic features, has there been any consideration to donate these features to a local railroad museum or leave them in place as part of a trail system?
4. There is mention of the main rail being rebuilt in the 1980's. Please provide documentation confirming this replacement. Was the entire line replaced, or are there portions that may still date to 1854, when the rail was first constructed? If only portions were replaced, please provide a map showing which areas of the rail are original and which are replacement.

Once the indicated information is received, the Indiana SHPO will resume identification and evaluation procedures for this project. Please keep in mind that additional information may be requested in the future.

A copy of the revised 36 C.F.R. Part 800 that went into effect on August 5, 2004, may be found on the Internet at www.achp.gov for your reference. If you have questions about archaeological issues please contact Rachel Sharkey at (317) 234-5254 or rsharkey@dnr.IN.gov. If you have questions about buildings or structures please contact Kim Marie Padgett at (317) 234-6705 or kpadgett@dnr.IN.gov. Additionally, in all future correspondence regarding the above indicated project, please refer to DHPA #21934.

Very truly yours,



Mitchell K. Zoll
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

MKZ:KMP:RAS:ras

cc: David C. Navecky, Environmental Protection Specialist, Surface Transportation Board