



**North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources  
State Historic Preservation Office**

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Roy Cooper  
Secretary Susi H. Hamilton

Office of Archives and History  
Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

November 9, 2018

MEMORANDUM

TO: Vanessa Patrick  
Human Environment Unit  
NC Department of Transportation

FROM: Renee Gledhill-Earley *Renee Gledhill-Earley*  
Environmental Review Coordinator

SUBJECT: Historic Structures Survey Report Update, Replace Bridge 35 on SR 1143 over  
Tributary to Slades Creek, PA 16-08-0034, Hyde County, ER 17-2451

Thank you for your August 22, 2018, memorandum providing additional information about the Napoleon Sears Store (HY0194), which we believed might be eligible for listing in the National Register, but for which there were no interior photographs. The report of your visit to the store and visual inspection from outside, confirmed that, in general, the interior with its mercantile fittings are intact. Given the survival of exterior and interior features, you determined and we concur that the store is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C.

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919-814-6579 or [environmental.review@ncdcr.gov](mailto:environmental.review@ncdcr.gov). In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number. We apologize for the delay in this reply. We regret that a mishandling of the paperwork caused us to miss the regular review deadline.

cc: Mary Pope Furr, NCDOT, [mfurr@ncdot.gov](mailto:mfurr@ncdot.gov)



Received: 09/21/2018  
State Historic Preservation Office

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER  
GOVERNOR

JAMES H. TROGDON, III  
SECRETARY

ER 17-2451

Memorandum

To: Renee Gledhill-Earley  
Environmental Review Coordinator  
North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office

Due -- 10/8/18

From: Vanessa E. Patrick  
Architectural Historian  
NCDOT - Historic Architecture

H- 11/8/18  
RJE  
ER letters

Date: August 22, 2018

Subject: *Historic Structures Survey Report, Replace Bridge No. 35 on SR 1143 (Sladesville-Credle Road) over Tributary to Slades Creek, WBS No. 17BP.1.R.83, Hyde County. PA Nos. 16-08-0034. ER 17-2451.*

In the historic structures survey report addressing resources in the Hyde County Bridge No. 35 project area NCDOT recommended St. John's Episcopal Church (HY0195) as eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and the Napoleon Sears Store (HY0194), as well as three houses (HY0190, HY0196, and HY0197), as not eligible. In the memo summarizing HPO's review you have concurred with the eligibility of the church and ineligibility of the houses, but reserved agreement with the proposed status of the store. Specifically, the HPO reviewer has suggested investigation of the store interior and subsequent reconsideration of the building's eligibility.

The S&ME, Inc. architectural historians who prepared the evaluations for us contacted the owner of the store in hopes of gaining access, but received no reply (see page 25 of the report). I have done the same, also without success, and earlier this month visited the property to determine what elements of the interior might be observed from the exterior. While effective photography proved disappointing, I can confirm that the store does indeed retain some of its mercantile fittings and, in general, considerable historic fabric. Given the survival of exterior and interior features characteristic of what we well know to be a fast-disappearing building type, both in Hyde County and statewide, I am persuaded that a case can be made for the store's eligibility under Criterion C. Moreover, the changes to the building, interpreted in the Bridge No. 35 report a compromising its

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integrity, can be seen as structural improvements intended to prolong its functional life. Such changes also underscore the continuing significance of the store to the Sladesville community (profiled in the report) into the first decade of the twenty-first century, indicating a Criterion A component. The attached aerial illustrates the proposed National Register boundary of the property, conforming to the current (and historic) parcel lines, but extending along the SR 1143 (Sladesville-Credle Road) frontage to the edge of pavement.

If you agree that the Napolean Sears Store is likely eligible for the National Register, may we consider it as such for the purpose of establishing Section 106 compliance for the Bridge No. 35 project? NCDOT Highway Division 1 is ready and anxious to proceed with an effects consultation. Their engineers already have adjusted the project design in response to our identification of the proximate architectural resources. I would like to place the project on the agenda for one of our upcoming meetings, either on September 4<sup>th</sup> or September 18<sup>th</sup>.

Please let me know if we need additional discussion or if we can move ahead to consider how the Bridge No. 35 project may or may not affect St. John's Episcopal Church and the Napolean Sears Store. As always, thank you for your help and guidance.



V.E.P.

Attachments



**Napoleon Sears Store (HY0194).**  
East (main) and south elevations (above) and detail of main entry (below).

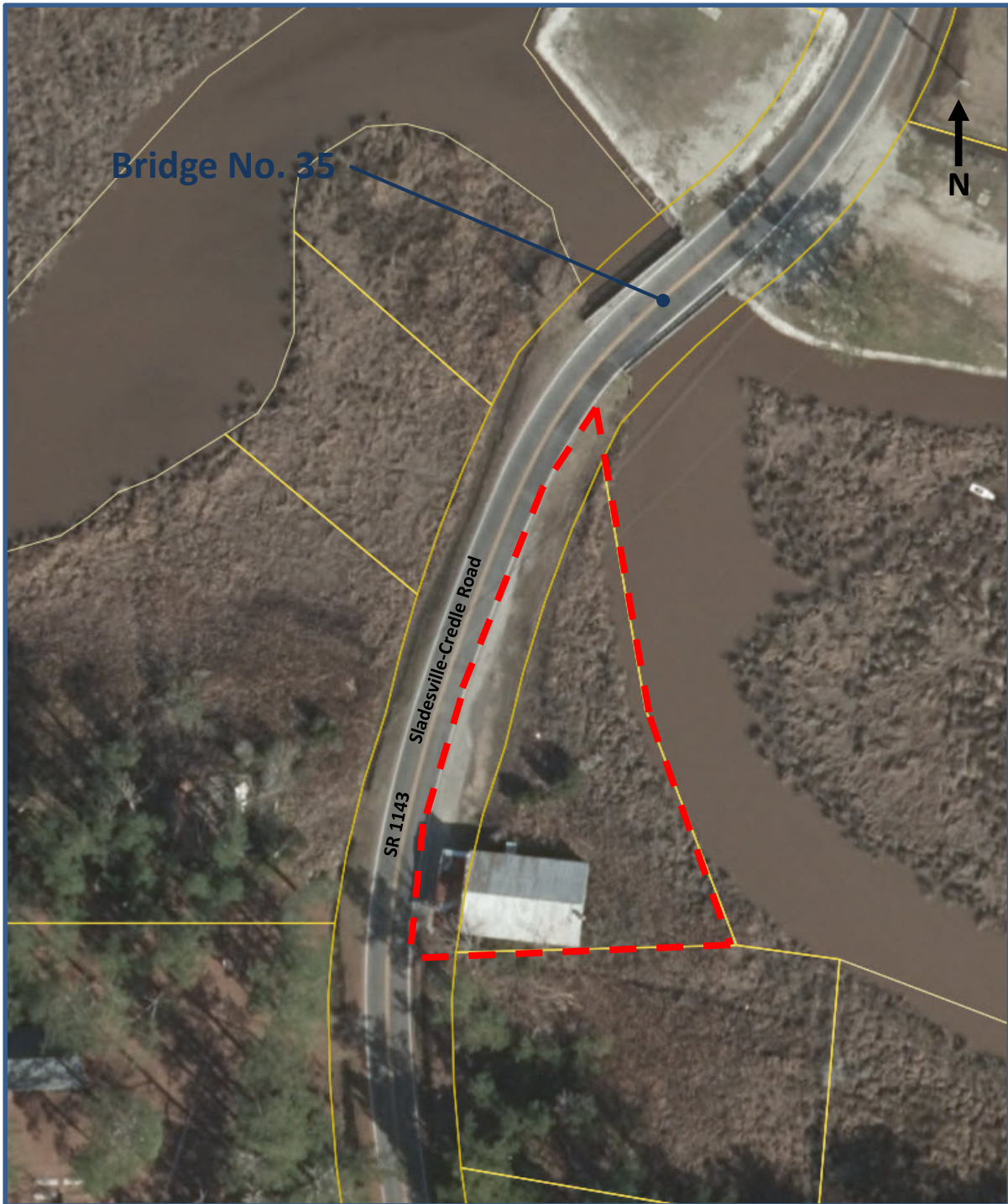


**Proposed National Register Boundary**  
Napoleon Sears Store (HY0194)  
#5441 Sladesville-Credle Road, PIN: 7643-72-2538  
Base map: Current Hyde County GIS, nts



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East (main) and south elevations (above) and detail of main entry (below).



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