



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

May 13, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mary Pope Furr
Office of Human Environment
NCDOT Division of Highways

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

SUBJECT: Historic Structures Survey Report, Upgrade Existing NC 191 (Brevard Road) from NC 146 (Long Shoals Road) to North of the Blue Ridge Parkway, U-3403B, PA 17-09-0012, Buncombe County, ER 18-1113

Thank you for your April 3, 2019, letter providing information about the Bent Creek Baptist Church and Cemetery, which are in the expanded study area for the project. We have reviewed the additional information and concur that the church and cemetery are not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under any criteria.

This means that the historic properties within the Area of Potential Effects for the undertaking are the:

- Pisgah Forest Pottery (BY0594)
- Blue Ridge Parkway (NC0001)
- Bent Creek Campus (BN0898)

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. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

JAMES H. TROGDON, III
SECRETARY

April 3, 2019

ER 18-1113

Ms. Renee Gledhill-Earley
Environmental Review Coordinator, State Historic Preservation Office
North Carolina Department of Natural & Cultural Resources
4617 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4617

Due -- 4/22/19

Dear Renee:

H-

RE: Historic Structures Survey Report, Upgrade Existing NC 191 (Brevard Road) from NC 146 (Long Shoals Road) to North of the Blue Ridge Parkway, U-3403B, PA 17-09-0012, Buncombe County, ER 18-1113

As I mentioned in my January 9, 2019 letter concerning the project referenced above, the northern portion of the project area was expanded after the April 2018 survey requiring the study of one additional potential historic resource. At this time, I can report that the Bent Creek Baptist Church and Cemetery has been evaluated and determined not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places due to changes in the integrity of the historic sanctuary and lack of significance of the site. The Bent Creek Baptist Church and Cemetery is a ten-acre campus comprised of three structures: a 1921 frame sanctuary, a 1980s brick fellowship hall, and a 1989 masonry sanctuary.



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Bent Creek Baptist Church and Cemetery, March 2019

According to the church staff, the 1921 structure was moved when Brevard Road was improved in the 1970s and as a result, some of the cemetery markers nearly abut the former sanctuary. Services moved from to the larger masonry sanctuary in 1989 and the 1921 building was heavily remodeled with the removal of the balcony, altar, and pews in the late 1990s. Also covered in artificial siding, staff conveyed that the structure is currently used as a recreation/multi-purpose center but did not allow entry for confirmation. The cemetery markers are mostly stone with mass-produced designs and forms with dates ranging throughout the twentieth century. There are no persons of historic significance associated with the church or the cemetery, nor are there any significant historic events associated with the site or the congregation. Images of the site and structures are included as an attachment to this letter.

The Bent Creek Baptist Church and Cemetery does not retain integrity of design, materials, workmanship, or feeling because the essential physical features of the 1921 sanctuary have been lost. The integrity of location and setting has been compromised as well. Finally, while it remains associated with the congregation, the sanctuary does not convey a direct link between events associated with the site's history. Furthermore, the Bent Creek Baptist Church and Cemetery does not meet any of the criterion for significance, including Criterion Consideration A for religious properties. Please review this analysis and the attached images and provide your comments on the evaluation.

In summary, at this time, our offices agree that the APE contains the following properties that are either listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places:

1. Pisgah Forest Pottery (BN0594) – Criteria A, B, & C
2. Blue Ridge Parkway (NC0001) – Criteria A & C
3. Bent Creek Campus (BN0898) – Criteria A & C

I will include the eligible resource on the design plans and will schedule an effects assessment meeting with your office in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary Pope Furr". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "M".

Mary Pope Furr
Historic Architecture Team

Cc: Ahmad Al-Sharawneh, Project Manager
Roger Bryan, Division 13 DEO



Bent Creek Baptist 1921 Church, front entrance, March 2019



Bent Creek Baptist 1921 Church, south side elevation, March 2019



Bent Creek Baptist 1921 Church and Cemetery, north side elevation, March 2019



Bent Creek Baptist 1921 Church and Cemetery, front entrance, March 2019



Bent Creek Baptist Cemetery, March 2019



Bent Creek Baptist 1980s Fellowship Hall, north elevation, March 2019



Bent Creek Baptist 1980s Fellowship Hall, south elevation, March 2019



Bent Creek Baptist 1989 Church, front entrance, March 2019



Bent Creek Baptist 1989 Church, south elevation, March 2019



Bent Creek Baptist 1989 Church, east elevation, March 2019