



North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
State Historic Preservation Office

Peter B. Sandbeck, Administrator

Michael F. Easley, Governor
Lisbeth C. Evans, Secretary
Jeffrey J. Crow, Deputy Secretary

Office of Archives and History
Division of Historical Resources
David Brook, Director

November 18, 2005

MEMORANDUM

TO: Carl Goode, Jr., P.E.
NCDOT, Human Environment Unit

FROM: Peter Sandbeck *Peter Sandbeck*

SUBJECT: Addendum Letter, Final Report, Assessment of National Register Eligibility of Yadkin River Crossings Historic District, I-85 From North of SR 2120 (Exit 81) to US 29-52/Business (Exit 87), I-2304A, Rowan and Davidson Counties, ER 92-8556

Thank you for your letter of November 9, 2005, concerning the above project.

As you summarized, staff from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), NC Department of Transportation (NCDOT), and the State Historic Preservation Office (HPO) met for a conference on November 3, 2005, to discuss the proposed Yadkin River Crossings Historic District expansion.

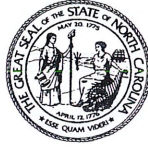
At the meeting, we concurred that the Big Island, south of the I-85 Bridge, is a historically documented landscape feature significant to the district's transportation and military history. The island is the historic site of early river fording and ferrying and was a landmark for travelers for over two hundred years.

We also agreed that due to the river's impoundment, its banks, depth, and course were irreparably altered south of the North Carolina Railroad Bridges Nos. 1 and 2. Here, the river no longer conveys its historic identity and does not contribute to the Yadkin River Crossings Historic District. This loss of integrity precludes the inclusion of the Big Island as a contiguous contributing resource to the district. The Big Island joins the Trading Path Road Trace as separate noncontiguous contributing resources to the Yadkin River Crossings Historic District.

Therefore, we concur with the proposed National Register boundaries as delineated in the USGS map provided in the addendum letter. The Yadkin River Crossings Historic District boundaries encompass all the significant resources, land, and water that retain integrity and contribute to the district.

We appreciate the revised Trading Path Road Trace proposed National Register boundary map and will add it to the district survey report.

	Location	Mailing Address	Telephone/Fax
ADMINISTRATION	507 N. Blount Street, Raleigh NC	4617 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4617	(919)733-4763/733-8653
RESTORATION	515 N. Blount Street, Raleigh NC	4617 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4617	(919)733-6547/715-4801
SURVEY & PLANNING	515 N. Blount Street, Raleigh, NC	4617 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4617	(919)733-6545/715-4801



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

LYNDO TIPPETT
SECRETARY

November 8, 2005

Mr. Peter B. Sandbeck
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
4617 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4617

Dear Mr. Sandbeck:

RE: I-2304A, Rowan and Davidson Counties, Improvements to Interstate I-85 from North of SR 2120 to US 29-52-70/I-85 Business, State Project # 8.1631403, Federal Aid #NHF-85-3(164)80

Thank you for your letter of September 19, 2005, providing comments on the survey report prepared by URS Corporation for the above project. In your letter you concurred with the report's finding that the Yadkin River Crossings Historic District is eligible for the National Register under Criteria A, C, and D. However, your office recommended that the district's boundaries be expanded to include the main channel of the river and Big Island. You also requested three revisions to the report: an extension of the period of significance, a revised map of the district, and a more detailed map of the road trace. This letter should address each of your concerns.

At the suggestion of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), a conference between the State Historic Preservation Office (HPO), NCDOT, and FHWA was held on November 3, 2005 to discuss the proposed expansion of the district. At that meeting it was agreed that Big Island is a landscape feature significant to the district's transportation history as a landmark for travelers for over two hundred years. Despite the inevitable changes in its size and shape over these two centuries, Big Island is still able to convey its significance. The importance of the river channel was also discussed at the meeting, and it was agreed that the river's banks, depth, and course were irreparably altered after its impoundment in the twentieth century and is not intact as the body of water crossed by people prior to 1927. Since these essential physical features have been severely compromised, the river cannot convey its historic identity. Therefore, it was suggested that only Big Island be included in the Yadkin River Crossings Historic District as a discontinuous element, much like the Trading Path Road Trace. The district will be comprised of three discontinuous components; while not visually connected, they are

MAILING ADDRESS:
NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
OFFICE OF HUMAN ENVIRONMENT
1583 MAIL SERVICE CENTER
RALEIGH NC 27699-1583

TELEPHONE: 919-715-1500
FAX: 919-715-1522

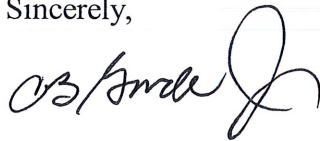
WEBSITE: WWW.NCDOT.ORG

LOCATION:
PARKER LINCOLN BUILDING
2728 CAPITAL BOULEVARD, SUITE 168
RALEIGH, NC 27604

thematically integrated in the areas of transportation and military history. A revised map of the district illustrating the addition of Big Island is included as an attachment to this letter. Furthermore, we agree to extend the period of significance for the district to 1770, as that is the earliest known depiction of Big Island on historical maps. Also attached is a more detailed map for the Trading Path Road Trace, which your office requested.

Thanks you for your cooperation in evaluating the Yadkin River Crossings Historic District. Please review the information provided in this letter and the attachments and send me your comments on the boundary of the Yadkin River Crossings Historic District. If you have any questions concerning the accompanying information, please contact me at 715-1515.

Sincerely,



Carl Goode, Jr., P.E.
Human Environment Unit

Attachment

Cc (w/ attachment):

John Sullivan III, P.E., Administrator, FHWA
Greg Thorpe, Ph.D., Manager, NCDOT PDEA Branch
Deborah Barbour, P.E., Director, NCDOT Preconstruction
Drew Joyner, P.E., Engineer, NCDOT PDEA Branch
Rodger Rochelle, P.E., Engineer, NCDOT Project Services Unit
Pat Ivey, P.E., Division Engineer, NCDOT Division 9
Steve Claggett, State Archaeologist, OSA
Nancy Dunn, Board Member, NCDOT Board of Transportation
Gene Ellis, Manager, Alcoa
Carol Legard, Federal Agency Program Reviewer, ACHP
Mary Ann Naber, Federal Preservation Officer, FHWA
Ann Brownlee, President, Trading Ford HD Preservation Association

