



State of New Jersey

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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
NATURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
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December 2, 2011

Wanda Green
BRAC Environmental Coordinator
Office of Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management
U.S. Army Fort Monmouth
P.O. Box 148
Oceanport, New Jersey 07757

Dear Ms. Green:

As Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer for New Jersey, in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800: Protection of Historic Properties, as published in the *Federal Register* on December 12, 2000 (65 FR 77725-77739) and amended on July 6, 2004 (69 FR 40544-40555), I am providing continuing Consultation Comments for the following proposed undertaking:

**Monmouth County, Eatontown, Oceanport, and Tinton Falls Boroughs
Fort Monmouth
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC) Closure
Phase II Archaeological Survey Report for Site 28-Mo-286
United States Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers**

Summary: The HPO does not have sufficient information to adequately complete the review of the project as a whole at this time. The Report as submitted does not contain adequate documentation of excavation results. The Report does not contain sufficient analysis and photo documentation of the artifact assemblage. The Report does not include an updated copy of the site registration form on file at the New Jersey State Museum.

The following consultation comments are in reply to the following cultural resource survey report (Report) received at the Historic Preservation Office (HPO) on November 21, 2011 for the above-referenced undertaking:

Katz, Gregory
2011 *Phase II Archaeological Investigation of Site 28MO386, Fort Monmouth, Monmouth County, New Jersey.* Prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District. Prepared by The Louis Berger Group, Inc., Washington, D.C..

800.4 Identification of Historic Properties

The above-referenced Report states that the pre-contact period Site 28-Mo-286 was initially identified through a large scale Phase I cultural resource survey conducted by Versar, Inc. in 2008. During the Phase I archaeological survey, 54 shovel test pits (STPs) were excavated to define the boundaries of the site. The site was defined as an approximately 0.6-acre area located along Huskey Brook.

In 2010, The Louis Berger Group conducted a Phase II archaeological survey to assess the eligibility of the identified site for listing in the New Jersey and National Register of Historic Places. Phase II survey included the additional excavation of 50 close interval STPs, as well as the excavation of seven 1x1 meter judgmental test units. 448 Native American and 52 historic period artifacts were recovered during the investigation. The Native American artifacts date from two occupation periods, including the Late Archaic and Late Woodland periods. According to the report, no archaeological features were identified at the site.

Report Comments

The HPO has reviewed the above-reference Report and determined it to be inadequate for evaluating the potential for the undertaking to affect historic properties. Complete information is necessary in order for the HPO to be able to provide comment on the potential for this project to affect historic and archaeological properties. Therefore, the following issues must be addressed and a revised copy of the Report, incorporating the revisions within the main body of the text, must be submitted to the HPO:

1. The report must include finished profile drawings of excavation units illustrating the stratigraphy of the project site and the associated geomorphology. Please include profile drawing from each test unit.
2. On page 26, the Report states, "No features were identified in the testing." It appears in the photograph on Page 24 of the North Profile of Unit 1 that a feature is present in the north and west profiles of the unit. Please clarify this point.
3. The report should include more than one photograph accurately illustrating the soil profiles of the finished Phase II excavation units. Please include additional photographs of the test units.
4. The report must provide a summary and review of all other artifacts found at this site, including the Native American artifacts found during the Phase I survey. The analysis should include a synthesis of the lithic material and

reductions method(s) being utilized at the site and how it relates to regional lithic exploitation models. The report needs to include a final synthesis of Site 28-Mo-386 in prehistory and a National Register of Historic Places eligibility assessment.

5. Please include additional photographs of the artifact collections so that the HPO may better understand the collection as a whole.
6. The report states that Versar originally registered site 28-Mo-386 in 2007 with the New Jersey State museum. The report should include a revised New Jersey State Museum site registration form for 28-Mo-386 and it should be filed with the New Jersey State Museum.

The HPO looks forward to continued consultation for Site 28-Mo-386 pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Additional Comments

Thank you for providing the opportunity to review and comment on the potential for the above-referenced project to affect historic properties. If additional consultation with the HPO is needed for this undertaking, please reference the HPO project number 07-0835 in any future calls, emails, or written correspondence to help expedite your review and response. We look forward to receiving the revised Phase II report. Please do not hesitate to contact Vincent Maresca (609-633-2395) with any questions.

Sincerely,



Daniel D. Saunders
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer

Cc: Gregory Katz – The Louis Berger Group

Gregory Katz
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