



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 60267
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70180-0267

December 1, 2008

Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch
Attn: CEMVN-PM-RN

Mr. Scott Hutcheson
State Historic Preservation Officer
Office of Cultural Development
Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism
P.O. Box 44247
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

No known historic properties will be affected by this undertaking. The effect determination could change should new information come to our attention.

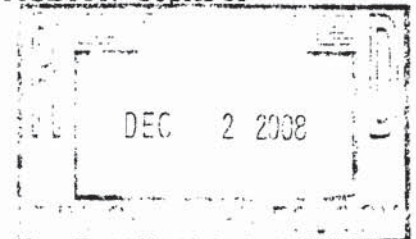
Scott Hutcheson 1/20/09
Scott Hutcheson Date
State Historic Preservation Officer

RE: Request to Continue Consultation Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for the Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity Hurricane Protection Project, Chalmette Loop, Individual Environmental Report #10, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana.

Dear Mr. Hutcheson:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division, New Orleans District (CEMVN), is proposing to construct flood reduction improvements within the Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity Hurricane Protection Project, Chalmette Loop, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana. This improvement project is currently being studied under the emergency alternative arrangements approved by the Council on Environmental Quality for the Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity Hurricane Protection Project, Individual Environmental Report (IER) #10. Additional information on the Emergency Alternative Arrangements and IER's can be found on the District's web page ([HTTP://www.nolaenvironmental.gov](http://www.nolaenvironmental.gov)).

In a letter dated October 14, 2008, CEMVN provided project documentation and requested your opinion regarding our "no historic properties affected" finding. In your letter to our office dated November 17, 2008, you concurred with our evaluation that the portion of archaeological site 16ST160 (Mexican and Gulf Line Railroad Embankment) located within the Area of Potential Effects (APE) is not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and requested clarification concerning the location of site 16SB161. Copies of these letters are attached herein.

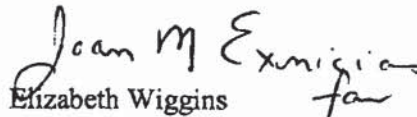


Our office contacted Mr. Nathanael Heller, R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc. and he confirmed that shovel tests excavated in the vicinity of the site 16ST161 were negative and that site boundaries do not extend into the APE. Unfortunately, the map provided in the recently submitted management summary is incorrect (Heller et al. 2008). A corrected map showing the accurate location of site 16ST161 outside of the APE will be provided in draft Phase 1 report.

Based on a review of the additional information summarized above, it is our view that proposed project activities will have no impact on significant cultural resources. Site 16SB161 is located outside of the APE and will not be impacted by proposed construction. Site 16SB161 was not evaluated for NRHP eligibility because researchers were not provided rights of entry and were not authorized to conduct investigations on private property located outside of the APE. However, measures will be taken to ensure impacts to the site will be avoided by restricting proposed ground disturbing activities within the vicinity of the site to an area 400 feet from the levee centerline. In the event that cultural resources are encountered during construction activities, work will be halted and your office will be contacted for further consultation. Any resources encountered will be recorded and documented, and state archaeological site forms will be provided.

Please review this additional information and provide this office with your opinion regarding our "no historic properties affected" finding within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If you have any questions and/or concerns, please contact Mr. Michael Swanda at (504) 862-2036.

Sincerely,


Elizabeth Wiggins
Chief, Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

Enclosures

CF: Klima, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Rivet, SHPO
Varnado, SHPO