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Figure 32. View of some of the conditions west of Blue Road.



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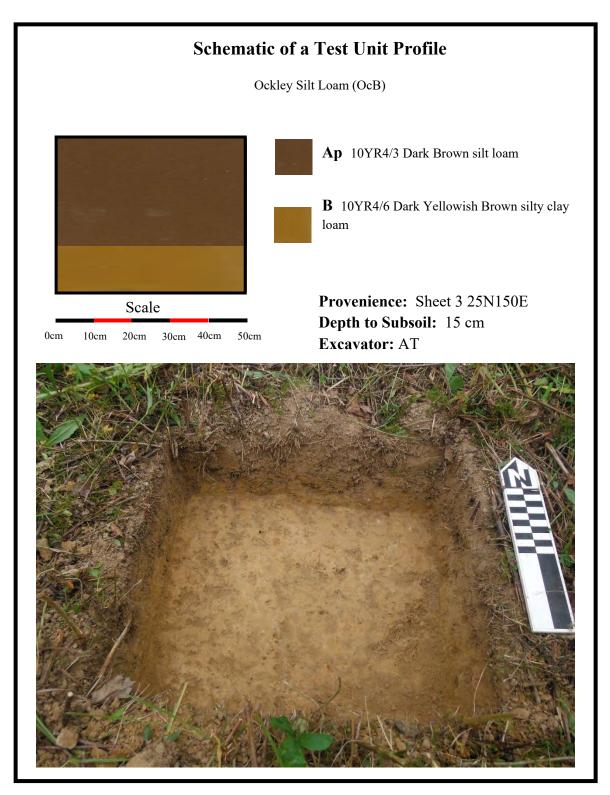


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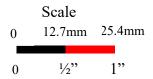


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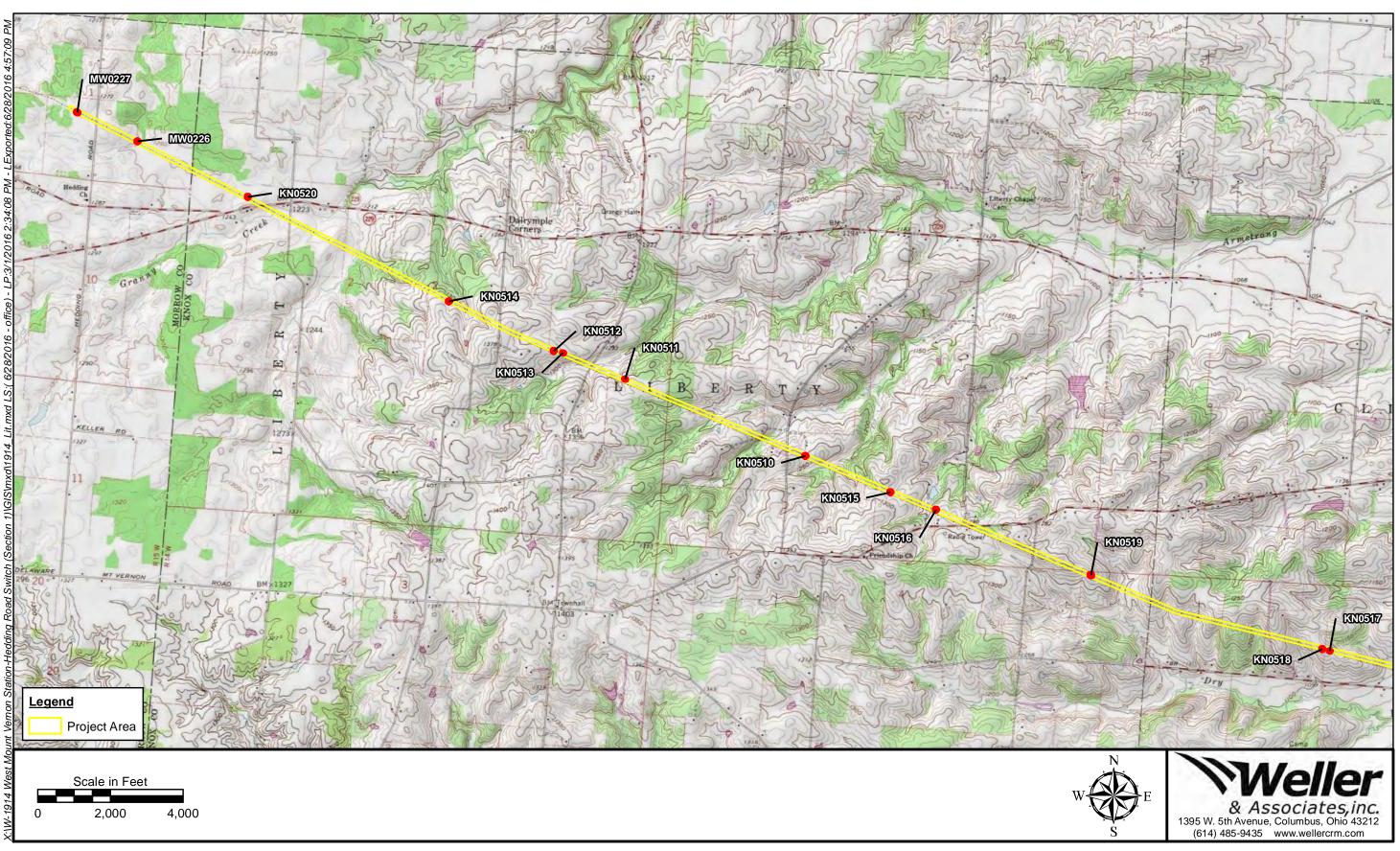


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Addendum Report: Phase I Archaeological Investigations for the Access Corridors Associated with the 16.3 km (10.1 mi) West Mount Vernon-Hedding Switch 138kV Rebuild Project in Liberty and Clinton Townships, Knox County and South Bloomfield Township, Morrow County, Ohio

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August 15, 2016

1395 West Fifth Ave. Columbus, OH 43212 Phone: 614.485.9435 Fax: 614.485.9439 Website: www.wellercrm.com Addendum Report: Phase I Archaeological Investigations for the Access Corridors Associated with the 16.3 km (10.1 mi) West Mount Vernon-Hedding Switch 138kV Rebuild Project in Liberty and Clinton Townships, Knox County and South Bloomfield Township, Morrow County, Ohio

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Abstract

Weller & Associates, Inc. completed addendum Phase I work for the access corridors associated within the 16.3 km (10.1 mi) West Mount Vernon-Hedding Switch 138kV Rebuild Project in Liberty and Clinton Townships, Knox County and South Bloomfield Township, Morrow County, Ohio. This work was limited to archaeological investigations since it was for access corridors that are at ground level. These investigations were conducted to meet guidelines that were set forth by the Ohio Power Siting Board; the survey was conducted in a manner that is conducive and reflective of current state guidelines and evaluates the resources in a manner that is reflective of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The work involved a brief reevaluation, update, and verification of the literature review that was conducted for the existing electric line easement. There were no cultural resources identified during these addendum investigations.

These investigations were conducted in a rural, agricultural part of north-central Ohio and west of Mount Vernon. This electric line segment and its access corridors are within the Kokosing River watershed and the terrain is rolling to gently rolling. Weller had conducted previous investigations that accounted for the existing West Mount Vernon-Hedding 138kV electric line corridor (Weller 2016), which was 30.5 m (100 ft) wide and 16.3 km (10.1 mi) long. The western terminus of this electric line is at the Hedding Road Switch, which is about 0.8 km (0.5 mi) west of the Morrow-Knox County line. This survey addressed any necessary ground-disturbing activity regarding the access corridors for this rebuild project. Those that are planned within the right-of-way are within a previously investigated corridor. The current investigations account for associated activity as it pertains to areas that extend outside of this existing and previously investigated corridor.

The literature review for this project was updated to include the resources that were identified by the previous survey and to include any that had been conducted since then. Weller's previous (2016) investigations were conducted in late spring and resulted in the identification of 13 archaeological sites, 33MW0226-227 and 33KN0510-520. Most of these sites were regarded as being significant. Site 33KN519 is an early to middle nineteenth century site that was recommended for additional work if it could not be avoided.

There were no additional cultural resources identified during these addendum investigations. The majority of the access corridors are contained within the existing electric line right-of-way, which was addressed in the original survey (Weller 2016). Site 33KN0519 appears to be partially within an access corridor. Additional work is recommended if this site cannot be effectively avoided by the access roads and construction. There were no new cultural resources identified. No further archaeological work is considered to be necessary for this project, if site 33KN0519 is avoided.

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Introduction

In August of 2016, Weller & Associates, Inc. conducted addendum archaeological investigations for the proposed access corridors associated with the report titled: *Phase I archaeological investigations survey for the proposed approximately 16.3 km (10.1 mi) West Mount Vernon-Hedding Switch 138kV Rebuild Project in Liberty and Clinton Townships, Knox County and South Bloomfield Township, Morrow County, Ohio* (Weller 2016; Figures 1-5). This is regarded as being within Section 1 of a larger project involving the West Mount Vernon-South Kenton 138 kV electric line. The work was completed for American Electric Power Transco (AEP). These investigations were conducted in a manner that is reflective of procedures pertaining to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 [36 CFR 800]). This work was completed to satisfy requirements for the Ohio Power Siting Board. This report summarizes the results of the archaeological fieldwork and updated literature review. The report format and design is similar to that established in *Archaeology Guidelines* (Ohio State Historic Preservation Office [SHPO] 1994).

Chad Porter conducted the original literature review in March of 2016; it was reinspected in August, 2016. Ryan Weller served as the Principal Investigator and Chris Nelson was the Project Manager. The archaeological field crew included Alex Thomas, Matt Sanders, Brittany Vance, Jon Walker, and Craig Schaefer. The report preparation was by Ryan Weller, with Chad Porter and Jon Walker completing the figures.

Overall Project Description

The project will include a rebuild of Section 1 (West Mount Vernon-Hedding portion) of the West Mount Vernon-South Kenton 138 kV transmission line. This corridor has an approximately 16.3 km (10.1 mi) right-of-way (ROW) extending from the West Mount Vernon Station in Knox County to the Hedding Switch in Morrow County, Ohio. Wooden poles affiliated with the existing line will be replaced with steel structures. This report accounts for the archaeological component of the access corridors. In particular, the work was conducted for those areas that are located outside of the existing and previously investigated electric line right-of-way. These access corridors are typically 7.5 m (25 ft) wide.

Previous Investigations

This work was conducted as an addendum document to the original archaeological survey (Weller 2016). The original survey accounted for the existing electric line corridor that is 30.5 m (100 ft) wide. These previous investigations identified 13 archaeological sites including 33MW226-227 and 33KN0510-520. Site 33KN519 is a historic period component site that was recommended for additional, assessment-level work if it could not be avoided. The history/architecture component was previously addressed (Lehmann and Nelson 2016) and additional work for this element of the project was not considered necessary since the work was performed for near surface access corridors.

Research Design

The purpose of this Phase I work is to locate and identify archaeological resources that will be affected by the planned electric structure replacement project, but specifically for this document, the access corridors. This report is being prepared to address only the archaeological concerns regarding this project and regarding the access corridors. If any cultural resources are identified, they are sampled, and evaluated for their eligibility or potential eligibility to the NRHP. The updated literature review aspect of these investigations is directed to answer or address the following questions:

- 1) Are there any previously identified cultural resources located within or near the proposed access corridors?
- 2) Has there been any new sites or surveys identified in the study area since the original investigations?

Archaeological Field Methods

The survey conducted within the project used two methods of sampling and testing to identify and evaluate cultural resources. These included surface collection, and visual inspection.

Surface Collection. Surface collection was conducted when suitable conditions were encountered. This pertains to agricultural fields that have a minimum of 50 percent bare ground surface visibility. Pedestrian transects were spaced at 7.5 m intervals. Artifacts that are identified in this manner are typically plotted using a Trimble GeoXT global positioning system.

Visual inspection. Locations where cultural resources were not expected, such as sloped, wetlands, or disturbed areas were walked over and visually inspected. This method was used to verify the absence or likelihood of any cultural resources being located in these areas. This method was also utilized to document the general terrain and the surrounding area.

The application of the resulting field survey methods was documented in field notes, field maps, and project plan maps.

Curation

There were no cultural resources identified during the survey for the access corridors. Notes and maps affiliated with this project will be maintained at Weller & Associates, Inc. files.

Literature Review

The literature review study area is defined as a 305 m (1,000 ft) study area from the center of the project (Figures 2 and 3). The literature review was updated to include

any new information regarding the access corridors. In conducting the literature review, the following resources were consulted at SHPO and the State Library of Ohio:

- 1) Archeological Atlas of Ohio (Mills 1914);
- 2) SHPO United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' series topographic maps;
- 3) Ohio Archaeological Inventory (OAI) files;
- 4) Ohio Historic Inventory (OHI) files;
- 5) National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) files;
- 6) SHPO CRM/contract archaeology files; and
- 7) SHPO consensus determination of eligibility (DOE) files;
- 8) Morrow/Knox County atlases, histories, historic USGS 15'series topographic map(s), and current USGS 7.5' series topographic map(s); and
- 9) Genealogical and cemetery resources.

A review of the *Archeological Atlas of Ohio* (Mills 1914) was conducted. There are numerous resources scattered throughout Knox County, but none are indicated near the project area. There are no sites indicated near the Morrow County portion of the project area.

The SHPO topographic maps were reviewed and they do not indicate any archaeological sites in the addendum study area. However, a recent survey conducted for the relative electric line corridor did identify sites (Table 1). Weller (2016) investigations identified 13 archaeological sites including 33MW226-227 and 33KN0510-520. These sites mostly include isolated finds (n=8) and lithic scatters (n=4). There was one nineteenth century historic period site identified, 33KN0519; this site was recommended for additional work if it could not be avoided.

Table 1. Previously Recorded OAIs Located in the Study Area.							
Site # (33)	Site Type	Temporal Association	Site Size (sq m)				
MW0226	Isolated find spot	Unassigned	1				
MW0227	Lithic Scatter	Unassigned	15				
KN0510	Isolated find spot	Unassigned	1				
KN0511	Lithic Scatter	Unassigned	8				
KN0512	Isolated find spot	Unassigned	1				
KN0513	Lithic scatter	Unassigned	8				
KN0514	Isolated find spot	Unassigned	1				
KN0515	Isolated find spot	Unassigned	1				
KN0516	Isolated find spot	Unassigned	1				
KN0517	Lithic scatter	Unassigned	8				
KN0518	Isolated find spot	Unassigned	1				
KN0519	Historic period scatter	Pre-1871	625				
KN0520	Isolated find spot	Unassigned	1				

The OHI files did not indicate any recorded resources in the addendum study area; however, a recent survey was completed. Lehmann and Nelson (2016) completed architectural review of the study area and the results are indicated in Table 2. These

resources are either not historic or will not be adversely affected by the planned access corridors.

Table 2. Architectural resources located in the study area.							
Field #	County	Historic Function	Arch. Style	Date	Eligibility/Recom.		
S-1	Knox	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Bungalow	1947	Not Eligible		
S-2	Knox	Domestic -Duplex	Duplex	Ca. 1947	Not Eligible		
S-3	Knox	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Ranch	1955	Not Eligible		
S-4	Knox	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Craftsman	1923	Not Eligible		
S-5/ KNO0072513	Knox	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Queen Anne	1885	Detailed Study		
S-6	Knox	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Ranch	1952	Not Eligible		
S-7 /KNO0072613	Knox	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	1880	Detailed Study		
S-8	Knox	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	1920	Not Eligible		
S-9	Knox	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	Ca.1900	Not Eligible		
S-10	Knox	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	Ca.1900	Not Eligible		
S-11	Knox	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	1945	Not Eligible		
S-12	Knox	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	Ca. 1900	Not Eligible		
S-13	Knox	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	1955	Not Eligible		
S-14	Knox	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	1855	Not Eligible		
S-15/ KNO0072712	Knox	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	Ca. 1900	Detailed Study		
S-16/ KNO0072812	Morrow	Domestic - Single Dwelling	Vernacular	Ca. 1860	Detailed Study		

A review of the NRHP/DOE files did not indicate any associated resources within the project or its study area.

A review of the CRM surveys was conducted that involve the current project or are within the study area. The OHC online resource indicates that there was one survey completed for County Road 80 in Mount Vernon (Snell and Perrotta 1999). This survey does not involve any aspects of the current project area. More recently, there have been two recent surveys conducted in the study area. Weller (2016) conducted Phase I investigations for the West Mount Vernon-Hedding Switch electric line that identified the sites listed in Table 1. Lehmann and Nelson (2016) conducted history/architecture investigations for this same electric line corridor.

The *Atlas of Morrow*, *Ohio* (Lake 1871) and the Atlas of Knox County (Caldwell 1896) indicates buildings/structures are in the vicinity of the project area, but nothing that is definitively within it. The USGS *1915 Fredericktown*, *Ohio 15 Minute Series*

(*Topographic*) map indicates that there are some buildings located near the project, but none are within it (Figure 6). Inspection of the *1988 Homer*, and the *1988 Fredericktown*, *Ohio 7.5 Minute Series (Topographic)* maps did not indicate any buildings or structures within the project area (Figure 2 and 3).

The study area was inspected for cemeteries. There are two cemeteries located within the study area including: Hedding Methodist Episcopal and Friendship. Neither of these cemeteries is located near the project area.

Evaluation of Research Questions 1 and 2

There were two questions presented in the research design that will be addressed at this point. These are:

- 1) Are there any previously identified cultural resources located within or near the proposed access corridors?
- 2) Has there been any new sites or surveys identified in the study area since the original investigations?

Weller (2016) identified all of the archaeological sites that are in the study area for this project during the survey for electric line corridor.

Fieldwork Results

The field investigations for the access corridors was conducted on August 12, 2016 (Figures 7-30). The weather and conditions were non-factors in the completion of the field investigations; however, it was hot and humid and not uncommon for this time of year. These investigations were conducted to account for the access corridors relative to the West Mount Vernon-Hedding Switch 138kV electric line. This electric line corridor was previously and recently investigated (Weller 2016). There were 13 archaeological sites identified by this survey (33MW226-227 and 33KN0510-520) and none of these sites were relocated during the current investigations. Only one site, 33KN0519, was recommended for additional work. The field investigations for the access corridors involved surface collection and visual inspection. Most of the planned access corridors are located within the existing electric line easement that was previously investigated. This work was conducted to address the planned access roads that are outside of the electric line 30.5 m (100 ft) wide easement. These investigations were limited to a corridor that is 10 m (about 30 ft) wide. The archaeological investigations for these access corridors did not result in the identification of any archaeological sites.

Surface collection was conducted in the areas that contained corn or soybeans. Both of these crops were approaching maturity at the time of these investigations. The bare ground surface visibility within the cornfields was at 80 percent. The bare ground surface visibility in the soybean fields was at 60 percent with the aid of manually separating the crops. There were no cultural materials identified during the surface collection.

The vast majority of the access corridors associated with this project are located within existing drives, farm lanes, and disturbed areas as well as the previously investigated corridor (Weller 2016; Figures 7-20). The disturbed areas were visually inspected and usually photographed.

Site 33KN0519 is a historic period site that was previously identified during the survey that was conducted for the electric line corridor. This site dates from the early to middle nineteenth century based on diagnostic materials obtained from shovel test units. Weller (2016) recommended this site for additional assessment (Phase II) work if it could not be avoided. The current plans depict the end of one of the access roads terminating just within the limits of this site (Figure 16). The site is located on a somewhat isolated landform with entrenched upland streams nearby. It is still plausible that this site can be avoided.

Fieldwork Summary

The investigations for the access corridors associated with this electric line segment did not identify any archaeological deposits. The majority of the easements or areas involving these access corridors is contained within the electric line corridor, which has already and recently been subject to Phase I investigations. The previous work identified 13 archaeological sites, all but one of which was not regarded as being significant. Additional work was recommended at 33KN0519, if it could not be avoided. Current plans indicate that this site may be tangent to slightly overlapping with the end of one of the access corridors. This site may represent early settlement of the area. This is the primary reason additional work is considered necessary to determine if this deposit is significant.

APE Definition and NRHP Determination

The APE is a term that must be applied on an individual project basis. The nature of the project or undertaking is considered in determining the APE. This can include areas that are off the property or outside of the actual project's boundaries to account for possible visual impacts, but not necessarily for underground or near-surface types of projects. This project involves the replacement of structures within an existing electric line corridor and these investigations were for the access corridors. The APE for this project is limited to the footprint of the access corridors. The work was conducted in remote and lowly populated areas that are in southeastern Morrow County and east central Knox County. The project involves the removal of older H-frame structures that are in a state of disrepair and replacing them with newer structures. These archaeological investigations were conducted for access corridors, especially those that extend outside of the current, existing, and previously investigated electric line corridor.

There were no new cultural resources identified during these investigations; no previously identified sites were relocated, either. Since the work will involve access corridors, a near ground level construction or use, the APE is considered to be the footprint of the easement. The archaeological investigations were conducted for the footprint of the planned construction activities for the 7.5 m (25 ft) wide access roads.

The use and/or construction of the access corridors will not impact or affect any historic properties; no cultural resources were identified during these investigations.

Recommendations

In August of 2016, Weller & Associates, Inc. conducted addendum archaeological investigations for the proposed access corridors associated with the approximately 16.3 km (10.1 mi) West Mount Vernon-Hedding Switch 138kV Rebuild Project in Liberty and Clinton Townships, Knox County and South Bloomfield Township, Morrow County, Ohio. The archaeological investigations involved surface and visual inspection. This work did not result in the identification of any cultural resources; much of the area involving the access corridors was contained within the existing and previously investigated electric line corridor. Additionally, many of the access corridors make use of existing, graded/prepared driveways that are disturbed.

Site 33KN0519 is an early historic period component that was recommended for additional, assessment-level work if it cannot be avoided. Work is being depicted as being in very close proximity and probably intercepting the western part of the site. If 33KN0519 can be effectively avoided, it is Weller's opinion that this planned work will not affect any significant archaeological deposits/landmarks and no further archaeological work is considered to be necessary for this part of the project.

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