

Poche, Lauren

From: Atalaya Armstrong <Atalaya.Armstrong@dep.nj.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 31, 2014 8:50 AM
To: Clark, Courtney; DEP NJHPO
Cc: Poche, Lauren; Crowl, Heather; Lackowicz, Rob; Donna Mahon; Grady, Stephen; 'Richard.starzak@icfi.com'; Rickman, Brett (Brett.Rickman@icfi.com) (Brett.Rickman@icfi.com)
Subject: Completed Submission 15-1133 NJDEP RE: DEP Form 2, NCR39567, Area 1 and 2, Perth Amboy City, Perth Amboy
Attachments: L2014-499.pdf

Ms. Clark:

The City of Perth Amboy 1& 2 documentation has been reviewed, signed, and scanned. Please find attached HPO-A2014-301
If you have any issues with the attachments or require additional information, please feel free to let us know.

Regards-A. Armstrong

Mail Code 501-04B
Historic Preservation Office
NJ DEP
PO Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420
www.nj.gov/dep/hpo

From: Clark, Courtney [<mailto:courtney.clark@urs.com>]
Sent: Monday, December 15, 2014 9:23 AM
To: DEP NJHPO
Cc: Poche, Lauren; Crowl, Heather; Lackowicz, Rob
Subject: DEP Form 2, NCR39567, Area 1 and 2, Perth Amboy City, Perth Amboy

Good morning,

Attached for your review please find a Form – 2: Assessment of Effects NCR39567, Area 1 and 2, Perth Amboy City, Perth Amboy.

Please forward any questions you may have to me at courtney.clark@urs.com. We look forward to your response.

Thank you,

Courtney Clark
Architectural Historian



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Please note new address and phone number

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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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CHRIS CHRISTIE

Governor

BOB MARTIN

Commissioner

KIM GUADAGNO

Lt. Governor

December 30, 2014

Courtney Clark
Architectural Historian
URS Corporation
625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100
Conshohocken, PA 19428

Dear Ms. Clark,

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:

**Middlesex County, Perth Amboy City
City of Perth Amboy
Multiple Parcels (See Table 1)
Neighborhood Community Revitalization (NCR) Program – NCR39567
New Jersey Department of Community Affairs
United States Department of Housing and Urban Development**

Thank you for your submission to the New Jersey Historic Preservation Office (NJ HPO) regarding the proposed street improvement projects along the waterfront of Perth Amboy City, Middlesex County, New Jersey. The application and maps indicate that there will be two sections of the project within the Area of Potential Effects (APE). Section 1 involves refurbishing a boat ramp, installation of new kayak and canoe racks, installation of six volleyball courts and bleachers, one new public restroom, two seasonal wash down stations, four drinking fountains, and the replacement of five tennis courts. Section 2 involves terracing of Bayview Park, installation of ADA access ramps, reconstruction of sidewalks along Front Street, new curbs, striping, signage, landscaping, and drip irrigation system, replacement of damaged public lighting, and installation of tideflex valves on an existing storm drain. The city plans to add a bicycle path within the APE, but the application states that this action will be separately funded.

The following comments are based upon the proposed improvements described above.

800.4 Identification of Historic Properties

Archaeology

The application states that the Lawrence Kearney House was moved to its current location in the 1920's and therefore does not possess archaeological deposits associated with the house. *The HPO concurs with this assessment.* The application states that potential archaeological deposits may exist for the McCormick Tenant House/Harbor Light Tavern (SR Date 6/25/80) and the Perth Amboy Ferry Slip (SR Date: 7/12/78, NR Date: 11/28/78). *The HPO concurs with this assessment.*

The application also delineates areas within the APE that possess moderate potential for Native American archaeological deposits due to minimal disturbance, location on a natural, stable landform, and close proximity to key water resources. Well-drained terraced areas adjacent to waterways and/or wetland complexes are consistent with current archaeological models for locations containing Native American archaeological deposits. Current models for archaeological site sensitivity in New Jersey are available at our webpage at: http://www.nj.gov/dep/hpo/1identify/arkeo_res.htm. Additionally, the City of Perth Amboy was laid out in 1689 that included early development of the waterfront, indicating the potential for historic-period resources. *The HPO concurs that these areas are archaeologically sensitive and adds to the list the parking lot between the Perth Amboy Ferry Slip and the McCormick Tenant House/Harbor Light Tavern in Area 2 (Block 52, Lots 5, 5.01, 6, 6.01, 7, and 7.01).* Preliminary research by HPO staff have identified this location to be the Marcus Schantz Ironworks and Machine Shop Site, which was identified as individually eligible and received a SHPO opinion on October 12, 1979. A report available at the HPO (MID B 16 [I] and [II]) confirms that intact foundations associated with the ironworks remain below the parking lot.

Historic Architecture

The NJ HPO concurs that the NJ State Register and the NRHP listed Lawrence Kearney House is within the project's visual APE.

800.5 Assessment of Adverse Effects

Archaeology

Based on the application information and maps, the activities within archaeologically sensitive areas that will likely involve ground disturbance include construction of the new public restroom (Section 1), construction of drinking fountains (Section 1), beach wash-down stations (Section 1), and terracing of Bayview Park (Section 2). Although not funded by this application, it is unclear if the bicycle path would involve ground disturbance. The application states that despite the identification of State and National Register of Historic Places-listed properties within or adjacent to the APE, the proposed improvements will have no adverse effect on listed resources or areas possessing high potential for archaeological resources. *The HPO concurs with*

this assessment, however, if future state or federal permits are required for construction of the bike path, the HPO would require documentation identifying the level of ground disturbance.

Historic Architecture

The NJ HPO concurs that the proposed park improvements will not have an adverse effect on architectural historic properties.

Additional Comments

Thank you for providing this opportunity to review and comment on this proposed project. If additional consultation with the HPO is needed for this undertaking, please reference the HPO project number 15-1133 in any future calls, emails, submissions or written correspondence to help expedite your review and response. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Kristin Swanton of my staff with questions regarding archaeology or Piia Helve with questions regarding historic architecture at 609-292-1913.

Sincerely,



Daniel D. Saunders
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer

Cc. Donna Mahon, NJDEP
Stephen Grady, NJDCA
Rick Starzak, ICFI
Brett Rickman, ICFI

DDS/KJM/ks/ph

CC List:

Donna Mahon
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