
Appendix C

November 14, 2003 Mn/DOT Cultural Resources Unit Letter to SHPO



Minnesota Department of Transportation

Transportation Building

395 John Ireland Boulevard
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155-1899

November 14, 2003

Direct Line: (651) 296-3243
Mail Stop 620

Mr. Dennis A. Gimmestad
Government Programs & Compliance Officer
State Historic Preservation Office
Minnesota Historical Society
345 Kellogg Blvd. W.
St. Paul, MN 55101

Re: S.P. 1116-22 (TH 371 Reconstruction and Bypasses, Cass and Crow Wing Counties)
Mn/DOT Agreement #82696 (architectural history)
SHPO No. Pending

Dear Mr. Gimmestad:

We have reviewed the above-referenced undertaking pursuant to our FHWA-delegated responsibilities for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (36 CFR 800).

Mn/DOT District 3 is considering improvements to Trunk Highway (TH) 371 in Crow Wing and Cass Counties. The existing TH 371 is generally a two-lane roadway with 12-foot-wide driving lanes and 10-foot-wide paved shoulders. District 3 is planning to expand the road into a four-lane roadway. Four general bypass options were considered during the preliminary planning for this project, and a broad area of potential effect (APE) was set for the architectural history survey. Since the completion of the architectural history study, it has been decided that the bypass around Pine River is not a prudent and feasible option, so the current plans call for expanding the existing TH 371 roadway through Pine River. There are no more specific design plans for the project at this time.

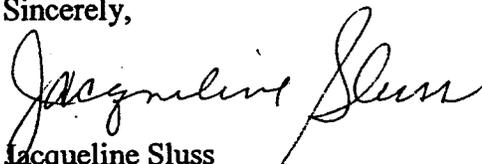
Enclosed please find one (1) copy of the architectural history report for the project. Four hundred and forty four properties are located within the APE. Of these, one property has been previously determined eligible for listing on the National Register. The Brainerd and Northern Minnesota Railway Depot (CA-PRC-006) was previously determined eligible under Criterion A in the area of transportation. The consultant recommended four additional properties as eligible: the Drew Cabin Complex (CW-NSC-013), the Molstad Property (CW-NSC-014), the Pequot Fire Lookout Tower (CW-SIB-012), and the Brainerd and Northern Minnesota Railway (please see the enclosed report). The remaining 439 properties (including the A.H. Cole Building, for which a Phase II evaluation was completed) were recommended as not eligible. We concur with these recommendations.

The archaeological survey has been completed; however, we are still waiting on the report from our consultant. Once we have reviewed the archaeology report and once more detailed plans are available, we will submit the final letter of determination in order to complete our review of the project's impact on historic resources. The District has requested that we notify your office that under the proposed reconstruction plans of TH 371 through Pine River, the Brainerd and Northern Minnesota Railway

Depot will have to be moved from its existing location. Our office would like to begin discussions on appropriate mitigation measures for the removal of the depot property, so that all interested parties, including the City of Pine River and the Heritage Group North, can work together to best resolve the issues.

We are providing you with this determination pursuant to the responsibilities given the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) by the regulations at 36 CFR 800. Please call if you have any questions concerning this project.

Sincerely,



Jacqueline Sluss
Historian
Cultural Resources Unit (CRU)

encs.

cc: Cheryl Martin, FHWA
Tony Hughes, District 3
Chris Hiniker, SEH
Mark Dudzik, State Archaeologist
Joe Hudak, Mn/DOT CRU
Mn/DOT CO File
Mn/DOT CRU Project File