

Louisville Southern Indiana Ohio River Bridges Project
Indiana Historic Preservation Advisory Team
Meeting – August 16, 2006
SUMMARY

Opening Remarks: Mr. Jeff Vlach, CTS-GEC

Mr. Vlach opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. The members in attendance were asked to identify themselves and their affiliation. Attention was called to the registration brochures for the Smart Growth Conference to be held in September 2006. Mr. Vlach further acknowledged finalization of Progress Report No. 6, indicating that it is currently under internal review, after which time it will be provided to the Co-chairs before disseminating to the IHPAT.

Mr. Vlach informed those in attendance that the meeting summaries for all IHPAT meetings occurring in 2006 have been completed and sent to all members. It was reminded that the summaries are also available on the Project website (www.kyinbridges.com).

Project Update: Mrs. Mary Kennedy and Mr. John Carr, Co-chairs

Mrs. Kennedy indicated that the initial financial plan is anticipated to be completed and submitted to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) by the end of September 2006. Mrs. Kennedy also informed the IHPAT that Mrs. Janice Osadcuk, Chief of the INDOT Office of Environmental Services, resigned her position in early August 2006 to accept a position with the FHWA Indiana Division. It was remarked that the selection of an Indiana ombudsman is near completion. Several candidates were interviewed in July 2006 with an anticipated announcement to be made soon. INDOT and CTS-GEC are continuing to undergo resolution of contractual issues with the Indiana Section Design Consultants (SDC) (Sections 3 and 6). Additionally, it was advised that advanced right-of-way acquisition is occurring within the approaches.

Finally, Mrs. Kennedy provided the IHPAT with an update on the preparation of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) nomination forms for the appropriate properties. INDOT has met with representatives of Colgate-Palmolive regarding the willingness to permit the nomination process for the historic district. Colgate-Palmolive has expressed reluctance at those meetings as listing the district on the NRHP may jeopardize the sale of the property. INDOT and the INSHPO have decided that in lieu of a formal NRHP nomination form, a report would be prepared documenting the history and significance of the district. This report is currently under review by CTS-GEC, after which it will be provided to the INSHPO for review and comment. Preparation of the NRHP form for the Train Depot is underway and forthcoming to CTS-GEC. The remaining NRHP nomination forms to be prepared for the Ohio Falls Car and Locomotive Company Historic District, James A. Smith Farm (discussed later in the meeting), Swartz Farm Rural Historic District and the Utica Lime Kiln Industry are to be completed by CTS-GEC once their contract is modified appropriately.

Mr. Sekula inquired as to whether there was a provision in the Project to revisit the possibility of listing the Colgate-Palmolive Historic District should circumstances later change. Mrs. Kennedy stated that the issue would need to be reviewed and considered at that time.

Mr. Greg Sekula questioned what issues are precluding advancement of the respective contracts for the Indiana SDCs. Mr. Paul Boone and Mrs. Kennedy responded that the contracts are being advanced through the INDOT contract section, but there is a backlog of other contracts.

Mr. Chester Hicks asked if the structural integrity of the Train Depot was evaluated. Mrs. Kennedy indicated that architects with SDC 3 inspected the structure, but no in-depth evaluation has yet been completed.

Old Jeffersonville Historic District Draft HPP: Mr. Peter Fritz, Ratio/CTS-GEC and Kevin Senninger, CTS-GEC/Ratio

Mr. Fritz and Mr. Senninger were introduced, after which they presented to the IHPAT a preliminary draft of the Old Jeffersonville Historic District HPP, titled "Draft A". The IHPAT was reminded that the document was mailed to them approximately two weeks prior to this meeting. Discussion ensued regarding the content of the draft HPP; comments were duly noted and summarized below.

- Mr. Hicks recommended the inclusion of the Stansifer Avenue area in the area of influence if included in the scope of the Project. Mr. Fritz indicated the area could be considered, but is not included in the Project MOA.
- Mr. Sekula indicated the HPP should include discussions on the Quartermaster Depot redevelopment and the abandonment of the Colgate-Palmolive factory in 2008 and its possible redevelopment.
- Mr. Sekula recommended expanded discussion of the Riverfront industry, such as Jeff-Boat, which is proposing expansion plans. Mr. Hicks remarked that American Commercial Barge Lines (ACBL), the owners of Jeff-Boat, is planning a park in the northeast portion of the site off Riverside Drive.
- The intent of the Existing Building Conditions section was questioned. It was remarked that the section does not serve a definitive purpose unless it is planned to perform a building by building evaluation. Rather it was asked that if this section remains, it is covered from a more generic perspective; mentioning areas block by block instead of by building numbers.
- The character of the district is being eroded by inappropriate building alterations; discussions of this issue should be included.
- It was suggested that the HPP identify areas of tree coverage or the absence thereof. The Recommendation section should include recommendations of specific trees indigenous of urban areas to use/avoid and street locations.
- Mr. Joe Rafferty requested definition of what is to be paid for by the Project and what would remain for possible implementation by other entities.
- It was inquired whether existing brick sidewalks and stone curbs will be inventoried.
- All permitted land uses should be identified.
- The bioswale discussion should be expanded upon.
- It was commented that the newly constructed lot off of 7th Street and Walnut Street, behind the post office, provides a good example of screening techniques that could be implemented.
- It was noted that Ms. Camille Fife, The Westerly Group, is working with Mr. Hicks and the City of Jeffersonville to develop standards for design of interpretative signs. CTS-GEC was encouraged to coordinate with Ms. Fife to ensure consistency in recommended signs and to prevent over signage of the area.
- The conceptual plans for the reuse of the Big Four Bridge as a pedestrian bridge should be included, especially where the proposed ramp would engage the street system.
- The Implementation section should include discussion on the state tax credit system.
- It was mentioned that the 11 x 17 format of the HPP was problematic from a reproduction standpoint. Mr. Fritz responded that the format of the HPP was discussed at previous IHPAT meetings, however it was noted that copies of the HPP could be burned to CDs. It was questioned whether there was any distribution requirement. This is currently under consideration.

It was noted that comments will be taken into consideration and revised as appropriate.

Swartz Farm Rural Historic District Draft HPP: Mr. Peter Fritz, Ratio/CTS-GEC and Kevin Senninger, CTS-GEC/Ratio

Mr. Fritz and Mr. Senninger also presented to the IHPAT a preliminary draft of the Swartz Farm Rural Historic District HPP, titled "Draft A". The IHPAT was again reminded that the document was mailed to them

approximately two weeks prior to this meeting. Discussion ensued regarding the content of the draft HPP; comments were duly noted and summarized below.

- The draft HPP indicates the Swartz-Voight-Marble House is 63 acres. It was commented that this description did not appear accurate and should be verified.
- Mr. Sekula suggested that the Swartz Farm is possibly circa 1870-1880.
- Mr. Sekula indicated that the fate of the Central Passage House should be addressed and alternative solutions to demolition identified.
- Concern was expressed regarding the ownership of the Swartz-Voight-Marble House. It is unclear whether the house remains privately owned or owned by North Port. Mr. Costa informed the IHPAT that research into the ownership of the property was performed in April 2006 at which time it was privately owned. However, it was noted that the plat maps indicated that North Port owned the drive to the property. Access to the property from Utica Pike has been removed and is only provided through North Port.
- It was requested that to gather information perceived necessary for the development of the HPP, a site visit to the Swartz-Voight-Marble House and the Central Passage House should occur. It was indicated that this recommendation would be presented to the BSHCT for consideration at the September 12, 2006 meeting.
- The spelling of Swartz should be consistent; the family's name is referenced as "Swartz" and "Schwartz" throughout the document. It was noted that historical documentation uses both spellings of the family's name.
- It was observed that the aerial photograph used on page 16 of the document was outdated and did not identify the extensive development surrounding the district, such as Boulder Creek subdivision. Mr. Hicks remarked that 2005 aerial mosaics are available on the Clark County website; Mr. Brad Meaxiel can provide the aeriels to CTS-GEC.

It was noted that comments will be taken into consideration and revised as appropriate.

James A. Smith Farm and Utica Lime Kiln Industry Updates: Mr. Chad Costa, CTS-GEC

Mr. Costa provided updates on the status of the James A. Smith Farm and coordination with the property owners of the Utica Lime Kilns. Mr. Costa reminded those in attendance of the attempts made by CTS-GEC to coordinate a decision to donate that portion of the James A. Smith Farm determined eligible for inclusion on the NRHP with the property owners, Dr. Blanche Woolls and Dr. Arthur Sutton. The IHPAT was informed that the deadline of June 14, 2006, which was established by the Co-chairs and the Bi-State Management Team (BSMT) and coordinated with the IHPAT, had elapsed with no response from the owners. In accordance with the conditions of the last letter sent to the owners, non-responsiveness was an indication that donation was not in the interest of the family. Accordingly, CTS-GEC prepared for the Bi-State Historic Consultation Team (BSHCT) documentation of the coordination efforts undertaken with the owners justifying the recommendation to abandon further consideration in implementing the MOA stipulations for the James A. Smith Farm. Mr. Costa indicated that the BSHCT signed the documentation on August 1, 2006 and elevated the recommendation to the BSMT for consideration and approval. The BSMT took into consideration the recommendation at their meeting of August 7, 2006, which was subsequently approved. As such, INDOT will no longer be responsible for implementation of those measures set aside for the James A. Smith Farm.

Mr. Costa also informed the IHPAT of recent attempts to coordinate permission to access the property containing the two side by side kilns (48002 and 48003) with the property owner, Mrs. Margaret Manley. The IHPAT was reminded that verbal permission to access the property was granted by Mrs. Manley in May 2006, which resulted in the scheduling of the May 24, 2006 HPP kickoff meeting. Subsequent to receiving the verbal authorization, Mr. Tony Manley, the son of Mrs. Manley and caretaker of the property, refuted access to the property. In response to the denial, a letter was prepared and sent to Mrs. Manley on August 2, 2006 requesting written authorization to access the property. A response was requested by September 5, 2006. Once secured, it

was remarked that re-initiation of the HPP development and re-scheduling of the HPP kickoff meeting would occur. Mr. Costa indicated that the IHPAT would remain apprised of the situation.

Final Comments: Mr. Vlach, CTS-GEC

Mr. Vlach extended the opportunity for the Co-chairs to provide any final comments prior to adjournment. Mr. Carr indicated that there appears to be difficulties in submitting comments to the designated IHPAT email address (indiana@hpat.net). Until the issue is resolved, IHPAT members interested in submitting comments via e-mail were encouraged to do so by sending to either Mr. Costa (ccosta@b-l-n.com) or Ms. Christa Turner (cturner@ctsgec.com).

As the Co-chairs had no additional comments or concerns, an opportunity for the remaining IHPAT members to comment or express concerns was afforded.

Mr. Sekula inquired as to how the issues raised at the July 18, 2006 joint IHPAT/KHPAT meeting surrounding the Bridge Type Selection Process were being addressed. Mr. Jim Hilton responded that SDC 2 and 5 have both added a new chapter to their documentation, Chapter 5, which is titled "Historic Context" to address those issues brought forth at the referenced meeting. It was further acknowledged that both SDC 2 and 5 have nationally recognized bridge architects on staff; Mr. Skip Smallridge and Mr. Miguel Rosales, respectively. It was reaffirmed that Mr. Smallridge and Mr. Rosales have considerable national expertise in identifying context of historic neighborhoods, which was utilized in the planning of the new bridges throughout the bridge type selection process. Mr. Hilton also stated that the IHPAT will have an important role in the design of the bridges once the bridge type is decided upon and the design process is initiated.

Any comments for consideration by the Co-chairs should be made in writing by the close of business on August 31, 2006. Mr. Vlach indicated that next IHPAT meeting would be held on October 18, 2006 in the Community Room of the McCauley Nicolas Centre. IHPAT members will be notified of the meeting location and supplied with materials to be discussed at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

**Louisville - Southern Indiana Ohio River Bridges Project
Indiana Historic Preservation Advisory Team
Meeting – August 16, 2006
TEAM ATTENDEES**

INDOT: Paul Boone
Mary Kennedy (Co-chair)

IN SHPO: John Carr (Co-chair)

City of Jeffersonville: Chester Hicks

Rose Hill Neighborhood Assoc.: Joe Rafferty

Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana: Greg Sekula
Laura Renwick

CTS – GEC: Jim Hilton
Jeff Vlach
Chad Costa
Christa Turner
Dave Kroll
Peter Fritz
Kevin Senninger
Jason Falls

SDC 2: JB Williams
Rick Fitch

SDC 5: Dan Carrier

Public: Leslie Barras
J. Ward