



25 October 2011

Mr. Tom Springer
Qk4, Inc.
814 West Market Street, Suite 300
Louisville, KY 4202

Re: Architectural Research for the US 41A corridor in Hopkins and Webster Counties,
Kentucky

Dear Mr. Springer:

Please find attached an AMEC Earth & Environmental letter report for the architectural overview research for a transportation needs assessment for the US41A corridor in Hopkins and Webster Counties, Kentucky. The study area starts at the intersection of Kingdom Hall Road and US41A in Hopkins County and terminates at KY 670 in Webster County, running a total length of approximately 11.2 miles (18.02 kilometers). The study area, including the 1.2 mile (2 kilometer) buffer encompasses approximately 3,836 acres (**Figure 1**).

Architectural Resource Overview

This cultural resource overview identifies potential historic architectural sites likely to require consideration during the needs assessment for the US41A project. This overview summarizes the results of architectural researches based on available archival literature located at the Kentucky Heritage Council in Frankfort, Kentucky and the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) database. The study of archival material, including historic maps, was completed to gain a better comprehension of the property's development and potential for sites of historic significance.

The overview was prepared for planning purposes only. It does not provide a detailed analysis or assessment of any potential impacts to architectural resources. Moreover, it must be stressed that the information presented in this overview report does not meet the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (36 CFR 400.4, as amended). Consultation is required between the Kentucky Heritage Council and the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet to determine the level of additional investigations necessary to fully comply with Section 106 regulations. To meet these requirements, an architectural assessment must be conducted by professional architectural historians.

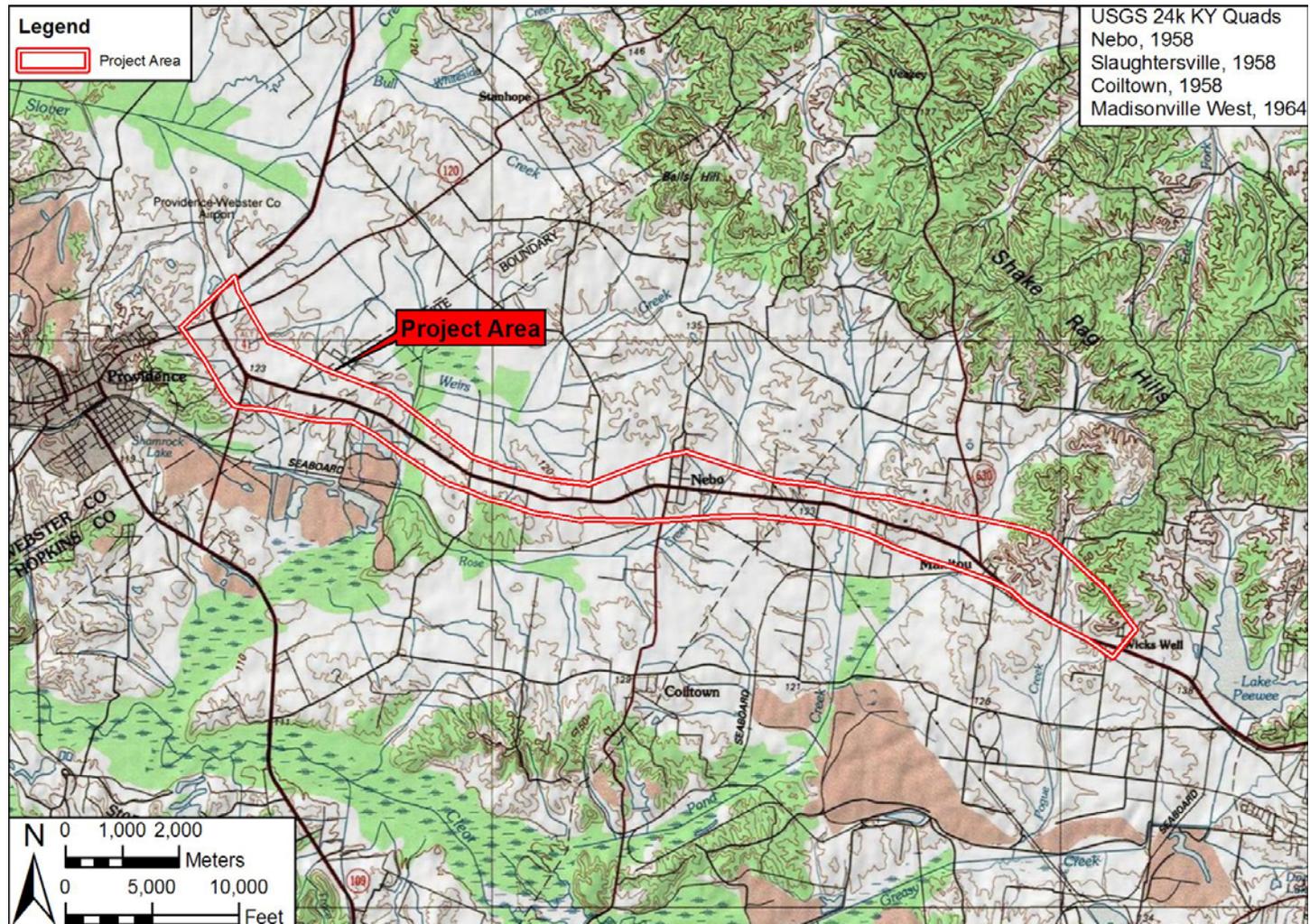


Figure 1. Study area for the US 41A corridor (Providence (1958), Nebo (1958), Slaughter'sville (1958), Dalton (1958), Coiltown (1958), and Madison West (1964) USGS Topographic Quadrangles).

Topography and Geology

Hopkins and Webster Counties are located with the Western Coal Field Physiographic region, an area of about 4,680 square miles. This region is named from the carboniferous Pennsylvanian period coal formations that shaped the southern extent of the larger Eastern Interior Basin of central Illinois and southern Indiana (Lewis 1996). The region forms a roughly circular area that lies south of the Ohio River and is bounded on the west, south, and east by the Western Pottsville Escarpment (Kleber 1992) (**Figure 2**). The entire escarpment, in turn, fronts the Pennyroyal Physiographic region to the south that contains the highest degree of topographic relief. The northern border of the Western Coal Fields is the Ohio River Valley that contains steep dissected bluffs that line the river's extensive floodplain. Thick deposits of loess cover these bluffs. The least amount of surface relief is located with the central section of the Physiographic region (Lewis 1996). Many believe that the Pennsylvanian strata once formed a continuous deposit across central Kentucky to the Eastern Coal Fields. Erosion since the close of the Paleozoic has removed many hundreds, perhaps thousands, of feet of Pennsylvanian and older strata from the structurally higher areas such as the Cincinnati arch, which separates the two basins, and has resulted in the present outcrop pattern.

An outstanding feature of the Western Coal Field as well as the Purchase and parts of the Mississippian Plateaus are the broad alluvial bottoms of the Green and Tradewater rivers and their larger tributaries. Except where the heavier sandstones outcrop, wide valleys have been carved in the weak shales. Subsequently these valleys were filled with alluvium to depths up to 175 feet. From this flat alluvial floor marginal hills rise abruptly, and within the bottoms partly buried "island hills" occur. Rocks underlying the uplands are generally deeply leached and weathered. The weathered overburden is easily excavated, and on both hilltops and valley bottoms, the surface mining of thick, persistent coal beds has reshaped the topography of vast areas.

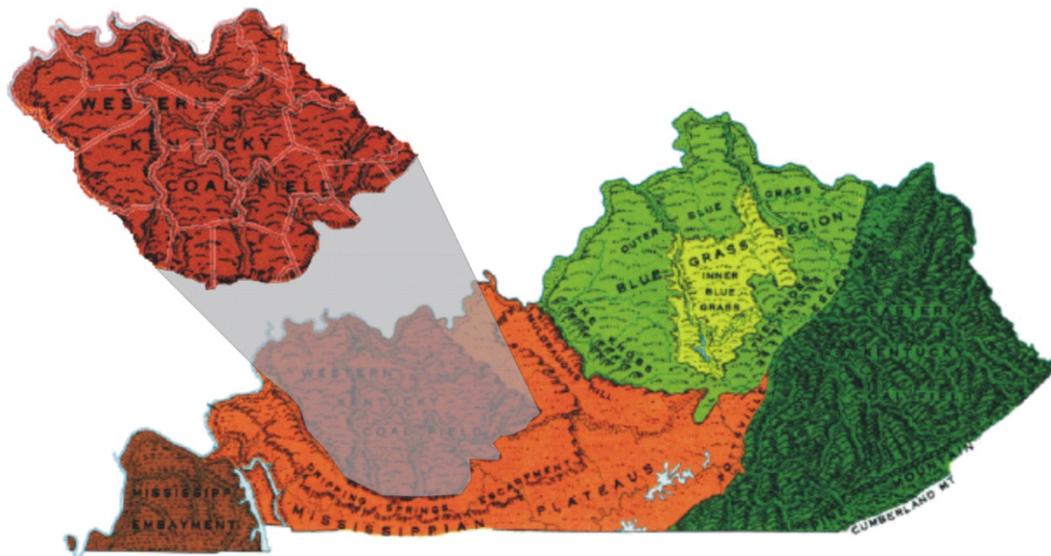


Figure 2. Western Coal Field physiographic region of Kentucky.

Historic Context

According to Kleber (1992), Hopkins County was formed from a portion of Henderson County in 1806 and was the 44th county formed in Kentucky. The county was named in honor of General Samuel Hopkins, a Revolutionary War veteran and early settler in the region. The topography varies across the county, including flatlands near the Pond, Tradewater, and Green Rivers to hilly and rolling land in the southern and central sections of the county. Madisonville, named for James Madison, is the county seat of Hopkins County. It was established in 1807 from land donations by Solomon Silkwood and Daniel McGary. Madisonville grew in size over the years until the cholera epidemic in 1835. It was not until 1870, when the Louisville & Nashville railroad entered the city that the population and economy boomed (Kleber 1992).

Webster County was created in 1860 from portions of Henderson, Hopkins, and Union Counties and was the 109th county formed in Kentucky. The county was named in honor of Daniel Webster, US congressman, senator, and secretary of state. Topography of the county is divided by a ridge that runs through the middle of the county and separates the watersheds of Green and Tradewater Rivers (Kleber 1992). Dixon, named for Archibald Dixon, a former lieutenant governor of Kentucky and US senator, is the county seat. Originally, William Jenkins, in 1794, established a stagecoach inn five miles north of Dixon's present location. When Webster County was formed, Dixon was platted from land owned by Ambrose Mooney and incorporated in 1861 (Kleber 1992).

Architectural Resources

According to the Kentucky Heritage Council site file and database research, there is one property listed on the NRHP. There are seven buildings that were identified in other architectural surveys, but the eligibility for inclusion in the NRHP was not assessed. These seven buildings include HK6, HK7, HK8, HK11, HK12, HK13, and HK65. Through the architectural windshield survey an additional 17 buildings were identified as being more than 50 years old within the study area and are identified by Field Site (FS) numbers 1-7 (**Figure 3; Table 1**). Therefore there are a total of 15 historic properties in the study area.

Table 1. Sites Listed on the NRHP within the study area.

Site Number	Description of Site	NRHP Eligibility
HK 5	BRADFORD L PORTER HOUSE	LISTED
HK 11	HOBGOOD HOUSE	NOT ASSESSED
HK 12	HOUSE	NOT ASSESSED
HK 13	COX HOUSE	NOT ASSESSED
HK 7	CITIZENS BANK	NOT ASSESSED
HK 8	HEAD HOUSE	NOT ASSESSED
HK 6	HOUSE RUINS	NOT ASSESSED
HK 65	CROW HOUSE	NOT ASSESSED

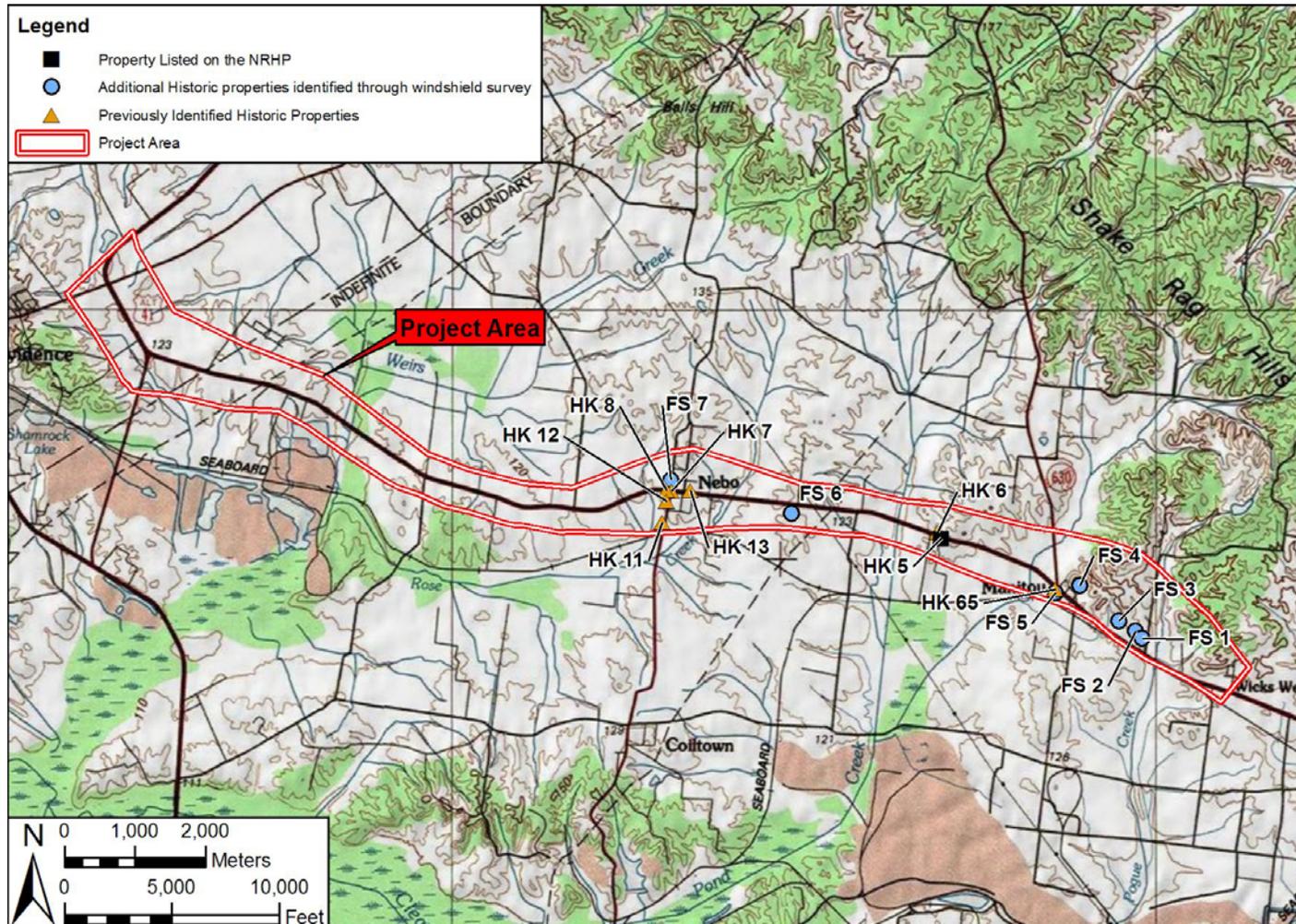


Figure 3. Results of Kentucky Heritage Council file search and windshield survey.

The Bradford L. Porter House (Site HK 5) is an NRHP-listed resource located within the project area on US41A 1.5 miles east of Nebo (**Figure 4**). The period of significance for the Porter House is 1850-1874, although the residence started out as a single pen log residence that Porter enlarged and remodeled in 1860 into the I-House form. The house is one of two pre-1870 frame I-houses identified in the county that have not been extensively altered. It largely retains its ca. 1860 appearance because any additions have been confined to the rear façade. This resource was listed on the NRHP on December 13, 1988 under Criterion C, for its architecture.



Figure 4. Bradford L. Porter House from 41A (HK 5).

Previously-Documented Resources

There are seven sites that have been previously documented within the study area. Five of these sites are near Nebo (HK 7, HK 8, HK 11, HK 12, and HK 13), one is near Manitou (HK 65), and one between Nebo and Manitou (HK 6). US 41A is a major transportation route in Hopkins and Webster Counties, and because of this location, small communities have grown up around the junctions of other roads, including the communities of Nebo and Manitou. Several of the surveyed properties are in, or near, Nebo. HK 7 was formerly the Citizen's Bank in Nebo, which defines the Main Street of Nebo as a commercial and civic complex (**Figure 5**). Its NRHP eligibility has not been assessed. The Head House, HK 8, is also located on Main Street of Nebo and was built c. 1860 by Reuben Roares (**Figure 6**). It was original a hotel and single family residence. Although the Head House has previously been surveyed its eligibility for inclusion in the NRHP has not been assessed. The Hobgood House (HK 11) and an additional historic house (HK 12) have been previously surveyed but their eligibility for the NRHP was not assessed. The historic Cox House, which was assigned HK 13, is no longer standing (**Figure 3**).



Figure 5. Nebo's Main Street Commercial Area, 1880's Citizen's Bank (HK 7), south side of US 41A.



Figure 6. The Head House (HK 8) in Nebo.

In Manitou, the Crow House (HK 65) was the residence of Dr. A.T. Crow, a leading doctor in the area for many years (**Figure 7**). His frame office stood east of the residence but has been razed circa 1970. The house was built in the early 1900s and Dr. Crow lived there until he died in 1956. The Crow house was previously surveyed but the eligibility for inclusion in the NRHP was not assessed during the previous survey.



Figure 7. The Crow House (HK 65).

Field Sites

In addition to the one NRHP-listed site and the seven previously-documented historic properties that have been surveyed but not assessed for eligibility on the NRHP, there are an additional seven sites that were discovered through the windshield survey performed by AMEC. These sites are indicated as FS 1 through FS 7 (**Figure 3**).

FS 1 is a house that was likely built in the 1950s or early 1960s (**Figure 8**). It is a one-story brick ranch-style house that has original windows and double doors in the central entrance. The house is very long and has very low massing, which is typical of houses built in this time period. There is very simple exterior embellishment, which combined with the long low massing of the house, exemplifies the ideals of modernism focused around the ranch style house that became popular with the population boom in the western United States during the 1950s and 1960s.

The second site that was discovered through the windshield survey was FS 2, which neighbors FS 1. FS-2 is a 1920s vernacular bungalow type that is a local version of the American Craftsman style (**Figure 9**). The main portion of the house, which is in a simple rectangular floor

plan with a front gabled roof, is not typical of the Craftsman bungalow but the porch on the front elevation is an example of the style and type of architecture with its deep overhanging eaves, exposed beams, and the shape used in the brick columns.



Figure 8. FS 1, a mid-Twentieth Century Ranch house.



Figure 9. FS 2, a 1920's Vernacular Bungalow.

West of FS 1 and FS 2 is a post-World War II farm complex, FS 3 (**Figure 10** and **Figure 11**). The main house of the farm complex is a cross-gabled frame house that was likely built soon after the end of World War II. There are several support structures on this property as well, including barns and shed. Home ownership was at an all-time high and many houses and farming complexes developed as an affordable, high-quality option for the men returning from the war and their families.



Figure 10. FS-3, a post-World War II house.



Figure 11. FS-3, post-World War II agricultural buildings.

Manitou has several commercial buildings that have not been used much for several years (**Figure 12** and **Figure 13**). Despite this lack of use, they are potentially eligible for inclusion on the NRHP due to the age of the buildings appearing to be over 50 years. The buildings, including FS 4 and FS 5 (both commercial building), could be determined as significant because they form the community identity of Manitou with further research.



Figure 12. FS 4, a commercial building on the north side of 41A in Manitou.



Figure 13. FS 5, a commercial building on the south side of 41A in Manitou.

FS 6 is the Nebo Cemetery, which also had an entrance entitled Union Cemetery (**Figure 14** and **Figure 15**). Cemeteries are unique in that they have the potential of being significant as a historic architectural element, an archaeological site, as well as a cultural landscape.



Figure 14. Decorative stone wall surrounding FS 6, the Nebo Cemetery.



Figure 15. Decorative stone wall and FS 6, the Nebo Cemetery, as seen from US 41A

Nebo

Nebo has a defined main commercial and civic complex. There are several buildings, including the Citizen's bank that was previously discussed, that make up the historic character of the small community. In addition to being a small commercial center in Hopkins County, it was also important from a civic and religious aspect. FS 7 is a former church/schoolhouse that is located on the Main Street of Nebo (**Figure 16**).



Figure 16. FS 7, Nebo's historic civic remnants, north side of US 41A.

Archival research also included a search for historic maps in order to aid in the dating of buildings in the study area. Three historic maps were reviewed. They include the 1907 USGS Topographic Quadrangle Earlington, Kentucky (**Figure 17**), the 1937 General Highway map of Webster County, Kentucky (**Figure 18**), and the 1940 General Highway Map of Hopkins County, Kentucky (**Figure 19**). Review of historic mapping revealed approximately 160 undetermined buildings, three churches, and one school house on the 1907 USGA topographic map. On the 1937 and 1940 General Highway Maps of Hopkins and Webster Counties, approximately 120 undetermined buildings, one church, and one school house were identified. Only one named building, Woolfolk School, was identified during map research. It was identified on the 1907 USGA topographic map; however, it was not shown on the other maps and no additional information was available on Woolfolk School. It is important to take in to consideration the information provided by the historic maps as an indication of other potential historic sites.

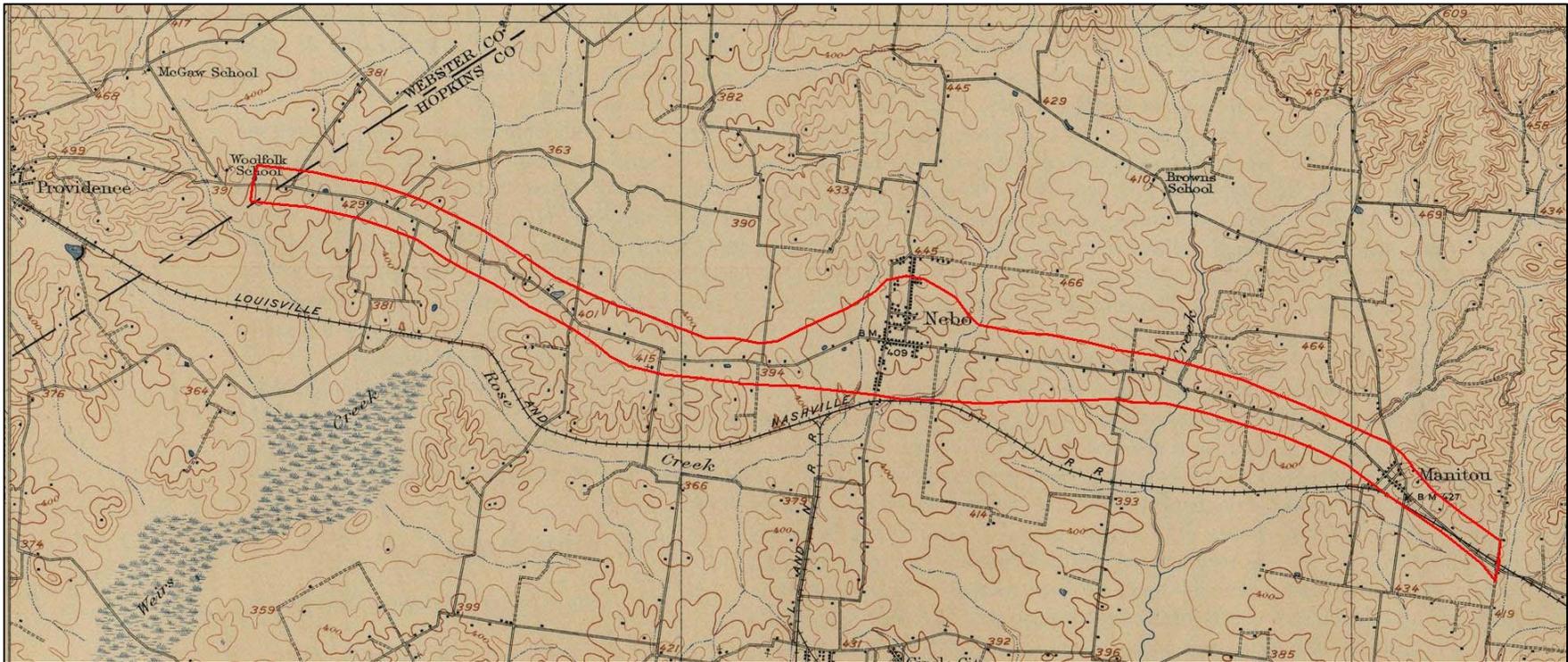


Figure 17. Overlay of study area on the 1907 USGS Topographic Quadrangle Earlington, Kentucky.



Figure 18. Overlay of study area on the 1937 General Highway Map of Webster County, Kentucky.

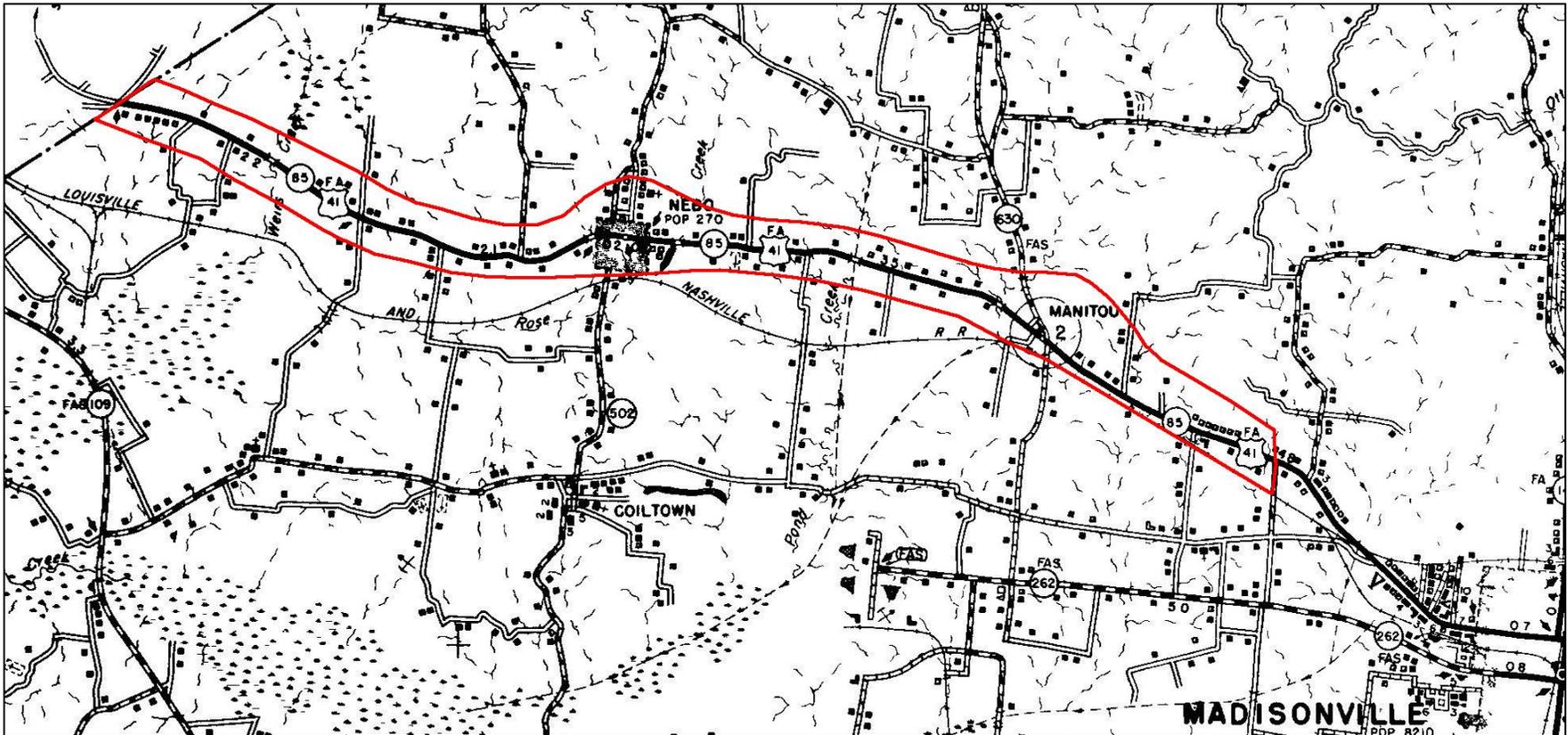


Figure 19. Overlay of study area on the 1940 General Highway Map of Hopkins County, Kentucky.

Architectural Resource Recommendations

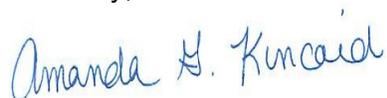
There are several buildings 50 years or older within the project area because US 41A is a historic transportation route. There is one building that is listed on the NRHP in the study area. The seven buildings that have been previously surveyed need to be updated and assessed for possible adverse impacts from the proposed project. The seven additional historic resources that were discovered through the windshield survey that are over 50 years of age need to be documented; assessed for NRHP eligibility; and assessed for possible adverse impacts from proposed project activity.

Conclusion

In summary, AMEC architectural historians conducted an architectural and background overview for the US 41A corridor in Hopkins and Webster Counties, Kentucky. A total of one NRHP listed property was identified, seven previously-recorded historic buildings, and seven additional historic resources were identified within the proposed project area. None of the previously recorded sites or the newly discovered historic resources has been assessed for NRHP eligibility. Since 41A is a historic transportation route, there is a high probability for potentially eligible historic buildings occurring within the study area.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Amanda Kincaid or Marty Marchaterre at (859) 255-3308.

Sincerely,



Amanda Kincaid
Historian



Marty Marchaterre
Project Manager