



Department of Transportation

HAROLD E. LINNENKOHL
COMMISSIONER
(404) 656-5206

DAVID E. STUDSTILL, JR., P.E.
CHIEF ENGINEER
(404) 656-5277

*State of Georgia
#2 Capitol Square, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-1002*

LARRY E. DENT
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
(404) 656-5212

EARL L. MAHFUZ
TREASURER
(404) 656-5224

NOTIFICATION

**Initiation of Section 106 Process for
GDOT Project CSSTP-0006-00(840), Henry County**

P.I. # 0006840

March 1, 2006

The Georgia Department of Transportation is in the beginning stages of project development for this proposed transportation project. In compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the Department has determined that because of the nature and the scope of this undertaking, the proposed project has the potential to cause effects to historic properties if any such properties exist in the project area. The Department is attempting to identify historic properties already listed in the National Register of Historic Places and any properties not already listed that would be considered eligible for listing that are located within the geographic area of potential effects (APE) of the proposed project.

The proposed project would construct trail improvements (on one side of road) along: Tanger Boulevard, beginning at Gardner Parkway and ending at Griffin Road; Peeksville Road, beginning at US 23 and ending at Grove Road; Grove Road, beginning at Sims Street and ending at Peeksville Road; Griffin Road, beginning at Tanger Boulevard and ending at Cleveland Street; Indian Creek Road, beginning at Frances Ward Drive and ending at Cleveland Street; and US 23, beginning at Gardner Parkway and ending at Cottonfields Road. The Trail improvements include a minimum 5 foot wide hard surface trail, lighting, signage, traffic light mast arms, ped heads, benches, trash receptacles, landscaping, improved pedestrian crossings at intersections and bicycle parking racks (see attached location map). Existing right-of-way varies between 60 and 80 feet. No additional right-of-way is anticipated.

Because of the nature and scope of the undertaking, the APE is limited to the existing right-of-way and viewshed of the proposed project, within which all construction and ground disturbing activity would be confined (refer to attached location map). No potential for indirect effects outside of the existing right-of-way and viewshed of the proposed project exists. No change in traffic patterns would result from project implementation. No additional access to the existing facility would be provided and no existing access to the facility would be removed. The project would provide streetscape improvements only.

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Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires the Federal Highway Administration and the Georgia Department of Transportation, in consultation with the Georgia State Historic Preservation Officer, to identify potential consulting parties and to invite them to participate in the Section 106 process. This Notification letter is one of several methods the Department uses to encourage public participation in this process and it serves as your invitation to participate as a consulting party in the Section 106 process for this project.

A written request to become a consulting party for cultural resources for this project should be directed to:

Harvey D. Keepler
Department of Transportation
Office of Environment/Location
3993 Aviation Circle
Atlanta, Georgia 30336-1593

Attn: Annette Loomis
Annette Loomis Historic Preservation

Responses would be appreciated within thirty (30) days of receipt of this Notification letter. Please refer to the project identification number (P.I. # 0006840) in your response. The potential consulting parties identified and invited to participate in the Section 106 process for this project are the Atlanta Regional Commission, Georgia SHPO and the Henry County Commission. If you are aware of other organizations or individuals interested in cultural resources in the project area not already identified, please forward their names to the Department.

Also, on behalf of the Federal Highway Administration Georgia Division (FHWA), in keeping with a government-to-government relationship and in compliance with 36CFR800, the following tribal governments are invited to participate in the Section 106 process for this project: Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Poarch Band of Creek Indians, Seminole Nation of Florida, Thlopthlocco Tribal Town, and the United Keetoowah Band of Indians. Responses to this Notification regarding tribal concerns should be addressed to the attention of Mr. Eric Duff, the Department's Native American liaison, at the above address.

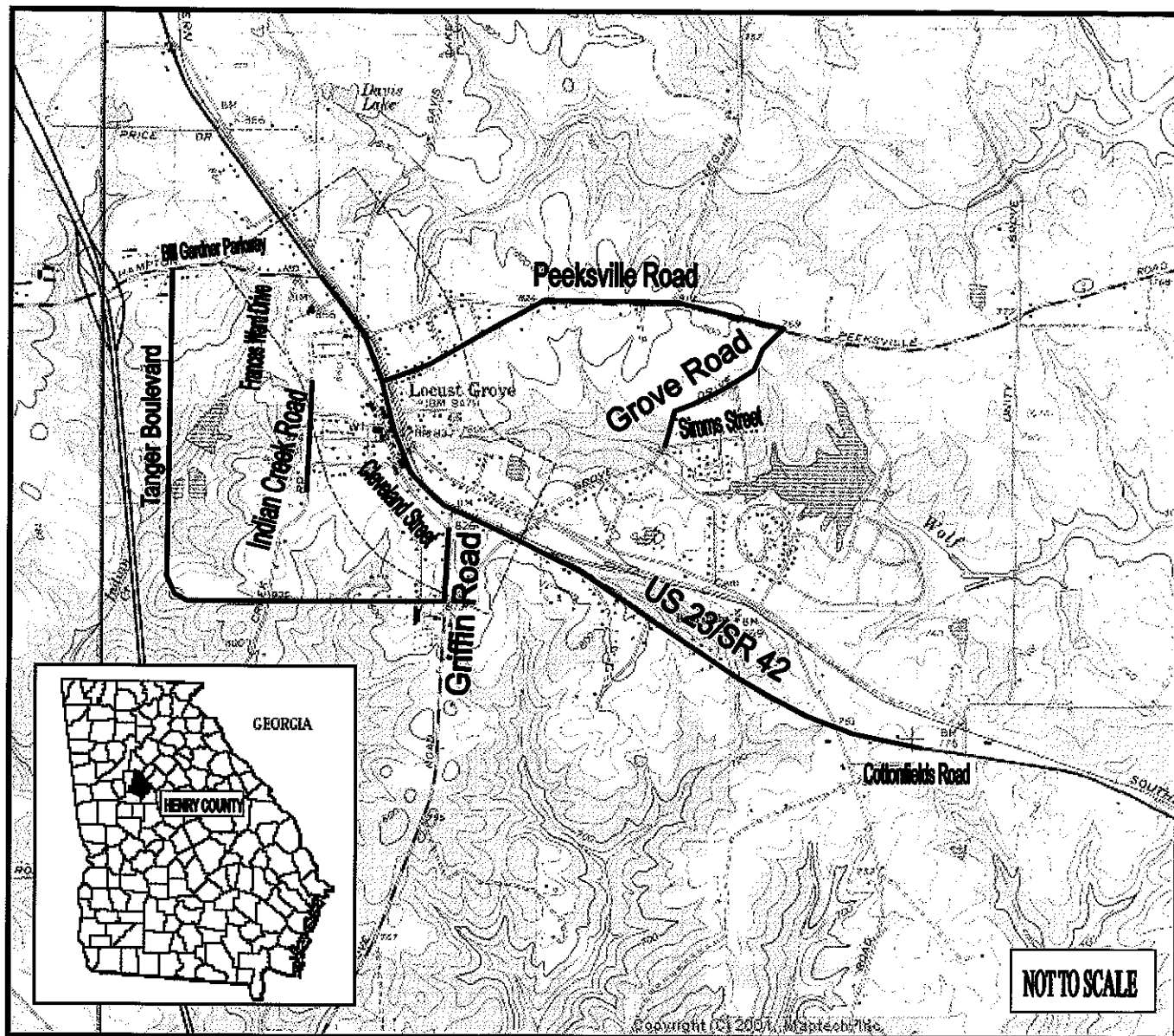
Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been checked to determine if any are located within the APE of this undertaking. This review of existing information revealed that 1 listed National Register property, no National Historic Landmarks and no bridges determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register in the updated Georgia Historic Bridge Survey (GHBS) are located within the proposed project's APE. The National Register listed property is the Locust Grove Institute Academic Building. No properties 50 years old or older were identified within the proposed project's APE in the 1998 Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Henry County Survey. This survey was limited to the City of McDonough.

Field surveys for both historic properties and archaeological sites will be conducted and the Criteria of Eligibility will be applied in consultation with the Georgia SHPO and other consulting parties to determine if any of these sites are eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

Consulting parties are also invited to provide information concerning any historic or archaeological properties already listed in the National Register or that could be eligible for

listing in the National Register that are not identified in this Notification letter. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the Department will assess project effects to any identified historic properties as preliminary project plans become available, endeavor to minimize harm to all identified historic properties and produce an Assessment of Effects report. This document will be provided to all consulting parties for comment when completed.

Individuals and organizations that do not wish to become a consulting party, but would still like to comment on the proposed project will also have that opportunity throughout the plan development process. Historic resource concerns can be addressed to Annette Loomis (770-614-9223 or loomis1@mindspring.com); archaeological resource concerns, including cemetery and other human burials, can be addressed to Eric Anthony Duff (404-699-4437 Eric.Duff@dot.state.ga.us) of this office. Questions concerning general design or location issues may be addressed to Thomas Howell, P.E., (706) 646-6500, of the Department's District 3 Office.



Project Location Map
GDOT CSSTP-0006-00(840),
P.I. #0006840,
Henry County

