

Historic Property Report

Corridor B3 Area of Potential Effects

Will County, Illinois



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Executive Summary

This Historic Property Report documents the methodology and recommended determinations of National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) findings of eligibility for the Section 106 process for the Will County, Illinois, portion of the Illiana Corridor Tier Two Study. The Illiana Corridor is a proposed bi-state, limited access, east-west highway located within an approximately 2,000 foot wide, 47-mile long east-west oriented corridor with a western terminus at I-55 just north of the City of Wilmington in Illinois and an eastern terminus at I-65 approximately 3 miles north of State Route 2 in Indiana. This report documents only the Area of Potential Effects (APE) outside of the 2,000-foot wide Corridor B3 for the Illinois portion of the proposed project. The APE extends one mile north and south of the 2,000-foot corridor's boundary to accommodate potential visual, noise, and vibration impacts to historic properties; its total width is approximately 2.37 miles. A separate report, *Historic Property Report for Corridor B3 in Will County, Illinois* (June 20, 2013), documents the 2,000-foot wide Corridor B3 for the Illinois portion of the proposed project; the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and Section 106 consulting parties are currently reviewing this report.

Built resources and landscape features in the APE were identified and evaluated in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, and its enabling legislation, 36 CFR Part 800. Because the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) may provide funding for the proposed project and interstate access approvals and permits will be required, the project is a federal undertaking and is subject to compliance with the NHPA and its enabling legislation. Specifically, Section 106 of the NHPA requires FHWA to take into account the effects of its undertakings on historic properties and afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) and consulting parties a reasonable opportunity to comment on the undertaking.

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), on behalf of the FHWA, delineated the APE in consultation with the SHPO for this project. Project historians conducted field survey of 570 built resources and landscape features in the APE. These resources and features were documented in two separate photo logs – one for Corridor B3 and one for the APE – for an initial review and screening of properties potentially eligible for listing in the NRHP by IDOT's Bureau of Design and Environment's (BDE) Cultural Resources Unit staff.

Of the 507 resources surveyed in the Corridor B3 APE, IDOT-BDE's review identified three NRHP-listed properties, one previously determined NRHP-eligible property, and twenty-five properties requiring additional research and evaluation of NRHP eligibility by the project architectural historians. This number included 11 properties previously surveyed in the Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey for Wilmington and Florence townships completed in 2009 and 2011, respectively.

The three NRHP-listed properties located in the Corridor B3 APE are Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet (Survey ID 13); Eagle Hotel (Survey ID 160); and Peotone Mill

(Survey ID 339). The single property previously determined eligible for listing in the NRHP and located in the Corridor B3 APE is the Downtown Wilmington Historic District (Survey ID 159).

As a result of identification and evaluation efforts for this project, six individual historic properties and one historic district within the Corridor B3 APE, but outside of the 2,000-foot corridor boundaries, are recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

- Soldiers' Widows' Laundry House (Survey ID 137)
- John R. Baskerville Farmstead (Survey ID 182)
- Stauffenberg Farmstead (Survey ID 333)
- Will County Fairgrounds (Survey ID 340)
- 2444 West Corning Road (Survey ID 416)
- Beecher Mausoleum (Survey ID 440)