



Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Historic Preservation

P.O. Box 1210 • Durant, OK 74702-1210

Gary Batton
Chief

Jack Austin, Jr.
Assistant Chief

December 9, 2019

RE: Proposed McAlester Travel Plaza on Hereford Lane (Section 33, Township 6 North, Range 15 East, McAlester Oklahoma, Pittsburg County)

To whom it may concern,

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma has proposed to build a travel plaza on Herford Lane in McAlester, OK. The travel plaza will be located on an 80 acre tract of land that is held in trust for Choctaw Nation. The full 80 acres received a Phase I cultural resources survey conducted by Algonquin Consultants, Inc, in June and July 2019.

Algonquin Consultants, Inc. discovered and reported two historic archaeological sites, 34PS768 and 34PS769, as well as one historic isolated. Based on the archaeological evidence, they recommended these sites as being ineligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. Since these twentieth-century historic sites would not fill any current data gaps in the archaeological record nor are they Choctaw homestead sites, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Historic Preservation Department concurs with Algonquin Consultants' determination.

From a historic preservation perspective, construction can proceed as planned. In the unlikely event that human remains or intact archaeological deposits are encountered during construction, we ask that work is stopped, and our office is contacted immediately.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "I. Thompson", followed by a horizontal line.

Ian Thompson PhD, RPA
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer