

# BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENT CONFERENCE REPORT

**SUBJECT:** Monthly SHPO-FHWA-ACOE-NHDOT Cultural Resources Meeting

**DATE OF CONFERENCES:** January 10, 2019

**LOCATION OF CONFERENCE:** John O. Morton Building

**ATTENDED BY:**

**NHDOT**

John Butler  
Sheila Charles  
Ron Crickard  
Jill Edelmann  
Marc Laurin  
Don Lyford  
Rebecca Martin

**NHDHR**  
Laura Black  
David Trubey

**McFarland Johnson**  
Gene McCarthy  
Jennifer Zorn

**Bow Heritage  
Commission**

Maureen Arsenault, Bow  
Heritage Commission  
Sue Wheeler, Bow Heritage  
Commission

**Consulting & Interested  
Parties**

Faye Johnson  
Kenneth Blevens

**FHWA**

Jamie Sikora

**PROJECTS/PRESENTATIONS REVIEWED THIS MONTH:**

*(minutes on subsequent pages)*

Bow-Concord, T-A000(018), 13742 ..... 1

**Bow-Concord, T-A000(018), 13742**

Participants: John Butler, Ron Crickard, Marc Laurin, Don Lyford, Rebecca Martin; Gene McCarthy, Jennifer Zorn, McFarland Johnson; Faye Johnson, Maureen Arsenault, Sue Wheeler, Bow Heritage Commission; Kenneth Blevens, Interested Party

Continued consultation for the Bow-Concord project and summary of the discussion that occurred on the topic of Section 106 Mitigation for the adverse effects to two properties located in the Town of Bow. This 4.5-mile project entails preliminary design of proposed improvements to the I-93 corridor between the I-89 interchange (Town of Bow) and Exit 15 (City of Concord).

Gene McCarthy provided a brief presentation on the impact to Bow historic structures including a present-day photo and a rendered photo of what the new retaining wall (associated with the new highway ramp) may look like as a textured retaining wall. He explained the height of the retaining wall near the Upton House and Store would be approximately 25 feet tall at its highest and approximately 22 feet at its lowest. Gene McCarthy commented that as the project design advances, the wall will be pushed as far away from the Upton House and Store as possible. He also commented that there are a lot of options for the aesthetics of the wall.

Consulting Party Faye Johnson inquired about snow plowing on the new ramp. Gene McCarthy explained that snow fencing would normally be placed along the railing but that the snow fencing could be extended to further east along the ramp so snow was not plowed over the ramp and onto the vegetative area on Valley Street or on the street itself. Don Lyford thought that snow would not drop too far from the retaining wall. Don Lyford inquired about how a concrete Jersey barrier wall

over the bridge might function and Gene McCarthy commented that it would likely block the snow.

Gene McCarthy provided images of potential aesthetic treatments that could be done on the retaining wall by use of a custom mold. Gene McCarthy explained that if a prefabricated panel were selected it could be more detailed than simply using a form in the field.

Ken Blevens presented his opinion on the aesthetic treatment. He recommended the treatment should be a mirror image of the Upton House and Store. He thought a fire station was present in the past and did not believe mills were located in the current location of I-89. According to Faye Johnson, three mills were located here.

Gene McCarthy inquired how specific the MOA language needs to be in this matter. Laura Black stated that the specific design does not need to be detailed in the MOA, but that the MOA should be clear on whether a designed panel or a textured wall will be required.

Ken Blevens asked if two designs could be done. He stated that one design could be an image of a historic mill and the other could be an image of the Upton House and Store. Faye Johnson inquired on the cost of the two designs. Ken Blevens commented that there is very little traffic down Valley Road and few people would see any treatment that was installed further away from Logging Hill Road.

Jamie Sikora expressed concern on having too much of a smooth surface for graffiti. He also inquired whether a steel image (or object) could be mounted on the retaining wall. Gene McCarthy stated yes, but the weight of the steel could be an issue. Gene McCarthy commented that graffiti is not too bad in this area.

Jennifer Zorn explained the estimated cost of a custom mold to create an aesthetic design on the retaining wall. The cost is estimated at \$50 per square foot of custom mold. She provided the cost examples of a wall with a 50 foot long (50'L x 22'H x \$50=\$55,000) and 100 foot long (100'L x 22'H x \$50=\$110,000) aesthetic treatment. However, this assumes a unique design through the wall. Gene McCarthy added that if the aesthetic design was smaller in size but repeated, the cost would be reduced. Don Lyford commented that if a precast panel were selected there would be size restrictions for moving the panel and the design might need to be split into several sections.

Faye Johnson inquired on whether an aesthetic design could be inset into a textured wall. Gene McCarthy stated that it is more likely that the panel with the decoration would be one single panel from top to bottom with the image in the middle and texture above and below as a frame.

Sheila Charles inquired on the longevity of concrete walls such as the proposed retaining wall. Gene McCarthy stated these walls are strong and built to last a long time. He stated that concrete gets harder and stronger over time and that a wall that is manufactured ahead of time (pre-fabricated) would have better quality. In NH salt causes eventual corrosion of the rebar.

Sheila Charles inquired about vegetation that could be planted in front of the wall. Gene McCarthy said yes, but the maintenance would need to be done by the Town of Bow. Faye Johnson stated that the Bow Garden Club/Watering Committee maintains flower barrels throughout town and they could add this location to their list of locations to maintain.

Ken Blevins inquired about Lot 22 (adjacent to his lot) and expressed a desire to negotiate with the NHDOT to help protect his property. Donald Lyford stated that the NHDOT cannot do this and he (Ken Blevins) is free to buy the land at any time from the current owners or buy the land once it becomes surplus land after the State buys it, assuming it is no longer needed. Don Lyford commented that the project will not be directly impacting Mr. Blevins's property.

Ken Blevins inquired on the future plan for Valley Road and asked that the wall be moved as far back as possible from his property. Don Lyford stated that a turnaround may be possible on Valley Road. Gene McCarthy stated that moving the wall back further would be reviewed during final design.

Jill Edelmann concluded the discussion on the aesthetic wall and stated that NHDOT would support a decorative (aesthetic) wall. Donald Lyford agreed.

The next topic of discussion was the educational product that could be part of the mitigation package. Faye Johnson stated that Bow was very interested in an educational product similar to the Farmington, NH example that was previously provided.

According to Faye Johnson, the Bow Heritage Commission began recording the history of the Bow Mills area in 2017 and would like to see a history booklet generally focusing on these areas of Bow: the Concord/Bow boundary on South Street, Logging Hill Road, Grandview Road, NH 3A and a small portion of Hall Street. She stated that the history of transportation should also be included. She recommended that information begin with the historic logging/mill use of the area and continue to the present day. She prefers the final product be in digital format so it can be on the Internet.

Jill Edelmann stated that a team would be created (including a consultant) to do the research and work with Bow to create the desired product. Maureen Arsenault provided Jill a memory stick with historic photos.

Laura Black stated that the Bow Heritage Commission would provide support to the consultant, and the consultant would manage the creation of the product.

A brief discussion occurred on the possibility to create moveable panels with historic images. The members of the Bow Heritage Commission seemed interested in having this type of panel to put up in schools. Laura Black recommended the Bow Heritage Commission identify some themes that they would like to highlight as moveable displays. The members of the Bow Heritage Commission will consider the moveable displays and provide recommendations to the NHDOT.

Jill Edelmann stated that she would draft the MOA and send it to the Bow Heritage Commission for review. She stated that those with an active role in the MOA would be encouraged to sign it. Faye Johnson stated she would check with the Town officials/Chair of the Heritage Commission to determine who should sign it. The group discussed that if the historic booklet would be hosted on the Bow Town website, the Board of Selectmen Bow would also need to be a signatory on the MOA.

Donald Lyford asked the McFarland Johnson post the presentation that was provided during the meeting to the project website. Jennifer Zorn agreed.

Submitted by: Sheila Charles and Jill Edelmann, Cultural Resources

# New Hampshire Department of Transportation Cultural Resources Agency Coordination Meeting

Date January 10, 2019

Please initial next to your name.      Guests: Please use reverse side to sign in.

Initial	Name	Agency	Email Address
<i>LB</i>	Laura Black	NH Division of Historical Resources	<u>Laura.Black@dncr.nh.gov</u>
<i>SC</i>	Sheila Charles	NHDOT – Bureau of Environment	<u>Sheila.Charles@dot.nh.gov</u>
<i>SC</i>	Victoria Chase	NHDOT – Highway Design	<u>Victoria.Chase@dot.nh.gov</u>
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<i>JS</i>	Jamie Sikora	Federal Highway Administration	<u>Jamie.Sikora@fhwa.dot.gov</u>
	Pete Stannas	NHDOT – Highway Design	<u>Peter.Stannas@dot.nh.gov</u>
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	Cindy Vigue	Federal Highway Administration	<u>Cindy.Vigue@dot.gov</u>
	CR Willeke	NHDOT – Planning	<u>Charles.Willeke@dot.nh.gov</u>

Please fill in all of the requested information.

January 10, 2019

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