



# Beaver Creek ARCHAEOLOGY

*Addendum to Ruso Wind Project*

June 13, 2019

**Regarding:** Addendum to the Ruso Wind Project (BCA19-1310)

**Location:** T151N R80W, T151N R81W, T151N R82W, and T152N R82W

Dear: Kristen Mohon

Beaver Creek Archaeology, Inc. (BCA) completed a Class I and Class III cultural resource investigation of the addendum to the Ruso Wind project in 2019. The Class I record search involved a review of site files and survey reports maintained by the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for a one-mile radius centered around the survey area. The file search revealed 10 sites, 13 site leads, and two isolated finds.

#### Previously Recorded Sites within a One-Mile Radius of the APE.

SITS #	Affiliation	Resource Type	NRHP Status
32MH407	Historical	Stone Wall Built into Hillside	Not Eligible
32WD13	Period Unknown	17 Stone Circles	Unevaluated
32WD46	Period Unknown	4 Stone Circles, 5 Cairns	Unevaluated
32WD47	Period Unknown	Cairn	Unevaluated
32WD48	Period Unknown	Stone Circle	Unevaluated
32WD1743	Historical	Depression, Foundation: Remnants of a township school/hall	Not Eligible
32WD2159	Architectural	Shed, Possible Granary, Depression, Masonry, Wood	Not Eligible
32WD2406	Period Unknown	Cairn	Unevaluated
32WD2407	Period Unknown	Possible Effigy	Unevaluated
32WD2408	Period Unknown	Cairn	Unevaluated

#### Previously Recorded Isolated Finds/Site Leads within a One-Mile Radius of the APE

SITS #	Affiliation	Resource Type	NRHP Status
32MHx62	Period Unknown	Site Lead: CM Scatter	Unevaluated
32MHx336	Historical	Isolated Find: 1 Ceramic	Not Eligible
32WDx2	Historical	Site Lead: Bartoshivich Coal Mine	Unevaluated
32WDx9	Historical	Site Lead: Leeson Coal Mine	Unevaluated
32WDx10	Historical	Site Lead: Cafilisch Mine	Unevaluated
32WDx13	Historical	Site Lead: Tree-Bosch Mine	Unevaluated
32WDx15	Historical	Site Lead: Red Flag Coal Mine	Unevaluated
32WDx16	Historical	Site Lead: Red Flag Coal Mine	Unevaluated
32WDx588/ 32MHx335	Historical	Site Lead: Truax-Traer Coal	Unevaluated
32WDx589	Historical	Site Lead: Quist Mine	Unevaluated
32WDx594	Historical	Site Lead: Faul Mine	Unevaluated
32WDx597	Historical	Site Lead: Hanchette Mine	Unevaluated
32WDx606	Historical	Site Lead: Triebwasser; Vix Coal Mine	Unevaluated
32WDx769	Architectural	Site Lead: Windmill Possible Farmstead	Unevaluated
32WDx819	Historical	Isolated Find: 3 Ceramics	Not Eligible

#### WHERE PROGRESS MEETS PRESERVATION

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The Class III inventory involved an intensive pedestrian survey of the proposed access roads, collector lines, crane paths, transmission line, and substation location, all of which constitute the Areas of Potential Effect (APE). The Class III survey area encompassed approximately 984 acres. The proposed access roads and collector lines were buffered 75' on either side of the centerline, resulting in a 150' wide survey corridor. During the cultural resource inventory, 13 new cultural resources were identified within the survey area. These new cultural resources include 10 sites (5 historic and 5 pre-historic) and three isolated finds (2 historic and 1 pre-historic). In addition, seven of the previously recorded cultural resources (1 site, 4 site leads, and 2 isolated finds) were revisited during the current undertaking, as they were located within or near the project area.

The five historical sites are represented by a field stone foundation, historic cultural material (CM) scatters, and a trash dump. The historic sites are recommended as not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and no avoidance is recommended necessary. The five pre-historic sites are represented by stone features (cairns, stone circles, effigies) and are recommended as unevaluated for the NRHP. As such, avoidance is recommended. The two historical isolated finds are represented by cultural material (a metal crank handle, glass, ironware, and whiteware), while the pre-historic isolated find is represented by a projectile point. Isolated finds, by definition, are not eligible for the NRHP and no avoidance is necessary.

During the current undertaking, additional stone features were located at previously recorded site 32WD2407. This site is recommended as unevaluated for the NRHP and avoidance is recommended. The four previously recorded site leads are potential coal mines; however, fieldwork has determined that no cultural material or features associated with coal mining exist within the survey area. The two previously recorded historical isolated finds (whiteware) are not eligible for the NRHP and no avoidance is necessary.

The Class III cultural resource survey was conducted from May 28, 2019 through June 3, 2019 by Alexander Atkinson (Field Director), Melody Abbott, and Reilly Lembo (Field Archaeologists). The Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians (TMBC) was invited to participate in the survey and Brady Grant, a Tribal Cultural Specialist (TCS), joined the BCA field crew. On June 11, 2019, Aaron Kidwell (Field Archaeologist) surveyed a project reroute. Wade Burns served as the Principal Investigator for this project.

### Site Avoidance Recommendations

SITS #	Description	NRHP Status	Avoidance Recommendations
32MHx336	Isolated Find: 1 Ceramic	Not Eligible	No Avoidance Necessary
32WD2407	3 Stone Circles, possible Effigy	Unevaluated	100' Avoidance, Temporary Fencing, Monitoring
32WDx2	Site Lead: Bartoshovich Coal Mine	Unevaluated	No Avoidance Necessary
32WDx15	Site Lead: Red Flag Coal Mine	Unevaluated	No Avoidance Necessary
32WDx588/32MHx335	Site Lead: Truax-Traer Coal	Unevaluated	No Avoidance Necessary
32WDx589	Site Lead: Quist Mine	Unevaluated	No Avoidance Necessary
32WDx819	Isolated Find: 2 Ceramics	Not Eligible	No Avoidance Necessary
BCA19-1310-Site1	Fieldstone Foundation	Not Eligible	No Avoidance Necessary
BCA19-1310-Site2	Cairn, possible effigy	Unevaluated	50' Avoidance, Temporary Fencing, Monitoring
BCA19-1310-Site3	5 Stone Circles	Unevaluated	50' Avoidance, Temporary Fencing, Monitoring

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SITS #	Description	NRHP Status	Avoidance Recommendations
BCA19-1310-Site4	Stone Circle	Unevaluated	50' Avoidance, Temporary Fencing, Monitoring
BCA19-1310-SiteA	Historic CM Scatter	Not Eligible	No Avoidance Necessary
BCA19-1310-SiteB	Historic CM Scatter	Not Eligible	No Avoidance Necessary
BCA19-1310-SiteC	Historic Dump	Not Eligible	No Avoidance Necessary
BCA19-1310-SiteD	Historic CM Scatter	Not Eligible	No Avoidance Necessary
BCA19-1310-SiteE	2 Stone Circles	Unevaluated	50' Avoidance, Temporary Fencing, Monitoring
BCA19-1310-SiteF	2 Stone Circles, 1 Stone Arc	Unevaluated	50' Avoidance, Temporary Fencing, Monitoring
BCA19-1310-IF1	Isolated Find: Metal Handle	Not Eligible	No Avoidance Necessary
BCA19-1310-IF2	Isolated Find: 4 pieces of glass, 3 pieces of ceramic	Not Eligible	No Avoidance Necessary
BCA19-1310-IF3	Isolated Find: Projectile Point	Not Eligible	No Avoidance Necessary

It is recommended that site 32WD2407, an archaeological stone feature site located near a wind turbine site, be avoided by a minimum of 100' with temporary fencing along the 100' avoidance buffer in conjunction with archaeological monitoring when ground disturbing construction activities occur within 100' of the site. In addition, it is recommended that sites BCA19-1310-Site2, BCA19-1310-Site3, BCA19-1310-Site4, BCA19-1310-SiteE, and BCA19-1310-SiteF (archaeological stone feature sites), which are located near linear components of the project, be avoided by a minimum of 50' with temporary fencing along the 50' avoidance buffers in conjunction with archaeological monitoring when ground disturbing construction activities occur within 100' of the site. The TMBC TCS agreed with our findings and recommended avoidance measures. Consequently, as long as the avoidance measures are followed, BCA recommends that the proposed project proceed under a finding of *No Historic Properties Affected*, as surveyed, mapped, and described herein.

No architectural sites or features are located within the project area. An architectural inventory within a two-mile radius of the project area is ongoing.

Please contact Wade Burns if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Brittany Brooks  
Beaver Creek Archaeology

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