



## 6.2 Historic and Archaeological Resources Mitigation

### Historic Resources Mitigation

As a result of the finding of Historic Properties Affected, Adverse Effect, for the W.O. Bunch Farm, FHWA, SHPO and other consulting parties entered into consultation regarding a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). The widening of Pierce Road (SR 4 extension) from existing US 31 to the proposed US 31 is a planned local road improvement project that is included as part of the US 31 Improvement Project. The W.O. Bunch Farm, a property that is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NR), is located on the south side of Pierce Road and is within the limits of the Pierce Road (SR 4 extension) local road improvement project. For this local road improvement project, in the vicinity of the W.O. Bunch Farm, Pierce Road (SR 4 extension) was shifted northward so that any additional right-of-way required for the improvements were on the north side of Pierce Road. The right-of-way along the south side of Pierce Road, in the vicinity of the W.O. Bunch Farm, will remain at the current right-of-way location. In doing this, the use of any property associated with the W.O. Bunch Farm was avoided. The increase in traffic and the potential for development at the nearby interchange may reduce the integrity (the surrounding rural context) of the property but does not represent a substantial impairment to its listing in the NR. FHWA and the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) have mitigated the impact on the W.O. Bunch Farm and executed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) (See Appendix P), to which INDOT was an invited signatory.

The MOA stipulates that “FHWA and INDOT agree to implement and provide funding for an educational CD that will complement the 4th grade Indiana History curriculum, whereby the role of settlement and agriculture in northern Indiana are discussed, especially as it relates to roads and agricultural properties. This educational CD will be developed in consultation with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources-Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology. This CD will be distributed to grade schools in Marshall and St. Joseph counties and placed at repositories designated by FHWA and INDOT. These repositories may include but will not be limited to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources-Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology, the Indiana Historical Bureau, the Indiana State Archives, and Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana. Approximately 100 copies of the CD will be produced. (Copyright will rest with INDOT.) All work will be completed within two (2) years of the publishing of the Record of Decision. Educational material will be formatted so that it may be published on a website if desired.”

The MOA addresses Post Review Discovery stating that

“In the event that one or more historic properties--other than Evergreen Hill, Lakeville High School, Cover House, Ullery/Farneman House, Conrad Schafer Farmstead, Francis Donaghue Farmstead, Court Farmstead, and W.O. Bunch Farm – are discovered or that unanticipated effects on historic properties are found during the implementation of this memorandum of agreement, the FHWA shall follow the procedure specified in 36 C.F.R. Section 800.13.”

Additionally,

“If, during the implementation of the project, a previously unidentified historic property is encountered, or a previously identified historic property is affected in an unanticipated manner, the FHWA will consult with the SHPO, and ensure that work shall cease in the area, and the provisions of IC 14-21-1, 312 IAC 21, and 312 IAC 22 will be followed.”

### Archaeological Resources Mitigation

Based on the results of the Phase 1a archaeological field reconnaissance (see Appendix I) and other available information, the proposed project should have no effect on archaeological resources meeting the criteria established for inclusion to the Indiana Register of Historic Sites and Structures (IRHSS) or the NR. Three previously recorded archaeological sites were resurveyed and 20 previously undocumented archaeological sites were discovered during



the Phase 1a field reconnaissance of the project area. Based on this field reconnaissance, no further work was recommended on any of these sites. This is with the understanding that if human remains, features or midden deposits are revealed during construction, any disturbances will cease until an archaeologist is contacted and mitigation is completed.

The MOA executed between the FHWA and the SHPO (See Appendix P), to which INDOT was an invited signatory, stipulates that the:

“FHWA may withhold or limit public disclosure of information about historic properties in accordance with Section 304 of the National Historic Preservation Act and 36 CFR 800.6(a)(5) and 36 CFR 800.11(c)”.

The MOA also addresses Post Review Discovery stating that

“If human remains are discovered, the appropriate County Coroner and law enforcement officials will be notified immediately, and the discovery of any human remains dating on or before December 31, 1939 must be also reported to the IDNR within two (2) business days. The discovery must be treated in accordance with IC 14-21-1 and 312 IAC 22. If a Native American Indian burial ground is discovered, the IDNR shall immediately provide notice to the Native American Indian Affairs Commission as per IC 14-21-1-25.5”.