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JWS & ASSOCIATES

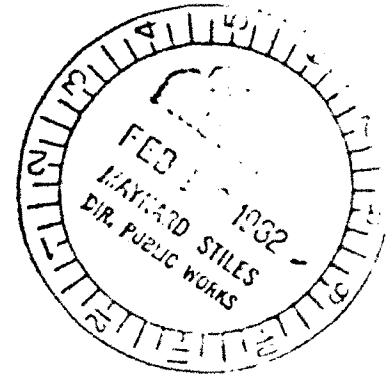
Engineering Consultants

JOHN W. SMITH, Ph.D., P.E.
President

1550 W. Churchill Downs
Germantown, TN. 38138
754 2129

February 8, 1982

Maynard Stiles, Director
Division of Public Works
Room 602, City Hall
125 North Main
Memphis, Tennessee 38101



Dear Mr. Stiles:

As per your request, we have reviewed the archeological impact of the construction of American Way in the vicinity of Ten Mile Bayou. Dr. Gerald Smith, Curator of Chucalissa Indian Village, was requested to review existing records, perform a site investigation of the area, and provide his professional opinion relative to the construction.

A site visit was performed during the week of January 18 by Dr. Smith. In his opinion, the proposed construction will not disturb or impact any items or locations of archeological significance.

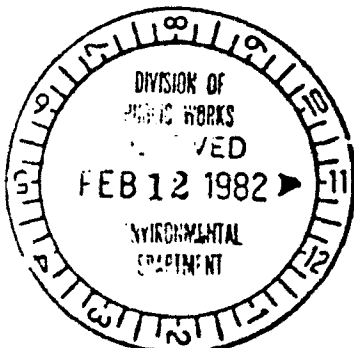
We trust that this will assist you in your project. If you need additional information or assistance, please advise.

Very truly yours,

John W. Smith
John W. Smith, Ph.D., P.E.

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Archaeological Investigation of American Way
Bridge Site over Ten Mile Creek, Memphis, Tennessee

The site for the American Way bridge over Ten Mile Creek, in Memphis, Tennessee, has been examined for archaeological remains. This work was done under excellent field conditions and no indication of archaeological remains was found, either in the cutbank of Ten Mile Creek or in the right-of-way within 100 feet on either side of the creek.

Examination of the present Ten Mile Creek cutbank on the east side revealed (from top to bottom) about 15 feet of siltation deposits, then about 3 feet of interbedded organic clays and leaves, and 2 to 3 feet of sand and gravel deposits. Since this stratigraphy was generally similar to that of the Nonconnah Creek mastodon find just below the Perkins Street bridge the exposed plant material was closely examined. There was no indication of pre-modern vegetation present, and no animal bone of any kind. Both the Bartlett 1:64,500 (1941 edition) and the Southeast Memphis 1:24,000 (1965 edition) topographic sheets indicate that prior to channelization this segment of what is now the Ten Mile Creek ditch was part of the natural channel of Nonconnah Creek. The specific site of the bridge was at that time the inside bank of a small meander loop of Nonconnah Creek. It thus appears that the organic deposits are Nonconnah Creek backswamp deposits of modern origin.

It is therefore recommended that the bridge site be cleared for construction as having no adverse impact on archaeological resources.

Gerald P. Smith

Gerald P. Smith
Archaeologist