

# NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

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MAY 1 2 1981

Docket Nos.: STN 50-546 and STN 50-547

Ms. Carol Schull
Keeper of the National Register
Heritage Conservation and
Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
400 G Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20243

Dear Ms. Schull:



Pursuant to our responsibility under 36 CFR 800 as licensing agency for the construction of the Marble Hill Nuclear Generating Station, the NRC requests a determination by your office of eligibility of the archeological site identified below for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The site, referred to as McNeil Stone Fort and designated Site 12Je4, was located in the course of an archeological survey of tower locations for the planned Marble Hill - Columbus transmission line by the Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology of Indiana University.

Detailed information on the site is provided on the enclosed NRHP Nomination Form prepared by the Glenn A. Black Laboratory (See Enclosure 1). This request, however, is only for a determination of eligibility of the site for the NRHP. The evaluation of the Glenn A. Black Laboratory concludes that Site 12Je4 is potentially eligible for the Register.

The documentation prepared for Site 12Je4 was reviewed by the Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). As stated in Enclosure 2, it is that office's opinion that, "the site is eligible for inclusion in the NRHP" and that, "construction of the proposed transmission line tower at the location of archaeological site 12Je4 will be an adverse effect."

In light of the evaluations by the Glenn A. Black Laboratory and the Indiana SHPO, we concur with their recommendations to request a determination of the eligibility of Site 12Je4 for inclusion in the NRHP.

If, as expected, Site 12Je4 is determined to be eligible for the NRHP, the licensee, Public Service of Indiana, will propose a mitigation plan to be approved by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation requiring disturbance of only part of the site and preservation of the remainder. There are serious practical difficulties associated with relocating the transmission line tower away from the site area.

Ms. Carol Schull

-2 - MAY 1 2 1981

Your prompt attention to this eligibility determination would be greatly appreciated so that the licensee can proceed with developing and obtaining approval of a mitigation plan without impacting the schedule for construction of the transmission line.

If your staff requires information in addition to that provided above please contact Kenneth L. Kiper (301-492-7318) of our staff so that we may provide it to you promptly.

Sincerely,

B. J. Youngblood, Chief Licensing Branch No. 1 Division of Licensing

Enclosures: As stated Nation Register of Historical Places Nomination Form prepared by the Glenn A. Black Laboratory

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR MPS USE ONLY

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AND/OR COMMON				
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4 OWNER O	FPROPERTY	(right of way by	Public Service Co	mpany of Indian
NAME	XoNet1- P. Barrett			
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CITY, TOWN	Madison		STATE Indiana	
TITLE	NTATION IN EXIST		les	
1875,	1973, 1979	FEDERAL 3	STATE _COUNTY _LOCAL	
SURVEY RECORDS	Glenn A. Black Labor	atory of Archaeolog	37	
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#### CONDITION

\_\_EXCELLENT \_\_GOOD \_\_DETERIORATED
\_\_UNEXPOSED

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The McNeil Stone Fort (12 Je 4) archaeological site is located on a narrow ridge spur that extends into the bottomlands of Graham and Big creeks immediately west of their confluence. Cultural debris in the form of flint debitage, cracked stone, and occasional artifacts are present in heavy concentrations over an approximate 24 acre area and two "walls" constructed of limestone are reported to have partially enclosed 10-12 acres of the whole at one time. Also, two stone burial mounds have been identified.

The earliest known reference to the site is that of E. T. Cox, a geologist, who published a brief description in 1874. He states that the fortified area ". . . is protected on the north and south sides by a natural wall of Niagra and Corniferous [Jeffersonville and North Vernon] limestone, from sixty-five to eighty feet high. Across the narrow neck of the spur, on the east end, there was an artifical wall of stone four hundred and twenty five feet long. The latter was curved so as to protect all points not naturally guarded by the mural walls with which it was connected" (1875:22).

Only a few "foundation stones" remained at the time of Cox's visit; most had been removed for use in the construction of houses, chimneys, etc. The map prepared by Cox locates the two stone structures and outbuildings present on the spur in 1874 and is included in support of this nomination.

Surface reconnaissance investigations in 1973 and 1979 (Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology Survey Files, Harrell 1979, Richardson and Smith 1979), while documenting the wide dispersal of surface prehistoric material cited above and noting the high limestone bluff lines that isolate the spur, failed to observe any evidence for the artificial walls.

In order to establish site significance, limited test excavation was accomplished in the region of a planned electrical power transmission tower (#1024) in the central portion of the nominated area. Two probable low mortuary mounds constructed of limestone slabs were identified. Stone Mound 1 is approximately 25 feet in diameter, one foot in height, and is slightly ovoid in ground plan. It contained burned and unburned animal bone, carbonized plant remains, potsherds, and lithic debris. Human bone fragments and a human tooth were also recovered. Stone Mound 2 is about 15 feet in diameter and .25 feet in height; it is circular in shape. Mound content parallels that in Stone Mound 1, excepting that an articulated human skeleton was noted in a central mound feature. Both mounds are apparently undisturbed and test excavations were terminated immediately upon determining the nature of the contexts. Additionally tests in the same general area indicate that in situ subsurface cultural deposits are present.

Artifacts recovered from the surface and the subsurface tests suggest two major periods of occupancy. Late Archaic (2500 B.C. = 1500 B.C.) is represented by Matanzas and Adema projectile points. The stone mounds and ceramics probably date to a late Middle Woodland-Late Woodland interval (A.D. 300 - A.D. 1000) and may also reflect activities of the builders of the enclosure (see Faulkner 1971; Kellar 1960).

Various modern intrusions have altered portions of the prehistoric context. The westernmost sector is under cultivation and farmlot grading and excavation for a small pond have modified that portion of the site. A narrow access road has been created along the southern margin of the central sector, but apart from this intrusion, the area is in forest and brush and it appears never to have been cultivated. A railroad cut differentiates this from the cultivated eastern sector.

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_1700-1799	_ART	ENGINEERING	_MUSIC	THEATER
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SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The McNeil Stone Fort (12 Je 4) is one of only four archaeological sites in southern Indiana known to have been "fortified" by stone walled enclosures and it is the single example that has been clearly demonstrated to contain undisturbed cultural deposits. The others are located in the Ohio Valley proper and have been mutilated by vandalism and modern intrusions (Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology survey files). The significance of the site then, resides in the real possibility of identifying the enclosure's builders and determining its function through an analysis of the existing stone mounds and extensive occupational deposits. Aerial photographs suggest it may also be possible to relocate at least a portion of the westernmost wall. This potential is enhanced by the fact that the stone mound area appears never to have been cultivated or disturbed by vandalism.

Although a number of hilltop enclosures are recorded in the southeastern United States, most have been destroyed or, if excavation was attempted, few have produced the requisite data to suggest the time of the building or their use (Franke 1964; Faulkner 1971). As a consequence, there remains considerable conjecture concerning their cultural significance and some investigators have viewed them as a variety of "ceremonial" center and others have posited a military function (Faulkner 1971; Kellar 1960; Prufer 1964). Therefore, the McNeil Stone Fort and the directly associated stone mounds and occupational debris have a substantial significance for approaching problems that extend beyond the local area.

At yet another level, the undisturbed occupational deposits provide additional opportunities for cultural analysis. While it seems apparent that at least two occupational interludes are present (Late Archaic and Late Middle Woodland-Late Woodland) and it is not possible at this juncture to positively relate the enclosure to one or the other, the resources present have the potential for enlarging knowledge of the prehistoric past apart from the broader context noted above. Portions of the Late Archaic assemblage occurs in pristine contexts and are relevant to the ongoing studies of the subsistance-settlement patterns, technology, and intra-site variability at this time level.

The somewhat later stone mounds and human burial remains contribute to an understanding of prehistoric mortuary practices. The floral and faunal evidence occurring in the same context are of consequence for reconstructing diet, subsistence activities, and broadly, the nature of the human adaptation to the natural environment of the area.

In sum the McNeil Stone Fort archaeological site exhibits a complexity of cultural features that are significant by reason of the potential for approaching a number of relevant research problems. Few sites preserve so many facets of prehistoric activity in a single location.

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Cox, E. T. (1875) Antiquities, Sixth Annual Report of the Geological Survey of Indiana,

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Form No. 10-300s (Hev. 10-74)

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## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

Major Bibliographical References

9

4

of Department of Geology and Natural Resources: Indiana - 1915, p. 238. Fort Wayne.

- Faulkner, Charles H. (1971) The Old Stone Fort: Exploring an Archaeological Mystery. University of Tennessee Press, Knoxville.
- Franke, Nick (1964) The Function of Hilltop Enclosures and Walls of the Eastern United States. M.S. Thesis, Indiana University
- Harrell, Glenn P. (1979) A Phase I Assessment of Archaeological Resources in the Marble Hill-Columbus Transmission Line Route. Prepared for Public Service Indians. Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology, Indiana University.
- Lilly, Eli (1937) Prehistoric Antiquities of Indiana. Indiana Historical Society, Indianapolis.
- Kellar, James H. (1960) The C. L. Lewis Stone Mound and the Stone Mound Problem. Indiana Historical Society, Prehistoric Research Series, Vol. 3, No. 4. Indianapolis.
- Richardson, John W. and Edward E. Smith (1979) Archaeological Investigations along the Transmission Line Route from Marble Hill to Columbus, Indiana. Prepared for Pubic Service Indiana. Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology, Indiana University.

Form No. 10-301 (Rev. 10-74)

#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAPFORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

NAME

McNeil Stone Fort Archaeological Site (12 Je 4)

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

CITY TOWN

Deputy

X VIGNITY OF

COUNTY Jefferson

STATE Indiana

MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE USGS Topographic Map. Deputy, Indiana Quadrangle

1:24000 SCALE

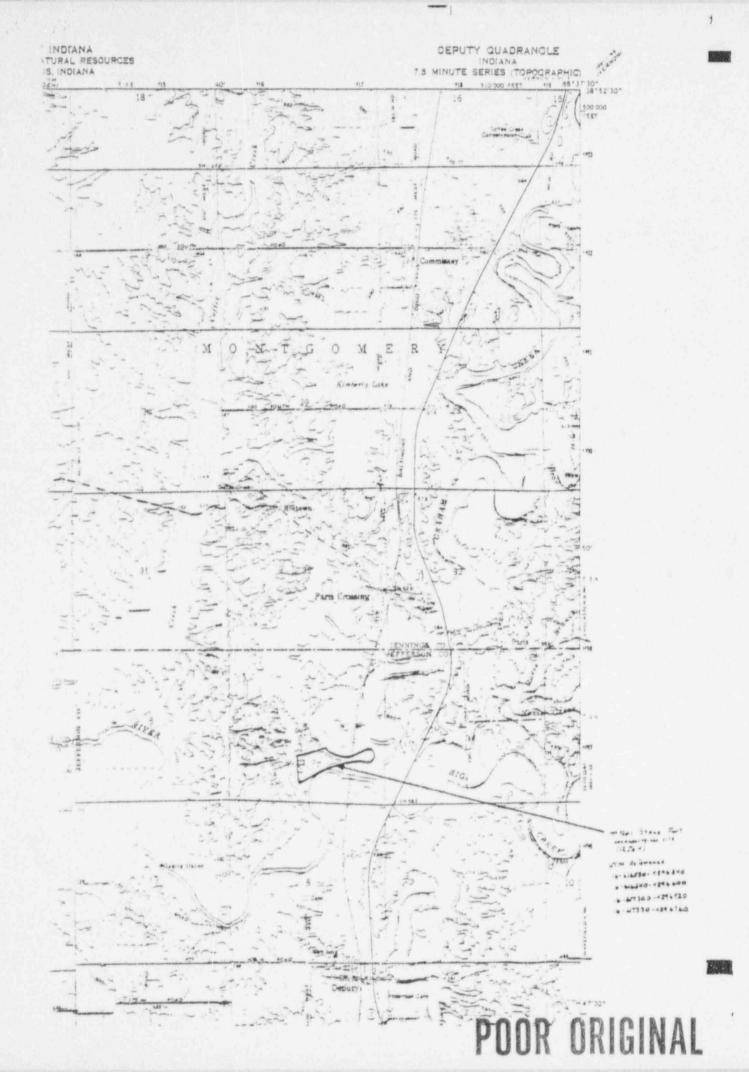
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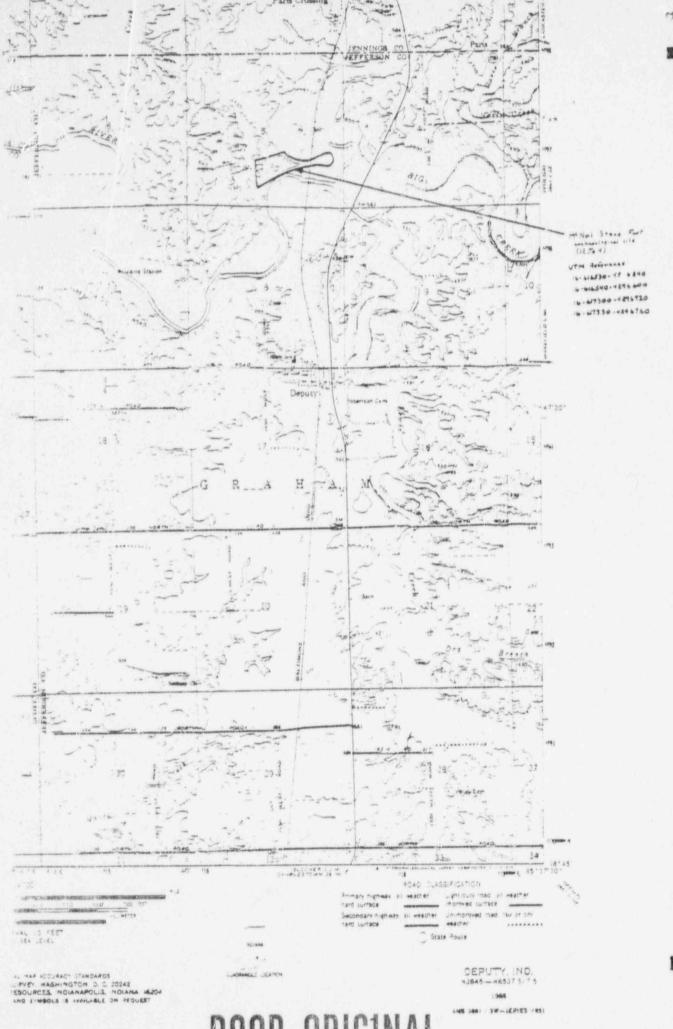
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TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

- 1 PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
- 2. NORTH ARROW
- 3. UTM REFERENCES

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

#### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

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O NAME

HISTORIC McNeil Stone Fort Archaeological Site (12 Je 4)

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Deputy

X VICINITY OF

COUNTY Jefferson

STATE Indiana

MAP REFERENCE

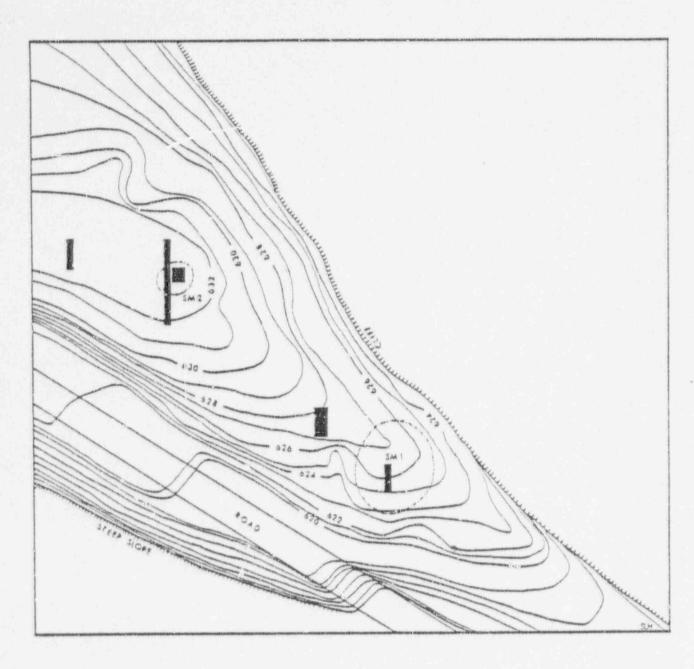
SOURCE Richardson, John W. and Edward E. Smith (1979) Archaeological Investigations along the Transmission Line Route from Marble Hill to Columbus, Indiana Prepared for SCALE Public Service Indiana. Glemman. Black Laboratory of Archaeology, Indiana Univ. 1:25

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- 1 PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
- 2. NORTH ARROW
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McNeil Stone Fort Archaeological Site (12 Je 4) Western portion of the Central Sector

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

#### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

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McNeil Stone Fort Archaeological Site (12 Je 4)

AND/OF COMMON

2 LOCATION

Deputy

A VICINITY OF

COUNTY Jefferson

STATE Indiana

MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE Cox, E. T. (1875) Sixth Annual Report of the Geological Survey of Indiana, Made During the Year 1874. Fig. 6., p. 33. Indianapolis.

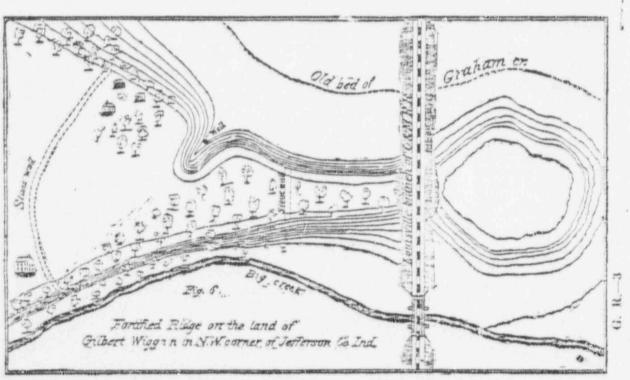
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- 3. UTM REFERENCES



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Form No. 10-301a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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HISTORIC

McNeil Stone Fort Archaeological Site (12 Je 4)

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY TOWN Deputy

X VICINITY OF

STATE Indiana

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1 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

John W. Richardson

DATE OF PHOTO August. 1979

NEGATIVE FILED AT Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana.

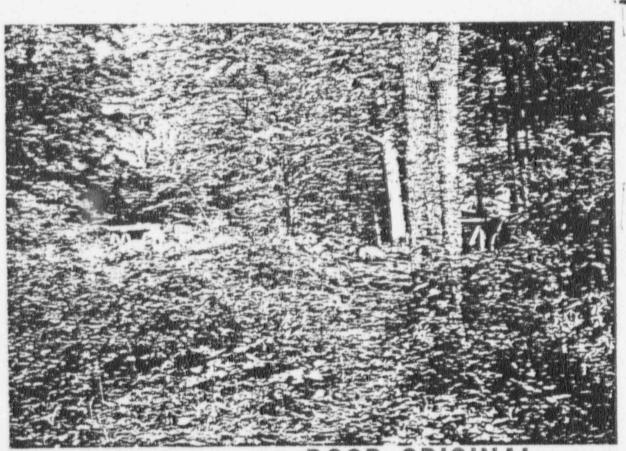
1 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

View of Stone Mound 2 during archaeological test excavations. Looking west.

GPO 89



Form No. 10-3018 TRES-10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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McNeil Stone Fort Archaeological Site (12 Je 4)

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

CITY TOWN Deputy

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PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT John W. Richardson

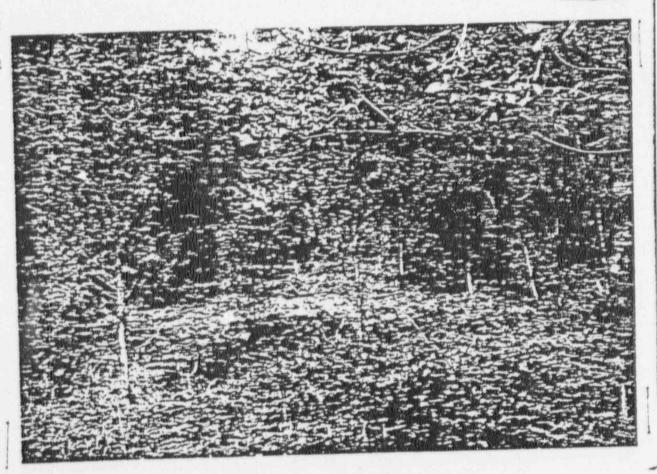
DATE OF PHOTO August, 1979

NEGATIVE FILED AT Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Achaeology, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana.

IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET View of undisturbed habitation area. Looking west. PHOTO NO.

OPO 892.



Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer Review of Archeological Site 12 Je 4



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

JOSEPH D. GLOUD

DIRECTOR

January 31, 1980

Mr. Dave Odor
Engineering-Environmental Division
Public Service Indiana
1000 East Main Street
Plainfield, Indiana 46168

Re: Archaeological Site 12 Je 4
Marble Hill-Columbus Transmission Line

Dear Mr. Odor:

We have reviewed the documentation prepared for archaeological site 12 Je 4 located within the proposed Marble Hill-Columbus transmission line corridor.

This site, 12 Je 4, contains significant prehistoric cultural components representing Late Archaic and Late Middle-Late Woodland cultural periods. Sites with the contextual integrity and cultural dimensions of 12 Je 4 are quite rare within Indiana and the region. Site 12 Je 4 has potential for the ongoing research and interpretation of a number of critical aspects of prehistoric diets, mortuary practices, subsistence and settlement patterns, and technology. It is our opinion that the site is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

In accordance with Advisory Council regulations, 36 CFR 800.3.b, it is our opinion that construction of the proposed transmission line tower at the location of archaeological site 12 Je 4 will be an adverse effect.

If we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my staff.

Very truly yours,

Joseph D. Cloud

State Historic Preservation Officer

JDC: GDE: hdw



INDIANAPOLIS, 4520