

HOW TOMORROW MOVES



CULTURAL RESOURCES CLEARANCE – ALWAYS EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED

CSXT Inspection Yard Project
Casky, Christian County, KY

Presenters:

Keith A. Brinker – CSXT

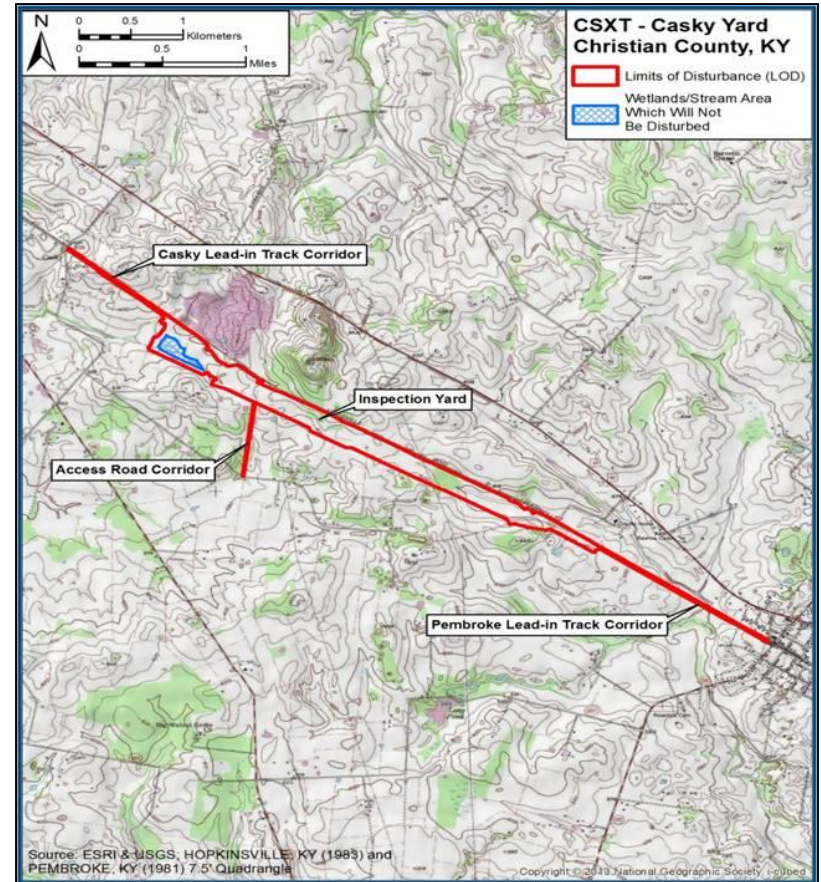
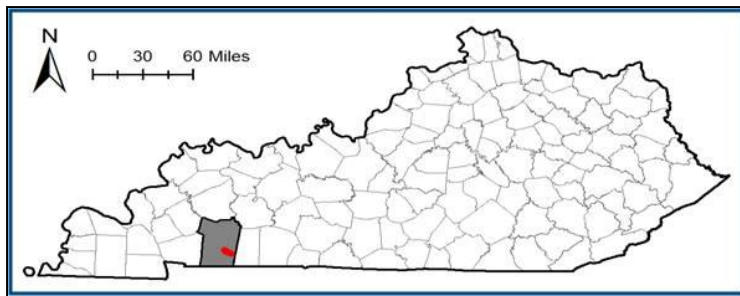
Marty Marchaterre – AMEC

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Casky Inspection Yard Project

- 290-acre inspection yard project
- Project area included maintained yards, plowed fields, pastures, woods, and existing railroad ROW
- Lead-in track extended to towns of Casky and Pembroke



What Triggers a Cultural Resources Review?

- Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act
- Triggered by:
 - Federal permit (Section 404 Permit - typical for rail projects)
 - Federal funding
 - Federal land being affected
- Lead federal agency responsible for evaluating potential impacts on historic resources



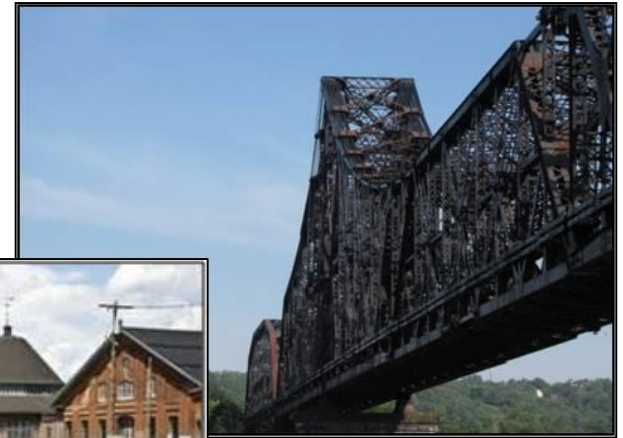
What is a Historic Resource?

Architectural – over 50 years in age

- Structures, bridges, buildings, tunnels
- Historic districts

Archaeological Sites -

- Prehistoric sites – Native American mounds, spear points, tools, etc.
- Historic sites – cemeteries, battlefields, remnants of structures such as farms or houses



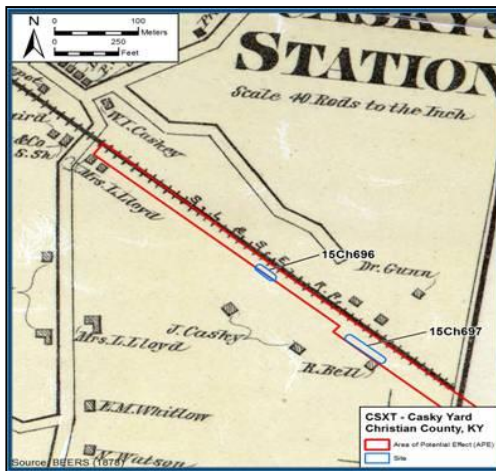
Early Coordination Can Reduce Time-Consuming AND Costly Issues Later

- Federal agencies (i.e., USACE) often have own archaeologists to evaluate projects
- SHPO and USACE may disagree on the “Permit Area” / “Area of Potential Effect”
- Make sure agencies agree on appropriate level of survey efforts



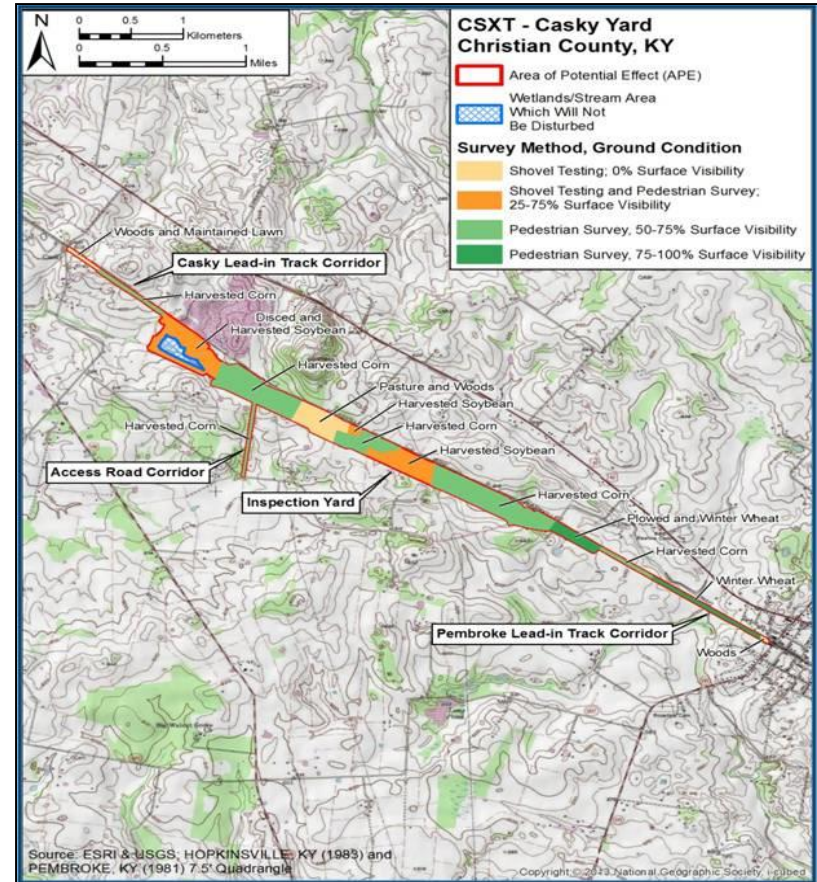
Cultural Resources Review - Due Diligence

- Reviewed project area using existing databases
- No known cultural resources identified
- Sent letter to SHPO concerning proposed project
- Submitted an individual Section 404 permit application
- USACE issued a public notice seeking comment



Expect the Unexpected

- SHPO initial response to USACE's public notice was project cleared
- SHPO responded differently to letter - project had potential to impact cultural resources
- SHPO requested additional information on project area
- Initially limited survey/site reconnaissance conducted to provide additional information



Expect the Unexpected

- USACE originally agreed this was sufficient
- After further consultation, USACE and SHPO determined that a Phase I archaeological survey and an architectural viewshed survey needed
- To limit impact to the project schedule, close coordination with USACE/SHPO archaeologists necessary
- USACE/SHPO agreed to use of management summaries and letter reports to speed determinations



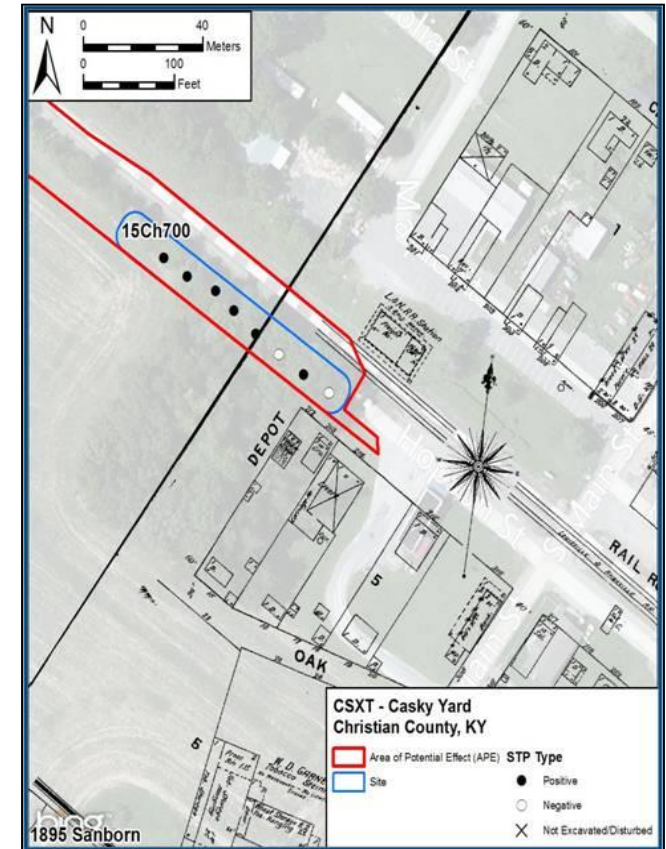
Phase I Archaeological Survey

- Quick mobilization for field efforts
- Pedestrian survey
- 694 shovel test probes (STPs)
- Average 2.4 STPs per acre
- State guidelines recommend 9 STPs per acre
- Phase I archaeological survey completed within week by working through weekend



Phase I Archaeological Survey

- Seven archaeological sites identified within proposed right-of-way
- Location of sites
- Careful archival research and site evaluation satisfied USACE/SHPO that sites not eligible
- Management summaries helped achieve clearance on lead-in track areas
- Prepared a Phase I report



Architectural Viewshed Survey

- Area reconnaissance and archival research conducted
- No direct impacts on historic properties
- Evaluated indirect visual, lighting, noise, and vibration impacts
- More detailed investigation in Pembroke due to number of historic properties
- No effect recommended in letter report



Family Plot Cemetery

- Identified a family cemetery near project area based on historical map review and site reconnaissance
- Confirmed no unmarked graves within ROW
- Talked with family member to confirm findings
- No direct impacts



Lessons Learned

- Initiate consultation with lead federal agency and SHPO on cultural resources as early as possible
- Sometimes it is best to have lead federal agency start SHPO coordination
 - Lead agency and SHPO do not always agree
- Make sure to keep the lead federal agency copied on coordination with the SHPO
- Good existing relationships with USACE and SHPO help speed process



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