



**Indiana Department of Natural Resources**

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Frank O'Bannon, Governor  
John Goss, Director



August 8, 2002

Shelby M. Fuller  
Environmental Engineer  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration, Indiana Division  
575 North Pennsylvania Street, Room 254  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Federal Agency: Federal Highway Administration

Re: Preliminary finding of "no historic properties affected" concerning the US 231 relocation between SR 26 and US 52 (Project #F-071-2[1]; Designation #9802890)

Dear Mr. Fuller:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. § 470f) and 36 C.F.R. Part 800, the Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer ("Indiana SHPO") has conducted an analysis of the materials dated June 15, 2002, and received by the Indiana SHPO on July 16, 2002, for the above indicated project in Wabash and Shelby townships, Tippecanoe County, Indiana.

As provided in 36 C.F.R. § 800.4 (d)(1), the Indiana SHPO respectfully objects to your preliminary finding of "no historic properties affected" as stated in your letter dated June 15, 2002.

We feel that a finding should not be made until all aspects of the project can be reviewed. Therefore, until the archaeological information is submitted and reviewed, the Indiana SHPO cannot support any findings of effect.

With respect to buildings and structures, we have reevaluated the Montmorenci United Brethren Church at 4019 Main Street (Site #157-487-21002 per the *Tippecanoe County Interim Report*) at the request of the Wabash Valley Trust for Historic Preservation and the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana. Based upon additional information provided, we believe that the church is significant at the local level and is a fine local example of Neo-Classical church architecture.

When a route has been selected and the design work has been initiated, please provide the additional information we requested in our letter dated May 1, 2002.

Once the indicated information is received, the Indiana SHPO will resume identification and evaluation procedures for this project. If you have any further questions, please contact our office at (317) 232-1646. Questions about archaeological issues should be directed to Bill Mangold. Questions about buildings or structures should be directed to Karie A. Brudis.

Very truly yours,

John R. Goss  
State Historic Preservation Officer

JRG:JRJ:WLM:KAB:kab

cc: Wendy Vachet, Baker Environmental, Inc.  
Mark Dollase, Director, Western Regional Office, Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana  
Angela Bowen, Wabash Valley Trust for Historic Preservation  
James Juricic, Indiana Department of Transportation