

SECTION 106

PRESERVING OUR PAST, PROTECTING OUR FUTURE

Newark, Licking County

Ohio's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) consulted on a data center project with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), who then issued a nationwide permit. A member of the public provided the SHPO with additional information that included a LiDAR image that showed the potential for remnants of the Great Hopewell Road (GHR) to be in the Area of Potential Effects (APE). The GHR, as it is known today, consists of parallel earthworks that are thought to run from the UNESCO World Heritage Site in Newark, Licking County, to those near Chillicothe in Ross County. The majority of the earthworks have been destroyed, so any potential intact examples are rare.

SHPO staff notified the USACE of the potential find. After the notification, the USACE reopened the Section 106 process. An additional archaeological investigation (i.e., non-invasive geophysics) was conducted that did find one of the parallel walls running through the northwest corner of the APE. A consulting party meeting was held that included the USACE, SHPO, Native American Indian Tribes, and the applicant.

This consultation was thorough but efficient, and the outcome created a preservation easement on the corner of the parcel that contains the wall, thus allowing the project to proceed. The preservation easement will be managed by the Archaeological Conservancy.

