



State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF COASTAL MANAGEMENT

04/01/2011

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY - FEMA
1 SEINE CT.
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70114

RE: P20110431, Solicitation of Views
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY - FEMA
Description: Demolish and reconstruct Wesley Barrow Stadium at 6500 Press Dr. in New Orleans
Location: Lat 30° 01' 43.72"N / Long -90° 00' 43.38"W; 6500 Press Drive New Orleans, Orleans Parish, LA

Dear Odessa Bowen:

You are hereby advised that your application for a Coastal Use Permit (CUP) has been determined to be complete and review by the State for compliance with the Louisiana Coastal Resource Program (LCRP) and consistency with the federal Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) has begun. Additionally, it has been determined that your proposed activity is a use of state concern in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statute 49:214.5.

The Office of Coastal Management (OCM) has sent a copy of this permit application to the New Orleans District Corps of Engineers (NOD/COE). The NOD/COE and OCM will each process this application separately. Please be advised that if your project is located outside of the New Orleans District, it is your responsibility to apply to the appropriate COE District.

All correspondence and calls regarding this application should reference the Coastal Use Permit Number (P#) indicated above. Please note that all information concerning your application is in our database and is updated throughout the day as changes to the status of the application occur.

Your application can be found on our [Webpage](#).

Should you have any questions, please check the online database or contact the assigned permit analyst: Shimetia Gardner at (225) 342-7472 or shimetia.gardner@la.gov. Be sure to reference the above Coastal Use Permit Number.

Sincerely,



Permit Coordinator

CM

cc: Pete Serio, COE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY - FEMA



State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF COASTAL MANAGEMENT

04/04/2011

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY - FEMA
1 SEINE CT.
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70114

RE: P20110431, Solicitation of Views

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY - FEMA

Description: Applicant is proposing to demolish the existing structure that houses Wesley Barrow Stadium and build a new facility on the existing site.

Location: East Site of Main Southern University New Orleans Campus. 6500 Press Drive New Orleans, LA. Lat. 30° 01' 43.72"N, Long. 90° 00' 43.38"W.

Orleans Parish, LA

Dear Odessa Bowen:

We have received your Solicitation of Views for the above referenced project, which has been found to be inside the Louisiana Coastal Zone. In order for us to properly review and evaluate this project, we require that a complete Coastal Use Permit Application packet (Joint Application Form, locality maps, project illustration plats with plan and cross section views, etc.) along with the appropriate application fee be submitted to our office. Using your complete application, we can provide you with an official determination, and begin the processing of any Coastal Use Permit that may be required for your project. You may obtain a free application packet by calling our office at (225) 342-7591 or (800)-267-4019, or by visiting our website at <http://www.dnr.state.la.us/crm/coastmgt/cup/cup.asp>.

We recommend that, during your planning process, you make every effort to minimize impacts to vegetated wetlands. As our legislative mandate puts great emphasis on avoiding damages to these habitats, in many cases the negotiations involved in reducing such disturbances and developing the required mitigation to offset the lost habitat values delay permit approval longer than any other factor. Additionally, the following sensitive features may require additional processing time by the appropriate resource agencies: The area where the project is located is all part of the aboriginal homelands of the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana. As such, large villages, burial sites, and sacred sites were in place in that entire area. If at any time during the course of the work, any traditional cultural properties are discovered, Permittee shall immediately contact Kimberly S. Walden (Cultural Director) or Melanie Aymond (Research Coordinator) at (337) 923-9923 or (337) 923-4395. Office hours are Monday through Thursday from 7:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. and on Friday between 7:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M. If traditional cultural properties are discovered on the weekend or after business hours, the notification shall be made the next business morning. Also, this project falls within two Master Plan Features.

Post Office Box 44487 • Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-4487
617 North Third Street • 10th Floor • Suite 1078 • Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802
(225) 342-7591 • Fax (225) 342-9439 • <http://www.dnr.louisiana.gov>
An Equal Opportunity Employer

Should you desire additional consultation with our office prior to submitting a formal application, we recommend that you call and schedule a pre-application meeting with our Permit Section staff. Such a preliminary meeting may be helpful, especially if a permit application that is as complete as possible is presented for evaluation at the pre-application meeting.

If you have any questions, would like to request an application packet or would like to schedule a pre-application meeting, please contact Shimetia Gardner at (225) 342-7472 or shimetia.gardner@la.gov.

Sincerely,



Karl L. Morgan
Acting Administrator

Karl L. Morgan/sg

Attachments

Final Plats:

1) [P20110431](#) [Final Plats](#) [03/30/2011](#)

cc: Pete Serio, COE w/plats
Dave Butler, LDWF w/plats
Peggy Rooney, OCM w/plats
Tim Killeen, CMD/FI w/plats
Orleans Parish w/plats



March 29, 2011

MEMORANDUM TO: See Distribution

SUBJECT: Scoping Notification/Solicitation of Views

To Whom It May Concern:

The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is mandated by the U.S. Congress to administer Federal disaster assistance pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), PL 93-288, as amended. The Stafford Act authorizes FEMA's Public Assistance Program to provide emergency temporary administrative, educational, medical, or other support facilities for areas impacted by disasters while repairs and reconstruction of storm damaged facilities are being undertaken.

The attached figures show the location for a proposed project and a site plan for which FEMA funding has been requested.

The Wesley Barrow Stadium sustained considerable damage as a result of Hurricane Katrina's high winds, heavy rain and flooding of greater than six feet in August 2005. The damages include corrosion of the facilities' exterior and interior walls, damage to electrical components, roofing systems, underground wire and conduit, and damage to scoreboard top and bottom plate. The applicant is proposing to demolish the existing structure that houses Wesley Barrow Stadium and build a new facility on the existing site that will serve the same function, but with a different orientation in order to better accommodate the athletes that use the stadium facilities for baseball. In addition, the new facility will have improved underground drainage and irrigation as well as artificial turf at the infield, relocation of existing scoreboard and a new T-hall field with fencing and bleachers.

To ensure compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Executive Orders (EOs), and other applicable Federal regulations, we will be preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA). To assist us in preparation of the EA, we request that your office review the attached documents for a determination as to the requirements of any formal consultations, regulatory permits, determinations, or authorizations.

Please respond within 30 calendar days of the date of this scoping notification. If our office receives no comments at the close of this period, we will assume that your agency does not object to the project as proposed.

Comments may be faxed to (504) 762-2323, emailed to Odessa.Bowen@associates.dhs.gov or mailed to the attention of Odessa Bowen, Environmental and Historical Preservation Department, at the address above.

For questions regarding this matter, please contact Odessa Bowen, Environmental Specialist at (504) 762-2964.

Distribution: LDEQ, USEPA, USEWS, USACE, LDWF, LDNR

This project has been reviewed for effects to Federal trust resources under our jurisdiction and currently protected by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act). The project, as proposed,
 Will have no effect on those resources
 Is not likely to adversely affect those resources.
This finding fulfills the requirements under Section 7(a)(2) of the Act.

Deirdre A. Fuller April 8, 2011
Acting Supervisor Louisiana Field Office U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Date



BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
OFFICE OF WILDLIFE

ROBERT J. BARHAM
SECRETARY
JIMMY L. ANTHONY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Date April 8, 2011
Name Odessa Brown
Company FEMA
Street Address 1 Seine Court
City, State, Zip New Orleans, LA 70114
Project City of New Orleans
Wesley Barrow Stadium
Project ID 1562011
Invoice Number 11040802

Personnel of the Habitat Section of the Coastal & Non-Game Resources Division have reviewed the preliminary data for the captioned project. After careful review of our database, no impacts to rare, threatened, or endangered species or critical habitats are anticipated for the proposed project. No state or federal parks, wildlife refuges, scenic streams, or wildlife management areas are known at the specified site within Louisiana's boundaries.

The Louisiana Natural Heritage Program (LNHP) has compiled data on rare, endangered, or otherwise significant plant and animal species, plant communities, and other natural features throughout the state of Louisiana. Heritage reports summarize the existing information known at the time of the request regarding the location in question. The quantity and quality of data collected by the LNHP are dependent on the research and observations of many individuals. In most cases, this information is not the result of comprehensive or site-specific field surveys; many natural areas in Louisiana have not been surveyed. This report does not address the occurrence of wetlands at the site in question. Heritage reports should not be considered final statements on the biological elements or areas being considered, nor should they be substituted for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments. LNHP requires that this office be acknowledged in all reports as the source of all data provided here. If at any time Heritage tracked species are encountered within the project area, please contact the LNHP Data Manager at 225-765-2643. If you have any questions, or need additional information, please call 225-765-2357.

Sincerely,


for Amity Bass, Coordinator
Natural Heritage Program



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P. O. BOX 60267
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

APR 20 2011

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Operations Division
Operations Manager,
Completed Works

Ms. Odessa Bowen
FEMA
LRO, Room 4016
1 Seine Court
New Orleans, Louisiana 70114

Dear Ms. Bowen:

This is in response to the Solicitation of Views request dated March 29, 2011, concerning the demolishing and rebuilding of the Wesley Barrow Stadium, at New Orleans, Louisiana, in Orleans Parish.

We have reviewed your request for potential Department of the Army regulatory requirements and impacts on any Department of the Army projects.

We do not anticipate any adverse impacts to any Corps of Engineers projects.

Based on review of recent maps, aerial photography, soils data, and previous jurisdictional determinations, we have determined that the specific site in your request is not in a wetland subject to Corps of Engineers jurisdiction. A Department of the Army permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act will not be required for the deposition or redistribution of dredged or fill material on this site.

You are advised that you must obtain a permit from the Orleans Levee District for any work within 1500 feet of a federal flood control structure such as a levee/floodwall. Performance of all subsurface work within this area is usually restricted when the stage of the Mississippi River is above elevation +11.0 feet on the Carrollton gage, at New Orleans, Louisiana. As a consequence, subsurface work should be scheduled for performance during the low-water period (typically June through November) to avoid delays in performance of the proposed work. You must apply by letter to the Orleans Levee District including full-size construction plans, cross sections, and details of the proposed work. Concurrently with your application to the Orleans Levee District, you must also forward a copy of your letter and plans to Operations Division, Operations Manager for Completed Works of the Corps of Engineers and to the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA DOTD) in New Orleans for their review

and comments concerning the proposed work. The Orleans Levee District will not issue a permit for the work to proceed until they have obtained letters of no objection from both of these reviewing agencies. For further information regarding permit requests affecting federal flood control levees and structures, please contact Ms. Amy Powell, Operations Manager for Completed Works at (504) 862-2241.

Please be advised that this property is in the Louisiana Coastal Zone. For additional information regarding coastal use permit requirements, contact Ms. Christine Charrier, Coastal Management Division, Louisiana Department of Natural Resources at (225) 342-7953.

You and your client are advised that this approved jurisdictional determination is valid for a period of 5 years from the date of this letter unless new information warrants revision prior to the expiration date or the District Commander has identified, after public notice and comment, that specific geographic areas with rapidly changing environmental conditions merit re-verification on a more frequent basis.

Off-site locations of activities such as borrow, disposals, haul-and detour-roads and work mobilization site developments may be subject to Department of the Army regulatory requirements and may have an impact on a Department of the Army project.

Please contact Mr. Robert Heffner, of our Regulatory Branch by telephone at (504) 862-1288, or by e-mail at Robert.A.Heffner@usace.army.mil for questions concerning wetlands determinations or need for on-site evaluations. Questions concerning regulatory permit requirements may be addressed to Mr. Michael Farabee by telephone at (504) 862-2292 or by e-mail at Michael.V.Farabee@usace.army.mil.

Future correspondence concerning this matter should reference our account number MVN-2011-00830-SK. This will allow us to more easily locate records of previous correspondence, and thus provide a quicker response.

Sincerely,



Karen L. Oberlies
Solicitation of Views Manager

Please see page 3 for copies furnished.

Copy Furnished:

Ms. Christine Charrier
Coastal Zone Management
Department of Natural Resources
Post Office Box 44487
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-4487



FEMA

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency
FEMA-1603/1607/1786/1792 -DR-LA
Louisiana Recovery Office
Environmental/Historic Preservation
1 Seine Court
New Orleans, LA 70114

April 6, 2011

Pam Breaux
State Historic Preservation Officer
Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism
P.O. Box 44247
Baton Rouge LA 70804

RE: Section 106 Review Consultation, Hurricane Katrina
Applicant: City of New Orleans
Undertaking: Demolition and Replacement of Wesley Barrow Stadium, 6500 Press
Drive, Orleans Parish, LA
Determination: Adverse Effect to Historic Properties

Dear Ms. Breaux:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will be providing funds authorized under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, P.L. 93-288, as amended, in response to the following major Disaster Declarations:

FEMA-1603-DR-LA, dated August 29, 2005, as amended

FEMA, through its Public Assistance Program, proposes to demolish and rebuild Wesley Barrow Stadium (**Undertaking**) as requested by the City of New Orleans (**Applicant**). FEMA is initiating Section 106 review for the above referenced Undertaking in accordance with the "Programmatic Agreement among FEMA, the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), the Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP), the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas, the Caddo Nation, the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana, the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians, the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma, the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, the Seminole Tribe of Florida, the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation" dated August 17, 2009 (*2009 Statewide PA*) and providing the SHPO with the opportunity to consult on the proposed Undertaking.

The Undertaking

The Applicant proposes to demolish Wesley Barrow Stadium, including all structures, fields, lighting and fencing, and to construct a new facility that will serve the same function. Wesley

Barrow Stadium is a contributing element to the Pontchartrain Park Historic District, which is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criterion A. The proposed new stadium would increase the size of the existing facility from approximately 2,900 square feet to 4,670 square feet, and have a seating capacity of 650 persons. The new facility would also have a different orientation on the existing site, moving from the north corner of the lot to the northwest corner. A T-ball field will be added in the north corner of the lot, approximately 30 feet from the Pontchartrain Park Maintenance Building. The parking lot facing Hayne Boulevard and Press Drive will be resurfaced. There will be no new access drives or any work within 180 feet of the crown of the railroad levee.

Ground-disturbing activities associated with the demolition will include the removal of the existing stadium, lighting, fencing, and the concrete footings, which range from 3 to 6 feet in depth. A construction staging area has been proposed to the south of the new T-ball field and adjacent to the new baseball field. Timber pilings will be driven 30 feet deep for the stadium, dugouts and light masts. Concrete pile caps and grade beams will be placed at 5-6 inches below grade and new fence post footings will be at a depth of 40 inches. The new baseball field will be excavated to a depth of 12 inches, then filled with 4 inches of gravel and 8 inches of sand, upon which grass will be planted. Perforated drainage pipe will be laid under the field to drain water to the golf course and existing catch basins in the Hayne Boulevard parking lot. Excavated earth from the baseball field will be reused as fill for the new T-ball field. Additional activities include water line and sewer connections.

Area of Potential Effect (APE)

The Project site is bounded by Hayne Boulevard on the North/Northwest, Press Dr. on the South, and Pontchartrain Park and Southern University of New Orleans (SUNO) on the South/Southeast. The APE for this Undertaking was developed in coordination with SHPO staff. The APE for Standing Structures comprises the project site, as well as Pontchartrain Park and a portion of the SUNO campus. The APE for Archaeology is the 8.31 acres project site (Figure 1).

Description of the Steps to Identify Historic Properties and the Characteristics that Qualify the Historic Properties for the National Register

Standing Structures

Standing Structures within the APE were identified based on map research and prior site visits with SHPO during December 2009 and November 2010. The Pontchartrain Park Maintenance Building is the closest to the project site, located approximately 30 feet from the lot of Barrow Stadium. The Administration, Multi-Purpose and Gymnasium buildings of SUNO will be located approximately 700-800 feet from the new orientation of the replacement stadium to face the 6400 block of Press Drive. In total, the APE contains eight buildings and one designed landscape:

	Property	Current Address	Estimated Construction Date	Located in Pontchartrain Park NRHD?	NRHP eligibility status	Latitude	Longitude
1	Barrow Stadium	6500 Press Drive	1957	Yes	Contributing	30.0288420	-90.0420450
2	Golf Course Club House and Picnic Shelter	6514 Congress Drive	1969	Yes	Non-contributing	30.0273300	-90.0386980
3	Pontchartrain Park Community Center	6520 Congress Drive	2005	Yes	Non-contributing	30.0283880	-90.0390190
4	Pontchartrain Park Maintenance Building	4800 Hayne Boulevard	circa 1960s	Yes	Non-contributing	30.0287660	-90.0409540
5	NORD Building & Playground	5720 Press Drive	circa 1970s	Yes	Non-contributing	30.0189380	-90.0429680
6	Bartholomew Golf Course	6514 Press Drive	1955-57	Yes	Contributing	30.0252240	-90.0410730
7	SUNO Admin	6400 Press Drive	1959	No	Individually Eligible	30.0258840	-90.0442360
8	SUNO Multi-Purpose Building	6400 Press Drive	1993	No	Ineligible	30.0266130	-90.0443360
9	SUNO Gymnasium	6400 Press Drive	1969	No	Ineligible	30.0269530	-90.0444960

The majority of the APE falls inside the NRHP-eligible Pontchartrain Park Historic District (Figure 1). The primary contributing resource of the District is the Joseph M. Bartholomew Golf Course and Park, a historic landscape built in between 1955-57. The golf course comprises the largest part of the Pontchartrain Historic District. It is located in the approximate center of the park and is dotted with recreational and community facilities around the perimeter. Barrow Stadium is the only structure inside the park determined to be a contributing element. Further information about the stadium can be found in the attached NRHP Integrity Assessment and Detailed Eligibility Evaluation for Wesley Barrow Stadium, along with photographs, plans and map research.

One NRHP-eligible property exists outside of the District in the APE. The SUNO Administration Building was determined by FEMA to be individually eligible for the NRHP in July 2010, with SHPO concurrence on July 30, 2010. Built in 1959, the building is significant under Criterion A for its historic association with ethnic heritage (African-American), social history and the history of education.

Archaeology

The archaeological potential for Pontchartrain Park was previously assessed in October 2009 during the Section 106 review for restoration of the Joe Bartholomew Golf Course. The following identification and evaluation is based on the assessment carried out in 2009 and the March 2011 reassessment by FEMA archaeologists.

Data from the SHPO indicates there is one recorded archaeological site within 0.25 miles of the Archaeological APE (Figure 2). Site 16OR219, Camp Leroy Johnson U.S. Army Air Base, is located just north of the APE. This military base was constructed on reclaimed lake bottom (reclaimed in 1927) and it functioned from 1941-1964. This archaeological site was listed on the

site form as ineligible for listing on the NRHP in 2006. According to the site card, the boundaries of 16OR219 do not extend south of the railroad or Leon C. Simon Drive and thus would not be affected by the proposed undertaking. There is one archaeological site (16OR324) located approximately 0.47 miles from the Archaeological APE (see Figure 2). Site 16OR324, located at 2659 New York Street, is a ca. 1950 bunker whose NRHP eligibility is undetermined. Given its distance from the proposed undertaking, this site will not be affected by the demolition and replacement of Barrow Stadium.

The Wesley Barrow Stadium APE falls within the Orleans Parish High Probability Zone (Figure 3) because of its location near the old lakeshore. The soils consist of Schriever Clay and organic and mineral deposits of Gulf Coast Deltaic Marsh. This area is comprised of reclaimed land from the Lake Pontchartrain lake bottom or backswamp. The Hardee's 1878 map entitled *New Orleans* shows much of this general area as undeveloped woods and marsh (Figure 4). The 1849 Sauvé's Crevasse Map similarly shows this area as "reed jungle." The Robinson (1883) map does not cover this area. By 1884 this area was slated for potential development with a grid of streets, although no evidence was located to demonstrate that residential development ever took place in this vicinity (Figure 5). No improvements are shown in the Project area on the 1937-1951 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map (Figure 6). The 1953 U.S.G.S. Spanish Fort quadrangle depicts no improvements in the project area (Figure 7). Between 1955 and 1957 aerial photographs show the baseball field being constructed in its current configuration, with the remainder of APE surrounded by undeveloped land or recently leveled or graded land (Figures 8 and 9). The site appears to be extensively disturbed by previous construction and extensively filled. A site visit was conducted by FEMA Archaeologist Dale Wolke in October 2009, as part of an evaluation of the Joe Bartholomew Golf Course. No prehistoric artifacts or features were encountered during the pedestrian survey. A small cluster of brick fragments and whiteware ceramics were noted in fill material. Since the project area appears to be located in reclaimed marsh and extensively disturbed by modern construction, FEMA determined, on December 1, 2009, that no archaeological resources would be affected by the restoration of the Golf Course. SHPO concurrence with this determination was received on December 4, 2009. The APE for the 2009 consultation encompassed the present Wesley Barrow Stadium project.

The prehistoric and historic archaeological potential of the APE appears very low given the recent nature of the historic development in this area, the amount of previous ground disturbance, and that significant historic deposits associated with the early years of the Wesley Barrow Stadium (circa 1956-1961) are unlikely given that city water and sewer were available at this time. Based on the previous determination in 2009 for Pontchartrain Park (whose APE included the present APE) and the current reassessment, FEMA has determined that the proposed undertaking will not affect archaeological properties. The Applicant will be required to treat any inadvertent discoveries, including unmarked human burials, through a process that will be included in the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) developed for this undertaking.

Copies or Summaries of Views by Consulting Parties and the Public

FEMA is initiating the adverse effect consultation process with this letter and has identified the Pontilly Neighborhood Association (PNA), Pontchartrain Park Community Development Corporation (PPCDC), Southern University of New Orleans (SUNO), the Preservation Resource Center of New Orleans (PRC), the Louisiana Landmarks Society (LLS), the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP), the City of New Orleans Historic District Landmark Commission (HDLC), and Louisiana Chapter of Documentation and Conservation of Building Sites and Neighborhoods of the Modern Movement US (DOCOMOMO/US Louisiana) as potential Consulting Parties. FEMA may also post public notices or initiate other avenues for public input as the Section 106 review progresses. FEMA requests recommendations regarding potential Consulting Parties and appropriate points for seeking public input and for notifying the public of the proposed actions. Copies of this letter will be provided to PNA, PPCDC, SUNO, PRC, LLS, NTHP, HDLC, and DOCOMOMO/US Louisiana. FEMA is also notifying Indian tribes regarding its adverse effect determination as required by the *2009 Statewide PA*.

Description of Effects to Historic Properties and Explanation of Why the Criteria of Adverse Effect are Applicable and Conditions to Avoid, Minimize, or Mitigate Adverse Effects

FEMA has applied the criteria of adverse effect, pursuant to 36 CFR 800.5(a)(1), and determined that the demolition of Barrow Stadium, a contributing structure within the NRHP-eligible Pontchartrain Park Historic District, will constitute an Adverse Effect. FEMA will take steps to consider the effects of the proposed demolition and replacement of Barrow Stadium through the development of an MOA. FEMA will seek input from the Consulting Parties and the public on this Undertaking.

In conclusion, FEMA requests the SHPO's review and comments on:

- FEMA's Areas of Potential Effect;
- FEMA's efforts to identify and evaluate historic properties within the APE's;
- FEMA's determination that Barrow Stadium retains sufficient integrity to be eligible under Criterion A at the local level of significance;
- FEMA's determination that the undertaking will not affect archaeological Historic Properties;
- FEMA's determination that the proposed demolition of Barrow Stadium will have an Adverse Effect to Historic Properties, specifically the Pontchartrain Park Historic District.
- FEMA's proposal to consider the effect of the demolition and replacement of Barrow Stadium through the development of an MOA.

Please provide your comments within 15 days as provided in the *2009 Statewide PA*.

We propose to send future notices, draft agreements, and other background information to the SHPO by e-mail to minimize communication delays and expedite the development of the MOA. Please let FEMA know if this is impractical, so we can make alternative arrangements.

Your prompt review of this project is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions or need additional information regarding this Undertaking, please contact Jerame Cramer, Deputy Environmental Liaison Officer – Historic Preservation, at (504) 762-2917 or jerame.cramer@dhs.gov, or Alice-Anne Krishnan, Historic Preservation Specialist at (504) 762-2507 or alice-anne.krishnan@dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Katherine S. Zeringue". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Katherine S. Zeringue
Environmental Liaison Officer
FEMA-DR-1603-LA, FEMA-DR-1607-LA,
FEMA-DR-1786-LA, FEMA-DR-1792-LA

cc: File
Jason Emery, Division of Archaeology Reviewer
David Livingstone, Division of Historic Preservation Reviewer
State Historic Preservation Office

Enclosures

The Division of Archaeology Reviewer concurs with the finding that there will be an **Adverse Effect to Historic Properties** as a result of this Undertaking.

Division of Archaeology Reviewer

Date

The Division of Historic Preservation Reviewer concurs with the finding that there will be an **Adverse Effect to Historic Properties** as a result of this Undertaking.

Division of Historic Preservation Reviewer

Date

NRHP Integrity Assessment and Detailed Eligibility Evaluation for Wesley Barrow Stadium

Section 106 Review Consultation, Hurricane Katrina

Undertaking: Demolition of Wesley Barrow Stadium, 6500 Press Drive, Orleans Parish

Applicant: City of New Orleans

Methodology and Background

This document serves as an addendum to the Determination of Eligibility (DOE) for the Pontchartrain Park Historic District prepared in 2009 for the Section 106 review of the Phase I repairs to the Joseph M. Bartholomew, Sr. Municipal Golf Course. FEMA initiated this assessment of historic integrity for the Wesley Barrow Stadium in November 2010 in preparation for the City of New Orleans request to fund the demolition and replacement of the stadium. Following Hurricane Katrina in 2005, FEMA determined a portion of the Pontchartrain Park neighborhood was a National Register-eligible historic district, SHPO concurred on December 8, 2005. In December 2009, FEMA further developed the determination of eligibility of the Pontchartrain Park Historic District as part of the Section 106 review for the Phase I repairs to the Golf Course and determined that Barrow Stadium is a contributing element to the District. SHPO concurrence with this determination was received on December 4, 2009.

The Pontchartrain Park Historic District (District) is locally significant under Criterion A for its historical association with community development and racial relations in the City of New Orleans. The period of significance for the District focuses on its early years, 1955-1959, and District boundaries include the golf course, the park around the perimeter of the golf course, and a portion of the east side of the neighborhood. These resources were determined to be the most visually intact, and thus best able to communicate a sense of time and place for the District. The designed landscape of the golf course and park is an important contributing feature of the District.

Barrow Stadium is located in Pontchartrain Park, a mid-twentieth century subdivision that was one of the first planned communities in New Orleans designed specifically for middle and upper income African-Americans. Bounded on all four sides by strong physical barriers – with a floodwall, an industrial canal and heavy commercial industry to the east, a railroad to the north and west, and a drainage ditch more than sixty feet wide to the south – the subdivision and its recreational facilities represent both the sunset of the “separate but equal” era and the renewed aspiration of African-Americans to secure the American dream following World War II. The centerpiece of the subdivision is its golf course, designed by Joseph Manuel Bartholomew (1890-1971). Bartholomew was a leader of the African-American business community, as well as a skilled golfer and a designer and builder of golf courses from the 1920s onward. In addition to the Pontchartrain Park course, he designed the courses of the Metairie Country Club, City Park No. 1 and City Park No. 2. The Pontchartrain Park golf course was named posthumously for Bartholomew in 1980.

Dedicated in May 1957,¹ Barrow Stadium (6500 Press Drive) was originally known as New Orleans Recreation District (NORD)-Lake Pontchartrain Park Stadium for Negroes and is a contributing element to the District. Located in the northwest corner of the District, it is one of several park facilities that also include tennis courts, softball fields, basketball courts, playgrounds and a community center. At the time of its construction, the stadium and its tall floodlights rose prominently above a flat landscape of newly planted trees and modest slab-on-grade ranch-style homes.

By 1965, the visual focal point on Press Drive shifted to the recently established Southern University of New Orleans (SUNO). The stadium retained its cultural importance as a symbol of the quality recreational opportunities that Pontchartrain Park offered its youth. In June 1968, the stadium was renamed in honor of Baton Rouge-born Wesley Barrow (1902-1965), a popular baseball player and manager whose accomplishments include facilitating the move of Junior Gilliam and Joe Black from the Negro Leagues to the Brooklyn Dodgers.

Property Description

Barrow Stadium is approximately 2,900 square feet in size. The design of the stadium is identical to the Kirsch-Rooney Stadium of Delgado Community College. Comprised largely of reinforced concrete risers that form the seating area, the two-story stadium is functional and modest in scale. The methods and materials of its construction bear similarities to those seen in the District.

The entrance to the stadium faces Haynes Avenue. The ground floor houses several small rooms, including a concession stand, restrooms, dressing rooms and utility rooms. Partition walls are constructed of concrete masonry and the ceilings are the underside of the upper seating area. At the far ends of the ground floor are metal and concrete stairs to the second-story seating area. The second story of the stadium contains rows of bleacher-style seating. A steel and wood overhanging roof structure partially covers the seating area. Prior to Hurricane Katrina this roof was sheathed with corrugated steel.

The baseball field of Barrow Stadium faces Press Drive, with the Pontchartrain Park golf course and the SUNO campus visible to the south and west. Structures located on the baseball field include two dugouts, two batting cages, two bullpen areas and a scoreboard. Sports floodlights over 80 feet in height are located along the perimeter of the complex. Electrical service to the stadium is located underground. Parking is located on both the Press Drive and Haynes Avenue side of the property. Several pine trees planted as part of the original landscaping of the park remain in the parking lot and on the border of the field and golf course.

Integrity Assessment

On November 9, 2010, FEMA and SHPO visited Barrow Stadium to further evaluate its integrity as a contributing element to the District. FEMA, in consultation with SHPO determined that the property's integrity remains little affected as a result of the damage sustained during Hurricane Katrina. The National Register traditionally recognizes a property's integrity through seven

¹ "Pontchartain Park Stadium to be Dedicated." *Times-Picayune*, May 3, 1957. Page 18.

aspects or qualities: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. FEMA, in consultation with SHPO, evaluated each of these aspects:

- **Location** is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event took place. Integrity of location refers to whether the property has been moved or relocated since its construction. Barrow Stadium has not been moved since its construction so it retains its integrity of location.
- **Design** is the composition of elements that constitute the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property. Although the building is not eligible under Criterion C (architecture), its design elements contribute to the integrity of the District. Alterations made to Barrow Stadium over the years appear to have been minor, including exterior painting, in-kind replacements of the roof, and the renovation of the interior restroom and concession spaces. A sign posted on the building states that the building was renovated in 1989. Barrow Stadium retains its integrity of design as the form, plan, space, and style of the structure remain recognizable.
- **Materials** are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property. Integrity of materials determines whether or not an authentic historic resource still exists. Although the condition of the stadium has been affected by Hurricane Katrina and exposure to elements, it retains its predominant original material, concrete.
- **Workmanship** is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period of history. Workmanship is important because it can furnish evidence of the technology of the craft, illustrate the aesthetic principles of a historic period, and reveal individual, local, regional, or national applications of both technological practices and aesthetic principles. As a utilitarian structure, the stadium does not possess an exceptional level of workmanship. However, as mentioned earlier, the methods of its construction bear similarities to those seen in the District.
- **Setting** is the physical environment of a historic property that illustrates the character of the place. North and south of Barrow Stadium, the railroad tracks and golf course have experienced few changes over time. While the condition of the park grounds and its structures was affected by Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath, these changes did not irreversibly change the setting or its relationship to the District. Development has been extensive to the west of the stadium, primarily consisting of the addition of large institutional buildings on the SUNO campus. This expansion has diminished the stadium's integrity of setting.
- **Feeling** is the quality that a historic property has in evoking the aesthetic or historic sense of a past or period of time. Although intangible, feeling is dependent upon the aid's significant physical characteristics that convey its historic qualities. The integrity of feeling for Barrow Stadium remains intact. It is one of the first recreational facilities built for the Pontchartrain Park subdivision and remains recognizable as one of the early park structures.
- **Association** is the direct link between a property and the event of person for which the property is significant. A period appearance or setting is desirable. The integrity of setting, location, design, workmanship, materials and feeling combined convey integrity of association. Barrow Stadium possesses its integrity of association since

only one of the aspects that contribute to its significance (setting) has been questionably affected.

Character-defining Features

Character-defining features of the District relevant to Barrow Stadium are largely those concerning function, massing and location. As a baseball stadium, it is an integral part of the original design of the community, which envisioned a full complement of recreational facilities accessible to the community by walking, bicycling or a short drive. Its modest massing reflects the original design covenants of the subdivision, which sought to preserve sightlines through oversight of building heights, plantings and fencing. The vistas of the subdivision are long, with clear views of the park facilities, railroad tracks, and floodwall. The massing and orientation of Barrow Stadium preserve these sightlines. Lastly, the placement of the stadium in the far northwestern corner near the industrial boundary of the railroad tracks also reflects the segregationist origins of the subdivision, in which white political sponsors sought to create a model African-American subdivision that would remain distant and distinct from the then all-white neighborhoods to the immediate south of Pontchartrain Park.

Level of Significance

The Pontchartrain Park Historic District is significant at the local level. The District is a locally significant example of community development and racial relations during the 1950s as the “separate but equal” era gave way to civil rights. FEMA’s evaluation in December 2009 focused on the local significance of the District and future researchers may wish to further explore its significance on the state and national levels.

At the time of this evaluation, only cursory research had been done on the individual history of Barrow Stadium. It is anticipated that further research will be conducted as the Section 106 Review progresses.

Prepared by: Alice-Anne Krishnan, FEMA Historic Preservation Specialist

Date: March 31, 2011

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
 Federal Emergency Management Agency
 Section 106 Review: Aerial Location Map

Undertaking: Demolition and Replacement of Barrow Stadium, Orleans Parish
Resource Address: 6500 Press Drive, Orleans Parish
Resource Coordinates: Lat/30.028857; Long/-90.042030



Figure 1. Wesley Barrow Stadium Study Area. The map overlays depict the National Register-eligible Pontchartrain Park Historic District (green outline), the Standing Structures APE (yellow outline) and the Archaeological APE (red/shaded).

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Section 106 Review: USGS Quad Location Map

Undertaking: Demolition and Replacement of Barrow Stadium, Orleans Parish
Resource Address: 6500 Press Drive, Orleans Parish
Resource Coordinates: Lat/30.028857; Long/-90.042030

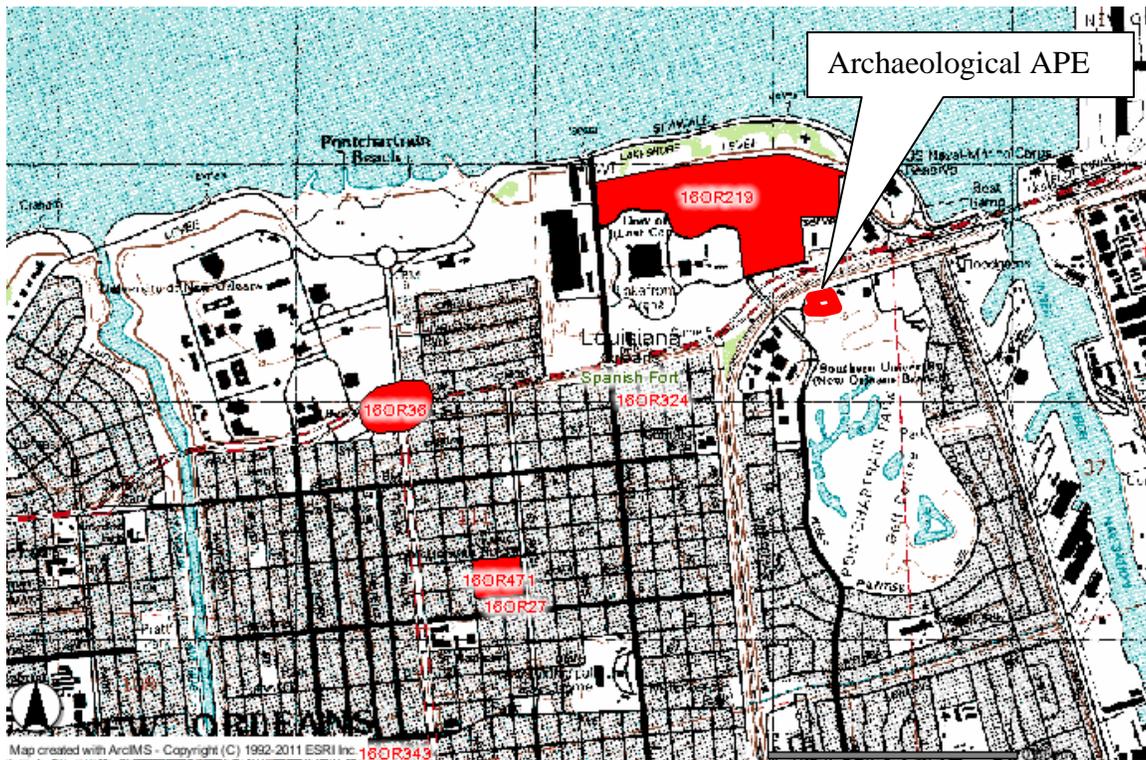


Figure 2. Wesley Barrow Stadium Archaeological APE with nearest known archaeological sites plotted. Note that according to the Louisiana Division of Archaeology's site files, 16OR219 does not extend south of the railroad and Leon C. Simon Drive.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Section 106 Review: Archaeological Map with Overlays

Undertaking: Demolition and Replacement of Barrow Stadium, Orleans Parish
Resource Address: 6500 Press Drive, Orleans Parish
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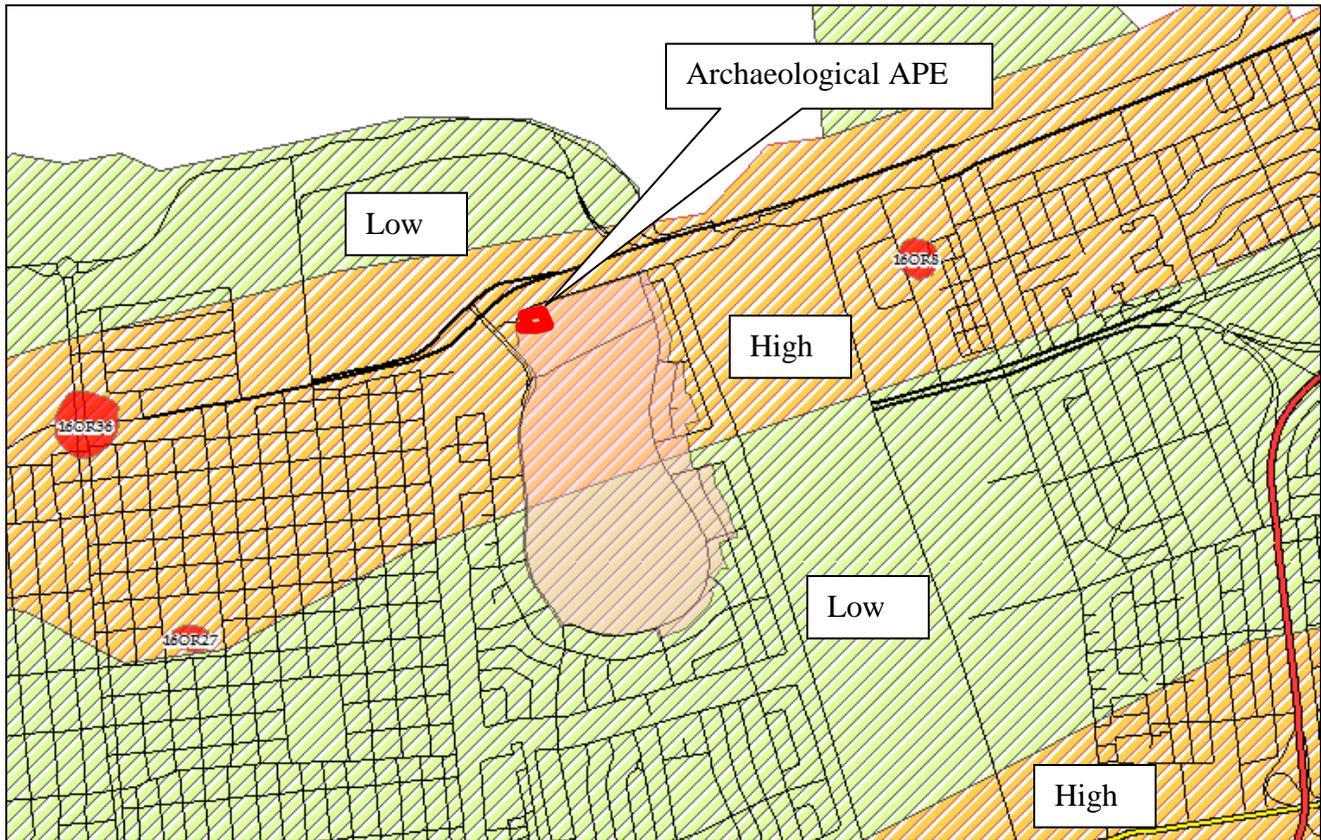


Figure 3. Wesley Barrow Stadium, with archaeological probability and nearest known archaeological sites plotted. The study area lies within an archaeological high-probability zone known as the South Shore Ridge.