Phase I Cultural Resource Investigation of Proposed
St. Clair Project Area, Project Mariner West Pipeline,
Marysville, St. Clair County, Michigan

Submitted by:
Jacquie Payette, MA Anthropology
Registered Professional Archaeologist

With Contributions by:
Angela Gillingham, MEM Conservation Science and Policy
Environmental Resources Management
333 Richmond Road, Suite 160
Beachwood, Ohio 44122
216-593-5200

On behalf of:
Mustang Engineering, Inc.
Houston, Texas

May 23, 2012
Abstract

Jacqueline M. Payette, Registered Professional Archaeologist, MA English, MA Anthropology, of Environmental Resources Management conducted Phase I archeological survey of the proposed St. Clair project area of the Project Mariner West Pipeline, located between State Route 29 and River Road, Marysville, St. Clair County on behalf of Mustang Engineering, Inc. The Phase I survey was conducted on April 30, 2012. No archaeological materials were identified.
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Design</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Background Research Methods</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Methods and Techniques</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Register Eligibility</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Background Research</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conclusions and Recommendations</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>References</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Phase I Cultural Resource Survey of St. Clair Project Area, Project Mariner West Pipeline, Marysville, St. Clair County, Michigan

Introduction

Jacqueline M. Payette, Registered Professional Archaeologist, MA English, MA Anthropology, of Environmental Resources Management (ERM) conducted Phase I survey of the proposed St. Clair project area of the Project Mariner West Pipeline in St. Clair County, Michigan (Figure 1).

Much of the project area is covered in wetlands (Figure 2). Areas that were not wetland were either wooded or landscaped. Subsurface archaeological testing was conducted on April 30, 2012 in areas that were neither wetland nor landscaped. No archaeological materials were identified during these investigations. The objective of this report is to determine whether any cultural resources potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by the proposed undertaking.

Project Design

Background Research Methods

Michigan Historic Sites Online and paper records on file at the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), including archaeological site maps, archaeological site forms, reports of previous surveys, historic structure records, and National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) listings were consulted by ERM prior to initiation of fieldwork. For research purposes, a radius of one mile around the project area center was studied. The results of this background research are reported below (Background Research, Cultural Setting).
Field Methods and Techniques

The primary objective of Phase I survey is to identify archaeological resources within the project area. Records at MI SHPO and online were consulted to determine whether any previously recorded cultural resources are present within the project area. Outside of wetlands and landscaped areas, the project area was investigated by subsurface testing to identify potential cultural resources.

Within areas suitable for testing with ground surface visibility less than 40%, subsurface testing was performed. An approximate interval of 15 meters was used to place shovel test probes. Shovel test probes were approximately 30 cm in diameter and were excavated to culturally sterile subsoil. All contents of shovel test probes were screened through ¼ inch mesh hardware cloth, and stratigraphic profiles were recorded. For any positive shovel test probes, additional shovel test probes were excavated at 5 meter intervals radiating out from the positive probe in cardinal directions in an effort to determine whether additional material was present, and to define site boundaries.

Landscaped and wetland areas were not subjected to survey.

Analysis

In analysis of the prehistoric artifacts, the material of which each tool is made is described. Stone artifacts are described as Intentional Tools, where a specific tool type was intentionally created; Unfinished Tools, where an implement was abandoned during manufacture; and Debitage, including complete flakes, broken flakes (which include the bulb of percussion and striking platform but show a straight break), flake fragments (which lack the bulb of percussion and striking platform), debris, retouched flakes, and cores (Sullivan and Rozen 1985).
In analysis of historic artifacts, materials are described according to material type, such as ceramic, glass, and metal, for example. The specific attributes of each artifact are described, such as type of ceramic, type of decoration, and vessel morphology, for example. Where possible, date ranges are assigned based on material and manufacturing process.

**National Register Eligibility**

The opinions and recommendations offered in this report concerning the eligibility of the cultural resources in the project area for the National Register of Historic Places are just that: opinions and recommendations. The procedures outlined in 36 CFR Part 63 will determine whether a cultural resource is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The recommendations in this report regarding the potential eligibility of archaeological sites within the project area will review the potential of the site to answer research questions for the region. The ability of the resource to address research questions will be weighed against the resource's ability to provide additional information beyond that obtained in this evaluative study.

**Background Research**

**Environmental Setting**

The project area is located in southern Marysville in St. Clair County. It is east of State Route 29 and west of River Road in a residential area on the banks of the St. Clair River. The project area lies at approximately 181 m amsl (594 ft amsl). Surface drainage from the project area generally drains to the east-southeast towards the St. Clair River. The St. Clair River is less than 30.5 m (100 ft) east of the project area at an approximate elevation of 175 m amsl (574 ft amsl).

Allendale-Hoytville complex soils are present in the project area. Slope ranges from 0-6 percent. The Allendale series consists of very deep, somewhat poorly drained soils that
formed in sandy sediments and in the underlying clayey lacustrine deposits or till on lake basins, lake terraces, lake plains, outwash plains, and ground moraines. The Hoytville series consists of very deep, very poorly drained soils that are deep or very deep to dense till. They formed in till that has been leveled by wave action and are on lake plains (http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov).

**Cultural Setting**

**St. Clair County**

St. Clair County was first visited by French explorers in 1669 and 1670. In 1679, a ship called the *Griffin*, carrying a man named Father Louis Hennepin and 30 other men, passed through what is now Lake St. Clair. Father Hennepin christened the lake in honor of the feast day of Saint Claire, and the surrounding river, county, and town of St. Clair are all named after the lake (Michigan History, 1991). St. Clair County was first established in 1821, and initially was comprised of one township. In 1823 it was divided into three townships, which were subsequently divided and renamed numerous times until 1850 (Jenks, 1915).

In the early years, St. Clair County derived much of its income from timber harvesting and milling. The first saw mill was constructed in 1780, with many more constructed between 1786 and 1843. Around the mid-18th century, the enterprise of salt manufacturing began to grow as a result of the discovery of salt springs. There were multiple operations in St. Clair County, located primarily in Marine City, St. Clair, Algonac, and Port Huron (Jenks, 1915).

Thomas Edison’s family relocated to Port Huron in St. Clair County in the 1850s. Edison did not become well-known until after his departure from Port Huron, but he did succeed in running a telegraph line under his house in the 1860s, and is honored today as one of Port Huron’s most memorable residents (Michigan History, 1991).

Several rail lines were constructed in the mid- to late-19th century, which helped advance economic development by providing a means of transporting and importing goods, and
connecting the area to Canada. However, the first automobile manufacturer was established in Port Huron in 1906, and the automobile business quickly became the heart of the St. Clair County economy. Numerous manufacturers set up operations in the county between 1910 and 1935 including Ford and Chrysler (Mitts, 1968). Manufacturing, including automobile manufacturing, remains an important part of the local economy today.

**Research Results**

There is one archeological site (20SC5) recorded within one mile of the project area, and two previously conducted archaeological surveys. Site 20SC5 consists of an isolated find of a fragment of a prehistoric bifacial tool. No NRHP-listed historic structures are located in the project area or immediate vicinity, according to research conducted. There is one Michigan Historic Site (the C.H. Willis & Company site) located approximately 0.5 miles south of the project area at 840 Huron Avenue, Marysville. The C.H. Wills & Company was an automotive factory in use beginning in 1921, and was purchased by Chrysler in 1935.

**Results of Field Investigations**

After background research, limited subsurface testing was performed by Jacque Payette, RPA. Photographs showing the project area at the time of the site visit are provided in Figure 3. The majority of the area is covered in wetlands, as determined by Jeff Williams, BS Biology, qualified wetlands delineator, of ERM (Figure 2). Wetland areas were not subjected to cultural resources survey. Much of the area was in standing water at the time of the site visit. Previously landscaped lawn through which an existing underground pipeline runs comprises much of the non-wetland portion of the project area. In addition, an existing pipeline facility occupies a portion of the northeastern leg of the project area. Due to significant prior disturbance by pipeline installation and landscaping, this area was not subjected to survey. A banked-up walking path crosses through the project area. This also was not surveyed due to prior landscaping disturbance. Survey was conducted within the remainder of the project area, wherever
thick brush, standing water, or slope did not preclude testing. Seven shovel test probes (STPs) were excavated, all with negative results (Figure 4). No cultural remains or cultural features were encountered in the project area.
Conclusions and Recommendations

On April 30, 2012, Jacquie Payette of Environmental Resources Management conducted Phase I archaeological survey of the proposed St. Clair project area in Marysville, St. Clair County, Michigan. No archaeological materials or archaeological features were found during these investigations.

In the opinion of the investigator, the proposed Project Mariner West Pipeline St. Clair project area can be constructed in the project area with no effect to any cultural resources potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.
References

Jenks, W.L.

Mitts, Dorothy M.

Sullivan, Alan P. and Kenneth C. Rozen
Figures
Figure 1
St. Clair Survey Area
Site Location Map
Mustang Engineering
St. Clair County
Michigan
May 2012

Section 32
T6N/R.17E.
City of Marysville
St. Clair County, Michigan

USGS TOPO Quad: Port Huron, 1991
Figure 4
St. Clair Shovel Test Location Map

Mustang Engineering
St. Clair County, Michigan
May 2012

St. Clair Survey Area

STP1
STP2
STP3
STP4
STP5
STP6
STP7
Figure 3—Photographs of St. Clair Project Area from April 30, 2012 Site Visit

Location of Shovel Test Probe 1, looking east

Looking east-southeast down northern pipeline ROW—landscaped, buried utilities
Looking west-northwest along northern pipeline ROW—two-track road, buried utilities

Looking east-southeast along southern pipeline ROW—wetland, buried utilities
Looking west-southwest along southern pipeline ROW—wetland, buried utilities

Looking east-southeast at eastern end of southern pipeline ROW—gravel drive, buried utilities
Looking west-southwest at existing facility within southern pipeline ROW
Figure 2
St. Clair
Area Wetland Map

Mustang Engineering
St. Clair County, Michigan
May 2012