

December 6, 2011

Commissioner Bob Martin
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
401 East State Street
Trenton, NJ 08625

Re: Mercer County, Hopewell and Ewing Townships
Replacement of Bear Tavern Road Bridge over Jacobs Creek (214.2) and
Replacement of Jacobs Creek Road Bridge over Ewing Creek (215.1)
Bear Tavern Road/Jacobs Creek Crossing Historic District (SR listed 10/3/2011)
New Jersey Register of Historic Places Act
Application for Project Authorization Review

Dear Commissioner Martin:

We are writing to request, as directly affected parties, in regard to the attached letter of November 23, 2011 to Mercer County Engineer Greg Sandusky from Daniel Saunders, Administrator of the Historic Preservation Office, and as per N.J.A.C. 7:4 – 7.2 (e), that you ask the Historic Sites Council to conduct a special public meeting specifically on the encroachment application mentioned above.

We respectfully request that this public meeting be held in Hopewell Township, where the majority of the Bear Tavern Road/Jacobs Creek Crossing Historic District is located, to enable our local Township Committee, Historic Preservation Commission, Environmental Commission, Historic Society, and residents to have a voice in the proceeding. The County has been unwilling in the past to hold a public meeting in Hopewell Township regarding their revised bridge plan. Now that the County Project Authorization application has been determined an encroachment to our newly listed Historic District, we would like to exercise our option to request the special public meeting of the Historic Sites Council.

In addition, our nomination for the National Register of Historic Places was forwarded by the Historic Preservation office to the National Park Service on October 17, 2011. With a 90 day window to respond, this will enable the determination on inclusion of the Bear Tavern Road/Jacobs Creek Crossing Rural Historic District onto the National Register of Historic Places to be completed prior to the Historic Sites Council special public meeting, and help in informing the Council of the importance of this district.

We apologize for our request coming to you at this late date, but due to insufficient notice by the County to either local government entities who do not have the time to publicly notice a meeting on this matter, or affected residents, the residents had to research the N.J.A.C. rules ourselves.

In as much as the Historic Sites Council agenda for December 15, 2011 lists this project for review, we look forward to your expeditious response.

Sincerely,



Rhonda W. Katz 52 Maddock Rd, Titusville, NJ 08560



Mary Jane Cooper



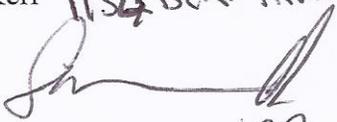
JoEllen Ison



Nancy Weinstein 46 Maddock Rd., Titusville, NJ 08560



Sam Kerr 1132 Bear Tavern Rd Titusville NJ 08560



Samuel Stovall

102 Jacobs Creek Rd.
Ewing, NJ 08628

CC: Amy Cradic, Asst. Commissioner, Historic Preservation Office
Daniel Saunders, Administrator, Historic Preservation Office
Michelle Hughes, Historic Preservation Office
Charlie Welch, Land Use Regulations
Becky Ehrenfeld, Land use Regulations
Cate Litvack, Crossroads of the American revolution
Stephanie Cherry-Farmer, Preservation NJ
Walter Gallas, National Trust for Historic Preservation
Mayor Jim Burd, Hopewell Township
Max Hayden, Hopewell Township Historic Preservation Commission
Elisabeth Kerr, President, Hopewell Valley Historical Society, applicant
David Blackwell, Hopewell Township Historical Preservation Commission, applicant
Roni Browne Katz, Hopewell Valley Historical Society, applicant
Dennis Bertland, Cultural Consultant
NJ Conservation Foundation
Hopewell Township Environmental Commission
Hopewell Township Planning Board