



A Summary Overview: Historic Preservation Activities at PORTS

Briefing to the Portsmouth Site
Specific Advisory Board

April 2, 2009



Early Plant Construction

- The Portsmouth plant was built between 1952-1956 and encompasses 3,777 acres.
- The original purpose and mission of the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PORTS) was to enrich uranium for national security reasons – built at the height of the Cold War.
- The primary areas within Perimeter Road (1200 acres) were extensively excavated in the early 1950s for plant construction.





National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)

- The NHPA was enacted in 1966.
- Section 106 Process (36 CFR Part 800) of NHPA, Protection of Historic Properties:
 - Requires Federal agencies to take into account the affects of their undertakings on properties included, or eligible for inclusion, in the National Register of Historic Places.
 - Provides participants an opportunity to comment on such undertakings.
- Section 110 Process of NHPA requires Federal agencies to establish preservation programs to protect and preserve historic properties (identify/assess resources through surveys and prepare Cultural Resources Management Plan)



Section 106 and 110 Processes

Initiate Section 106 Process

Establish Undertaking
Identify appropriate SHPO/THPO
Plan to involve the public
Identify other consulting parties

➔ *No undertaking/no potential to cause effects*

Undertaking is type that might affect historic properties

Identify Historic Properties (Section 110 Process)

Determine scope of efforts
Identify historic properties
Evaluate historic significance

➔ *No historic properties affected*

Historic properties are affected

Assess Adverse Effects

Apply criteria of adverse effect

➔ *No historic properties adversely affected*

Historic properties are adversely affected

Resolve Adverse Effects

Continue consultation

➔ *Memorandum of Agreement*

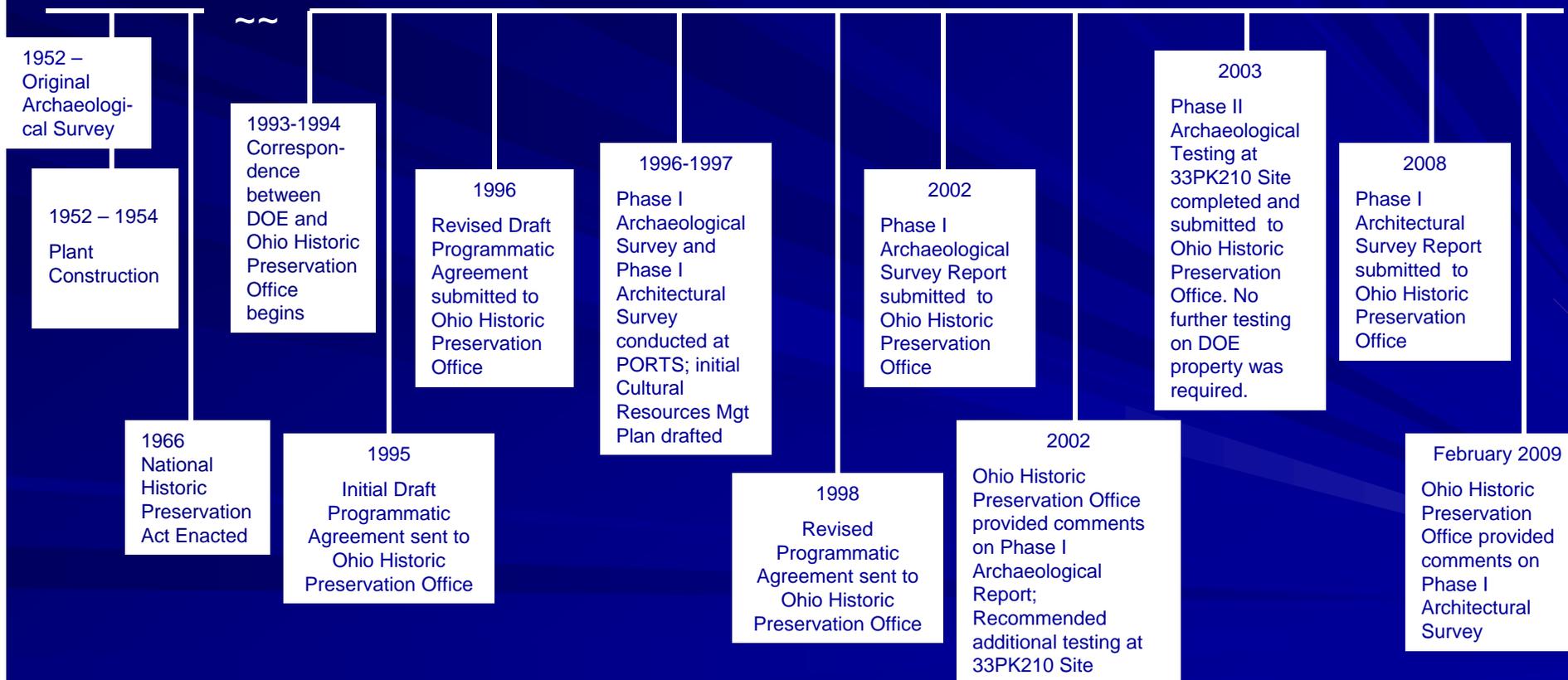
FAILURE TO AGREE

➔ **ADVISORY COUNCIL COMMENT**



Timeline of Actions

Cultural Resources Activities and Major Actions at Portsmouth Plant Site

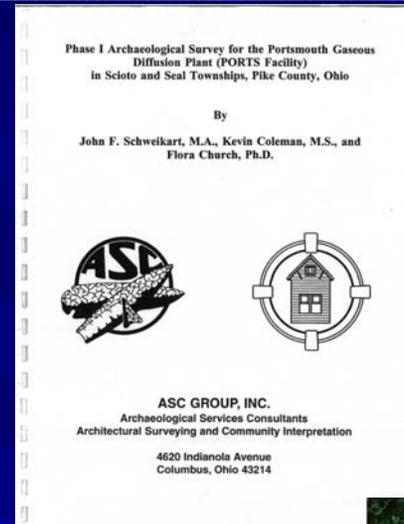


More than 80 separate documents have been transmitted between the Ohio Historic Preservation Office and PORTS on individual projects since early 1990s



Archaeological Surveys

- Phase I Archaeological survey completed in 1997 by ASC Group, Inc. of Columbus, Ohio.
- Total survey area encompassed 2,066 acres outside Perimeter Road but within federal property.
- Survey identified 36 sites.
- Report submitted to SHPO in 2002.
- A Phase II study was completed in 2003 of Site 33Pk210 on southwestern end of DOE property.



Field work at 33Pk210 site in 2003



Archaeological Surveys

- A Phase II Archaeological Site Evaluation is planned in 2009 on two archaeological sites (remnants from old farmsteads).
- The two sites, Sites 33Pk212 and 33Pk213, were documented and recommended for further investigation during the Phase I Archaeological Survey.
- The sites are located on the 340-acre parcel being proposed for transfer from DOE to the Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative (SODI).



Sites for Upcoming Phase II Study at 340-Acre Tract

**Site 33Pk212, Railside Farmstead
remnants** →



Site 33Pk213, Log pen Farmstead remnants ←



Architectural Survey of PORTS

- Initial Architectural Survey of PORTS (inventory of all buildings/structures) was prepared by ASC Group, Inc. of Columbus, OH in 1996-1997.
- Phase I Architectural Survey updated and submitted to SHPO in 2008.
- DOE has received SHPO comments on Phase I Architectural Survey Report.
- Meeting scheduled with SHPO in April 2009 to discuss report.



Under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)

- Portions of the PORTS site are potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).
- Final determination on PORTS listing in NRHP has not been made.



Recent Additional Actions

- DOE has obtained services of an independent archaeological firm to review its cultural resources program and identify any areas for improvement.
- DOE is sending letters to Federally-recognized Indian Tribes with historical ties to Ohio to request any interest as consulting parties.



Next Steps

- Propose to hold 1-day workshop in May timeframe for SSAB members and interested members of public on National Historic Preservation Act review process and activities at PORTS.
- Additional discussions in April 2009 with SHPO to complete the Phase I Architectural Survey report.
- Prepare and Finalize Programmatic Agreement for PORTS Site prior to D&D project.
- Continue individual reviews/consultations on projects until Programmatic Agreement is finalized.
- Complete Cultural Resources Management Plan for long-term planning at site to preserve and/or document historic properties and cultural resources.



Additional Resource Information

- **Advisory Council on Historic Preservation**
 - www.achp.gov
- **Ohio Historic Preservation Office**
 - www.ohiohistory.org/resource/histpres
- **U.S. Department of Energy**
 - www.em.doe.gov/Pages/TribalNations.aspx
 - www.hss.energy.gov/nuclearsafety/env/policy/
- **National Historic Preservation Act**
 - www.achp.gov/nhpa.html