



State of New Jersey

Christine Todd Whitman
Governor

Department of Environmental Protection
DIVISION OF PARKS AND FORESTRY
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
CN-404
TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0404
TEL: (609) 292-2023
FAX: (609) 984-0578

Robert C. Shinn, Jr.
Commissioner

December 4, 1995
HPO-L95-8

Mr. David Koenig
Historic Preservation Specialist
New Jersey Transit
One Penn Plaza East
Newark, New Jersey 07105-2246

Dear Mr. Koenig:

As Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer for New Jersey, in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800: Protection of Historic Properties, as published in the Federal Register 2 September 1986 (51 FR 31115-31125), I am providing **Consultation Comments** for the following project:

Essex County, New Jersey
Bloomfield Township, Belleville Township, and Newark City
Newark City Subway Extension and Vehicle Base Facility
Historic Architectural Resource Background Study and Supplement
New Jersey Transit
Federal Transit Administration

These comments, provided in addition to Historic Preservation Office (HPO) Comments of September 28, 1995 (HPO-I95-40), are in response to information submitted November 6, 1995 supplementing the report:

Historic Architectural Resources Background Study for the Newark City Subway Extension and Vehicle Base Facility, by Lynn Drobbin & Associates, April 1995.

800.4 Identifying Historic Properties

Identified properties are within the Area of Potential Effect (APE), described as 0.25 mile from the outer edges of the proposed rail alignment, station sites, and vehicle base facility.

I concur with the findings of the report that the following resources are **eligible** for listing in the National Register of Historic Places:

1. Belleville Fire Department Station No. 3, Belleville Township, Essex County, is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with Belleville's early twentieth century municipal expansion, and under Criterion C as an intact representative of the neighborhood fire station.
2. The Bakelite Corporation Factory Buildings, Bloomfield Township, Essex County, are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for their association with Bakelite and the development of the modern plastics industry.
3. Halcyon Park Historic District, Bloomfield Township, Essex County, is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as an intact collection of early twentieth century residential housing in a planned setting reflecting attention to open space and neighborhood character. The district, as amended in the supplemental information, is defined as the area bound by Berkeley Avenue between Watsessing and Franklin Avenues, the rear of properties facing Franklin Avenue between Berkeley and Florence Avenues, and Watsessing Avenue Between Franklin and Berkeley Avenues.

It is my opinion that no further consideration of the Silver Lake Building and Loan Association Building, Belleville Township, Essex County, need be undertaken for this project. The building's association with community leader Jeraldo Maioran is significant, and may ultimately prove to be grounds for future eligibility. However, in the interests of forwarding the Section 106 process, the property may be considered **not eligible** when determining the effects of this project.

It is my opinion that the Rowhouse located at 41 Belmont Avenue, Belleville Township, Essex County, is **not eligible** for the National Register of Historic Places. Although rowhouses of this type did formerly characterize the Spring Lake neighborhood, and while this property does retain some measure of integrity, it is not particularly distinguished, nor does the masonry craftsmanship embodied particularly reflect upon the Italian traditions of the area.

I concur with the findings of the supplemental information that the following resources are **not eligible** for listing in the National Register of Historic Places:

1. Foodtown Supermarket, Watsessing and Arlington Avenues, Bloomfield Township, Essex County.
2. Power Plant/Smoke Stack, 55 La France Avenue, Bloomfield Township, Essex County.

D. Koenig
December 4, 1995
HPO-L95-8

Page 3

800.5 Assessing Effects

The agency must now evaluate the effects of the proposed undertaking on the listed and eligible resources by applying the Criteria of Effect as defined by 36 CFR 800.9. The HPO will then provide consultation comments as expeditiously as possible.

Additional Comments

Please remember that under the New Jersey Register of Historic Places Act the following resources will require an Application for Project Authorization: Branch Brook Park, Forest Hill Historic District, Morris Canal, and the Sydenham House.

Thank you for your participation in the Section 106 Process. Please call Kinney Clark of this office should you have any questions, (609) 292-2023.

Yours truly,



Dorothy P. Guzzo
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer

DG/kc96-0304
c. C. Scott, HPO
T. Karschner, HPO