Cultural Resource Inventory of Eggert's Landing Lake Ashtabula, North Dakota

No archaeological or historical sites were located during the cultural resource inventory of Eggert's Landing. Despite the fact that much of the ground surface was obscured by grasses or gravel, no sub-surface shovel testing is recommended. The Eggert's Landing locale is one in which the probability of recovery of archaeological remains is very low.

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CULTURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY OF EGGERT'S LANDING
LAKE ASHTABULA, NORTH DAKOTA
# DAC 034 - 77 - M - 1329

Fred Schneider
April 26, 1977
INTRODUCTION

Prior to conducting the field study, the archaeological site files at the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, University of North Dakota were checked for the locations of previously recorded sites in the Lake Ashtabula area. Although, thirteen (13) sites had been reported (Johnson et al. 1974), no sites were recorded in the locale of Eggert's Landing.

Carmichael, in the previously cited report, discusses the presence of burial mounds, occupation sites, and a rock alignment site in the Lake Ashtabula area. These sites have been reported earlier by Lewis (1889), Smith (1906), Kivett (1948), Hewes (1949), Wheeler (1952), and Neuman (1967).

FIELD SURVEY

On Saturday, April 23rd, 1977, a field party consisting of Dr. Fred E. Schneider, Chairman, Department of Anthropology and Archaeology and Mr. and Mrs. Kent N. Good, travelled to Lake Ashtabula to conduct a cultural resource inventory of Eggert's Landing. Mr. Good is an Archaeological Research Associate in the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology. The first stop was to talk with Mr. Melvin Reiman, dam tender at Baldhill Dam. He was asked whether he had seen or knew of any cultural objects or structures in the study area. He replied that he was not aware of any objects or structures at Eggert's Landing.

The study area had been greatly modified due to recreation development. Roads, paths, cabins, and landscaping had modified much of the land surface. We walked the shoreline examining both the beach and the exposed bank, walked through the campground and picnic areas carefully examining the ground surface and gopher diggings, and walked through the thickly-
grassed slopes of the surrounding hillsides. Approximately two and one-half hours were spent at Eggert's Landing. No evidence of cultural activity was discovered other than the recent recreation developments. No flakes, charcoal, bone, or artifacts were found which might be indicative of a prehistoric occupation and no foundations, trails, or historic artifacts were found which might be indicative of an early historic occupation. The only feature of interest noted during the survey was the presence of a beaver dam and lodge situated in a small marsh in the northeastern portion of the study area. I have marked its location on the accompanying map.

While much of the ground surface was obscured by grass and/or by the addition of gravel for roads, paths, and parking areas, it is believed that no cultural resources exist in Eggert's Landing. From the little that is known of the archaeology of this region, particularly that conducted prior to reservoir construction, the most frequent location of mounds is on bluffs overlooking the valley and of occupation sites is on terraces adjacent the original course of the Sheyenne River. Most of Eggert's Landing is in an area which was once valley slopes, an area in which sites are usually not found and an area which was most likely not preferred as a location for settlements or burial mounds.

RECOMMENDATIONS

No archaeological or historical sites were located during the cultural resource inventory of Eggert's Landing. Despite the fact that much of the ground surface was obscured by grasses or by gravel, no sub-surface shovel testing is recommended. The Eggert's Landing locale is one in which the probability of recovery of archaeological remains is very low. The geographic locale, valley slopes, and the geologic context, glacial drift, are a combination in which one would not expect to find either prehistoric
settlements or burial mounds. No further archaeological research is recommended at Eggert's Landing.
REFERENCES CITED

Hewes, G.W.

Johnson, C. et al.

Kivett, M.F.

Lewis, T.H.

Neuman, R.

Smith, H.I.

Wheeler, R.P.
1952 Site Form on File, Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks.
Lake Ashtabula Master Plan

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Batcher Ringrose Wolsfeld

7. Eggerts Landing

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS
1967 MASTER PLAN

EXISTING CONDITIONS-1976

Lake Ashtabula