MISSISSIPPI VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGY CENTER

22 May 2006

Mr. Dan Dupies
CH2MHill
135 S. 84th St.
Honey Creek III, Suite 325
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53214

Re: Wisconsin Rapids Corridor Pre-survey

Dear Dan,

This is a follow-up to the information I provided for you back in January concerning the possibility of historic resources within your proposed corridor for the Wisconsin Rapids project.

As I told you then, I found three potentially historic properties within the APE of your proposed corridor. Two are at the corners of Lentendre Ave. and Wisconsin River Dr. in Port Edwards. One is a 1920s Colonial Revival style house on the northwest corner. The second is a mid 20th century Gothic Revival church on the southwest corner of that same intersection. Neither are currently in the Wisconsin Historical Society's database. Both would require more research if they will be affected by the project. (Photos of these properties are included on the attached disk).

The third property is the Griffith State Nursery in Wisconsin Rapids, on the south side of CTH Z between STH 13 and Gardners Lane. It is directly across CTH Z from the new DNR office. This property was identified in the "1991 State Facilities Survey: Reconnaissance Survey Report" by Nancy J. Hubbard. That report identified the site and the 17 structures constructed prior to 1945 as "considered as a potential Historic District". I have attached the page from this report which states this information, and one example of a survey form from the 17 surveyed structure which I printed from the WisAHRD database.

I contacted the Griffith State Nursery's director, (Jim Storandt, 715-424-3700) and he sent me a sketch map of the nursery's property (fields and buildings). He indicated that there are currently about 100 acres included in the current acreage. He was not sure when that number was achieved, however, it was his understanding that the state acquired land in increments over the years to get to that number. He also indicated that it was his understanding that the local Civilian Conservation Corps had a

MVAC at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse 1725 State Street, La Crosse, WI 54601-3788
office: 608 • 785 • 8463 office FAX: 608 • 785 • 8456 lab FAX: 608 • 785 • 6474 www.uwlax.edu/mvac

small camp that they used during the New Deal program in the 1930s and possibly into the 1940s.

I have highlighted the nursery's land onto a photocopy of the aerial map, so you can see where the land in question lies.

I believe there is no question that a DOE would need to be prepared for this property, and probably the other two, if they are going to remain within your APE.

I hope this information is helpful to you . Let me know if you need anything else at this point, and of course, if you need the DOE's done on any of these properties, I'd be available to do those.

Sincerely,

Barbara Kooiman

Encl: attached information and cd disk.

11/6/00

Jim Storandt -
Here's a copy of what I have in my files regarding historic structures at Griffith Nursery.
Victoria Dorst
(Viki)

1991
State Facilities Survey:
Reconnaissance Survey
Report

Principal Investigator
Nancy J. Hubbard

Researchers
Arnis Kakulis
Sigurds E. Strautmanis

Prepared by
University of Wisconsin- Milwaukee
The School of Architecture and Urban Planning

Griffith State Nursery (711 Nepco Lake Road). The Griffith State Nursery is located south of the City of Wisconsin Rapids off of State Highway 13 in Wood County. This is one of three forest tree nurseries currently operated by the DNR. This nursery is quite large and consists of 17 structures built prior to 1945. The unique feature of this nursery is that it includes a manager's residence, directly across the street from the nursery. This nursery is divided into two primary areas, one being the main office/storage complex, and the other being the "Side Camp."

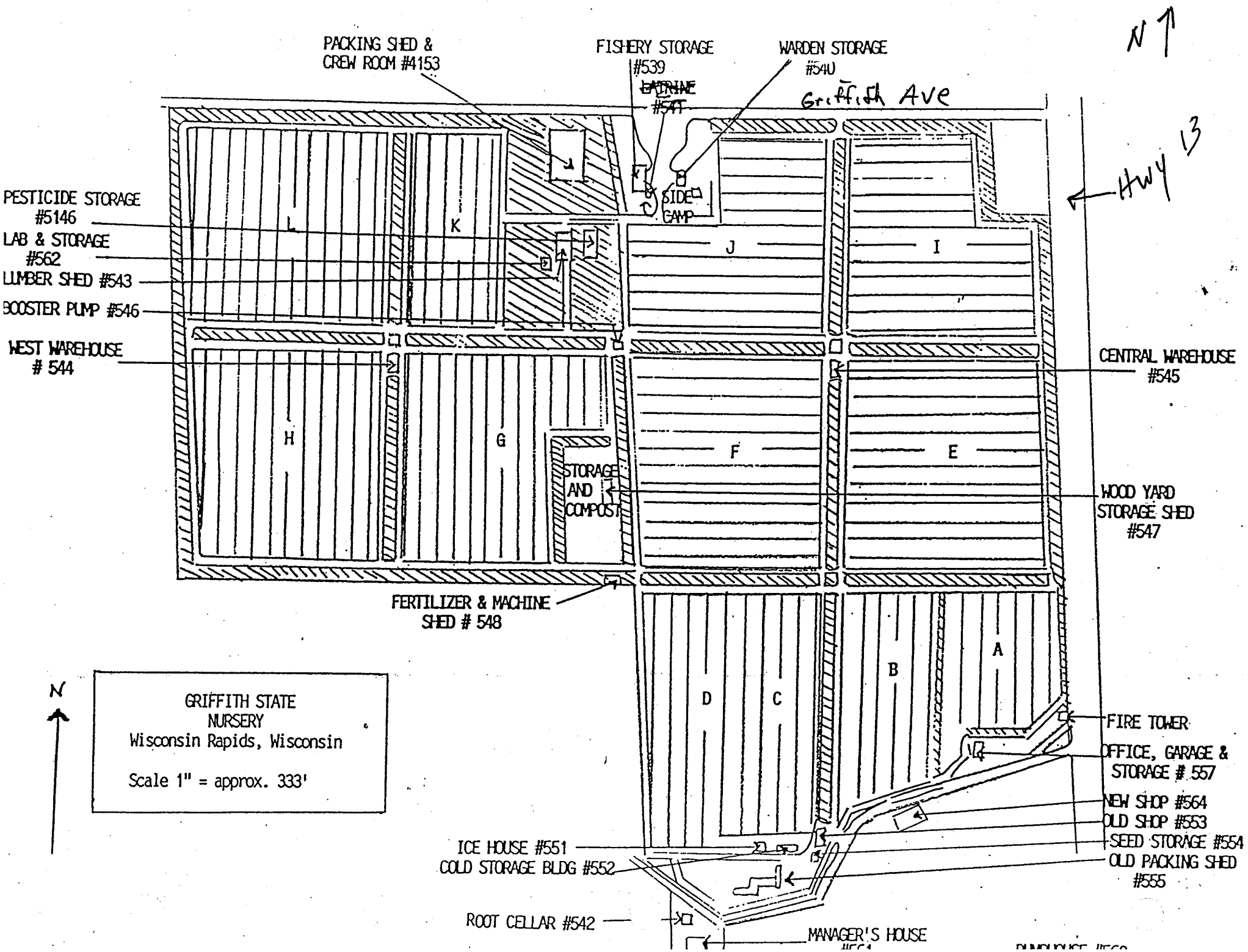
these numbers indicate buildings listed in the SHSW's inventory

The main office/storage complex consists of the manager's residence (11/20, 1939), a root cellar (11/19, 1937), a cold storage building (11/11, 1938), an ice house (11/10, 1937), a pump house (11/2, 1936), and storage buildings (11/12,14, 15, 25, 1936). All of these buildings are constructed in a similar fashion, except for the cold storage building, using ambussen green drop siding and white wood trim. The windowless cold storage building is an astylistic utilitarian building constructed with poured concrete walls with art-deco style corner piers. The only other building of this sort was found in the Brule River State Forest, and was also constructed into a hill, presumably for insulation purposes. The pump house is located on Nepco Lake and provides the water needed to irrigate the seedlings. The buildings are all in excellent condition. This area of the nursery is also the area where many retaining walls and drainage ditches (11/17, 24) have been constructed, all in excellent condition.

The other identifiable area is the "Side Camp", which is situated at the northern part of the nursery. The structures in this camp include two large storage buildings both constructed in 1936, and two minor storage buildings built in 1941(11/8) and 1936(11/7). These four storage buildings are also constructed with aubussen green drop siding and white wood trim. The fishery storage (11/5, 1936) and warden storage (11/6, 1936) buildings are the two most important buildings in this area, because they frame a service courtyard which is privately accessible from Griffith Avenue. These buildings also have low pitched shed dormers, a unique detail of Griffith Nursery. These structures are also in excellent condition and are very well maintained.

The other structures on the Griffith Nursery site are situated at prime crossroads between the stock fields. They presumably provide very accessible storage capabilities for the individual stock fields that are planted with different tree species. In addition, they are also constructed with aubussen green drop siding and white wood trim, and are also in excellent condition. All of the structures at Griffith State Nursery are very similar and in excellent condition and have been considered as a potential Historic District.
(DNR Site File # 00539-00548, 00551-00555, 00557, 00560, 00561)
(Wisc. DNR PUBL-FR-042 87)

NEPCO LAKE RD
GARDNERS LN
BRUCE LN
LINCOLN ST
MAPLE MANOR
RUBY AV
DOVE AV
STH 13 S
WHITROCK AV
KUHN AV
PARK RD
PARK RD
PARK RD
14TH PL
15TH PL
KUHN AV
CTH Z
20TH ST S


N
PACKING SHED & CREW ROOM #4153
FISHERY STORAGE #539
WARDEN STORAGE #540
~~BARNINE~~ #541
Griffith Ave
Hwy 13
SIDE CAMP
PESTICIDE STORAGE #5146
LAB & STORAGE #562
LUMBER SHED #543
BOOSTER PUMP #546
WEST WAREHOUSE # 544
CENTRAL WAREHOUSE #545
WOOD YARD STORAGE SHED #547
STORAGE AND COMPOST
FERTILIZER & MACHINE SHED # 548
L
K
J
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G
F
E
D
C
B
A
FIRE TOWER
OFFICE, GARAGE & STORAGE # 557
NEW SHOP #564
OLD SHOP #553
SEED STORAGE #554
OLD PACKING SHED #555
ICE HOUSE #551
COLD STORAGE BLDG #552
ROOT CELLAR #542
MANAGER'S HOUSE
N
GRIFFITH STATE NURSERY
Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin
Scale 1" = approx. 333'

Record #: 16869

Historic Name

Current Name Griffith State Nursery - seed storage #00554

Verified Y

Additional Information

Survey Year 1992

Tax Credit **Case Num.**

Compliance Number **SHSW Project Number**

Locale Designation

Map Name USGS Wisconsin Rapids

Map Code 11-14

Photo codes

Roll	Frame
11	14

Biblio. Reference A. DNR Site File # 00539-00548, 00551-00555, 00557, 00560, 00561. B. Wisc. DNR PUBL-FR-042 87. C. Date of construction source: DNR.

Addl. Comments A 'site file' exists for this property. It contains additional information such as correspondence, newspaper clippings, or historical information. It is a public record anc may be viewed in person at the State Historical Society, Division of Historic Preservation. This one story astylistic utiltarian seed storage building features a rectangular shaped plan configuration with an addition, a concrete foundation, a drop board exterior, a wood trim and an asphalt shingled gable roof. A 6'x 8' vestibule was added in 1936; this addition changed the original rectangular shape of the plan configuration. No basement exists in the architectural design. Description of Complex: The Griffith State Nursery is located south of the City of Wisconsin Rapids off of State Highway 13 in Wood County. This is one of three forest tree nurseries currently operated by the DNR. This nursery is quite large and consists of 17 structures built prior to 1945. The unique feature of this nursery is that it includes a manager's residence, directly across the street from the nursery. This nursery is divided into two primary areas, one being the main office/storage complex, and the other being the

"Side Camp." The main office/storage complex consists of the manager's residence (11/20, 1939), a root cellar (11/19, 1937), a cold storage building (11/11, 1938), an ice house (11/10, 1937), a pump house (11/2, 1936), and storage buildings (11/12, 14, 15, 25, 1936). All of these buildings are constructed in a similar fashion, except for the cold storage building, using ambussen green drop siding and white wood trim. The windowless cold storage building is an astylistic utilitarian building constructed with poured concrete walls with art-deco style corner piers. The only other building of this sort was found in the Brule River State Forest, and was also constructed into a hill, presumably for insulation purposes. The pump house is located on Nepco Lake and provides the water needed to irrigate the seedlings. The buildings are all in excellent condition. This area of the nursery is also the area where many retaining walls and drainage ditches (11/17, 24) have been constructed, all in excellent condition. The other identifiable area is the "Side Camp," which is situated at the northern part of the nursrey. The structures in this camp include two large storage buildings both constructed in 1936, and two minor storage buildings built in 1941 (11/8) and 1936 (11/7). These four storage buildings are also constructed with aubussen green drop siding and white wood trim. The fishery storage (11/5, 1936) and warden storage (11/6, 1936) buildings are the two most important buildings in this area, because they frame a service courtyard which is privately accessible from Griffith Avenue. These buildings also have low pitched shed dormers, a unique detail of Griffith Nursery. These structures are also in excellent condition and are very well maintained. The other structures on the Griffith Nursery site are situated at prime crossroads between the stock fields. They presumably provide very accessible storage capabilities for the individual stock fields that are planted with different tree species. In addition, they are also constructed with aubussen green drop siding and white wood trim, and are also in excellent condition. All of the structures at Griffith State Nursery are very similar and in excellent condition and have been considered as a potential Historic District.

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