

# CR134 Bridge Replacement

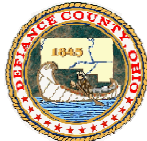
## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Mannik & Smith Group, Inc. (MSG) conducted Phase III data recovery of the Singer Site in Delaware Township, Defiance County, Ohio. This work was conducted with Fort Defiance Construction, under contract with the Defiance County Engineer, for the Ohio Department of Transportation. The project involved the replacement of an 1892 bridge over the Maumee River, that would impact an archaeological site on the north side of the river.

The Singer Site was a Late Woodland Western Basin Tradition site that was determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places following MSG's Phase II investigations. It was decided to have MSG perform a Phase III data recovery to mitigate the adverse effects of the bridge replacement.

MSG excavated 116 shovel test units across the site and six larger hand-excavated units at selected location. Following hand-excavation, the plow zone was mechanically removed from eight 16-foot (five meter) wide trenches. MSG's goal of the mechanically excavated trenches was to expose subsurface features beneath the plowzone. A total of 11,140 square feet (1035 square meters) was excavated during data recovery. MSG recovered thousands of prehistoric artifacts including decorated ceramics, lithic tools, and animal bone. Excavations also revealed 18 prehistoric cultural features including hearths, refuse pits, post molds, and a shell midden.

Findings indicated that during the Late Woodland time period, people gathered in large villages during the warm season, sending out small groups of people to collect resources. Diagnostic ceramics recovered from the data recovery of the Singer Site also suggest a Late Woodland Western Basin Tradition Younger Phase (ca. A.D. 1000-1200) and/or Springwells Phase (ca. A.D. 1200-1300) occupation. The Singer Site is in an ideal location for the exploration of riverine resources and was likely used over several hundred years as a short-term, warm-season camp focused on gathering riverine resources.



## LOCATION

Defiance County, Ohio

## CLIENT

Fort Defiance Construction and Supply, Inc.

## SERVICES PROVIDED

- ◆ Phase III Data Recovery
- ◆ Artifact Analysis
- ◆ Floral, Faunal Analyses
- ◆ Informant Interviews



*Phase III Archaeological Data Recovery*



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