June 24, 1996

Mary E. Ivey  
NYS Dept. of Transportation  
Environmental Analysis Bureau  
State Office Campus, Bldg. 5  
Albany, NY 12232

re: MapInfo National Register database

Dear Ms. Ivey:

Pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding between the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) and the NYS Dept. of Transportation (DOT), we are pleased to provide you the enclosed copy of our MapInfo database of properties listed in the State and/or National Registers of Historic Places. In order for your agency to make the most effective use of this information for project planning purposes, we offer the following as a guide to the value as well as the limitations of the National Register database:

1. The locational coordinate data in both the Points (XPTSP) and Historic Districts (TENL) coverages were developed by staff of the Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau (HPFSB) between 1988 and the present. The data furnished to you have been verified and corrected where necessary to reflect generally acceptable levels of accuracy and uniformity. The data in both these coverages is limited to providing a general guide to the presence of Register-listed properties relative to the scanned planimetric quadrangle maps as of June 20, 1996. In the case of the XPTSP coverage, specific individual property boundaries are not part of the database. Properties represented in the TENL coverage (properties generally greater than 10 acres in area) in many cases are represented by generalized polygons rather than precise property boundaries. When specific boundaries of a particular registered property are needed for project planning purposes, it will still be necessary for you to consult with HPFSB staff directly.

2. Address locations of archeological sites listed in the Registers are restricted information. The names of these sites are included in the enclosed tables, and the properties are graphically depicted in the copy of the electronic database conveyed to DOT. As a condition for receiving the database, you have agreed that DOT will remove the coordinate data for each of these archeological sites from your copy of the electronic database, replacing each with a buffer zone of not less than 1.6 km as specified in the Memorandum of Understanding.
3. As noted above, locational information included in the database furnished to you is current through June 20, 1996. Because properties are continuously being added to the State and National Registers, the database is not static; we routinely update the database to reflect these changes. While we intend to provide DOT with regular updated versions of the electronic database pursuant to terms of the memorandum, your agency should still continue to consult with HPFSB staff to obtain the most current information concerning properties added to the State and National Registers.

4. This database is furnished to DOT on the understanding that it will be used exclusively by your agency for internal planning purposes. The database is not to be used by the general public, especially in making decisions regarding the purchase or use of real property. The Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau, Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation retains all proprietary rights to ownership and use of the information contained in the National Register database.

We hope that the information contained in the database will be helpful to you for purposes of project planning. Please call Raymond Smith or Robert Englert of the HPFSB staff at 518-237-8643 to discuss any aspect of the MapInfo National Register database.

Sincerely,

Ruth L. Pierpont
Director
Historic Preservation
Field Services Bureau

encl.
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION
AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION (OPRHP)
AND
THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOT)
FOR
THE SHARING OF THE OPRHP STATE AND NATIONAL REGISTERS OF
HISTORIC PLACES GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS) DATABASE

WHEREAS, the OPRHP and the DOT agree that early identification of
historic resources to incorporate preservation concerns into
planning for transportation projects will assist the DOT’s
compliance with the New York State Parks, Recreation and
Historic Preservation Law, Section 14.09, and the National
Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Section 106; and

WHEREAS, the OPRHP and the DOT agree that there are variations and
limitations in detail and precise locational accuracy in the
GIS database, and that the OPRHP paper files will remain the
authority on precise resource location and boundary definition;
and

WHEREAS, the OPRHP and the DOT agree that archeological locations
will be indicated only generally, using a buffer zone of 1.61
kilometers diameter; and

WHEREAS, the OPRHP and the DOT agree that use of the GIS database
alone does not represent consultation under Section 14.09 or
Section 106 for transportation projects;

NOW, THEREFORE, through this Memorandum of Understanding, DOT and
OPRHP agree to share the OPRHP State and National Registers of
Historic Places GIS database in accordance with the following
stipulations:

OPRHP Responsibilities:

1. OPRHP will provide the State and National Register geographic
data set to DOT’s Environmental Analysis Bureau on a mutually
agreed upon basis. The data updates will be provided upon
completion of integration of each New York State Board for
Historic Preservation meeting’s recommendations.

2. OPRHP will clearly define the content and quality of the
State and National Register data set and its limitations.

3. OPRHP will inform DOT of any issues, errors, or changes to
the data set not identified at the time of distribution.
4. OPRHP will provide DOT with advance notification of any changes in the State and National Register data format, management, restrictions, or distribution process that may impact DOT uses.

5. OPRHP will provide access to informational materials and/or staff to instruct DOT on the appropriate uses and restrictions of the State and National Register data set.

6. OPRHP will provide data to DOT in MapInfo format on high-density 3.5 inch diskettes or in such other electronic medium as mutually agreed upon. As necessary, the data may be provided in condensed (ZIP file) format.

**DOT Responsibilities:**

1. DOT will continue to consult with SHPO in all reviews; GIS coverages will only be used for initial investigation of presence/absence of State and National Register listings in proposed project areas.

2. DOT will provide training and/or informational materials to all intended DOT users of the State and National Register data set.

3. Data will be distributed by DOT’s Environmental Analysis Bureau to DOT regional personnel solely for the purpose of supporting project planning.

4. DOT’s Environmental Analysis Bureau will insure updates of the State and National Register data set are incorporated by each Region and that all Regions are using the same version of the data.

5. DOT will refer all requests for additional distribution of the State and National Register data set to OPRHP’s Bureau of Field Services. This includes intra-agency, interagency, and public requests.

6. DOT will document controls that will be in place to insure the integrity of OPRHP data and guard against its improper use.

7. DOT will advise OPRHP of any problems encountered with data quality or distribution in a timely manner.

8. DOT will convert MapInfo data to DOT’s format requirements.

Execution of this Memorandum of Understanding evidences that OPRHP and DOT are in agreement as to the joint expectations of each Agency concerning the sharing of the OPRHP State and National Registers of
Historic Places GIS database, and will work toward continuous improvement of the processes involved in achieving these expectations.

OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

By: [Signature] Date: 3/3/96
Bernadette Castro, Commissioner

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

By: [Signature] Date: FEB 6 1996
John B. Daly, Commissioner