

Interstate Investment Inc.
13901 Jefferson Davis Highway
Woodbridge,
Virginia 22191

Attention: Mr. Bob Wills

5 November 1975

Dear Mr. Wills:

Per your request of yesterday, please find attached the background on Boy Scout Troop 1392's request for permission to enter on 22-23 November, 1975, that part of your company's land which contains part of a pre-Revolutionary stageroad and the site of "Neapsco" Furnace.

Troop 1392 is seeking to earn the Historic Trails Award which is offered by the National Council, BSA. To do this, we must fulfill the following requirements:

a. Plan and participate in a historical activity. A unit historical activity requires members to--

1). Locate a historic trail or site and study information relating to it.

2). Hike or camp 2 days and 1 night along the trail or in the vicinity of the site.

3). Cooperate with an adult group such as a historical society to restore and mark all or part of this trail or site. (This may be done during the hike or overnight camp). Or, cooperate with such a group to plan and stage a historical pageant, ceremony, or other public event related to this trail or site--such event should be large enough to merit coverage by the local press.

4). File the Historic Trails Award application with the National Capital Area Council office, Washington, D.C.

Neapsco Furnace and the stageroad leading to it pre-date the American Revolution. The area of interest is located about 700 meters north of the juncture of Cardinal Drive (Route 610) and its I-95 overpass. Presently, the stageroad can be located off a jeep track above Neapsco Creek and consists of a sunken bed about 600 meters length filled with brush and felled trees. The Furnace site contains only a large hollow in the ground near the creek bank. A few broken bricks and remnants of the slag dump

tell what was there over 200 years ago.

Troop 1392 is sponsored by the Mills Godwin Middle School PTA. We emphasize Scouting skills in the outdoors, police our campsites well and are careful with fires. Our Troop is supervised by two experienced Scoutmasters who are quite attentive to these matters as well as safety, and the Troop strength counts better than 50% experienced campers among more than thirty boys. At least twenty Scouts would participate in the trail cutting and camping phase of this effort. They would be supervised by no fewer than four adults, probably six. The exercise would have prior approval of the National Capital Area Council, BSA.

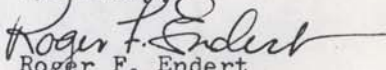
The question of public access was raised. I think the only public who might be involved with this project would be some members of the Historic Occoquan Society who have cooperated with the Troop, providing information on the Furnace and guiding us to pertinent library resources.

Marking the trail and Furnace would involve cutting a footpath down the old stageroad or parallel to it and marking the site with handpainted wooden signs or stakes. Our effort would probably be reclaimed by Nature in the Spring.

As you can see, obtaining the Historic Trails Award is a matter of bringing Scouts into touch with history and strengthening roots, respect for those who have gone before to develop our country. This particular exercise involves our own community's development, library research, contact with a historical society, reporting before the group, use of handtools, camping, safety, and for some, even mapreading and topo sketching. All are boy-building experiences.

The location of Neapsco Furnace makes it ideal to our Troop's purpose and we hope you will see fit to allow us to carry out the above requirements. If I can answer any questions that will help your decision, my home telephone number is: 590-1140, Dale City.

Sincerely,


Roger F. Endert
Committee Chairman
BSA Troop 1392