



Rapid City Historic Preservation Commission Historic Context Planning & Comprehensive Plan Update Phase III

November 20, 2020

RE: Delivery of sample interpretive essays

Dear Members of the Commission:

As part of the Rapid City Historic Preservation Commission's efforts to update the City's Historic Planning Document and Comprehensive Plan, the Commission has asked Vantage Point Historical Services to complete a series of focused investigations associated with the landscape and built environment in Rapid City in the postwar era (1946-1971). These essays will be included as part of the Cultural Resources Inventory begun in Phase II of the project.

Attached for your review are two sample drafts of interpretive essays to be included in our final deliverable. The first is on the "Indigenous Presence" in Rapid City. The second, "Faith in a New Direction," looks at church construction in Rapid City's postwar residential communities. These two essays are part of a series of what will be ten essays:

Postwar Neighborhoods & Architecture:

- 1) The Ranch House
- 2) Commercial Architecture
- 3) Churches
- 4) Schools

Landscapes & Memory:

- 5) Rapid Creek
- 6) Skyline Wilderness & Dinosaur Hill/M Hill and Hanson-Larsen Memorial Park

Diverse Rapid City:

- 7) Indigenous Presence
- 8) Rapid City Indian School lands
- 9) Other Communities of Color and Groups of Difference
- 10) The Lost Neighborhoods of the 1972 Flood.

In our December meeting with the Commission, we would greatly appreciate your comments on

- the general approach with these essays,



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- the specific components, and
- the level of detail you think is useful.

We also hope to have a conversation about photos, maps, and charts that you think would provide greater context for the subjects discussed in the essays.

At the end of each narrative, we have offered suggestions for “Potential Projects” for the RCHPC to undertake with the community in the future. Some of these projects might be eligible for CLG funds; others would rely on sources of support from the City or the community. In our December meeting, we would like to discuss whether these are the right kinds of projects that you are interested in and talk about how these projects might fit with the community workshops we are planning for February-March 2021.

We’re looking forward to the conversation.

All the best,

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