RESPONSE

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION/SCOPE OF WORK

Date: December 6, 2021

Title: Historic Context for Postwar Schools in Rapid City, South Dakota

Prepared by: Melissa Dirr Gengler, Historic Resources Group, Inc.

Contact Information: 2840 Calvert Street, Lincoln, Nebraska 68502; 402-770-5877; melissa@hrg-nebraska.com

Issuing Agency: Rapid City Historic Preservation Commission, City of Rapid City

Contact Information: Rapid City Historic Preservation Commission c/o Sarah Hanzel (605-394-4120; sarah.hanzel@rcgov.org)

Purpose and Background: Historic Resources Group, Inc. (HRG) is a woman owned small business in Lincoln, Nebraska. HRG meets the Secretary of the Interior’s Professional Qualifications in the areas of history and architectural history. The response below is to the Rapid City Historic Preservation Commission’s (HPC) request to seek and engage a qualified consultant to prepare a Historic Context examining postwar school resources within the City of Rapid City.

Preliminary research and resource identification was completed in conjunction with the recently updated Rapid City Historic Preservation Plan 2021–2031. HRG anticipates that the Historic Context documentation effort will build on initial data compiled in the preservation plan. Additionally, HRG will document properties with a goal to increase awareness about the location and significance of postwar resources in the city, provide a framework for the future study and preservation of these resources, and support the HPC’s and the City’s long-range historic
preservation planning efforts. Some of this information will be shared during public meetings and will be supported by an accessible document to identify the significance of Rapid City’s efforts to educate utilizing the most contemporary trends of the time.

HRG will work with the HPC and City staff to manage all administrative functions of the project, providing information regarding professional services to accomplish the work, managing the project to ensure a product that will meet the needs and requirements set forth by the HPC in conjunction with the South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), and ensuring that the project is delivered in a timely manner. The project will be completed utilizing Certified Local Government grant funds awarded to the HPC via the SHPO.

Statement of Needs/Deliverables: HRG will provide all labor and materials for the preparation of the Historic Context for Postwar Schools in Rapid City and any required supporting materials. The resulting Historic Context will provide the HPC:

- a historic overview, focused on the postwar era and in particular the context in which school resources were developed during this time period. The overview should focus on the historic principles that guided school expansion, construction, location, etc. during this era including historical information for local and national trends.
- a list of National Register eligible postwar school resources, which will ultimately focus on and define the characteristics of postwar school resources in Rapid City such as significant types, features, styles, materials, etc.
- reconnaissance level survey of between 3 and 10 postwar schools to be determined in consultation with the HPC and based on available information: including the acquisition of structure numbers, the completion of the structure forms, and the submission of all materials for recording with the SHPO. Exact scope of work to be refined by the HPC and the consultant. Digital submissions of forms will be submitted on South Dakota’s CR Grid pursuant to the South Dakota Survey Manual. A pdf version of the submitted forms will be provided to the HPC.
- an analysis of extant resources and their historic significance including recommendations of Individual National Register of Historic Places eligibility.
- recommendations on future work to preserve and protect postwar resources in Rapid City, including a record scan/discussion on adaptive re-use possibilities for post-war school resources. This is not intended to be a detailed engineering or architectural analysis of particular buildings.
- Public outreach component to include at least two public meetings, and one meeting (can be held remotely) with representatives from the Rapid City School District to introduce the project. The City will provide meeting space and promote the public meeting. HRG will provide materials to lead a presentation/discussion to attendees, and provide summaries of the meeting outcomes. Provide information to support the HPC’s proposed South Middle School Recordation/Remembrances project using information collected during the process.

Field survey and documentation materials will be completed by Melissa Dirr Gengler who meets the Secretary of the Interior’s Professional Qualifications in the areas of history and architectural history. Melissa holds a degree in historic preservation and a master’s degree in history with a focus on the architecture of the United States. Melissa also serves on Lincoln, Nebraska’s historic preservation commission and as a former staff person for the city of Omaha Landmarks Heritage Preservation Commission. She has extensive experience with all aspects of the National Historic Preservation Act as well as working with local governments. Any field survey and all survey documentation materials will be consistent with the procedures established by the National Park Service, including any relevant National Register Bulletins, and the cultural resource standards and guidelines put forth by the South Dakota SHPO. This includes the South Dakota Architectural Survey Manual prepared by the SD State Historic Preservation Office.

Deliverables: The Historic Context document produced under this scope of work will satisfy the stipulations listed above under the Statement of Needs. The document shall provide sufficient information and context to allow the HPC to manage postwar school resources moving forward. The context shall provide enough detail and documentation to provide a basis for the creation of a Multiple Property Documentation Form in the future, if
warranted. This includes a discussion on significance, including whether there are any Criteria Considerations, relevant Areas of Significance, Periods of Significance, and Registration Requirements. It is the expectation of HPC and the City that all materials prepared for this project will be professionally executed and fully proofread and edited by the contractor. HRG will submit all deliverables electronically.
Supplemental Information on Deliverables

HRG will generate a context style report that will provide a broad overview of educational development in South Dakota. The context will further focus on the post-World War II era when building styles, technology systems, educational philosophies, and populations changed dramatically across the country and in South Dakota. Property types will be identified and developed from this context. Field survey of school properties will refine physical integrity standards and contribute to recommendations of National Register eligibility.

HRG anticipates that this document will bridge the gap between a technical historic context and/or Multiple Property Document and a public consumption popular history. Efforts to identify important people and local events to integrate into the document will be made to make the end deliverable as relevant as possible. Additional windshield survey and research will help to support market needs in Rapid City that may contribute to recommendations of future uses.

Information gathered at public meetings will serve as a collection for a record or time capsule for South Middle School. HRG will assist with identifying questions for students/teachers/alumni to identify features like their favorite (or least favorite) area of the school, best memory, favorite spot and why, etc. The intent is to gather information to support the value of the building as well as recognize the demands and needs of the new educational environment. HRG will provide an open forum for discussion and consultation that could contribute to a greater knowledge or understanding of the education environment in South Dakota.

Exhibit B: Schedule

Schedule

HRG will conform to the schedule identified by the HPC. All deliverables will be submitted by July 11, 2022. HRG anticipates immediate start-up upon acceptance of contract and will provide the Rapid City HPC with a schedule to identify milestones to meet the contract period. Public meetings will be organized in consultation with the HPC. Locations and notice will meet all public requirements. A significant amount of research has been prepared in the Postwar School Architecture in Rapid City Historic Context Document. HRG will refine and coordinate information to serve a more specific context identifying property types, National Register eligibility requirements, and possible future uses.
## Preliminary Research and Fieldwork

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<th>Task</th>
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*Fieldwork and research* = $13,537.50

## Recordation and Documentation

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<td>Edit Report Prepare final findings</td>
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*State Part 3 Total* = $4,465.00

## Total Fee Proposal

**Total Project Cost** = $18,002.50

*HRG Proposes a flat fee/all inclusive of $18,000.00*