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Mr. Alan Higgins
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To whom it may concern,

In January of 2013 we received an RFP for a project at the Dayton VA Medical Center to "Renovate Patient Kitchen B411". This project included a nearly complete renovation of the existing building and plumbing, mechanical and electrical infrastructure/systems. The RFP also included a requirement to engage a historical consultant to provide the following:

"The Contractor will review each of the design submissions with the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO). The Contractor shall meet with Veterans Affairs personnel after each of the design submissions to address the need for implementation of State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) requirements / recommendations. The contractor shall create a Historic Preservation Plan. The plan shall include the following items:

- History and Significance Summary*
- Project Review Requirement Summary*
- Issues and Recommendations (Prioritize and make recommendations on significant preservation planning and maintenance issues)*
- Maintenance and Repair Cost Estimates*
- Building Rehabilitation Potential*
- Landscape Maintenance and Rehabilitation"*

We contacted CRA, who was promptly added to the project team based on their references/experience.

CRA performed a very thorough investigation of the building with exacting detail of the historic fabric of the building, analysis of the historical significance of the spaces and preservation and planning for the spaces moving forward with the renovation project, all which were compiled in a Historic Preservation Plan (HPP). As we are engaged routinely in writing technical reports, this HPP was of the highest quality and greatly exceeded our expectations.

CRA acted as our liaison to SHPO (who has refused to talk to architects and engineers in the past), made initial contact to alert them of the project and general scope, communicate historic preservation concepts relating to the project and relay SHPO concerns back to the design team/owner (VA) as to ensure smooth S106 documentation approval. Delays at the SHPO review level could bring the project to a standstill costing the client (the VA), our sub-consultants and our firm substantial time and energy. The S106 is scheduled to be filed in the next week or so, but the team has a very high level of confidence few issues

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CRA Letter of Recommendation

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will arise due to the ongoing accuracy, diligence, completeness and professionalism CRA has demonstrated.

It is not as common as we would like that a sub-consultant delivers exactly what they say they will (at a much higher level as expected), ahead of schedule, with few errors and with an exceedingly high level of professionalism that CRA has on this project.

In closing, we would HIGHLY recommend CRA as a historical/cultural resource consultant. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss their project performance further.

Sincerely,



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