September 18, 2020

Carol Wallace
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Illinois State Historic Preservation Office
Attn: Review & Compliance
1 Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, IL 62701

Dear Ms. Wallace:

Pursuant to the requirements of the State Agency Historic Resources Preservation Act, please review the project listed below.

PROPERTY: National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts & Culture, 3015 W. Division St., Chicago
PROJECT: exterior doors, windows, timber siding repairs; interior & exterior wall drains improvements; new 1500sf archives building construction with utility lines in fallow pasture west of Museum
ENCLOSURE: CERP 2103692 (Museum Grant); condition photos; conceptual drawing of new, free-standing building; resource maps
NOTES: The museum is within the Humboldt Park Stables, a contributing structure of the Humboldt Park National Register property (listed Feb. 20, 1992)

The IDNR-Office of Realty and Capital Planning (IDNR-ORCP) opinion is the exterior and interior improvements to the Museum building meet the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties and the proposed new building conceptually meets the Standards.

The IDNR-ORCP asks for SHPO concurrence in the assessments that the Museum building repairs and drain improvements meet the Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties and may proceed, and that the new building potentially meets the Standards, subject to the condition that future early stage plans and specifications are presented for SHPO review and approval prior to any construction.

If no reply is received within 45 days, IDNR-ORCP will conclude, as per section 3420/4 of the Act and associated Rules (Section 4180.300 d), that this application is approved and will proceed with the undertaking.

Sincerely,

[Redacted]
Dawn E. Cobb
Archaeologist
Office of Realty and Capital Planning

DC:mbs
Cultural Resources, Endangered Species, and Wetlands Review Report

Public Museum Name: National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts & Culture
Press Type: Public Museum Capital

Contact Person: Billy Ocasio, CEO
Address: 3015 W Division Street, Chicago, IL 60622
Phone: (773) 551-5581
Date: May 28, 2020
Email: billyo@nmprac.org

Check appropriate response:
- New Project Application (not previously reviewed considered by IDNR)
- Application Resubmittal*

*If resubmittal, indicate the year(s) previously submitted:

Has project proposal changed in scope or design layout from previous submittal(s)?
- Yes
- No

If this is a development project was the property acquired with IDNR funds?
- Yes
- No

Project Location
Street Address and City: 3015 W Division Street, Chicago, IL 60622
USGS Numeric Location Designation:

Please attach:
1) project site development plan
2) topographic map
(Note: photocopy ONLY that portion of Topo map where project site is located. Copies should be no larger than 11" x 17".)
(Clearly delineate and identify the project site/park boundary on the map with a dashed black line)

Topographic maps may be obtained from:
Illinois State Geological Society
Champaign, IL
(217) 344-2414

Topographical maps may also be available from local and/or regional planning commissions

Size of Project Site: 2.81 acres

Does the project include tree removal?
- Yes
- No

If yes, anticipated number to be removed:

Concise Project Description: (Also, attach 2 sets of color photos of any existing buildings/structures on project site.)
The capital grant will help NMPRAC reach its full potential. Exterior projects include enhancing curb appeal by making improvements to the museum parking lot and exterior adjustments to the building. NMPRAC will also increase the museum’s archival capacity with the installation of a 1,500sf structure on the museum property to receive and store collections according to established standards and best practices. Interior projects include improving flood control and upgrading the Humidity/HVAC system, NMPRAC will also improve communications in the Museum with wired data infrastructure and enhancing internet availability in all areas.

DEPARTMENT USE ONLY

Approved
Approved w/ Restrictions*
Comments*
Grant Adm

Cultural Resources
T&E Species/NP/Natural Area/LWR
Wetlands (Sec 404, see reverse side)

REP/RR&C/CERP Coordinator

Date

* see attached list/comments

Signature indicated IDNR CERP sign-off for ONLY the project information included in this submittal. Any changes must be resubmitted for review.

3 COPIES OF THIS FORM AND THE SPECIFIED ATTACHMENTS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH APPLICATION
1. What is the status of the project? Circle one: Underway Completed Not yet started ✓

If underway, what part of the project has been completed to date? Provide a brief description.

2. Have any projects at this location been reviewed by the Illinois Historic Preservation Division? □ Yes □ No

See ATTACHED

3. Provide a site plan that shows proposed changes drawn into the existing features of the project site, including relevant landscaping.

See ATTACHED

4. Provide architectural plans/specifications or state when they will be available.

October/November 2020

5. If an addition is planned, the plans/specifications need to indicate how it will be joined to or otherwise physically affect the original building/structure.

N/A

6. Provide a brief narrative regarding the project building's historical and developmental history. Include information as to the age of the structure, the architect/builder, what the building's purpose was originally, through the years, and currently; any modifications, alterations and/or additions. Attach any relevant supporting correspondence regarding historical significance.

The National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts and Culture is located in a historic landmark built in 1895 as the Humboldt Park Horse Stables and Receptory. Designed by German-American architects Frommann & Jebsen in the style of a German country house because to honor the German population that dominated the community at the time, the stables originally served as a place to house horses, wagons, and landscaping tools. Incorporated in 2000 by members of the community and local supporters of arts and culture, the early years of the museum focused on renovating the historic stables. After decades of vacancy and nearly 15 years of restoration efforts, the Humboldt Park Stables became home to the Institute of Puerto Rican Arts and Culture (IPRAC) in 2009, which originally served as a cultural center. In 2014, IPRAC changed its name and focus to the National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts and Culture (NMPAC) to reflect its new status as the only museum outside of Puerto Rico dedicated solely to Puerto Rican culture.

7. Clear photographic images (3 hardcopy sets), each image no smaller than 4" x 4", are required for museum buildings or adjacent structures built prior to 1970 that will be impacted through external or internal modifications or changes to the fabric of the building. Submit images showing exterior views of all sides of the building. As needed, send additional images for affected areas showing details such as façade ornamentation, historic gutters, window damage, etc. If interior modifications are being made, also submit labeled images showing the current areas to be modified.

See ATTACHED
Humboldt Park (orange) with project area in green on Illinois Inventory of Archaeological Sites map and Stable/Receptory listing in HARGIS (pink dot)
Good Friday to you all!

Attached please find the final version of the conceptual drawing.

We will suggest wood siding, cedar, painted with colors to match the main building.

All utilities are underground. Sewer and water will be connected to existing lines of the old trailer site.

Electric to the main building lines.

Flood control consists of:
- expand sump pump capacity of the SW lower level mechanical room
- Install dehumidifier system in SW Mech. Room
- Install French drain w/ Tyvek lining along perimeter of east side basement
- Direct drains to new backup ejector pump
- Install Backwater sewer prevention systems / valves to interior & courtyard floor drains

Billy Ocasio
Chief Executive Officer
National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts & Culture
3015 W. Division Street  Chicago, IL 60622
C 773 551-5581
proposed bldg location