



RFP Questions & Answers from interested firms: Survey of Historic Sullivan's Island

1. How many resources does the Town anticipate being surveyed/re-surveyed?

The consultant is expected to re-survey the existing National Register districts and recommend what, if any, changes there should be to contributing status in the NR-listed districts and evaluate anything not recorded in previous surveys.

The Town currently has historic survey data on 463 properties. 294 have been identified as historic from previous survey work in 1987, 1991 and 2007. Approximately 80 properties have been deemed Category 3 (altered) with a small number of Category 4 (modern) which should be re-evaluated for potential designation opportunities (a small number of homes on this list have already been demolished). There may be a small number of mid-20th century residential homes that meet the RFP criteria of being at least 50 years old and holding some historic significance. All military era batteries and earthen structures are unique features of Sullivan's Island and are included in the Category 1 and 2 resources. Existing conditions for these archeological structures should be an area of focus for the chosen consultant.

- 163 Category 1 properties (Sullivan's Island Landmark)
- 131 Category 2 properties (Traditional Island Resource)
- 80 Category 3 properties (altered)
- 87 Category 4 properties or (modern/ removed/ destroyed) historic buildings (no need to re-survey)

2. Are there knowledgeable resources (e.g. local historians and/or resident experts) that Brockington may wish to include on the Consultant Team?

Yes, the Town recommends using several historical resources (staff experts) noted below:

- Fort Moultrie Visitor's Center historic document library and staff
- Battery Gadsden Cultural Center- Multiple members are published authors and experts on the history of Sullivan's Island and its built environment
- Charleston County Library system

3. Will university students or volunteers be provided for the survey due to the large number of architectural resources?

No, volunteers and student interns will not be necessary for this work.

4. Can you confirm if the previously surveyed properties have already been input in the referenced Microsoft Access database? Or will it be the Consultant's responsibility to complete the database input for these previously survey items?

All surveyed properties are currently in an Access Database and also can be shared as a GIS data layer. The consultant will be responsible for consolidating all previous survey data and new survey data and made compatible with the most recent ArcGIS version data layers and shapefiles, as well as Excel and Access formats.

5. Project Scope – Will there be a determination of eligibility (DOE) component in which National Register criterion are applied to the property? The SCDAH survey form does not include a specific section for this evaluation, however, the Survey Manual (Dec 2018) indicates that surveys should include a National Register evaluation. Please provide further guidance!

Consultants will be expected to make National Register-eligibility recommendations about what they survey (a determination of eligibility-DOE). For this project, they are re-surveying existing National Register districts and recommending what, if any, changes there should be to contributing status in the NR-listed districts and evaluate anything not recorded in previous surveys. The consultant makes recommendations about National Register-eligibility and our office make the final determinations.

6. Is a “Traditional Island Resource” a type of local designation and how does it differ from a Sullivan’s Island Landmark? I am unfamiliar with this designation, so any additional context would be helpful!

These terms are part of the local designation rating of significant historic properties. Sullivan’s Island Landmarks represent significant historic material Traditional Island Resources- satisfactory amount of historic material

7. The Project Scope states that, “The Consultant will synthesize existing research on the general historical development of the Town of Sullivan’s Island and submit a historic context statement before beginning fieldwork.” In previous projects that we have done archival research and survey were done in tandem so the Consultant could do it all in one site visit. If as stated in the RFP a nearly complete draft is due prior to field work, it may result in adding an extra site visit to Sullivan’s Island which will be an added cost to the project. Will you consider allowing the Consultant to do the historic context statement and the field work at the same time?

Ideally, a completed context statement should inform the survey field work. For this project, however, there is probably very little new context to add since the period of significance for the districts on SI come up to 1950. Any new research would likely focus on the period 1950-1970 to determine if there is any justification for expanding the period of significance for any of the districts. I anticipate there is not, but that’s what their research should find out. It may be feasible to conduct research on this recent and narrow window of time while also in town for field work. They can propose how they would execute the scope of work and it can be evaluated along with the other proposals that come in.