



**Winnebago County
Rockford**

**Demolition and New Construction, Rock Valley College Downtown Rockford Campus
Area between Short Horsman St. and S. Winnebago St. and Green St. and Chestnut St.
SHPO Log #009070924**

August 13, 2024

**Marlyn Ripalda
Fehr Graham Engineering & Environmental
200 Prairie Street, Suite 208
Rochelle, IL 61107**

Thank you for your resubmittal of the proposed demolition and new construction activities for the Rock Valley College Downtown Rockford Campus, between Short Horsman Street, Winnebago Street, Green Street, and Chestnut Street, in Rockford, Illinois, which we received on 7/9/24 with additional information received on 7/17/24 (SHPO Log# 009070924). Due to permitting from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, our comments are required by the [Illinois State Agency Historic Resources Preservation Act](#) (20 ILCS 3420) and [its implementing rules](#) (17 IAC 4180) (Act).

The project area includes properties eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP):

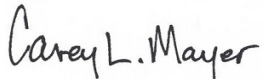
- **The former Excelsior Leather Washer Mfg. Co. Building at 720 Chestnut was identified as eligible for listing on the NRHP in *Rockford's Industrial Property Survey 1850-1930*, completed in 2022. The building is eligible under Criterion A, for Industry, with a local level of significance, and a period of significance from 1926, the original date of construction, until the historic industrial function ceased. The SHPO confirmed the building's eligibility on February 8, 2024, as part of a separate undertaking (SHPO Log# 004011224).**
- **The former Allen Ice Cream Company Factory at 327 South Winnebago Street is eligible under Criterion A, for Industry, with a local level of significance, and a period of significance from 1917, the original date of construction, until the historic industrial function ceased. The building appears to meet the registration requirements developed as part of the *Multiple Property Documentation Form for Industrial Buildings in Rockford, Illinois, 1850-1974*, currently in the process of being accepted by the National Park Service.**
- **311 South Winnebago Street is eligible under Criterion C, for Architecture, as a rare local example of Streamline or Art Moderne, with a local level of significance, and a period of significance of c. 1940, the original date of construction.**

Additionally, our staff have determined that no historic archaeological properties are known to exist within the project area. However, if any archaeological materials are encountered during construction, this office

must be notified. This letter is not a clearance for purposes of the [Illinois Human Remains Protection Act \(20 ILCS 3440\)](#).

The proposal to demolish the three NRHP-eligible buildings does not meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation (Standards) and constitutes an adverse effect to the historic buildings. Please work with CJ Wallace (Carol.Wallace@Illinois.gov) in our office to avoid, minimize, or mitigate the adverse effects pursuant to the Act.

Sincerely,



Carey L. Mayer, AIA
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer