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08/17/2023

Wayland D. Clark
103 Old Fitzhugh Rd.
Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Re: Recorded Texas Historic Landmark project review: Dripping Springs Academy Rambo Masonic Lodge No. 426, Rambo Masonic Lodge, Dripping Springs, (RTHL)

Dear Mr. Clark,

Thank you for sending information regarding proposed project work on your Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. This letter represents the comments of the Executive Director of the Texas Historical Commission.

The review staff, led by Patrick Bassett, has completed its review of the project documentation provided on July 10, 2023, and has the following comments, recommendations, and expectations:

Our office understands the scope of the work to include replacement of eight windows at the front elevation, and two windows on each of the side elevations, all located on the first floor. The windows will have aluminum casings on their exterior facades. The use of 9 over 9 windows is the proper treatment, but we recommend the use of windows with a casing made entirely of wood to maintain the historic properties of the building. We recommend matching in-kind the design and dimensions of the existing wood windows including muntin profiles, meeting and bottom rails, stiles, sills, and headers. These treatments would closely align with Standard 6 of the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation* which states: Deteriorated historic features will be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature will match the old in design, color, texture and, where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features will be substantiated by documentary and physical evidence.

We look forward to further consultation with your office and hope to maintain a partnership that will foster effective historic preservation. Thank you for your interest in the cultural heritage of Texas, and for the opportunity to comment on this proposed project in accordance with Recorded Texas Historic Landmark legislation. If you have any questions concerning our review or if we can be of further assistance, please contact Patrick Bassett at 512-463-6183.

Sincerely,

Patrick Bassett, Central & West Texas and Military Sites Project Reviewer
For: Mark Wolfe, Executive Director
MW/PB