

DCM Use Only

DCM RFQ#: 2026-003

Date Posted: 02/05/2026

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES
FOR THE CLOTILDA**

Pursuant to §41-4-133 of the Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended, the Alabama Historical Commission requests proposals from qualified engineers to provide full engineering services at the site of *The Clotilda* located in Mobile County, Alabama.

Proposed Scope of Work: The project involves full engineering services to improve preservation efforts of the site's archaeological integrity, as well as full engineering services (in consultation with an artist chosen under a separate RFP) for installation of a memorial.

The preservation portion of the project will include:

1. A high-resolution sonar survey of 1BA704 conducted by a professional maritime archaeologist who meets the standards outlined in *Alabama Historical Commission Administrative Code Chapter 460X9 Archaeological Investigations*. The detailed imagery will be discussed by the project team to inform placement of geotechnical cores.
2. Four additional cores placed more closely to 1BA704 than the cores taken during the phase III investigation to supplement the marine geological study of 1BA704 that assesses the composition, structure, and resistance of the sediment in and around the wreck and an engineering assessment to determine both the stability of the site in its current context and the feasibility of any proposals to address stability problems if identified, such as a structure that may be needed to protect the wreck and the construction of a monument on the site. For reference, the Phase III report and appendices can be found at:
[https://ahc.alabama.gov/PDF/FINAL_S21141_Report%20\(I\).pdf](https://ahc.alabama.gov/PDF/FINAL_S21141_Report%20(I).pdf).

The memorial portion of the project will include:

- I. Working with an artist chosen under a separate RFP to support the structural, civil, geotechnical, and environmental engineering needed to support the fabrication and installation of public artwork in a marine environment.

Background: The schooner *Clotilda* is an archaeological site in the Mobile River. The vessel is significant because it is the last known ship to have trafficked captives from Africa to the United States with the purpose of enslaving those individuals (in 1860) and it is the only American slave ship lost in the context of its human trafficking career whose remains have been located and positively identified. After Emancipation, 32 men and women trafficked to Alabama aboard *Clotilda* formed the community of Africatown. The story of the *Clotilda* was passed to their descendants and is an important part of community identity. For more information, please visit:

<https://ahc.alabama.gov/Clotilda.aspx>

Terms: The term of the agreement will be two years, with an option to renew for two (2) year terms. The design services will be contracted under both fees and hourly rates in accordance with the Manual of Procedures of the State of Alabama Department of Finance, Real Property Management, Division of Construction Management (DCM).

Qualifications: The Applicants shall demonstrate experience working in marine environments. Applicants must include information for similar relevant projects including the project description, project budget, scope of work, photographs, and Owner's name and contact information, using GSA Standard Form 330. The Applicants and consultants shall hold current professional licenses and be registered in the State of Alabama. Applicants will be selected based on experience and qualifications of the firm and consultants; experience and range of services provided by proposed team; professional experience with projects of similar complexity and scope; and the capability and ability to perform the work in a timely manner.

Minimum Code of Alabama Requirements (current Code of Alabama available at <http://alisondb.legislature.state.al.us/alison/codeofalabama/1975/coatoc.htm>):

§41-16-82 of the Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended requires a disclosure statement to be completed and filed with all qualifications, proposals, bids, contracts, or grant proposals submitted to the State of Alabama in excess of \$5,000.00.

§31-13-1, et seq. of the Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended (Alabama Immigration Law) imposes conditions on the award of state contracts. Firms must agree to fully comply with the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, as amended by the Immigration Act of 1990, and the Beason-Hammon Alabama Taxpayer and Citizen Protection Act. Architects and engineers should review and adhere to these guidelines as appropriate to their project type.

§41-16-5 of the Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended imposes conditions on the award of state contracts. The firm must certify that it is not currently engaged in, and will not engage in, the boycott of a person or an entity based in or doing business with a jurisdiction with which this state can enjoy open trade.

§41-16-163 of the Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended requires the contracting parties affirm, for the duration of the agreement, that they are not currently engaged in, and will not engage in, economic boycotts.

Response: Interested professionals shall submit:

1. A letter of interest.
2. A statement of qualification utilizing GSA Standard Form 330 for the primary firm and all proposed consultants, information for similar relevant projects including the project description, project budget, scope of work, photographs (before and after), Owner's name and contact information, plus any other relevant information. Form 330 is available at <https://www.gsa.gov/reference/forms>.

3. A completed Alabama Vendor Disclosure Statement. The form is available at <https://www.alabamaag.gov/forms>.

Qualifications must be received no later than 4 p.m. on March 13, 2026.

Supply one hard copy and one (1) digital copy of all required proposal information to:

Eleanor Cunningham, Historic Sites Division Director

Alabama Historical Commission

468 South Perry Street

Montgomery, AL 36130-0900 (U. S. Post Office) 36104 (Overnight Delivery)

For questions and additional information, contact Eleanor Cunningham, Historic Sites Division Director, 334-230-2668 or Eleanor.Cunningham@ahc.alabama.gov

This request for qualifications is not an offer to contract but seeks the submission of qualifications from qualified, professional respondents that may form the basis for the negotiation of an agreement. The Awarding Authority/Owner reserves the right to reject any or all qualifications and to solicit additional qualifications, through the RFQ process, if that is determined to be in the best interests of the State of Alabama.