

# REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

## Removal of Debris from Fire-Damaged Powell School

December 9, 2011



**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** In early 2011, the vacant Powell School at Sixth Avenue and 24th Street North in Birmingham, Alabama was severely damaged by fire. The roof and a portion of the second floor of the three-story structure was burned away. Since that time, the roofless building has been exposed to the weather and suffered further deterioration. The 1888 structure, which has withstood high winds and remains standing since the fire, has substantial brick, bearing walls, primarily on the exterior perimeter but also within the building.

The Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation (ATHP), an Alabama corporation recognized by the IRS as a Section 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, petitioned the owner, the City of Birmingham, to allow the ATHP to pursue restoration of the school which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and eligible for Federal Historic Tax Credits.

On the recommendation of Mayor William Bell, the City Council authorized the conveyance of the property, which includes a non-historic cafeteria building, the lawn and playground, to the ATHP along with insurance proceeds. *One requirement is that funds for demolition and filling of*

*the basement be reserved in the event renovation is ultimately unsuccessful.* The ATHP now has deed to the property.

Hazardous tin cornices loosened in the fire have been removed and stored within the building, and an asbestos survey of the building and debris was commissioned by the ATHP. KPS, Architects, *LBVD, Engineers*, and Hoar Construction Company are providing a limited amount of professional services on a *pro bono publica basis*. Plans for a new roof and stabilization of the structure are being explored.

The ATHP is eager to make the building minimally suitable for viewing by prospective purchasers who would renovate the building in accordance with historic standards for commercial, residential or non-profit use. In addition, there is a need to remove bricks, timber, and other debris from wood stairs and floors not designed to bear the weight of the debris, particularly when wet.

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS:** The ATHP is seeking proposals for (1) removal of debris (*except for tin cornice material which is to be moved to former classrooms*) in the central hallway on the first, second and third floors and stairs and other locations as shown on the attached floor plans, and (2) *demolition of the structure and filling the excavation resulting from removal of the basement floor and walls.*

***Attached are:***

- Floor plans showing the locations to be (1) Made safe, clean, and walkable surfaces suitable for prospective redevelopers cleared of debris and (2) *Primary areas to be cleared of debris in accordance with all local, state, and federal legal requirements although all major debris must be cleared.*
- Photographs of the interior of the school taken on November 17, 2011.

***Note:*** *This information is for illustration only. Proposers are responsible for determining existing conditions in the building and at the site.*

***Proposers are requested to provide the following information:***

- Qualifications, experience relevant to the work to be performed at Powell
- School.
- Individuals to be responsible for oversight and direct supervision of this project and their qualifications and experience
- References such as prior clients and professionals familiar with past projects.
- Schedule for beginning and completing the work.
- *Separate* fees not to be exceeded for performance of (1) asbestos/debris removal and (2) *demolition/basement fill.*

**MINORITY PARTICIPATION:** The Birmingham Construction Industry Authority (BCIA) is prepared to provide information on qualified minority subcontractors. (205)324-6202. More info about BCIA can be found on the web at [www.bcia1.org](http://www.bcia1.org).

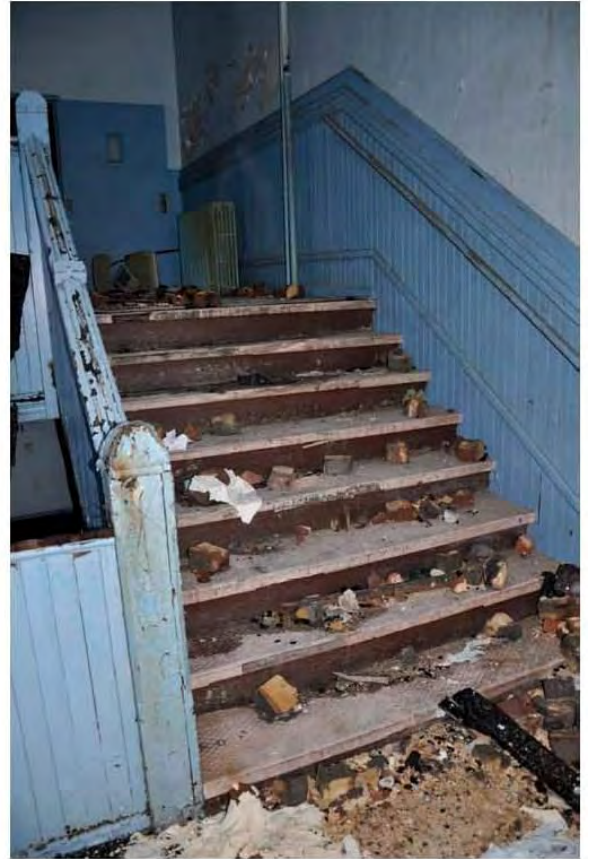
**OPPORTUNITY TO VIEW THE INTERIOR OF THE SCHOOL:** 9:00am to 12 noon on Dec. 16, 2011.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF RESPONSE:** January 9, 2012

**QUESTIONS:** If you have questions, please contact Project Manager, Michael Calvert at 205-903-8046 or [michaelalancalvert@yahoo.com](mailto:michaelalancalvert@yahoo.com) or David B. Schneider, Executive Director of the Alabama trust for Historic Preservation, at 256-310-6320 or [dbschneider@bellsouth.net](mailto:dbschneider@bellsouth.net).



## FIRST FLOOR AND STAIRS TO SECOND FLOOR



## SECOND FLOOR AND STAIRS TO THIRD FLOOR





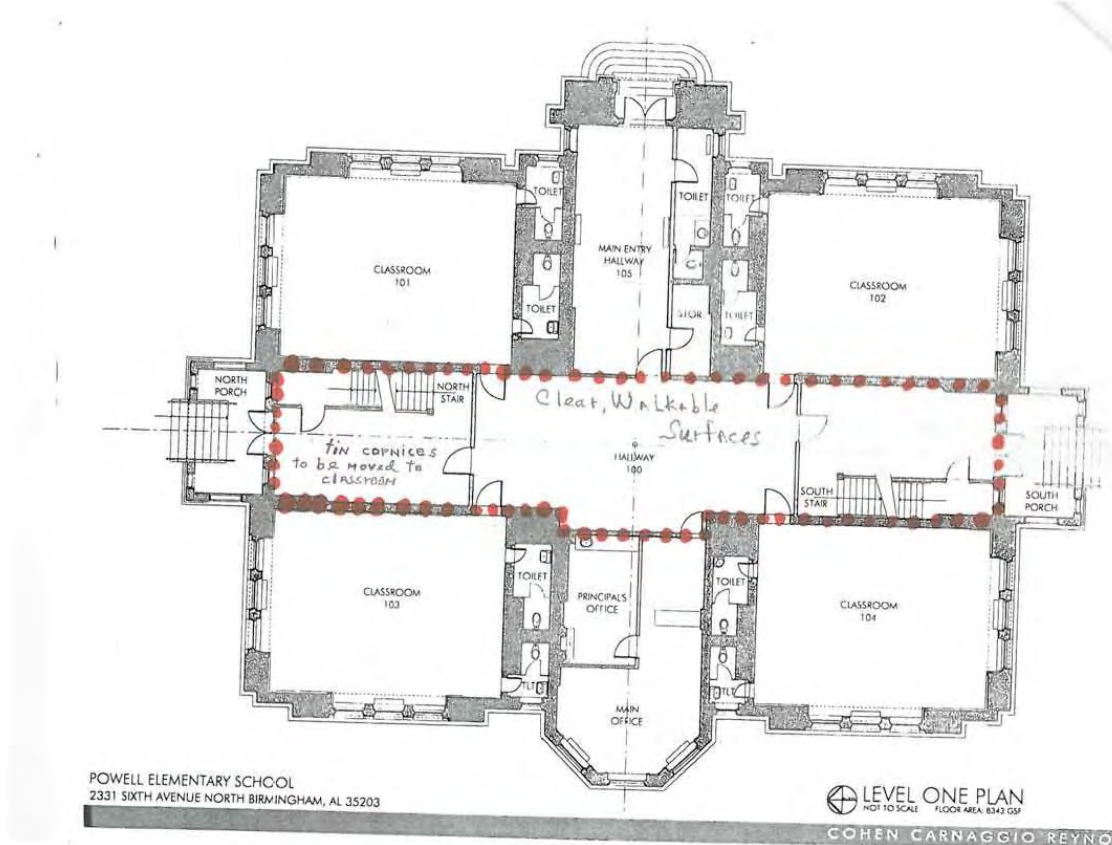
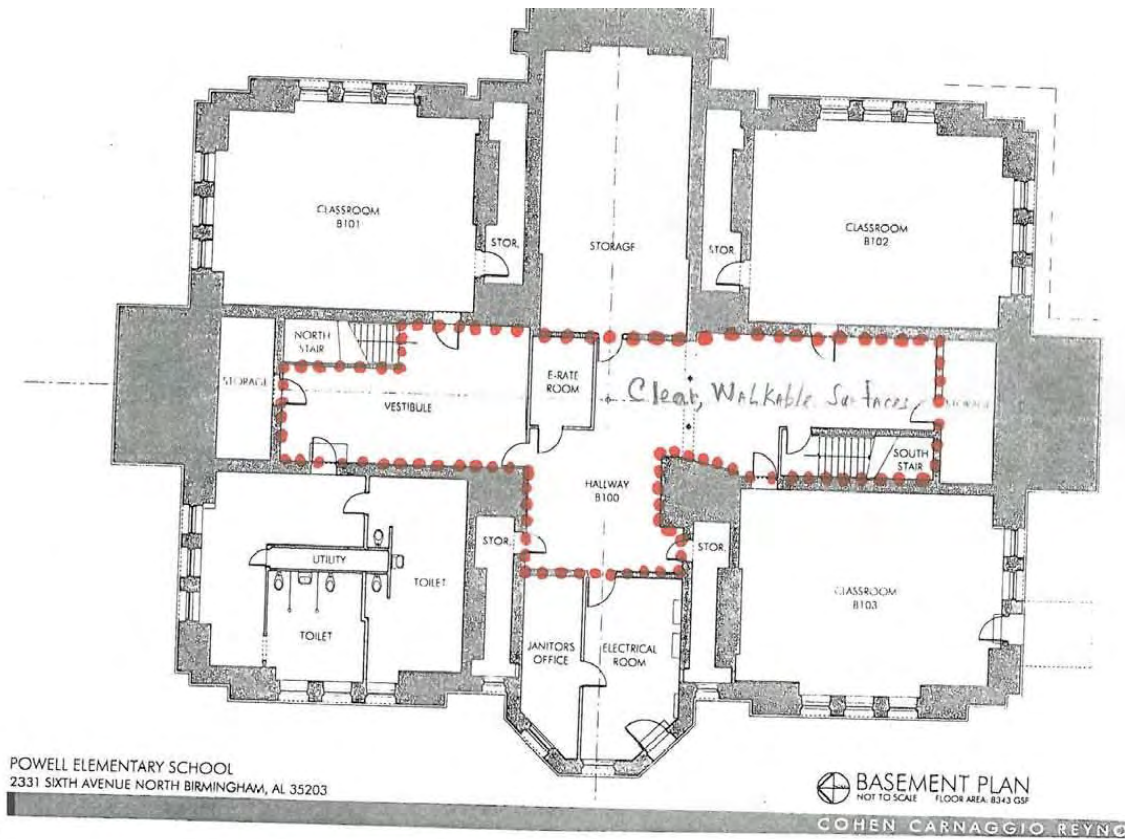


THIRD FLOOR





## BASEMENT AND FIRST FLOOR FLOORPLANS



## 2nd and 3<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR FLOORPLANS

