

Section 106 Success Story

Wenona and McKinley School Demolitions

BAY CITY | BAY COUNTY

These demolition projects highlight multiple programs within the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). In 2024 the Bay County Land Bank received a congressional grant for demolition of two vacant schools in Bay City, with the City of Bay City serving as the Responsible Entity. Through the Section 106 consultation process, Wenona and McKinley schools were identified as eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), significant for their Modernist architectural design in local educational buildings. This determination caused the Land Bank and City to pause and re-evaluate their demolition decision. In doing so, they found a buyer and developer for Wenona School, who hopes to list the property in the NRHP and utilize Federal and State Historic Tax Credits for its rehabilitation.

With Wenona school saved, the City and Land Bank are able to devote more resources to the demolition of McKinley. Currently, the City is working with the SHPO to execute a Memorandum of Agreement to mitigate the loss. Included will be recordation of the building, a narrative on its significance, and materials donated to the local historical museum for interpretive use.

LOCATION

Bay City, Bay County

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

FEDERAL AGENCY

Department of Housing and Urban Development

PROJECT DATE

2024-2026