



217 Elm St., Oil City, PA 16301-1412 / 814.677.3152 / OilRegion.org

INVITATION FOR QUOTATIONS – DESIGN, LAYOUT, AND FABRICATION OF 11 INTERPRETIVE PANELS

Issued by the Oil Region Alliance of Business, Industry & Tourism (ORA) on August 26, 2025.

The ORA is accepting quotations for the design, layout, and fabrication of 11 replacement outdoor interpretive panels. ORA will provide the selected firm with all graphics and text to be used on each panel in digital formats. The panels will follow the typical format of other ORA panels found through the Oil Region National Heritage Area. Procurement of panel frames and installation are not part of this project.

Quotations must be received in the ORA office no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, September 19, 2025, and be valid for at least 120 days. Quotes may be e-mailed to RNespor@oilregion.org, or be mailed to ORA, 217 Elm Street, Oil City, PA 16301, using the form below. Include all information requested; additional information may be submitted, if necessary. Award decision will be made on September 25, 2025; IFQ respondents will be notified thereafter.

Size: 36" x 24" x 0.06", fiberglass-embedded (ORA is open to other material choices with 10 – 20-year longevities)
Ink: U/V resistant, pigmented inks
Design: Follow typical ORA interpretive panel layout (see attached examples); Submit to ORA for approval prior to fabrication authorization.
Delivery: Oil Region Alliance, 217 Elm Street, Oil City, PA 16301 – panels
RNespor@oilregion.org – digital copies of final panel designs
Billing: Terms, net 30 days; actual bill to include sales tax and delivery explicitly
To: Abigail Watson-Popescu, APopescu@oilregion.org
Oil Region Alliance; 217 Elm Street; Oil City, PA 16301
Questions: Raven Nespor; (814) 677-3152, Ext. 122; RNespor@oilregion.org

QUOTATION FOR DESIGN, LAYOUT, AND FABRICATION OF 11 INTERPRETIVE PANELS

Firm Name: _____ Contact: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____ Telephone: _____

Quoted Price (all-inclusive of tax and shipping): _____

This bid authorized by: _____
Signature/Title with Bidding Firm Date:

OIL REGION ALLIANCE INTERPRETIVE PANEL EXAMPLES

Joseph Sibley's River Ridge



River Ridge was known as Argeon Farm in the late 1800s when it was owned by Franklin attorney and bank president Robert G. Lamberton. It was a "handsome and productive farm" with a magnificent five-story brick barn, which still exists. The barn had entries leading to three levels and could house hundreds of cows and horses, and feed for a full year.

In 1911, Argeon Farm was purchased and renamed River Ridge by Joseph Sibley, who had amassed a vast fortune from oil and the Galena-Signal Oil Company. Mr. Sibley was elected mayor of Franklin, served four terms in the United States Congress, and

was considered for a presidential or vice-presidential nomination in 1898. He retired from politics in 1906.

Mr. Sibley expanded the farm to over 1,000 acres, extending three miles along the Allegheny River. He began large scale experimental farming and built 21 other structures, some of which can be seen from this location. A 33-room mansion was completed in 1913, using hundreds of workmen and stone quarried on the farm. Mr. Sibley was a generous host. He enjoyed inviting county farmers to come to River Ridge to learn the latest techniques in agriculture.



PHOTOS: VENANGO COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The mansion "went up by magic," according to the second Mrs. Sibley. Ida and Joseph Sibley were married in the living room on December 6, 1913, six months after construction began.



Taken from across the river, this photo shows some of the extensive farming operation. The train is parked at Joseph Sibley's private railroad station.



The hillside to the mansion was surrounded by a flowering hedge like an Italian mansion.



The 12,000-pound chimes in the Campanile sounded throughout the valley three times a day for 47 years.



Example of ORA interpretive panel layout



Example of ORA interpretive panel frames