

OFFICE OF NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS

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OVERVIEW

The Office of Native American Affairs (ONAA), established in 1998, oversees the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's (ACHP's) Native American initiatives. ONAA staff also works closely with the ACHP's tribal/Native Hawaiian member to address critical issues brought to the ACHP by Indian tribes, Native Hawaiian organizations (NHOs), and intertribal organizations.

The program's three primary responsibilities are to do the following:

- ▶ Advise the ACHP chairman, members, and executive director on policy matters and historic preservation issues affecting Indian tribes and NHOs;
- ▶ Provide technical assistance and outreach regarding tribal and NHO consultation in the Section 106 review process; and,
- ▶ Participate in interagency initiatives focused on Native American issues.

WHAT DOES ONAA DO?

Supports ACHP policy development

With staff support from ONAA, the ACHP has undertaken several major policy initiatives including the adoption of:

- ▶ Policy Statement Regarding the ACHP's Relationships with Indian tribes (2008)
- ▶ Policy Statement Regarding the ACHP's Interaction with Native Hawaiian organizations (2004)
- ▶ Action Plan on the ACHP's Native American Initiatives (2003)

Assistance to Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations

ONAA staff is always available via telephone or e-mail to provide assistance to Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations regarding Section 106 consultation. ONAA serves as the gateway for tribal staff and NHO members to other ACHP offices.

Assistance to federal agencies

ONAA staff is available to answer basic questions about consultation with tribal or Native Hawaiian organizations and to work with the ACHP's Office of Federal Agency Programs on reviews of projects and programs with tribal or Native Hawaiian interest.

Project and program review

ONAA staff may also participate in Section 106 reviews with OFAP staff at the request of a tribe, NHO, or federal agency.

Interagency initiatives

The ONAA director serves as the chair of the Interagency Working Group on Indian Affairs (IWGIA), an informal, government-wide group of agency representatives who work with tribal governments. IWGIA's mission is to foster interagency collaboration and coordination and to improve federal-tribal consultation and the delivery of services to Indian tribes.

ONAA also represents the ACHP on the Native Hawaiian Federal Interagency Working Group along with the

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WWW.ACHP.GOV

Departments of Defense and the Interior. The working group provides assistance to federal agencies regarding consultation with Native Hawaiian organizations.

Guidance and training

ONAA staff regularly develops general guidance regarding consultation with Indian tribes or Native Hawaiian organizations as well as targeted, issue-specific guidance. All such information is available on the ACHP's Web site at www.achp.gov.

Training may be offered by ONAA staff to Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations as opportunities arise. For more information about ONAA's training, contact the director at (202) 606-8530.



SECTION 106 TRAINING CLASS IN HAWAII

In 2008, the ONAA published updated guidance entitled, "Tribal Consultation in the Section 106 Process: A Handbook." This step-by-step guide is intended to assist federal agencies in consulting with Indian tribes but will be useful to all Section 106 participants. It is available at www.achp.gov/regs-tribes2008.pdf.

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, an independent federal agency, promotes the preservation, enhancement, and sustainable use of the nation's diverse historic resources and advises the President and the Congress on national historic preservation policy.



ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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