



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS REGARDING SHPO ROLE IN NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT (NHPA) SECTION 106 COMPLIANCE

Q: What is the role of the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO)?

A: If a proposed undertaking, such as historic building demolition, impacts an historic property, an installation must consult with the SHPO on the effect of those actions in accordance with 36 CFR 800, Protection of Historic Properties, unless the installation is certified to operate under the Army Alternate Procedures.

Q: Do I need SHPO “approval” in order to proceed with a project?

A: No, the SHPO does not “approve” projects, nor can they “veto” projects. They must be consulted and be provided with an opportunity to comment on the project, but the Army always makes the final decision regarding projects.

Q: Do I have to consult with the SHPO on a case-by-case basis for every project on my installation that may adversely affect a historic property?

A: Yes, unless you implement the Army Alternate Procedures (AAP). Installations can avoid case-by-case consultation under 36 CFR 800 through use of the AAP. The AAP approaches management of historic properties programmatically, instead of on a project-by-project review basis. The AAP allows an installation to implement standard operating procedures for historic properties for five years without SHPO review of projects under 36 CFR 800. This includes determinations of eligibility, adverse effect findings and subsequent mitigation.