

HP FACT SHEET #5: WHAT ARE THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR'S "PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION STANDARDS"?

Section 112 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Section 106 regulations, at **§800.2(a)(1)**, require agencies responsible for protecting historic properties to ensure that all actions taken by their employees or contractors meet professional standards as determined by the Secretary of the Interior. Those standards were published in **Appendix A of 36 CFR Part 61** and are reproduced here for your convenience.

In the following definitions, a year of full-time professional experience need not consist of a continuous year of full-time work but may be made up of discontinuous periods of full-time or part-time work adding up to the equivalent of a year of full-time experience.

Archeology. The minimum professional qualifications in archeology are a graduate degree in archeology, anthropology, or closely related field plus:

- (1) At least one year of full-time professional experience or equivalent specialized training in archeological research, administration or management;
- (2) At least four months of supervised field and analytic experience in general North American archeology; and
- (3) Demonstrated ability to carry research to completion.

In addition, to these minimum qualifications, a professional in prehistoric archeology shall have at least one year of full-time professional experience at a supervisory level in the study of archeological resources of the prehistoric period. A professional in historic archeology shall have at least one year of full-time professional experience at a supervisory level in the study of archeological resources of the historic period.

Architectural history. The minimum professional qualifications in architectural history are a graduate degree in architectural history, art history, historic preservation, or closely related field, with coursework in American architectural history; or a bachelor's degree in architectural history, art history, historic preservation, or closely related field plus one of the following:

- (1) At least two years of full-time experience in research, writing, or teaching in American architectural history or restoration architecture with an academic institution, historical organization or agency, museum, or other professional institution; or
- (2) Substantial contribution through research and publication to the body of scholarly knowledge in the field of American architectural history.

Architecture. The minimum professional qualifications in architecture are a professional degree in architecture plus at least two years of full-time professional experience in architecture; or a State license to practice architecture.

Historic Architecture. The minimum professional qualifications in historic architecture are a professional degree in architecture or State license to practice architecture, plus one of the following:

- (1) At least one year of graduate study in architectural preservation, American architectural history, preservation planning, or closely related field; or
- (2) At least one year of full-time professional experience on historic preservation projects. Such graduate study or experience shall include detailed investigations of historic structures, preparation of historic structures research reports, and preparation of plans and specification for preservation projects.

History. The minimum professional qualifications in history are a graduate degree in history or closely related field; or a bachelor's degree in history or closely related field plus one of the following:

- (1) At least two years of full-time experience in research, writing, teaching, interpretation or other demonstrable professional activity with an academic institution, historical organization or agency, museum, or other professional institution; or
- (2) Substantial contribution through research and publication to the body of scholarly knowledge in the field of history.

NEED ADDITIONAL HELP?
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ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER, [INSERT
CONTACT INFO].