2020 Changes to the Section 106 Application process in Michigan

The Michigan State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), in an effort to better follow the federal regulations laid out in 36 CFR Part 800.11, will be making changes to the procedures for initiating Section 106 consultation in Michigan. Beginning July 1, 2020, applications for Section 106 consultation may be submitted by anyone with delegated authority from a federal agency, but the SHPO will require that all identification of historic properties, both archaeological and architectural, be completed by individuals meeting the applicable federal qualifications outlined in 36 CFR Part 61.

Applications submitted on or after July 1, 2020 must include identification efforts as outlined under 36 CRF 800.4 completed by individuals meeting the applicable federal qualification(s). If an applicant fails to meet this standard, the application for consultation will be returned without comment for resubmittal with adequate documentation of identification efforts. The Michigan SHPO provides a list of individuals meeting the federal qualifications for Architectural History, History and Archaeology here.

In addition to these changes, the Michigan SHPO is in the process of developing new Section 106 consultation forms that will be rolled out beginning July 1, 2020. There will be an adjustment period when the old forms will continue to be accepted through the end of 2020. Beginning on January 1, 2021 submissions on the old forms will be returned without comment for resubmission on the correct form. The Michigan SHPO will be rolling out educational initiatives to assist applicants with these changes.

Those with questions regarding these changes should submit their questions to preservation@michigan.gov or call (517) 335-9840.

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