GUIDE TO SELECTING LOCAL COMMISSION MEMBERS
UNDER THE CLG PROGRAM

To be eligible for or maintain status as a Certified Local Government (CLG), the local government’s historic preservation review commission must be composed of at least five (5) members (or three (3) in a community of 5,000 population or less), and all of the commission members must have a demonstrated interest in historic preservation. (Even those individuals who satisfy professional requirements set forth in “I.” below must have a demonstrated interest in historic preservation.)

At least two (2) professional members with preservation-related experience (including architecture, history, archeology, planning, real estate, design, landscape architecture, architectural history, or law) are required. If persons professionally qualified cannot be found within the jurisdiction of the CLG, such services may be obtained from another source, such as a university, preservation organization, or professional organization serving one of the disciplines cited above. The requirement for two (2) professional disciplines may be waived if there is sound evidence that a good-faith effort has been made, but no professionals willing to serve can be found.

I. Professional Qualification Standards
Professional Qualification Standards are set forth in 36 CFR Part 61. For a local commission member to be considered “professionally qualified,” he/she must satisfy one of the following:

A. 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 (2) years of full-time experience in research, writing, teaching, interpretation, or other demonstrable professional activity with an academic institution, historic 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.

B. 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.

C. 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 course work 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.

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

E. HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE
The minimum professional qualifications in historic architecture are a professional degree in architecture or a 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 specifications for preservation projects.

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