



## FACT SHEET #8: OKLAHOMA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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### What is the SHPO?

The Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), carries out programs established under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) in partnership with the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service (NPS). With these programs as the tools, the SHPO works with federal, tribal, state, and local governments; the business and development community; preservation professionals; nonprofit organizations; and concerned citizens to protect Oklahoma's significant archeological and historic resources.

### What are the SHPO's programs?

The SHPO's programs include the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP); Survey and Inventory, Review and Compliance (Section 106 Review); Preservation Planning; Certified Local Governments (CLG); Preservation Tax Incentives; and Public Outreach and Technical Assistance. A brief description of each program and contact information for the SHPO staff member responsible for it is provided below.

**National Register of Historic Places:** The NRHP is a catalogue of the buildings, sites, structures, districts, and objects significant in the nation's past, and it is the foundation for all SHPO programs. Listing in the NRHP recognizes the significance of these special places, provides limited protection for them, and, in some cases, extends financial incentives for their preservation. The SHPO identifies, evaluates, and nominates eligible properties to the NRHP. Contact Matthew Pearce at 405-522-4479 or [matthew.pearce@history.ok.gov](mailto:matthew.pearce@history.ok.gov) or visit [www.okhistory.org/shpo/nationalregister](http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/nationalregister).

**Survey and Inventory:** Through systematic field investigations and archival research, the SHPO identifies, records, and evaluates archeological and architectural/historic resources for their NRHP eligibility. Most of the work is accomplished through cooperative arrangements with universities, nonprofit organizations, and local governments. The Oklahoma Archeological Survey, University of Oklahoma (405-325-7211 or [www.ou.edu/archsurvey/](http://www.ou.edu/archsurvey/)), maintains the information collected through archeological surveys in the Oklahoma Archeological Survey Information System (OASIS). The SHPO houses the architectural/historic survey data in the Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory (OLI), and the online OLI database is provided through a cooperative arrangement with Oklahoma State University.

Contact Kristina Wyckoff at 405-521-6381 or [kristina.wyckoff@history.ok.gov](mailto:kristina.wyckoff@history.ok.gov) about the SHPO's archeological survey program. Contact Michael Mayes at 405-522-6024 or [michael.mayes@history.ok.gov](mailto:michael.mayes@history.ok.gov) about the SHPO's architectural/historic survey program or visit [www.okhistory.org/shpo/survey](http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/survey).

**Review and Compliance (Section 106 Review):** Section 106 of the NHPA requires federal agencies to consider the effects of their undertakings (federally funded, licensed, or permitted actions) on properties listed in or eligible for the NRHP (historic properties). The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's regulations (36 CFR Part 800) guide the review process. Under the regulations, the SHPO assists federal agencies and their applicants/designees to meet their Section 106 responsibilities and comments on the federal agency's identification of historic properties within an undertaking's area of potential effect and on their assessment of effects on historic properties. If an undertaking will adversely affect historic properties, the federal agency continues consultation with the SHPO and others to avoid, minimize, or mitigate the adverse effects. The Oklahoma Archeological Survey participates in the consultation regarding possible effects to archeological resources. Contact Kristina Wyckoff at 405-521-6381 or [kristina.wyckoff@history.ok.gov](mailto:kristina.wyckoff@history.ok.gov) or visit [www.okhistory.org/shpo/section106](http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/section106).

**Preservation Planning:** The SHPO coordinates the development and implementation of the Oklahoma Historic Preservation Plan (State Plan) which provides the goals and priorities of agencies, organizations, and individuals concerned about and responsible for protecting the state's heritage. Updated every five years, the State Plan also includes an overview of Oklahoma's archeological and historic resources, discusses threats to them, and provides examples of projects that contribute to their preservation. Contact Lynda Ozan at 405-522-4484 or [lynda.ozan@history.ok.gov](mailto:lynda.ozan@history.ok.gov) or Shea Otley at 405-522-4485 or [shea.otley@history.ok.gov](mailto:shea.otley@history.ok.gov) or visit [www.okhistory.org/shpo/stateplan](http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/stateplan).

**Certified Local Governments:** Under the CLG program, local governments that enforce appropriate historic preservation zoning ordinances are delegated certain SHPO responsibilities, receive federal matching funds for the development of their local preservation programs, and participate in the NRHP nomination process. Contact Shea Otley at 405-522-4485 or [shea.otley@history.ok.gov](mailto:shea.otley@history.ok.gov) or visit [www.okhistory.org/shpo/clg](http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/clg).

**Preservation Tax Incentives:** Current federal and state law provide 20% tax credits for certified rehabilitation of a certified historic structure. The SHPO consults with property owners as they develop their project plans, reviews the final applications, and transmits the applications with comments to NPS for approval. It is important that potential applicants for the credit contact the SHPO at the earliest possible time during project planning. Work done in advance of SHPO and NPS review can jeopardize the applicant's eligibility for the credit. Oklahoma state statutes provide a state tax credit equal to the amount of the federal credit for certified rehabilitations. Contact Sara Werneke at 405-522-4478 or [sara.werneke@history.ok.gov](mailto:sara.werneke@history.ok.gov) or visit <http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/taxcredits>.

**Public Outreach and Technical Assistance:** A well-informed public is key to the success of historic preservation efforts in Oklahoma. The SHPO's public outreach and technical assistance programs include the annual statewide preservation conference; a free quarterly newsletter, a fall and a spring workshop series, special presentations for government agencies and organizations, one-on-one consultations, and a web and social media presence. Contact the SHPO office at 405-521-6249 for details.

**Special Recognition Programs:** The SHPO's special recognition programs stimulate public interest in historic preservation. These include the Shirk Memorial Award for Historic Preservation and the SHPO's Citation of Merit, presented during the statewide preservation conference, and the Oklahoma Centennial Farm and Ranch Program. For information about the Shirk Award and Citation of Merit, contact Lynda Ozan at 405-522-4484 or [lynda.ozan@history.ok.gov](mailto:lynda.ozan@history.ok.gov) or visit [www.okhistory.org/shpo/awards](http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/awards).

**Oklahoma Centennial Farm & Ranch Program:** The SHPO and the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture cosponsor the Oklahoma Centennial Farm and Ranch Program to honor the families who developed the state's agricultural economy and to identify rural properties for nomination to the NRHP. Contact Shea Otley at 405-522-4485 or [shea.otley@history.ok.gov](mailto:shea.otley@history.ok.gov) or visit [www.okhistory.org/shpo/farmandranch](http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/farmandranch).

**Web and Social Media Presence:** The SHPO provides information about its programs and a wide range of historic preservation topics on its website at [www.okhistory.org/shpo](http://www.okhistory.org/shpo) and through its social media.



[www.facebook.com/OKSHPO](http://www.facebook.com/OKSHPO)



[www.youtube.com/@okshpo](http://www.youtube.com/@okshpo)



Ed Galloway's Totem Pole Park, Foyil vic., Rogers County; Downtown Norman Historic District, Norman, Cleveland County; Joseph E. Kubat Farm, Okeene vic., Blaine County

