



## The Secretary of the Interior's Historic Preservation Professional Qualification Standards

### Department of the Interior – National Park Service

For additional information on Academic Background, Applying the Professional Qualifications Standards, Documenting Professional Experience, please refer to the Federal Register; Volume 62, No. 119 / Friday, June 20, 1997. (<http://www.nps.gov/history/local-law/gis/html/quals.html>)

### Archeology: Historic Preservation Professional Qualification Standards

Archeology is the study of past human lifeways through the systematic observation, analysis, and protection of the material remains of human activities.

#### *Standard for Archeologist*

##### *(A) Prehistoric*

The applicant, employee, consultant, or advisor will have a graduate degree in Anthropology with a specialization in Prehistoric Archeology, or a graduate degree in Archeology with a specialization in Prehistoric Archeology, or a graduate degree in a closely related field, PLUS a minimum of two and one-half (2 1/2) years of full-time professional experience in applying the theories, methods, and practices of Archeology that enables professional judgments to be made about the identification, evaluation, documentation, registration, or treatment of prehistoric archeological properties in the United States and its Territories (at least six months of experience must have been acquired in the performance of field and analytical activities under the supervision of a professional prehistoric archeologist, and one year of experience in the study of the archeological resources of the prehistoric period must have been at a supervisory level); and products and activities that demonstrate the successful application of acquired proficiencies in the discipline to the practice of historic preservation.

##### *(B) Historical*

The applicant, employee, consultant, or advisor will have a graduate degree in Anthropology with a specialization in Historical Archeology, or a graduate degree in Archeology with a specialization in Historical Archeology, or a graduate degree in a closely related field, plus a minimum of two and one-half (2 1/2) years of full-time professional experience applying the theories, methods, and practices of Archeology that enables professional judgments to be made about the identification, evaluation, documentation, registration, or treatment of historic archeological properties in the United States and its Territories (at least six months of experience must have been acquired in the performance of field and analytical activities under the supervision of a professional Historical Archeologist, and one year of experience in the study of the archeological resources of the historic period must have been at a supervisory level); and products and activities that demonstrate the successful application of acquired proficiencies in the discipline to the practice of historic preservation.

## **Architectural History: Historic Preservation Professional Qualification Standards**

Architectural History is the study of the development of building practices through written records and design and the examination of structures, sites, and objects in order to determine their relationship to preceding, contemporary, and subsequent architecture and events.

### *Standard for Architectural Historian*

- (a) The applicant, employee, consultant, or advisor will have a graduate degree in Architectural History or a closely related field of study, plus a minimum of two (2) years of full-time professional experience applying the theories, methods, and practices of Architectural History that enables professional judgments to be made about the identification, evaluation, documentation, registration, or treatment of historic properties in the United States and its Territories; and products and activities that demonstrate the successful application of acquired proficiencies in the discipline to the practice of historic preservation (see Documenting Professional Experience for Architectural Historians); or
- (b) An undergraduate degree in Architectural History or a closely related field of study, plus a minimum of four (4) years of full-time professional experience applying the theories, methods, and practices of Architectural History that enables professional judgments to be made about the identification, evaluation, documentation, registration, or treatment of historic properties in the United States and its Territories; and products and activities that demonstrate the successful application of acquired proficiencies in the discipline to the practice of historic preservation.

## **Conservation: Historic Preservation Professional Qualification Standards**

Conservation is the practice of prolonging the physical and aesthetic life of prehistoric and historic material culture through documentation, preventive care, treatment, and research.

### *Standard for Conservator*

- (a) The applicant, employee, consultant, or advisor will have a graduate degree in Conservation or a graduate degree in a closely related field of study with a certificate in Conservation, plus a minimum of three (3) years of full-time professional experience applying the theories, methods, and practices of Conservation that enables professional judgments to be made about the identification, evaluation, documentation or treatment of objects associated with historic and prehistoric properties in the United States and its Territories; and products and activities that demonstrate the successful application of acquired proficiencies in the discipline to the practice of historic; or
- (b) An undergraduate degree in Art History, or Natural or Physical Science, or another closely related field to Conservation, with an additional (3) years of full-time enrollment in an apprenticeship program equivalent to graduate studies in Conservation and supervised by a professional Conservator; plus a minimum of three (3) years full-time professional experience applying the theories, methods, and practices of Conservation that enables professional judgments to be made about the identification, evaluation, documentation, or treatment of objects associated with historic and prehistoric properties in the United States and its Territories; and products and activities that demonstrate the successful application of acquired proficiencies in the discipline to the practice of historic preservation.

## **Engineering: Historic Preservation Professional Qualification Standards**

Engineering is the practice of applying scientific principles to the research, planning, design, and management of structures and machines such as roads, bridges, canals, dams, docks, locomotives, and buildings, including their structural, electrical, or mechanical systems. Historic Engineering involves specialized training in engineering principles, theories, concepts, methods, and technologies of the past, and appropriate methods of interpreting and preserving historic engineered structures or machinery.

### *Standard for Engineer*

- (a) The applicant, employee, consultant, or advisor will have a State Government-recognized license to practice civil or structural engineering, plus, a minimum of two (2) years of fulltime professional experience applying the theories, methods, and practices of engineering that enables professional judgments to be made about the documentation or treatment of historic structures and machines in the United States and its Territories; and products and activities that demonstrate the successful application of acquired proficiencies in the discipline to the practice of historic preservation; or
- (b) A Masters of Civil Engineering degree with demonstrable course work in Historic Preservation, for historic structures rehabilitation, plus a minimum of two (2) years of full-time professional experience applying the theories, methods, and practices of Engineering that enables professional judgments to be made about the documentation or treatment of historic structures and machines in the United States and its Territories; and products and activities that demonstrate the successful application of acquired proficiencies in the discipline to the practice of historic preservation; or
- (c) A Bachelors of Civil Engineering degree with at least one year of graduate study in History of Technology, Historic Preservation, Engineering History, or a closely related field, plus a minimum of two (2) years of full-time professional experience applying the theories, methods and practices of Engineering that enables professional judgments to be made about the documentation or treatment of historic structures and machines in the United States and its Territories; and products and activities that demonstrate the successful application of acquired proficiencies in the discipline to the practice of historic preservation.

## **Historic Architecture: Historic Preservation Professional Qualification Standards**

Historic Architecture is the practice of applying artistic and scientific principles to the research, planning, design, and management of the built environment with specialized training in the principles, theories, concepts, methods, and techniques of preserving historic buildings and structures.

### *Standard for Historical Architect*

- (a) The applicant, employee, consultant, or advisor will have a State Government-recognized license to practice Architecture, plus, a minimum of two (2) years of full-time professional experience applying the theories, methods, and practices of Architecture that enables professional judgments to be made about the evaluation, documentation, or treatment of historic structures in the United States and its Territories; and products and activities that demonstrate the successful application of acquired proficiencies in the discipline to the practice of historic preservation; or
- (b) A Masters of Architecture degree with demonstrable course work in Architectural Preservation, Architectural History, Historic Preservation, Historic Preservation Planning, or a closely related field, plus a minimum of two (2) years of full-time professional experience applying the theories, methods, and practices of Historic Architecture that enables professional judgments to be made about the evaluation, documentation, or treatment of historic structures in the United States and its

Territories; and products and activities that demonstrate the successful application of acquired proficiencies in the discipline to the practice of historic preservation ; or

- (c) A Bachelors of Architecture degree with at least one year of graduate study in Architectural Preservation, Architectural History, Historic Preservation, Historic Preservation Planning, or a closely related field, plus a minimum of two (2) years of full-time professional experience applying the theories, methods and practices of Historic Architecture that enables professional judgments to be made about the evaluation, documentation, or treatment of historic structures in the United States and its Territories; and products and activities that demonstrate the successful application of acquired proficiencies in the discipline to the practice of historic preservation.

### **Historic Landscape Architecture: Historic Preservation Professional Qualification Standards**

Historic Landscape Architecture is the practice of applying artistic and scientific principles to the research, planning, design, and management of both natural and built environments with specialized training in the principles, theories, concepts, methods, and techniques of preserving cultural landscapes.

#### *Standard for Historical Landscape Architect*

- (a) The applicant, employee, consultant, or advisor will have a State Government-recognized license to practice Landscape Architecture, plus, a minimum of two (2) years full-time professional experience applying the theories, methods, and practices of Landscape Architecture that enables professional judgments to be made about the identification, evaluation, documentation, registration, or treatment of historic properties in the United States and its Territories; and products and activities that demonstrate the successful application of acquired proficiencies in the discipline to the practice of historic preservation; or
- (b) A Masters degree in Landscape Architecture with demonstrable course work in the principles, theories, concepts, methods, and techniques of preserving cultural landscapes, plus a minimum or two (2) years of full-time professional experience applying the theories, methods, and practices of Landscape Architecture that enables professional judgments to be made about the identification, evaluation, documentation, registration, or treatment of historic properties in the United States and its Territories; and products and activities that demonstrate the successful application of acquired proficiencies in the discipline to the practice of historic preservation ; or
- (c) A four-year or five-year Bachelors degree in Landscape Architecture, plus a minimum of three (3) years of fulltime professional experience applying the theories, methods, and practices of Landscape Architecture that enables professional judgments to be made about the identification, evaluation, documentation, registration, or treatment of historic properties in the United States and its Territories; and products and activities that demonstrate the successful application of acquired proficiencies in the discipline to the practice of historic preservation.

### **Historic Preservation: Historic Preservation Professional Qualification Standards**

Historic Preservation is the application of strategies that promote the identification, evaluation, documentation, registration, protection, treatment, continued use, and interpretation of prehistoric and historic resources.

#### *Standard for Historic Preservationist*

- (a) The applicant, employee, consultant, or advisor will have a graduate degree in Historic Preservation or a closely related field of study, plus a minimum of two (2) years of full-time professional experience applying the theories, methods, and practices of Historic Preservation that enables professional judgments to be made about the identification, evaluation, documentation, registration, or treatment of historic and prehistoric properties in the United States and its

Territories; and products and activities that demonstrate the successful application of acquired proficiencies in the discipline to the practice of historic preservation; or

- (b) An undergraduate degree in Historic Preservation or a closely related field of study, plus a minimum of four (4) years of full-time professional experience applying the theories, methods, and practices of Historic Preservation that enables professional judgments to be made about the identification, evaluation, documentation, registration, or treatment of historic and prehistoric properties in the United States and its Territories; and products and activities that demonstrate the successful application of acquired proficiencies in the discipline to the practice of historic preservation.

### **History: Historic Preservation Professional Qualification Standards**

History is the study of the past through written records, oral history, and material culture and the examination of that evidence within a chronological or topical sequence in order to interpret its relationship to preceding, contemporary and subsequent events.

#### *Standard for Historian*

- (a) The applicant, employee, consultant, or advisor will have a graduate degree in History or a closely related field of study, plus a minimum of two (2) years of full-time professional experience applying the theories, methods, and practices of History that enables professional judgments to be made about the identification, evaluation, documentation, registration, or treatment of historic properties in the United States and its Territories; and products and activities that demonstrate the successful application of acquired proficiencies in the discipline to the practice of historic preservation or
- (b) An undergraduate degree in History or a closely related field of study, plus a minimum of four (4) years of full-time professional experience applying the theories, methods, and practices of History that enables professional judgments to be made about the identification, evaluation, documentation, registration, or treatment of historic properties in the United States and its Territories; and products and activities that demonstrate the successful application of acquired proficiencies in the discipline to the practice of historic preservation.