



Preserving America's Heritage

Historic Preservation: Information for Adults Working with Native Youth

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) has developed this fact sheet for adults working with Native youth who may be interested in historic preservation or sacred sites protection. This information should help you to either spark interest in historic preservation or direct youth that are already interested or involved in preservation. If you have any questions, ACHP staffs are always available. Contact information is included below.

About the ACHP

The ACHP is the U.S. government agency that oversees the historic preservation process (also called the “Section 106 process”) requiring federal agencies to consider the impacts different projects (such as highway construction or oil pipelines) have on historic properties, including properties of religious and cultural significance to—and consultation with—Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations (NHOs). Section 106 also allows the ACHP to review and comment on these projects.

About the ACHP's Native Youth Program

In 2015, ACHP launched a Native Youth Program to address concerns raised by tribal representatives that not enough Native youth knew about the field of historic preservation.

The Native Youth Program's primary goals are to generate interest in historic preservation in general, and help the next generation of THPOs, tribal and NHO representatives, and Native citizens support the preservation of their resources and important places. We know that preservation issues are often at the forefront for many Indian tribes and NHOs, and we understand that place-based preservation (the focus of the NHPA and Section 106) is connected to many other facets of Native culture: language, food, medicine, plants, hunting and fishing, education and religious or belief practices, among others.

Tribal Historic Preservation

Knowledge of federal, state, and local laws and participating in these legal processes is one way Indian tribes and NHOs can protect places important to them and youth engagement in historic preservation would benefit their efforts in a number of ways:

1. The transfer of tribal or Native Hawaiian knowledge between generations can take place when working to preserve places and the practices associated with them.
2. Tribal or Native Hawaiian lifeways are perpetuated into the future, while at the same time increasing knowledge about the past.
3. Knowledge of and involvement with environmental preservation and management of scarce natural resources is increased.
4. Connections to ancestral and historic places and landscapes are established and maintained.

We know that history is written in and on the landscape for many Indian tribes and NHOs, and preservation of these places is important for maintaining Native knowledge and protection of that

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

401 F Street NW, Suite 308 • Washington, DC 20001-2637
Phone: 202-517-0200 • Fax: 202-517-6381 • achp@achp.gov • www.achp.gov

knowledge. Without preservation, this knowledge cannot be handed to the next generation. Historic preservation *is* cultural preservation for many tribes and NHOs. Therefore, the ACHP's Native Youth Program strives to help Indian tribes and NHOs develop future preservation leaders.

What You Can Do

- Share the historic preservation information for Native youth developed by the ACHP and available at <http://www.achp.gov/native-youth-program.html>.
- Share the ACHP's Native youth Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/Preservation-Indigenous-Native-Youth-618814861585123/> and encourage youth to like us.
- Look for opportunities for youth to participate in preservation activities in your local area.
- Contact the ACHP's Office of Native American Affairs at native@achp.gov.

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