



Environmental Review

PROGRAM BENEFITS

- Ensures Georgia's historic assets are considered in federal project planning
- Gives a voice to under-served communities
- Enhances quality of life in local communities

LEGAL BASIS

- Sections 106 and 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as Amended

Program Overview

In the decades following World War II, federal agencies undertook large projects in many states with no input from the state and local elected leaders and communities, resulting in the wholesale destruction of historic assets. Boston, for instance, lost 30% of its historic building stock between 1945 and the early 1960s. As a result of lobbying by the nation's governors and others, Congress passed the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Federal agencies are required by the Act to consult with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) when considering an undertaking. Undertakings can range in size from the Savannah Harbor Expansion (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) to the issuance of cell tower licenses (Federal Communications Commission). HPD's role as SHPO is to assist the federal agency in complying with the law, which requires that the agency take into account significant historic assets that may be affected by the undertaking. HPD acts on behalf of Georgia citizens to ensure that their voices are heard and their historic assets are carefully considered by federal agencies.