

State System of Higher Education Facilities Manual

Volume IX-B Historic Facilities

State System of Higher Education Policy 1990-02 establishes procedures to be followed to place a State System facility on a historic register. Commonwealth regulations specify that facilities erected fifty or more years ago are eligible for placement on a historic register, providing there is some historic or architectural significance related to the facility. Act 72 of 1988 establishes the requirement for cooperation with the Pennsylvania Historic and Preservation Commission (PHPC) for processing facilities projects involving historic facilities. A copy of sections 507 and 508 of the act is contained in Appendix IX-B1 of this section. Once a facility has been designated as a historic facility and the PHPC determines that the facility has historic significance, special requirements must be incorporated into facilities projects for the maintenance, repair, renovation, or improvement to facilities with historic distinction. Facilities projects for facilities eligible for designation, or designated as historic facilities require special planning and programming to recognize these requirements.

Facilities which are eligible for designation as historic facilities, but have not been so designated, and, in the opinion of the institution should not be so designated, must receive the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission's (PHMC) determination that the facility does not have historic significance before proceeding with a facilities project that will modify or change the appearance of the facility. The State System institution planning a facilities project that will modify such a facility should review the criteria contained in Appendix IX-B2, Bureau for Historic Preservation, Historic Resource Survey Form packet; determine the degree of historic significance the facility has; and, by letter to the bureau, request concurrence with proceeding with the project without historic considerations. If concurrence is received, the institution may proceed without further bureau involvement. If concurrence is not received, the project should be processed as if historically designated.

Facilities projects for facilities that have received historic distinction or have received the bureau's determination that the facility has historic significance must be processed according to the requirements specified in Appendix IX-B1. The institution should submit a memorandum of agreement specifying the stipulations of cooperation with the bureau during the processing of the facilities project. Appendix IX-B3 contains a sample agreement used previously for a State System project. Processing the project should then follow the agreement. The design professional should be given a copy of the agreement and a copy of Appendix IX-B4, "The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings," for use in preparing the project plans and specifications.

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