On April 9, 2013, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan was approved by the U.S. Department of the Interior to formally establish a Tribal Historic Preservation Office. This office now takes a formal place in the National Historic Preservation Program and assumes duties that were previously the responsibility of the State.

What does a Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) do?

In cooperation with Federal and State Agencies, local governments, and private organizations and individuals, the THPO will direct and conduct a comprehensive Tribal Lands-wide survey of historic properties and maintain inventories of such properties.

Identify and nominate eligible properties to the National Register and otherwise administer applications for listing historic properties on the National Register.

Prepare and implement a comprehensive Tribal Lands-wide historic preservation plan.

Administer the Tribal program of Federal assistance for historic preservation within SCIT Tribal Lands (when funds are appropriated by the U.S. Congress).

Advise and assist, as appropriate, Federal and State agencies and local governments in carrying out their historic preservation responsibilities.

Cooperate with the Secretary of Interior, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and other Federal and State agencies, local governments, and organizations and individuals to ensure that historic properties are taken into consideration at all levels of planning and development.

Provide public information, education and training, and technical assistance in historic preservation.

Consult with the appropriate Federal agencies in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act on regarding Federal undertakings that may affect historic properties and the content and sufficiency of any plans developed to protect, manage, or to reduce or mitigate harm to such properties.

Cooperate with local governments in developing local historic preservation programs.

Advise and assist in evaluating proposals for rehabilitation projects that may qualify for Federal assistance for historic preservation.