STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW

ALAN S. DOWNER, ADMINISTRATOR, STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION, DEPUTY STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

What projects are subject review?

- ► The State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) in the Department of Land and Natural Resources reviews projects with potential effects to historic properties
 - Chapter 6E Hawaii Revised Statutes;
 - Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

Section 106

§106 applies to federal undertakings

- ► Things a federal agency: does, funds (including grants, loan guarantees), or pays a contractor to do for it; or
- ► Things requiring a federal permit, license or other form of official permission or approval.

SHPD Reviews

- ► Last year SHPD completed review of about 2700 submittals;
 - ► About 650 under §106;
 - ► About 683 under §6E-8;
 - ► About 1367 under §6E-42.

Chapter 6E

- ▶ §6E-8 requires state & county agencies to consult with SHPD if a state or county project has the potential to effect historic properties;
 - ► Historic property is "any building, structure, object, district, area, or site, including heiau or underwater site, which is fifty years old;" burials that are 50 years old and aviation artifacts that are 50 years old are special categories of protected properties;
- State projects mean any project carried out by a state or country agency, funded by a state or county agency; or
- Occurring on state or county property;
- These projects are virtually always also subject to review under §6E-42;
- Projects reviewed under §6E-8 require SHPD concurrence.

State or county permits (§ 6E-42)

- ▶ State an county agencies are also required to consult SHPD prior to the issuance of a permit for a protect that has the potential to effect a historic property.
- ▶ Privately owned single family houses and town homes that are 50 ears old, but not listed in the Hawaii or National Registers of Historic Places, not located in a designated historic district, or not nominated to the Hawaii or National Register are exempt for 6E review.
- Except for single family dwellings, listing in one of the historic registers makes no difference for §6E-42 reviews.

Permit reviews

- The majority of SHPD reviews are done for state or county permits;
- Permitting agency has discretion to determine whether a project has "potential to effect";
- Permitting agency is the decision maker, SHPD is advising on potential effects, and measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate effects.

Discretion

- Permitting agencies do have discretion on what permits to send to SHPD;
 - Agencies don't have unlimited discretion, it is potentially subject to judicial review
- SHPD may or may not agree with the agency decision;
 - ► SHPD routinely see permits for projects that are exempt, or otherwise not subject to review;
 - SHPD sometimes doesn't see permits for projects that, in our view, absolutely should have been subject to 6E review;
- ▶ Permitting agencies DO NOT have discretion on what is a historic property, that is set by definition in §6E HRS it's the law.

Privately owned historic property (§6E-10)

- ▶ §6E-10 requires owners of historic properties that are listed in the Hawaii Register of Historic Places to consult with SHPD about proposed projects that may affect them;
- ▶ §6E-10 requires SHPD concurrence on such projects;
- such projects will almost always also require a county permit, which would also be subject to review under §6E-42.

County Review/SHPD Review

- When the County receives a permit application, it should determine whether the project is exempt;
 - ▶ Is it a single family dwelling or is it affecting a building or structure that is less than
 50 years old and involve no ground disturbance
- ▶ If not exempt, the County should then do an initial assessment of whether or not the project has the potential to affect historic properties; If the result of that assessment is yes,
- ► The County should submit the permit to SHPD for review;
- ▶ If the result is no, the County does not submit the project to SHPD

How does it actually work

- ▶ §6E allows counties to delegate the duty to consult to 3rd parties,
- Counties routinely direct permit applicants consult directly with SHPD;
- Each county operates differently, on O`ahu, the default option is to send applicants to SHPD;
- ► The county then waits until SHPD provides its written comments on the permit application before issuing the permit

How long does SHPD review take

- ▶ It depends on many factors, especially the completeness of the information submitted to SHPD;
 - ▶ Any and every time SHPD needs to request additional information or clarification, will slow the review.
- The nominal deadline for §6E-42 reviews is 45 days,
 - ▶ The clock starts when the agency makes its determination,
 - No agency determination, the clock hasn't started;
 - SHPD receives complete information;
 - Incomplete, inaccurate, and/or confusing contradictory information, the clock hasn't started

- Last time we ran the numbers, reviews involving existing buildings and no ground disturbance were completed in an average of 17 days;
- Reviews for projects requiring archaeological review average about 6 months.
- ► The counties are not required to wait after the deadline has passed (unless SHPD has requested additional information), but most of the time they wait until SHPD comments

Preservation Standards

- ► The State of Hawaii relies on federal standards for project affecting historic properties;
- ► The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for the Treatment of Historic Properties (https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards.htm);
- ► These include Standards for preservation, rehabilitation, rehabilitation projects using the federal historic tax credit, and reconstruction; and
- Guidelines for treatment of historic properties, or rehabilitation of historic properties

Tips

- ▶ If your project requires a state or county permit, consult the permitting agency to try to find out whether or not your project will be submitted to SHPD for review;
- If it will consult with SHPD to ensure that you have put together all the information SHPD will need to make an informed, independent determination; the 6E submission form is a helpful guide on this (https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/shpd/files/2015/06/ALL-County-SHPD-HRS-6E-Submittal-Intake-Form.pdf)
- ▶ If you need to have consultants to assist you through this process, it is a good idea to check performance with prior users

► When in doubt, consult SHPD





CONTACT INFORMATION

- ► SHPD: 808.6928015/8016
- Architecture Branch: 808.692.8022
- Archaeology Branch: 808.692.8019
- ► History and Culture Branch: 808.243.4640