Historic Preservation Terms and Professional Qualifications

**Curation** shall mean the care of artifacts and records associated with historic properties.

**Historic property** shall mean a district, site, building, structure or object listed in the National or State Register of Historic Places.

**Historic Structure Report** shall mean the report which may be necessary for the development of a historic resource when the rehabilitation, restoration or reconstruction work involves fabricating significant missing architectural or landscape features, recapturing the appearance of a property at one particular period of its history or removing significant later additions. The report shall include, at a minimum, historical and documentary research, physical investigation, including archeology, and recommendations for action.

**Improvement** shall mean the act of upgrading the basic physical condition of a property in a manner consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. This includes upgrading mechanical systems, providing appropriate barrier-free access and bringing a property into conformance with building codes.

**National Register of Historic Places** shall mean the national list of districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering or culture maintained by the Secretary of the Interior under authority of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended.

**Preservation** shall mean the act or process of applying measures to sustain the existing form, integrity and material of a historic property. It may include initial stabilization work, where necessary, as well as ongoing maintenance of the historic materials, the existing vegetative cover of a site or associated archeological deposits.

**Professional** shall mean an individual practicing in the areas of architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, archeology or historic preservation. In the following definitions a year of full-time professional experience need not consist of a continuous year of full-time work but may be made up of discontinuous periods of full-time or part-time work adding up to the equivalent of one year of full-time experience. The following qualifications define the minimum education and experience required. In some cases, additional areas or levels of expertise may be determined by the commissioner to be necessary, depending on the complexity of the project and the nature of the property involved.

A. **Archeology**—a graduate degree in archeology, anthropology or a closely related field plus:
   (1) at least one full year of full-time professional experience or equivalent specialized training in archeological research, administration or management;
   (2) at least four months of supervised field and analytic experience in general North American archeology;
   (3) demonstrated ability to carry research to completion; and
   (4) in addition to these minimum qualifications, a professional in prehistoric archeology shall have at least one year of full-time professional experience at a supervisory level in the study of archeological resources of the prehistoric period. A professional in historic archeology shall have at least one year of full-time professional experience at a supervisory level in the study of archeological resources of the historic period.

B. **Architecture, engineering or landscape architecture**—a professional degree in architecture, engineering or landscape architecture plus at least three years of full-time professional experience; or a State license to practice.
C. **Historic architecture, historic engineering or historic landscape architecture**—a professional degree in architecture, engineering or landscape architecture, or a State license to practice, plus one of the following:

1. a graduate degree in historic preservation, architectural history, preservation planning or a closely related field and at least two years of full-time professional experience on historic preservation projects; or
2. at least three years of full-time professional experience on historic preservation projects.

D. **Historic preservation**:

1. a graduate degree in preservation, architectural history, art history, historic preservation planning or a closely related field, plus two years of full-time professional experience on historic preservation projects; or
2. a bachelor’s degree in historic preservation, architectural history, art history, preservation planning or a closely related field, plus four years of full-time professional experience on historic preservation projects; or
3. completion of a recognized training program in historic preservation, or a bachelor’s degree in an unrelated field, plus five years of full-time professional experience on historic preservation projects; or
4. ten years of full-time work experience on historic preservation projects.

**Protection** shall mean the act or process of applying measures designed to affect the physical condition of a historic property by defending or guarding it from deterioration, loss or attack or to cover or shield the property from danger or injury. In the case of buildings, structures and objects, such treatment is generally of a temporary nature and anticipates future historic preservation treatment; in the case of archeological sites, the protective measure may be temporary or permanent.

**Reconstruction** shall mean the act or process of reproducing by new construction the exact form and detail of a vanished building, structure, object or site or a part thereof, as it appeared at a specific period of time.

**Rehabilitation** shall mean the act of returning a historic property to a state of utility through repair or alteration which makes possible an efficient contemporary use while preserving those portions or features of the property which are significant to its historic, architectural, engineering, archeological and cultural values.

**Restoration** as defined in *The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* means “the act or process of accurately depicting the form, features, and character of a property as it appeared at a particular period of time by means of the removal of features from other periods in its history and reconstruction of missing features from the restoration period.”

**State Register of Historic Places** shall mean the New York State lists of districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects significant in New York State history, architecture, archeology, engineering or culture maintained by the Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation under authority of the Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law.