National Register of Historic Places (National Register)
SHPOs, in coordination with the NPS, added 1,017 new listings to the National Register of Historic Places in 2018

• Supporting local historic preservation programs through the Certified Local Government (CLG) Program
The Permian Basin Programmatic Agreement

In New Mexico, the Permian Basin is well known for its rich oil and gas reserves, including 2 million acres managed by the Pecos District of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The area is also known for its rich Native American history dating back to 5,000 BC. By 2003, more than 300,000 acres had been surveyed for oil and gas projects and more than 8,000 archaeological sites had been identified and recorded. Processing thousands of oil-and-gas drilling applications per year strained BLM’s ability to protect historic resources in the area.

BLM and the New Mexico SHPO worked together to build common ground among archaeologists, tribes, and the oil-and-gas industry to create a more collaborative and balanced approach to energy development and archaeology in the region. The result was a Section 106 agreement that encompassed 1,700 square miles with the most active oil and gas areas. Operating under the agreement remains voluntary—but if a company accepts the agreement procedures, it contributes to a mitigation pool that, in part, covers the cost of archaeological surveys.

Since 2008, the oil industry has contributed nearly $11 million to the mitigation pool. This has allowed for a comprehensive field program with all archaeological resources managed through a Geographic Information System integrated with the New Mexico Cultural Resource Information System. Use of the agreement procedures gives the oil-and-gas industry predictability and control over schedules and budgets needed to operate efficiently while also highlighting and protecting the area’s extensive cultural resources.

Owosso Armory, Owosso, MI

Built in 1915, the Owosso Michigan National Guard Armory housed several National Guard units and served as a community space for nearly a century before it was abandoned in 2007. In 2016, the Shiawassee Regional Chamber of Commerce purchased the building from the Michigan Department of Veterans’ Affairs with a vision to create new business opportunities in Owosso and Shiawassee County. The project utilized both Federal Historic Tax Credits and New Markets Tax Credits as well as other support. Now this National Register site houses the Shiawassee Regional Chamber of Commerce, Michigan Small Business Development Center, as well as small businesses and nonprofit organizations.

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