



PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the National Endowment for the Humanities' Section 106 Review of Minnesota Humanities Center's A Place of Learning: Repairing Minnesota's Humanities Center, Strengthening Humanities Impact Statewide

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) has conditionally awarded the Minnesota Humanities Center, a grant to make repairs and system upgrades to their building. NEH is an independent grant-making agency of the United States government dedicated to supporting research, education, preservation, and public programs in the humanities. This public notice is issued as part of NEH's responsibilities under 36 C.F.R. Part 800, the regulations which implement Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, 16 U.S.C. § 470. NEH, a funding agency, is required by regulation to identify and assess the effects of any proposed actions on historic properties. If any proposed action will have an adverse effect on historic resources, NEH works with the appropriate parties to seek ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects. Additionally, the Section 106 regulations require NEH to consider the views of the public on preservation issues when making final decisions that affect historic properties.

In Minnesota Humanities Center's grant application, the Michael J. Dowling Memorial Hall (Gillette Children's Hospital), 987 Ivy Ave. East, St. Paul, MN 55106, was identified as potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, and is therefore subject to Section 106 regulations. The NEH application scope was limited to replacement of an outdated HVAC system, but is part of a larger effort including repairs to the parapet, stucco walls, eaves, exterior finishes, and landscape.

On August 18, 2020, Sarah J. Beimers, Environmental Review Program Manager with the Minnesota Historic Preservation Office advised that the proposed undertaking will have no adverse effect upon historic properties, as defined by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. NEH made a final determination of no adverse effect and submitted a formal finding to the Minnesota SHPO to review and concur on September 28, 2020. On November 5, 2020, the Minnesota Historic Preservation Office formally concurred.

As required by Section 106, NEH is providing the public with information about this project, as well as an opportunity to comment on any knowledge of, or concerns with, historic properties in the proposed project area, and issues relating to the project's potential effects on historic properties.

**Comments may be submitted to the NEH by e-mail to HPE@neh.gov.
The deadline for submitting comments is November 20th, 2020.**