



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Northeast Region
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

IN REPLY REFER TO:
1.A.2. (RS-PA)

December 29, 2014

Thomas M. Becker
President, Chautauqua Institution
P.O. Box 28
One Ames Ave
Chautauqua, NY 14722

Dear Mr. Becker:

We are writing to offer to consult with you about the proposed project at the Chautauqua National Historic Landmark (NHL) District in Chautauqua, New York. We understand that you have conducted a long planning process to develop strategies to increase the function and capacity, as well as improve the safety, accessibility, and sight lines, at the Amphitheater, which is a major structure within the NHL District. While the NPS does not have any formal review authority regarding this project, we wish to encourage you to follow the Secretary of the Interior's "Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties".

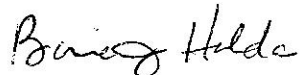
As you know, the Chautauqua NHL District was designated by the Secretary of the Interior on June 29, 1989, for its significance under the themes of architecture and education. NHL designation is the highest level of recognition afforded historic properties by the federal government.

One of the responsibilities of the National Park Service is to monitor the condition of NHLs and to encourage the stewardship of these nationally significant resources. Our goal is to accomplish this through working in collaboration with stewards such as your organization. Our office recognizes your strong commitment to preserving and maintaining the Chautauqua NHL District, and we also understand your need to upgrade and improve your facilities to meet current standards and future programming.

Our NHL staff is available to provide professional technical advice in interpreting the Secretary's Standards and we would be glad to discuss the project with you, as well as with your staff and/or consultants.

Please contact me at bonnie_halda@nps.gov or 215-597-5028, if you would like to discuss the project and how our office may work with you on the mutual goal of preserving the Chautauqua NHL District.

Sincerely,



Bonnie J. Halda
Chief, Preservation Assistance

cc: Ruth L. Pierpont, NY SHPO
Paul Loether, NPS WASO