

QL3.1 PRESERVE HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

INTENT:

Preserve or restore significant historical and cultural sites and related resources to preserve and enhance community cultural resources.

LEVELS OF ACHIEVEMENT

IMPROVED	ENHANCED	SUPERIOR	CONSERVING	RESTORATIVE
(1) Moderate efforts. Project team works with the community and required regulatory and resource agencies to identify historic and cultural resources and develop approaches to avoid, minimize and mitigate impacts to those resources. Feasibility analysis done to understand possibilities of incorporating preservation, enhancement into project. (A, B)		(7) Proactive efforts. Potential stakeholders are consulted early in the project's development. Opportunities to preserve and protect cultural and heritage sites are taken. The project team works with cultural stakeholders to develop a sensitive design approach. (A, B, C)	(13) Preservation and conservation. Project is designed so it fully preserves the character-defining features of that resource. Project is developed in close coordination with all stakeholders and will likely involve a variety of interests ranging from local, state, national as well as public, regulatory, non-profits and private interests. (A, B, C)	(16) Conservation and restoration. Project is designed to fully preserve the character-defining features of that resource and enhances the resource in a significant manner. Examples may include rehabilitation in accordance with the Secretary of Interior Standards, restoration of lost features such as an historic landscape or green spaces, upgrade and expansion of recreational facilities, or a publicly accessible educational or museum site in accord with cultural stakeholder wishes. (A, B, C, D)

DESCRIPTION

This objective addresses the need to preserve and enhance historic and cultural resources. Historic and cultural resources include both architectural and archeological resources, as well as tribal cultural properties. To some extent, these resources are protected by federal statutes. However, those authorities are limited to federal agency actions. Other jurisdictions may have promulgated their own preservation laws. Communities may have additional local ordinances. In addition, the siting and construction of large renewable energy infrastructure may impact negatively historical landscapes and viewsheds. Reducing energy demands reduces the need for large, utility-scale renewable energy infrastructure. It should also be noted that preservation of historic sites and cultural resources might be in conflict with a community's efforts to consolidate and reduce the costs of maintaining the community's excess infrastructure.

ADVANCING TO HIGHER ACHIEVEMENT LEVELS

Benchmark: Action does not result in either preservation of or a net benefit to historic and/or cultural resources.

Performance improvement: Project teams should increase efforts to understand community needs, opportunities for preservation, protection and enhancement. Owners should increase flexibility in incorporating protection and preservation elements into the project. Shift from preservation and conservation to restoration and enhancement of cultural and heritage sites.

EVALUATION CRITERIA AND DOCUMENTATION

- A. To what extent has the project team worked with the community and required regulatory and resources agencies to identify cultural resources?
 1. *Reports, memoranda, minutes of meetings with the community and required regulatory and resource agencies to identify cultural resources.*
- B. Has the project team conducted a feasibility analysis to understand the possibilities of incorporating preservation, or enhancement, into the project?
 1. *Evidence of a feasibility study.*
- C. To what extent has the project team worked with cultural stakeholders to develop a sensitive design and approach, with the ultimate goal of avoiding all cultural resources or fully preserving the character defining features of that resource?
 1. *Location and design drawings demonstrating that the site avoids impacting any cultural resource, or of efforts to mitigate impacts.*
 2. *Design documents of all mitigation efforts in the design.*
- D. Has the project team given special consideration to enhancing or restoring existing cultural resources?
 1. *Documentation of efforts to enhance or restore existing cultural resources.*
 2. *Documentation that works was done in collaboration with preservationists to ensure restoration does not damage the quality of the existing cultural resource.*
 3. *Qualifications of preservationists.*



METRIC:

Summary of steps taken to identify, preserve or restore cultural resources.

SOURCES

- CEEQUAL Assessment Manual for Projects Version 4, December 2008, Roger K. Venables, Section 3.2.1, 5.1.1.
- Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

RELATED CREDITS

QL1.1 Improve Community Quality Of Life

QL3.2 Preserve Views And Local Character

QL3.3 Enhance Public Space