



Planning Topics to Consider – 2014 Forward

In addition to reviewing Chapter 6.G. of the *HPF Grants Manual*, which outlines the NPS requirements for statewide plans, we encourage planners to consider the following topics as they develop Statewide Historic Preservation Plans (State Plans).

The 50th Anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act

In 2016, the nation will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act. The 50th anniversary is an important milestone in preservation practice. It provides a lens you may find useful for looking back on statewide successes and identifying persistent challenges. We encourage you to discuss and reflect upon the Act's history and meanings with partners and the public as you develop your State Plan's vision, goals, and objectives. Be creative!

Underrepresented Communities

In this regard, "community" may be a place, cultural group, or segment of the population. The NPS encourages planners to identify communities that have had no or limited roles in previous planning efforts or that have a stake in resources that have not been the focus of preservation work (especially survey, inventory, registration, and investment projects) in the past. Explore ways in which the cultural legacy of underrepresented groups can be recognized, preserved, and interpreted for future generations, such as greater inclusion of underrepresented resources in the National Register of Historic Places. Look for ways to use the statewide planning process to establish and strengthen communication between preservationists and underrepresented communities in your state.

Disaster and Resiliency Planning for Cultural Resources

The risks posed by climate change to communities are ever more apparent. Climate scientists anticipate that the rate and intensity of climate change impacts will continue to increase. This poses an especially acute problem for cultural resources. They are unique and irreplaceable; once gone, they are lost forever. If moved or altered, they lose aspects of their significance and meaning. Every year, we lose irreplaceable parts of our collective heritage, sometimes before we even know they exist. The decisions we make and the priorities we set today will determine the survival and legacy of our historic places in the coming decades.

As part of the statewide preservation planning process, NPS strongly encourages SHPOs and partners to analyze climate science data for their states, identify vulnerable resource sets, and work with federal and state emergency management agencies to design (or plan to design) a range of pre-disaster adaptation strategies and feasible post-disaster responses.