

## **CULTURAL RESOURCES**

### **Historic and Archaeological Resources**

#### *Goals*

1. *Encourage permanent protection, interpretation and maintenance for all identified Dane County archaeological sites of significance.*

#### Supporting objectives

- A. Include archaeological significance among the criteria for acquiring and managing lands under all county real estate programs.
- B. Plan for the greatest protection and appreciation of the resources of each publicly accessible property that contains archaeological sites.
- C. Provide county and state assistance to local governments to identify, register and document archaeological resources and sponsor nomination of eligible resources to the National Register of Historic Places.
- D. Require the preservation of Indian Mounds and other archaeological resources on both public and private lands.

2. *Protect, preserve and restore buildings, structures, sites, landscapes, natural features and districts which represent or reflect elements of Dane County's cultural, social, economic, political and architectural history.*

#### Supporting objectives

- A. Encourage the preservation of historically and architecturally significant structures and districts in Dane County whenever specific sites are proposed for development or redevelopment.
- B. Encourage preservation of historically or architecturally significant farm structures.
- C. Proactively designate historic districts and structures, and seek to incorporate the following principles into redevelopment of historic sites:
  - (1) Protect historic and architectural integrity.
  - (2) Promote adaptive reuse of historic structures that is consistent with local land use plans.
  - (3) Respect property rights of private landowners with historic resources on their lands.
- D. Develop a stronger institutional framework for historic preservation, and improve the tools available for the county to use in protecting significant resources.
- E. Preserve the historic visual character of state-designated rustic roads.

3. *Increase public awareness and appreciation of historic and archaeological resources.*

#### Supporting objectives

- A. Mobilize public opinion to place a higher value on historic resources.

As adopted by Dane County Board, effective January 3, 2024. Proposed amendments

- B. Promote the use of historic resources for the education, pleasure, and welfare of the people.
- C. Conduct local meetings to emphasize local historical sites.
- D. Utilize school curricula to emphasize and educate students about local historical sites.
- E. Interpret the significance of historic and archaeological sites to educate visitors about their significance, add greater interest, and preserve area history.

**4. *Identify, record and evaluate archaeological, historical and cultural resources and sites.***

**Supporting Objectives**

- A. Document, through photography and collection of archival information, all archaeological and historic sites in Dane County before their demolition, protection or restoration.
- B. Create a publicly accessible register of all historic and archaeological places countywide in both online and published forms. Specific locations for archaeological resources will not be provided, except where such resources are, or will be protected from vandalism. Sites on private property will only be listed with the express consent of the owner.
- C. Utilize long-term residents in identifying and educating about historical and cultural sites.
- D. Utilize Native American tribal leaders in identifying and educating about archaeological sites

***Policies and Programs***

- 1. Work with the State Historic Preservation Office and the National Park Service to assist Dane County communities to become Certified Local Government partners with the State Historic Preservation Office..
  - A. Establish a Dane County Heritage Preservation Commission that includes Dane County residents with expertise in history, architectural history, architecture, landscape architecture or landscape history and archaeology, to:
    - (1) Advise the county board and county executive on historic preservation issues.
    - (2) Serve as the Historic Preservation Commission and review authority for towns and other small communities with Certified Local Government status.
    - ~~(3) The Heritage Preservation Commission shall be composed of 10 members. The membership shall be composed of: 1 architect, architectural historian, landscape architect, or landscape historian; 1 historian qualified in the field of historic preservation; 1 licensed real estate broker; 1 County Board Supervisor; 1 qualified archaeologist; 1 representative of Dane Arts, 1 representative of Ho-Chunk Nation or make a reasonable effort to find members with these qualifications; and 3 citizen members. Each member shall have, to the highest extent practicable, a known interest in historic preservation.~~
    - ~~(4) The Dane County ZLR Chair shall appoint the commissioners. Of the initial members so appointed, 3 shall serve a term of 1 year, 3 shall serve a term of 2 years, and 4 shall serve a term of 3 years. Thereafter, the term for each member shall be 3 years. The Commission shall elect its chair and vice chair on an annual basis.~~
  - B. Develop a source of funding and permanent staffing resources to effectively administer a county historic preservation program.

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- C. Establish a system of designation priorities and a coordinated preservation program.
  - D. Working with the Dane County Heritage Preservation Commission, the Dane County Cultural Affairs Commission, local historical societies, town government and the State Historic Preservation Office, identify and map properties and districts for inclusion in historic preservation programs.
  - E. Provide support in utilizing county, state, local and federal assistance to identify, designate and document architectural resources and sponsor nomination of eligible resources to the National Register of Historic Places. Identify funding to support reconnaissance and intensive historic preservation surveys that, over time, cover all geographic areas of Dane County.
  - F. Work with the Land Information Office, the University of Wisconsin, the State Historic Preservation Office and other partners to use remote sensing and machine learning technologies to identify areas with potential for archaeological resources. Develop a priority ranking system and funding to conduct detailed investigations of promising areas to document any archaeological resources.
  - G. Conduct periodic surveys of the county on an ongoing basis to update the Architecture and History Inventory maintained by the State Historic Preservation Office.
  - H. Develop and distribute model historic preservation ordinances and best practices for towns to use to achieve Certified Local Government status.
  - I. Provide summarized online mapping resources for town government use that meet data privacy standards of the State Historic Preservation Office. County Planning and Development staff should be available to provide more detailed GIS review on request.
2. Explore the availability and use of grant money to rehabilitate, restore or relocate historic structures threatened by demolition or disrepair.
    - A. Review existing state and federal tax credits, and other resources, for historic structure rehabilitation and analyze applicability and effectiveness for Dane County historic resources.
    - B. Explore the creation of new incentives, such as historic preservation Tax Increment Financing (TIF) districts, grants, and revolving loan funds or other tools, to encourage historic preservation.
    - C. Report results of study to the county board and the proposed Dane County Heritage Preservation Commission.
  3. Continue to review all zoning petitions, conditional use permits and zoning permits for any impacts to historic architectural, archaeological or cultural resources.
    - A. Require applicants to attain a ~~letter of affirmation checklist~~ from the Dane County Department of Planning and Development that the project ~~does not have any~~ has been reviewed for significant negative impacts on known historic, archeological, or cultural resources.
    - B. Applicants with ~~proposals creating significant issues~~ negative impacts to known historic, archeological or cultural resources will be referred to the Dane County Heritage Preservation Commission and the State Historic Preservation Office for an advisory review to ~~resolve any identified conflicts~~ recommend to the Zoning and Land Regulations Committee any modifications or conditions that would mitigate such impacts.

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4. Implement and enhance the *Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan* to acquire and manage lands of historic or archaeological significance. Include historic, cultural and archaeological significance among the criteria for acquiring and managing lands under relevant county real estate programs, including parks, public facilities, PDR and TDR programs (*See Land Resources Policies 4 and 5*).
5. Work with the State Historic Preservation Office, colleges and universities, UW Extension, local historical societies, the Dane County Cultural Affairs Commission, and the proposed Dane County Heritage Preservation Commission to develop and implement an ongoing public participation and education program related to cultural, historic and archaeological resources. Collaborate with partners with a variety of expertise to design and implement specific projects, such as:
  - Outreach and educational programs;
  - Public opinion surveys;
  - Identification and documentation of historic and cultural resources;
  - Projects to expand public appreciation and understanding of the significance of Dane County cultural resources and history.
- A. Maximize public involvement throughout historic preservation program design, planning, property and district designation and implementation.
- B. Disseminate information about the state and federal tax credits for historic buildings and rehabilitation
- C. Seek grant funding to hire a temporary project coordinator to establish the program and develop recommendations for ongoing funding and support.
- D. Solicit input and participation from and maintain contacts with interested groups such as local governments, local historic societies, long-term stakeholders, schools and Native American tribal leaders.
- E. Develop collaborative projects, such as producing or updating interpretive guides to, or updating State Historic Preservation Office information about, historic resources in Dane County.
- F. Build on and expand use of existing resources, such as the State Historic Preservation Office's online Architecture and History Inventory (<http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/ahi>).
- G. Distribute maps and online resources illustrating Dane County historic sites, districts and resources that can be shown to the public.
- H. Develop a Dane County signage program to identify sites and locations important to county and local history, with links to detailed online resources.
- I. Continue to support the designation of Rustic Roads to highlight significant viewsapes and historic areas of the county.

## **Other Cultural Resources**

In the following section, cultural resources are defined as activities, pastimes, hobbies, sports, performances, folk traditions, indigenous practices, handiwork, music, art, dance, theater, religion or other cultural practices that may contribute to local character and social and cultural fabric of a community.

## *Goals*

### ***1. Incorporate ephemeral, non-architectural cultural practices into the county and town comprehensive plans.***

#### **Supporting objectives**

- A. Include cultural significance among the criteria for acquiring and managing lands under all county real estate programs identifying cultural institutions and the physical spaces that house them.
- B. Plan for the greatest protection and appreciation of the resources that contribute to the social and cultural fabric and identity of the community.
- C. Provide county and state assistance to local governments to identify, register and document ephemeral resources and cultural practices and sponsor nomination of eligible resources to relevant support and protection resources.

### ***2. Increase public awareness and appreciation of ephemeral and cultural practices.***

#### **Supporting objectives**

- A. Mobilize public opinion to place a higher value on ephemeral cultural resources.
- B. Promote the value of cultural resources for the education, pleasure, and welfare of the people.
- C. Conduct local meetings to emphasize local historical practices and traditions.
- D. Utilize school curricula to emphasize and educate students about local cultural practices and traditions.
- E. Interpret the significance of cultural practices and traditions to educate visitors about their significance, add greater interest, and preserve area history.

### ***3. Preserve and protect the physical spaces which support and house cultural resources and practices.***

#### **Supporting objectives**

- A. Perform regular surveys to identify and catalogue publicly- and privately-owned buildings which host, support, or facilitate cultural resources and practices.
- B. Identify spaces that at risk from development, decay, or other forces which may interfere with the space's role in supporting cultural resources and practices.
- C. Identify opportunities to utilize local and grant funding to preserve and protect those spaces which host and support cultural resources and practices.
- D. Ensure a succession plan is in place to make sure cultural resources and practices who lose access to spaces for any reason are able to find a suitable replacement space to ensure the continuation of the practice.

### *Policies and Programs*

1. Conduct regular surveys of county and town residents about types of activities, pastimes, hobbies, sports, performances, handiwork, music, art, dance, theater, religion or other cultural practices, including information about the physical locations where such activities take place.
2. Identify and map the sites and physical locations important for cultural activities and pastimes and historic events.
  - A. Where applicable, utilize the Dane County Historical Society's Historic Marker Program to recognize and signify these sites.
3. Identify gaps, unmet needs, and populations or geographic areas with poor access to cultural resources.
4. Include these locations alongside historic and archeological resources during the new construction and renovation permitting review process.
5. Incorporate policies to maximize access to places necessary for the pursuit of desired cultural activities.
6. Work with Dane Arts, Dane County Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office, UW–Madison Division of the Arts, Local School Districts, and other local arts and cultural organizations to identify cultural resources and create educational programming to further community awareness of local cultural resources.