

Existing Policies:

- Identify and map all significant historical and cultural preservation areas within the region.
- Preserve areas of historical and cultural significance for public use and enjoyment.
- Minimize the impact of individual development proposals on historical and cultural resources.



Hearshstone - World's First Hydro Electric House, City of Appleton



Heckrott Wetland Reserve, City of Menasha

Major Findings:

- There are 198 buildings, structures, objects, sites and districts, within the region, listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places.
- The region is home to 2 National Historic Landmarks. The Fountain Lake Farm in the Town of Montello is associated with the life of naturalist John Muir. The Little White Schoolhouse in Ripon is where the Republican Party was founded in the 1850s.
- There are 18 Preservation Commissions.
- Four communities have Certified Local Government status through the Wisconsin State Historic Preservation Office.
- Three communities currently have Main Street status: Ripon, Tigerton and Waupaca.
- There are a number of local Historical Societies.
- It is important to know how to access relevant information when planning for cultural resources, and to have a sense of the distribution of each type of resource.
- It is important to be able to identify areas where surveys of cultural resources have not been conducted, or where surveys were conducted so long ago that the validity of the information is in question.

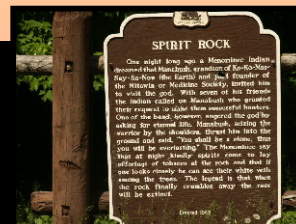
Regional Issues:

How can we:

- Improve the identification and inventory process for cultural resources, including archaeological sites?
- Address inadequacies in the surveying of cultural resources?
- How can we address some thematic holes in the historical record, particularly in terms of industrial sites along the waterways and lakes; agricultural sites associated with cheese-making; properties associated with indigenous populations and ethnic settlement groups such as the German, Dutch, and British?
- Ensure that local communities are aware of federal and state programs, such as the Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit program?
- How can we address communication and education issues to ensure that communities are aware of the existence and potential of Historic Preservation Programs?
- Promote networking and sharing of best practice examples between the preservation commissions within the region?
- Promote historic and cultural preservation as a means to benefit quality of life and create economic development opportunities?
- Promote historic preservation as an important tool in resisting the community homogenization that often results from "big box" developments?
- Plan for the preservation of government-owned historic buildings and the reuse of historic buildings over new construction?
- Support the three tribes within the region as they work to preserve their respective heritages?
- Address the fact that there are a number of communities in the region that are required to have local historic preservation ordinances, but because of the presence of National Register listings, that do not have such ordinances in place?
- Assess the need for a regional clearinghouse for information relevant to local historic preservation commissions?
- Balance the benefits of cultural preservation with the costs involved?

What's Next?

- July, 2003:
 - Advisory Committee develops a vision for the protection and enhancement of our cultural resource heritage.
 - Identify issues and opportunities for preserving and enhancing the region's cultural resources.
 - Consider the impact of current and future trends, identified in the Milestone Report 1: State of the Region Report, on the long-term sustainability of our cultural resources.
- July/August, 2003:
 - Answer the question: Does our envisioned future coincide with our probable future based on current trends?
 - Advisory Committee begins to develop strategic goals that will help ensure achievement of the envisioned future.
- September, 2003:
 - Complete draft Milestone Report 2: Cultural Resources Element.
- October, 2003:
 - Submit Milestone Report 2: Issues/Opportunities & Visioning to the East Central Commission for adoption.
- December, 2003:
 - Regional Public Information Meetings.



Spirit Rock Monument, Menominee County



Lock No. 1, City of Appleton