Preserving All 44 Counties and 200 Cities: The What, Why, and How of Statewide Historic Preservation Planning

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What Is Historic Preservation Planning?

APA defines Planning as: “The process of working to improve the welfare of people and their communities by creating more convenient, equitable, healthful, efficient, and attractive places for present and future generations.”
What Is Historic Preservation Planning?

Historic Preservation Planning, then, is: “The rational and methodical application of Historic Preservation to help bring about these improvements and to provide a clear and effective path to achieving those goals and reaching that overall vision.”
Purpose of the Plan

- Requirement of the HPF Grants
- Establish priorities and goals for Historic Preservation in Idaho
- Provide common framework for preservation community
  - Tribes
  - Non-profits
  - Government agencies
  - Local historic preservation commissions
  - Property owners & general public
What Makes Up the Plan

- Introduction
- Assessment of conditions
- Planning Process
- Goals and Objectives
- Highlights from the previous Plan

Historic Preservation Fund
In 1977, the historic Preservation Fund (HPF) was created to provide a funding source for state, tribal, local governments, and nonprofits. Offsets all lease revenues, net tax (leases fund the HPF). The HPF funds preservation efforts through the distribution of grants to each state’s historic preservation office. The amount of HPF granted to each state is allocated first by allotting each state an equal amount of funds for minimal requirements and, second, by the state’s population based on U.S. Census data. Data according to U.S. Geological Survey data, and the number of historical resources over 50 years in age according to U.S. Census data.

The HPF grants are approved for use to cover the costs of salaries, national Register nominations, surveys, studies, or necessary historic structure reports and engineering studies used to preserve cultural resources. At minimum, ten percent (10%) of funds given to SHPO must be allocated to sub-grants to state Certified Local Governments (CLGs) for local historic preservation projects.

Historic Preservation in Idaho
The is a responsive and a strong tradition of historic preservation in the State of Idaho, and a history of preservation-minded people and organizations working collaboratively to carry out important work. Historic preservation in Idaho has gained momentum over the last few decades, and partnerships have flourished across the state. These partnerships between organizations such as the Idaho Historic Preservation Office, Preservation Idaho, the Idaho Heritage Trust, the Idaho Archeological Society, and the many local historical societies.

The is no doubt that the state has also faced challenges; the SHPO, in particular, has been very limited for the last 35 years, but that has now started to change and is a source of some concern. Preservationists at SHPO, who were involved in the creation of today’s preservation programs, are writing and the SHPO is issuing decades of combined institutional knowledge. This is happening throughout Idaho for our profession.
What Makes Up the Plan

• Introduction
  ▫ Purpose and Vision
  ▫ Basic background on preservation
  ▫ SHPO and our programs

• Assessment of conditions

• Planning Process

• Goals and Objectives

• Highlights from the previous Plan
What Makes Up the Plan

• Introduction
• Assessment of conditions
  ▫ Info on currently recorded & listed resources
  ▫ Trends: Population, Economics, Politics, etc.
  ▫ Potential opportunities
• Planning Process
• Goals and Objectives
• Highlights from the previous Plan
What Makes Up the Plan

• Introduction
• Assessment of conditions
• Planning Process
  ▫ More than a year-long process
  ▫ Meetings with interested parties
  ▫ Survey – 697 responses, from all 44 counties
• Goals and Objectives
• Highlights from the previous Plan
What Makes Up the Plan

• Introduction
• Assessment of conditions
• Planning Process
• Goals and Objectives
  ▫ Education; New Tech; Financial; Curation
  ▫ Objectives to help work toward Goals
  ▫ Inserts of quotes from the survey responses
• Highlights from the previous Plan
What Makes Up the Plan

- Introduction
- Assessment of conditions
- Planning Process
- Goals and Objectives
- Highlights from the previous Plan
  - Chance to share some of the successes that resulted from the previous plan

PART 5: PRESERVATION HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2008-2014 PLAN

A Plan to the Future A Comprehensive Statewide Preservation Plan for Idaho, 2008-2014 was the last in a series of historic preservation plans for the State of Idaho which were considered to be under continuous review, resulting in only minimal changes and some statistical updates periodically. This provided a great deal of stability and consistency to historic preservation efforts in the state over a number of years. With changes in structure and new challenges, a new concept for the state’s historic preservation plan was needed. The result of which is this plan. One of the central ideas behind Preserving Our Feet, Enriching Our Future: The Idaho State Historic Preservation Plan is that in 2008, it is still very appropriate to last look at the previous plan, and deliberate about the accomplishments that came out of it and how those accomplishments reflect the previous plan’s goals.

Sandpoint Project

2008-2014 Plan Objective 31: Promote Sections 106 and 103 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the use of the comment process of an effective planning tool when dealing with historic properties that may be affected by federal projects.

The Sandpoint Project was a new-era effort that resulted from the Section 106 process. Located at the small town of Sandpoint, Idaho, it ultimately became the largest archaeological project in the State’s history, and one of the largest urban archaeological projects ever undertaken in Idaho. As a result of the Section 106 review process, undertaken prior to the construction of a four-lane byway through a 3/4-mile long portion of the town, a stretch of town that was the last settled when the town was established in the 1880s. Archaeological excavations recovered almost 600,000 artifacts, nearly all of them were historical artifacts.

The area impacted by construction was the town's largest commercial district, excavaions resulted in the discovery of a significant number of archaeological remains, which collectively provide a broad range of information from the early Native American occupation through the late 19th century. Each of the sites identified and excavated was unique, ranging from prehistoric to historic. Overall, the project was an excellent opportunity to explore the history of the town and the region as a whole, and provide a rich material record to the story of the town.

The multi-volume final report was completed in 2014, but the contributions of the project extend far beyond just the artifacts recovered. It is clear that the artifacts recovered will provide valuable information and contribute to our understanding of the history of the region, and the people who lived there.

The Idaho Historical Society, in conjunction with the City of Sandpoint, has worked to ensure that the findings of the project are preserved and available to the public. An exhibit featuring the project's results is on display at the Idaho Historical Society's main facility in Boise, Idaho.

Overall, the Sandpoint Project has enriched the city of Sandpoint, the State of Idaho, as well as the professional archaeological community, and it is a prime example of how the Section 106 process can benefit a community.

- What Makes Up the Plan
- Introduction
- Assessment of conditions
- Planning Process
- Goals and Objectives
- Highlights from the previous Plan
  - Chance to share some of the successes that resulted from the previous plan
Getting the Word Out

- Hard copies distributed
  - Every county clerk’s office
  - Each of our Certified Local Government partners
  - Partner organizations (Preservation Idaho, Idaho Heritage Trust, etc.)
  - Federal agencies
  - Tribes
  - Governor, Lt. Governor, State Legislators
  - Association of Idaho Cities and the Idaho Association of Counties

- Online - [https://history.idaho.gov/preservation-assistance/preservation-planning/](https://history.idaho.gov/preservation-assistance/preservation-planning/)
Not Just Another Plan Sitting on the Shelf

• SHPO uses it in reporting to the National Park Service
  ▫ All our work must be supported by, and relate to, the Plan
  ▫ Certified Local Government grant projects must advance the goals and objectives of the Plan
• Serves as foundation and justification for other preservation efforts
Next State HP Plan Update

• Update assessment of current conditions, see what’s changed since the last plan
• Extensive public outreach
• Develop new/updated Goals and Objectives
• Publish plan, distribute
Public Engagement Goals and Objectives

- Identify and engage key groups and individuals
- Strengthen existing and establish new networks
- Engage the citizens of Idaho to the greatest degree possible
- Generate feedback and ideas from the citizens of Idaho
- Identify the trends and issues related to historic preservation in Idaho
- Develop appropriate goals, objectives, and strategies to address those issues
- Establish a framework and process by which the goals and objectives may be achieved by all Idahoans
Public Outreach Efforts

- Online: Project website; Social Media; Email blasts
- Steering Committee and Planning Partners
- State-wide Surveys
- Focus Groups
- Open Houses
- Issue Briefs
- Public Comments
Getting Involved

• Updates on SHPO website
• Participate in focus group(s)
• Sign up for email lists
• Review and comment on draft documents

https://history.idaho.gov/hp-plan-update/
Governor Brad Little
Janet L. Gallimore, Executive Director
www.history.idaho.gov

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Affiliate Boards

- Foundation for Idaho History
- Friends of the Historical Museum & Old Pen
- State Historical Records Advisory Board
- Friends of Stricker Ranch, Hansen, ID
- Franklin Pioneer Association & the City of Franklin
- J. Howard Bradbury Logging Museum & the City of Pierce
- Historic Sites Review Board
- Archaeological Survey of Idaho Board
- Idaho Geographic Names Advisory Council
- Governor’s Lewis and Clark Trail Committee

Thank You!