



CULTURAL RESOURCES GOALS

- Goal CC-4:** Identify and preserve Napa County's irreplaceable cultural and historic resources for present and future generations to appreciate and enjoy.
- Goal CC-5:** Encourage the reuse of historic buildings by providing incentives for their rehabilitation and reuse.

CULTURAL RESOURCES POLICIES

Policy CC-17: Significant cultural resources are sites that are listed in or eligible for listing in either the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historic Resources due to their potential to yield new information regarding prehistoric or historic people and events or due to their intrinsic or traditional cultural value.

Policy CC-18: Significant historical resources are buildings, structures, districts, and cultural landscapes that are designated Napa County Landmarks or listed in or eligible for listing in either the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historic Resources. Owner consent is a prerequisite for designation as a County Landmark.

Policy CC-19: The County supports the identification and preservation of resources from the County's historic and prehistoric periods.

Action Item CC-19.1: In partnership with interested historic preservation organizations, seek funding to undertake a comprehensive inventory of the County's significant cultural and historic resources using the highest standard of professional practices.

Action Item CC-19.2: Consider amendments to the County zoning and building codes to improve the procedures and standards for property owner-initiated designation of County Landmarks, to provide for the preservation and appropriate rehabilitation of significant resources, and to incorporate incentives for historic preservation.

Policy CC-20: The County shall support and strengthen public awareness of cultural and historic preservation through education, public outreach, and partnership with public and private groups involved in historic preservation. Example programs include:

- Providing information to the public on historic preservation efforts and financial incentive programs.
- Creating a historic preservation page on the County's Web site with links to federal and state historic preservation programs and financial incentive programs.
- Distributing pamphlets that outline and discuss historic preservation programs available to property owners.



- Keeping handouts and applications on federal and state incentive programs at the Planning and Building public counters.
- Partnering with local non-profits to place plaques or other identification at designated historic buildings and sites.
- Coordinating with open space/land conservation organizations to preserve historic buildings and sites on land set aside for conservation, whether for public or private use.

Policy CC-21: Rock walls constructed prior to 1920 are important reminders of the County’s agricultural past. Those walls which follow property lines or designated scenic roadways shall be retained to the extent feasible and modified only to permit required repairs and allow for openings necessary to provide for access.

Policy CC-22: The County supports efforts to recognize and perpetuate historic vineyard uses and should consider ways to provide formal recognition of “heritage” landscapes, trees, and other landscape features with owner consent.

Policy CC-23: The County supports continued research into and documentation of the county’s history and prehistory, and shall protect significant cultural resources from inadvertent damage during grading, excavation, and construction activities.

Action Item CC-23.1: In areas identified in the Baseline Data Report as having a significant potential for containing significant archaeological resources, require completion of an archival study and, if warranted by the archival study, a detailed on-site survey or other work as part of the environmental review process for discretionary projects.

Action Item CC-23.2: Impose the following conditions on all discretionary projects in areas which do not have a significant potential for containing archaeological or paleontological resources:

- “The Planning Department shall be notified immediately if any prehistoric, archaeological, or paleontologic artifact is uncovered during construction. All construction must stop and an archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior’s Professional Qualifications Standards in prehistoric or historical archaeology shall be retained to evaluate the finds and recommend appropriate action.”
- “All construction must stop if any human remains are uncovered, and the County Coroner must be notified according to Section 7050.5 of California’s Health and Safety Code. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the procedures outlined in CEQA Section 15064.5 (d) and (e) shall be followed.”

Policy CC-24: Promote the County’s historic and cultural resources as a means to enhance the County’s identity as the nation’s premier wine country and a top tourist destination, recognizing that “heritage tourism” allows tourists to have an authentic experience and makes good business sense.



- Policy CC-25: Promote the use of recreational trails following historic alignments such as the Oat Hill Mine Road, and make every effort to include historical information at all trail heads and in trail maps and brochures. Also provide historical information about roads that follow historic trails where feasible, such as Silverado Trail, Old Sonoma Road, Glass Mountain Road, and others. Provide access for the elderly and disabled to interpretive information, trail segments, and trail heads as required by law.
- Policy CC-26: Projects which follow the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Preservation Projects shall be considered to have mitigated their impact on the historic resource.
- Policy CC-26.5: When discretionary projects involve potential historic architectural resources, the County shall require an evaluation of the eligibility of the potential resources for inclusion in the NRHP and the CRHR by a qualified architectural historian. When historic architectural resources that are either listed in or determined eligible for inclusion in the NRHP or the CRHR are proposed for demolition or modification, the County shall require an evaluation of the proposal by a qualified preservation architect to determine whether it complies with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Preservation Projects. In the event that the proposal is determined not to comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards, the preservation architect shall recommend modifications to the project design for consideration by the County and for consideration and possible implementation by the project proponent. These recommendations may include modification of the design, re-use of the structure, or avoidance of the structure.
- Policy CC-27: Offer incentives for the appropriate rehabilitation and reuse of historic buildings and disseminate information regarding incentives available at the state and federal level. Such incentives shall include but are not limited to the following:
- a) Apply the State Historical Building Code when building modifications are proposed.
 - b) Reduce County building permit fees when qualified preservation professionals are retained by applicants to verify conformance with the SHBC and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards.
 - c) Use of the federal historic preservation tax credit for qualified rehabilitation projects.
 - d) Income tax deductions for qualified donations of historic preservation easements.
- Policy CC-28: As an additional incentive for historic preservation, owners of existing buildings within agricultural areas of the County that are either designated as Napa County Landmarks or listed in the California Register of Historic Resources or the National Register of Historic Places may apply for permission to reuse these buildings for their historic use or a compatible new use regardless of the land uses that would otherwise be permitted in the area so long as the use is compatible with agriculture, provided that the historic building is rehabilitated and maintained in conformance with the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Preservation Projects.



This policy recognizes that, due to the small number of existing historic buildings in the County and the requirement that their historic reuse be compatible with agriculture, such limited development will not be detrimental to the Agriculture, Watershed or Open Space policies of the General Plan. Therefore such development is consistent with all of the goals and policies of the General Plan.

Action Item CC-28.1: Amend the Zoning Ordinance to provide a discretionary process such as a use permit by which property owners may seek approval consistent with Policy CC-28, for an additional incentive for historic preservation. The process shall preclude reuse of buildings which have lost their historic integrity and prohibit new uses that are incompatible with the historic building or that require inappropriate new construction.

Policy CC-29: Significant historic resources that are damaged by flood, fire, neglect, earthquake, or other natural disaster should be carefully evaluated by a structural engineer with preservation experience before they are determined to be beyond repair and destroyed.

Policy CC-30: Because the County encourages preservation of historic buildings and structures in place and those buildings and structure must retain “integrity” to be considered historically significant, the County shall discourage scavenging of materials from pre-1920 walls and other structures unless they are beyond repair.