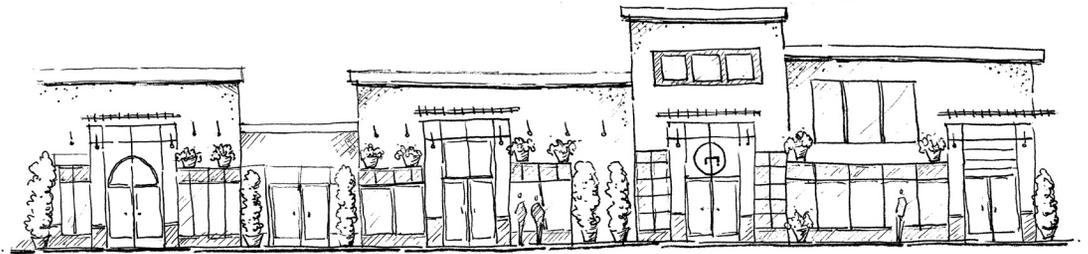


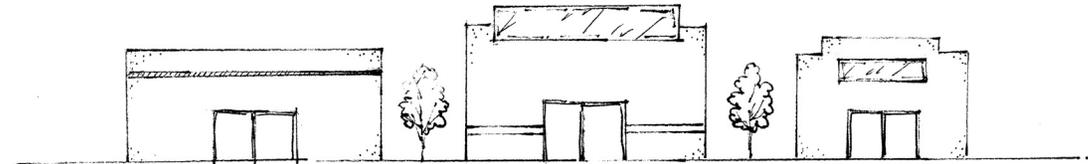
cultural and historic resources

Urban and rural cultural and historic resources encompass a variety of buildings, objects, landscapes, etc. These non-renewable resources enhance our understanding and appreciation of our heritage. Preservation of historic and cultural resources can increase our knowledge of history, provide scientific data, and stimulate economies through tourism. Often it is up to the community to decide what they value and desire to protect as historical or cultural resources. Protecting these resources preserves the character and quality of a community and its values.

Careful planning can prevent irreversible damage to historic and cultural resources. The National Park Service promotes a planning system that identifies, documents, and evaluates these resources. It involves historical research, inventory and documentation of existing conditions, site analysis and evaluation of significance, and the development of a management and maintenance strategy for the resource. Community efforts can mimic the National Park Service's planning system in their own preservation efforts (National Park Service 3 Dec. 2004).



Historic Main Street



New Main Street

Preserving historic and cultural resources, such as a historic main street, maintains the character of a town.

references and further reading:

National Park Service. Sept. 1994. Preservation Briefs: Protecting Cultural Landscapes. 3 Dec. 2004. <<http://www2.cr.nps.gov/tps/briefs/brief36.htm>>.

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