The Secretary of the Interior's Standards: Treatment Considerations

Seminar Overview

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties form the basis for historic property rehabilitation for all federal undertakings, for federal tax benefits, and often for state, local, and private projects. Explore the standards in detail with particular attention to the preservation of historic fabric, sustainable strategies, energy conservation, accessibility considerations, health and safety codes, security issues, and climate change. Participants have the opportunity to discuss the application of the Standards to their projects.

Agenda

Laws and Regulations

Role of National Register of Historic Places

- Nomination
- Documentation

Definitions of Treatment

- Preservation
- Rehabilitation
- Restoration
- Reconstruction

The Standards and Guidelines for Application

- Appropriate treatment
- Guidelines
- Identifying, retaining, and preserving historic materials and features
- Protecting and maintaining historic materials and features
- Repairing historic materials and features
- Replacing deteriorated historic materials and features
- Design for the replacement of missing historic features
- Alternations/additions for the new use
- Reconstruction as a treatment
- Investigating archaeological resources

Steps in Applying the Standards

- Understanding the value of the building, structure, site, or landscape
- Identifying contributing elements
- Architectural and visual character
- Identifying prior work and evaluating condition
- Understanding how the building or structure works: exterior, interior, mechanical systems, site, district/neighborhood

Other Considerations

- Sustainable strategies
- Energy conservation
- Accessibility considerations
- Health and safety codes
- Security issues
- Climate change

Meeting the Standards

Case studies

 Discuss the application of the Standards to participant projects