Engage People, Rebuild Places, Revitalize Economies

Historic Preservation for Sites

Amy Bell, NMMS Landscape Arch./Urban Planning Revitalization Specialist
How can you tell if a site is “historic”?

**Listing on the State or National Register** [https://www.nps.gov/nr/](https://www.nps.gov/nr/)

**Located in an Historic District**

County Seat: SILVER CITY
Site: Big Ditch, Downtown Silver City

**Historic Status:** National Register Historic District

**National Register Name:**
The Silver City Historic District

**Boundaries:** Center of College Street midway between Black and Lyons Streets, extending east 1900’ to 30’ east of the center of San Vicente Arroyo, south 2000’ to center of Spring Street, east to midway between Black and Lyons and then north to the beginning.

**Period(s) of Significance:**
1870–1920s: Early Town Development

**Significance:** Growth of a 19th century western town.
Cultural Landscapes, National Cemeteries, Over 50 years old, significant modifications, public vs. private

Unsure? Ask your NMMS Revitalization Specialist!
Common Historic SITES

Streetscapes
Common Historic SITES

Plazas
Common Historic SITES

Courthouse Grounds
Common Historic SITES

Parks
Common Historic SITES

Cemeteries
State Historic Preservation Division Review

HPD is involved, by law, if:
1. Federal $$$
2. Federal permit/licensing
3. State agency involvement
4. State $$$
5. Work of a political subdivision of the state (City or County)

As early as practical

NMMS RS facilitated
Historic Preservation Division
Review Process

1. Agency contacts HPD about project

2. Determine if historic properties are involved, for “determination of effect”

3. If there is no “adverse effect”, HPD will provide a letter to confirm

4. If there is an “adverse effect” HPD will consult with the agency until the adverse effect can be resolved

5. If it cannot be resolved, HPD and the agency enter into an MOA to stipulate adverse effect mitigation (ie: commemorative plaques or educational seminars)

6. If an MOA can’t be reached then the federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation is consulted
Historic Preservation Considerations for New Construction

Views – complimentary to buildings/significant features
Historic Preservation Considerations for New Construction

Contribution/significant features noted in Nomination
Historic Preservation Considerations for New Construction

*Authenticity in materials and style – don’t copy*
Historic Preservation Considerations for New Construction

Street pattern
Case Studies

SITE FURNISHINGS COUNT:
- 12 - BIKE RACKS (2 PER BLOCK)
- 18 - RANCHER (+1 PER 200 SQ FT)
- 24 - BACKLESS BENCHES (+4 PER BLOCK)
- 49 - 15' PEDESTRIAN LIGHTS (55' SPACING, TYP)
- 40 - 20' STREET LIGHTS (110' SPACING, TYP)
- 12 - 50 AMP PEDESTAL (2 PER BLOCK)
- 24 - TREE FENCE (8 AT ROUNDABOUTS)
- 91 - POWER RECEPTACLE (AT EVERY TREE)

PARKING COUNT:
- 142 - PARKING SPACES
- 13 - HANDICAP SPACES
- 8 - LOADING ZONES
Examples of Street Improvements/Infill in Historic Districts
Farmington’s “Revitalizing Main Street” Plan
Examples of Street Improvements/Infill in Historic Districts
Farmington’s “Revitalizing Main Street” Plan

Farmington’s “Revitalizing Main Street” Plan
- Planning is completed
- “Downtown Farmington Commercial District” listed in State and National Registers in 2002
- HPD Staff met with Farmington officials.
- Reviewed by HPD to ‘determine effects of project on historic properties’. HPD staff determined that there would be “no adverse effect” in 2016.
- Political subdivisions of the state are required to consult with HPD on every type of project, so that HPD can determine effects of project on historic properties = state preservation law.
Examples of Street Improvements/Infill in Historic Districts
Farmington’s “Revitalizing Main Street” Plan

- ROW stays the same width, sidewalk width remains the same, this retains the historic pattern of the district
- Plan and location for sidewalk and street furnishings
- Plan includes wayfinding
- Changes viewed as being ‘reversible’
Examples of Street Improvements/Infill in Historic Districts
Albuquerque – NMDOT’s Lead & Coal Avenue Street-calming

Street calming project included:
- Installation of curb lawn & landscaping; reducing traffic to two lanes (people were driving in parking lane)
- Bump outs for pedestrian crossing/parking
- Retention of sidewalk width
- Reviewed by HPD to ‘determine effects of project on historic properties’ in two different historic districts. HPD staff determined that there would be “no adverse effect” = state preservation law requires NMDOT to consult with HPD
Examples of Street Improvements/Infill in Historic Districts
Aztec – NMDOT project

Street calming project included:
- Installation of bump outs, creating pedestrian crossings and narrowing road from three lanes to two
- Retention of sidewalk width
- Reviewed by HPD to ‘determine effects of project on historic properties’ HPD staff determined that there would be “no adverse effect” = state preservation law requires NMDOT to consult with HPD
Resources

**Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties**
https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards.htm

**Texas Historical Commission Streetscape Design Guidelines**

**New Construction in Historic Districts – NTHP**
For more information or questions…

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