

INTRODUCTION

Historic Preservation Element

The Historic Preservation Element provides the framework for the identification, designation and protection of historically significant sites, structures and objects. Numerous historic preservation organizations within Clay County provide a large base of support for the objectives and policies in this element.

The goals, objectives and policies listed below will be used by Clay County professional staff and decision-makers involved in historic preservation planning in Clay County. These decision-makers include government officials charged with some funding and resource designation decisions as well as various historic preservation organizations who educate the public concerning the protection of historically significant properties. The objectives and policies are intended to serve as a guide for both public and private decisions.

Further, the objectives and policies in this element as well as other elements of the Clay County Comprehensive Plan should be considered and viewed as a whole. No single objective or policy is intended to have precedence over another. Rather, they should provide an overall framework for the management of the County's resources and for meeting the needs of current and future residents and employees.

HIS GOAL 1 To identify, evaluate, preserve, recognize, promote and utilize the historical, architectural and archaeological resources significant to Clay County's past.

HIS OBJ 1.1 Maintain the inventory of the County's archaeological, architectural and historic resources associated with its past.

HIS POLICY 1.1.1

The County shall maintain and regularly update the automated database of historical resources in the County. The Historical Resource Inventory will contain all resources listed on the Florida Master Site File for unincorporated Clay County.

HIS POLICY 1.1.2

The Clay County Planning and Zoning Division, in cooperation with Geographic Information Services, shall continue to maintain Historic Resources Maps, a comprehensive listing of all archeological sites and historic building locations.

HIS POLICY 1.1.3

The County Historic Preservation Board will cooperate with the other historical/preservation societies and organizations to establish a prioritized list of the top ten sites or objects of historical interest.

HIS POLICY 1.1.4

The County shall make available to the public any information on historic preservation incentives that are available from local, state, federal and private sources.

HIS POLICY 1.1.5

The County, in conjunction with other historical/preservation organizations, shall prepare a list of historical and geographical names significant to Clay County's heritage. The Engineering and Public Works and Economic and Development Services Departments shall make the list available to all developers and interested parties as an aid in naming streets and subdivisions.

HIS OBJ 1.2 Each historical resource identified in Clay County's Historical Resource Inventory will be evaluated for historical significance and will receive the appropriate recognition and protection.

HIS POLICY 1.2.1

The County will amend, as necessary, the Historic Preservation Ordinance for the purpose of continuing to recognize locally significant historical resources.

HIS POLICY 1.2.2

The County shall apply for historical state markers for eligible and significant county-owned historic sites as well as any available matching grants to offset the cost of the markers.

HIS OBJ 1.3 Clay County will assist the Historic Preservation Board and other historical organizations with planning grants, surveys and other public and private grants.

HIS POLICY 1.3.1

The County will assist historical organizations in the pursuit of applications for all available publication grants from public and private agencies and foundations to assist in printing county historical information (books and pamphlets).

HIS POLICY 1.3.2

The County will apply for the appropriate survey and planning grants available from both state and national preservation programs and consider the possibility of matching funds.

HIS OBJ 1.4 The County shall encourage the nomination of all appropriate structures, districts and objects to the National Register of Historic Places.

HIS POLICY 1.4.1

The Planning and Zoning Division will coordinate and assist the Historic Preservation Board in the preparation of a National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form as funds are available, to the Florida National Register Review Board for review as structures, districts and objects identified during the historical inventory are deemed eligible for nomination by qualified consultants or other historic preservation professionals.

HIS POLICY 1.4.2

Clay County will be responsible for the expense of nominating all National Register eligible resource on county-owned properties if any are identified or discovered.

HIS POLICY 1.4.3

The County shall make available to any interested person or organization information concerning the National Register of Historic Places, the nomination procedures and the benefits derived from listing in the National Register

HIS POLICY 1.4.4

Clay County shall continue to promote the preservation of historically significant housing and encourage its utility for residential use by adopting incentives for developers to protect and preserve historically significant housing in the County. Criteria for incentives may include granting a tax abatement to developers who do not destructively modify designated historically significant housing.

- HIS OBJ 1.5** **Clay County shall promote the enactment of a historic preservation overlay zone specifically relating to historically, architecturally and archaeologically significant sites.**

HIS POLICY 1.5.1

The County shall enforce the historic preservation overlay zone that as a minimum shall include criteria for the protection of historic sites, structures and cemeteries, criteria and procedures for designating historically significant properties and enforcement procedures.

- HIS OBJ 1.6** **The County should utilize historically significant county-owned buildings for cultural and/or recreational purposes if practical.**

HIS POLICY 1.6.1

The County shall make application to all appropriate agencies and organizations for assistance in funding a feasibility study for the purpose of rehabilitating suitable buildings.

HIS POLICY 1.6.2

The County shall notify all cultural and/or recreational authorities should a historic county building become available.

HIS POLICY 1.6.3

If feasible, the County shall follow the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation for improvements of county-owned historic sites.

Definitions

Secretary of the Interior Standards for Preservation is defined as the act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of an historic property. Work, including preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, generally focuses upon the ongoing maintenance and repair of historic materials and features rather than extensive replacement and new construction. New exterior additions are not within the scope of this treatment; however, the limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a preservation project. (National Park Service, 2017)

Secretary of the Interior Standards for Rehabilitation is defined as the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features which convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values. (National Park Service, 2017)

Secretary of the Interior Standards for Restoration is defined as the act or process of accurately depicting the form, features, and character of a property as it appeared at a particular period of time by means of the removal of features from other periods in its history and reconstruction of missing features from the restoration period. The limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a restoration project. (National Park Service, 2017)

Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Archeological Documentation is defined as a series of actions applied to properties of archeological interest. Documentation of such properties may occur at any or all levels of planning, identification, evaluation or treatment. The nature and level of documentation is dictated by each specific set of circumstances. Archeological documentation consists of activities such as archival research, observation and recording of above-ground remains, and observation (directly, through excavation, or indirectly, through remote sensing) of below-ground remains. Archeological documentation is employed for the purpose of gathering information on individual historic properties or groups of properties. It is guided by a framework of objectives and methods derived from the planning process, and makes use of previous planning decisions, such as those on evaluation of significance. Archeological documentation may be undertaken as an aid to various treatment activities, including research, interpretation, reconstruction, stabilization and data recovery when mitigating archeological losses resulting from construction. Care should be taken to assure that documentation efforts do not duplicate previous efforts. (National Park Service, 2017)