APPENDIX A: UNIVERSITY PRESERVATION POLICIES
2.10.1 Subject: HISTORIC PRESERVATION
Adopted: November 9, 1999

Applicability

This policy applies to all buildings, landscapes and places or objects of historic significance that possess exceptional value or quality in representing and reflecting the University's architectural and cultural heritage.

History

The University of New Mexico has several buildings, landscapes and places or objects of historic significance and value, and is one of the first institutions in the Southwest to adopt and promote the Pueblo Revival style as an important regional architectural style. The campus contains some of the earliest non-residential interpretations of the Pueblo Revival style. Many buildings also have historic significance because of the architects who designed them. John Gaw Meem, a highly respected New Mexico architect who helped to develop the southwestern adobe style, was responsible for thirty-six campus buildings.

Policy

It is the policy of the University that all buildings, landscapes and places or objects of historic significance be preserved and protected. Removal of or major alteration to any buildings designated by the University Historic Preservation Committee to be of historic significance must be approved by the Board of Regents. These unique historic resources provide a connection to the past for students, faculty, staff, alumni and the general public. They are essential to alumni development, student recruitment, the public image of the University, and help define a sense of place.

Implementation

The President shall adopt administrative policies and procedures which create the Historic Preservation Committee, define the Committee's responsibilities and provide guidelines for ensuring the preservation and protection of the University's historic resources, consistent with this Regents' policy. The President will report annually to the Regents on Committee activities and findings.

References

1. General

The University has several buildings, landscapes, and places or objects of historic significance and value including some of the earliest non-residential interpretations of the Pueblo Revival style. Many buildings also have historic significance because of the architects who designed them. These unique historic resources provide a connection to the past for students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the general public. They help define a sense of place and are essential to alumni development, student recruitment, and the University's public image.

It is the policy of the University that all buildings, landscapes, and places or objects of historic significance be preserved and protected. Historic resources should be continuously preserved and maintained to present a positive appearance to alumni, visitors, students, and the public, and to protect the enduring value of the buildings. Removal of or major alteration to any buildings designated by the University Historic Preservation Committee to be of historic significance must be approved by the UNM Board of Regents.

2. Historic Preservation Committee

The Historic Preservation Committee advises the President regarding historic resources and assists University departments in the preservation and protection of these resources. Departments and/or units shall consult with the Historic Preservation Committee on matters regarding the University's historic resources. Committee members include the University Archivist, and one (1) representative designated by each of the following organizations: Alumni Association, Campus Planning Committee, Facility Planning, Physical Plant, Department of Anthropology, School of Architecture and Planning, and the Department of Art and Art History. The Committee will elect the chair.

2.1. Functions

The Committee is also responsible for:

- Identifying and inventorying the University's historic resources. Historic resources are historically significant buildings, landscapes, and places or objects that possess exceptional value or quality in representing and reflecting the architecture and cultural heritage of the University. This determination should reflect both public perception and professional judgments.

- Recommending University historic resources for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places and/or the State Register of Cultural Properties. Since the nomination of a historic resource is a substantial undertaking with financial concerns
and long term commitment on behalf of the University, such nomination must be approved in writing by the Vice President for Business and Finance and the President.

- Monitoring historic resources for conservation, restoration, rehabilitation, maintenance, interpretation, and ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliance.

- Advising the appropriate administrator on matters concerning University buildings listed on the State Register of Cultural Properties and the National Register of Historic Places.

2.2. Procedures

Recommendations of the Historic Preservation Committee shall be forwarded, in sequence, for comment to the Campus Planning Committee, the Director of Facility Planning, and the Vice President for Business and Finance, before presentation to the President.

3. Guiding Principles

The principles listed below are designed to guide the Historic Preservation Committee in fulfilling the responsibilities listed in Section 2.1, herein. These guiding principles apply to rehabilitation, restoration, and maintenance efforts concerning historic resources in a way that responds to the University's primary mission, the need for change, and the desire to preserve and reinforce the historic character of the University in a cost effective manner.

3.1. Additions, Alterations, and Maintenance

Decisions concerning additions, alterations, and maintenance of historic buildings should take into consideration:

- the time period and significance of each building, group of buildings, or place;

- whether a change in use will affect the character-defining features of the historic building;

- whether additions are compatible in design and detailing, unobtrusive, and do not overwhelm the original building;

- how usefulness, convenience, energy efficiency, and comfort can be improved without compromising the integrity and historical character of the building;

- how safety and accessibility to the handicapped can be achieved while still maintaining the detailing and visibility of important building facades;

- the effect of interior changes on the architectural or historic significance and/or visibility or impact on the exterior of the building;

- retention of views of any significant facades of historic buildings when designing new buildings; and

- preservation of the historical character of buildings through preventative

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maintenance, routine maintenance, and minor alterations.

3.2. Landscape and Open Space

Decisions concerning landscaping and open spaces should take into consideration:

- that the relationship between a historic building, the landscape, and the open space surrounding them or between them helps define the character of the site;
- the extent to which streets, walks, and plazas reflect the era of the surrounding historic buildings;
- how the placement of site elements such as parking lots, seating areas, bike racks, trash receptacles, dumpsters, and signs affects the integrity of historic buildings and sites;
- the use of landscape features to enhance historic buildings and the relationship between such buildings; and
- the historic merit of landscapes in their own right and the importance of appropriate maintenance.

3.3. Artworks and Decoration

Decisions concerning artworks and decoration should take into consideration the relationship of historic artworks, sculpture, furniture, and decoration within their original context, both exterior and interior.

Comments may be sent to UBPPM@UNM.edu
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