

5. Preservation Element of the Plan

5.1. Existing Cultural Resources

The ORNHA's cultural resources were extensively documented in the 1994 plan, which focused on oil resources and historic properties within the major communities of Titusville, Rouseville, Oil City, Franklin and Emlenton. Since 1994, the importance of a number of resources have been recognized through National Register listing or been determined eligible for the National Register. Some significant resources have been lost, including the Colonel Drake Hotel in Titusville, the Rouseville Refinery, and, most probably, an unidentified number of oil-related artifacts in the region's woods or fields that were never recorded.

The 2006 Master Plan augmentation updates the lists generated in 1994, except for oil artifacts in fields and woods. The updated list includes the five National Register-listed districts in Oil City, Titusville, and Emlenton, properties determined eligible for the National Register as part of the Section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and additional historic resources identified by the public. The resource list will also be augmented later in 2006 through identification and documentation of additional oil-related resources in Oil Creek State Park and increased interpretation of these additional resources to be documented.

5.1.1. Cultural Resources Related to History of Petroleum Industry

The 1994 Plan identified and mapped the vast majority of resources associated with the petroleum industry. These resources include refining facilities, oil wells and derricks, and oil leases and farms, the majority of them concentrated along Oil Creek. Several of the most important buildings and structures, including Drake Oil Well, a National Historic Landmark, and the industrial facilities of the Imperial Works of the Oil Well Supply, National Transit Pump & Machine Company and the Franklin Rolling Mill & Foundry Company, are recognized in the National Register of Historic Places or have been determined eligible for listing in the Register. The former offices of the Galena Signal Oil Company in Franklin were recently sympathetically rehabilitated for office and residential uses. The oil refinery in Rouseville closed since 1994 and all structures on the main refinery parcel have been demolished, leaving several administrative structures on the easterly side of Route 8 in the Borough of Rouseville. With the previous closure of the Emlenton; this leaves the region without any operating refineries.

Significant archival materials pertaining to the petroleum industry continue to be collected and made available to the public. The most important collection remains at the Drake Well Museum archives and serves as a significant research institution for authors, historical consultants, and oil industry representatives. Other collections include Pennzoil Company documents at the Venango Museum; old editions of *The Derrick* stored in the basement of the newspaper company's building; and the John R. Campbell Collection in the Oil City Library, and resources in Oil City Hall including materials at the City Engineer's Office, property records, and maps, which include the large Stephenson wall map of Oil City that dates from 1872.

5.1.2. Cultural Resources Related to History of Natural Gas Industry

The 1994 Plan noted resources associated with the natural gas industry. Since then, a significant collection of artifacts is now stored at the Weaver Building in Oil City, while the Pumping Jack Museum in Emlenton, which features artifacts and documents of that community's association with the gas industry, opened in 2004. The Drake Well Museum has also augmented their collection with documents related to the region's early gas industry. .

5.1.3. Other Important Cultural Resources

The Oil Region's cultural resources also include the buildings and landscapes that directly resulted from wealth and activity generated by the oil and natural gas industries, exhibited by substantial high style residences in major communities and enclaves of workers' housing, of which several neighborhoods are now listed in the National Register. Late 19th and early 20th century religious, commercial, and institutional buildings in the region's communities are also representative of this area's commercial and industrial prosperity.

Several of the region's bridges were determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), although these actions resulted from NHPA Section 106 review of proposed demolition or substantial alteration of the original fabric with federal funding. Of 9 historic bridges determined eligible or listed in the NRHP in the region, only two, the Pithole Stone Arch Bridge and the Belmar Bridge on the Sandy Creek bicycle trail, remain and have been recently rehabilitated for continued use.

Resources from the region's history before its oil boom years also remain and include several older structures in the county seat of Franklin and the area's earliest cemeteries.

5.2. *Existing Preservation Activities*

5.2.1. Policies, Programs, and Projects

Policies

Preservation activity in the region is largely guided by activities undertaken or funded by the Oil Region Alliance and its predecessor, Oil Heritage Region, Inc. As the most prominent organization involved in preservation, ORA has established guidelines for types of preservation projects it will financially support; actively assisted with preservation of threatened buildings and other cultural resources; annually recognizes outstanding rehabilitation and restoration projects; and is officially involved in the NHPA Section 106 review process as a consulting party for PennDOT's proposed transportation projects. Groups or individuals dedicated to the preservation of certain buildings or other cultural resources provide evidence that a strong commitment of time, attention, and funding to further preservation efforts exists in the region. To date, there has been minimal governmental oversight or intervention in preservation policy or actions. The Historic Franklin Preservation Association reviews proposed exterior alterations to buildings within the National Register-listed Franklin Historic District, but has no authority to mandate changes to the proposed work. The City of Titusville is currently considering a local historic district to help protect its significant architectural legacy.

Programs

Since 1994, preservation programs in the ORNHA have seen a significant increase largely due to heightened awareness of the region's cultural resources and widespread funding efforts by ORA and OHR, Inc. Preservation programs include annual awards for outstanding preservation projects, an annual conference (since 2000) highlighting the history and care of the region's Victorian buildings; guided tours and walking/driving tour brochures focusing on the region's historic areas and buildings; and OHR, Inc. support for preparation of five historic district nominations and a National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form for resources associated with the Oil Industry of Western Pennsylvania. The most important current initiative is the ORA-sponsored Route 8 & 62 Corridor Study, which created an informational database of all parcels and existing buildings in the corridor and examined the reuse potential for 13 key buildings in five communities along the Route8/62 corridor. Programs outlined in the ORA's

2006 Action Plan include the Phase II continuation of this Corridor Study and an improvement assistance program in Oil City's central business district.

Projects

Buildings and structures:

The rehabilitation of several individual buildings or structures is currently in either the planning or construction phase. These projects include the recent completion of the exterior and interior rehabilitation of the Coal Oil Johnny House, which was moved to Rynd Farm in Oil Creek State Park. The National Register-listed house now serves as a visitor center and interpretive facility in conjunction with the Rynd Farm terminus on the OC & T RR. The OC & T RR, Inc. has nearly finished the Caboose Motel in Titusville, which involved the restoration of 21 connected cabooses now used for specialty lodging. The Town Square Block in downtown Titusville is an example of a mixed-use rehabilitation of a series of buildings that has brought a popular new restaurant and additional office space to the community. This project serves as a model for appropriate rehabilitation techniques, as it connected several individual buildings, including code-compliant egress and fire protection, combining upper floor space for office use to supplement retail ground floor use. Franklin's Galena Signal Oil Office Building has been recently rehabilitated for several ground floor offices, including the office of State Senator Mary Jo White, while the upper floors serve residential uses. Community Playhouse, Inc., a local theatre group in Oil City, is currently fundraising for their redevelopment of the former Lyric Theatre on Seneca Street into an intimate community performance space. The Crawford Center in Emlenton, a former school building, was recently rehabilitated for municipal and community use, and is also the home of the Pumping Jack Museum and an Oil Region Alliance visitor center.

The ORA supported recent studies of the existing conditions and reuse feasibility for the Neilltown Church in Forest County, just east of the NHA boundaries. A Historic Structure Report and National Register nomination are expected outcomes of this work.

The Route 8 & 62 Corridor Study, projected to move into Phase II this year, will assist individual owners of some of the 13 buildings investigated in Phase I who are interested in future rehabilitation efforts. Assistance may include a revolving loan fund and funds for affordable housing uses.

Archives:

Preservation of ORNHA's history is the steadfast concern of many individuals and organizations throughout the region. Recent projects include: continuation of the collection, cataloging, and protection of archival materials in the Venango County Historical Society; compilation by VCHS in PastPerfect software of the gas collection at Weaver Building; opening of local historical and gas-related collections in the Pumping Jack Museum in Emlenton; transcription of Venango County's 19th and 20th century tax records; and creation of an on-line database of the Ida M. Tarbell Collection, which contains this noted local journalist's letters, books and photographs, at Allegheny State College's Pelletier Library in Meadville.

5.2.2. Existing Preservation Organizations

Local/Regional

Preservation organizations are active in all of ORNHA's major communities. Some are dedicated to preservation of the area's built environment, although the majority of these organizations focus on preservation of significant archival materials. The Historic Franklin Preservation Association is the region's oldest building preservation organization, which continues its efforts to preserve Franklin's built environment through walking tours, Preservation Month events in May, and a

plaque program that displays the date of construction and original owner of the city's buildings. Sponsored by the ORA and other charitable foundations, the annual Victorian Architecture and its Preservation conferences in May are organized and presented by a small group of individuals, assisted by members of the local community in which the conference is held. This year's conference in Franklin will be concurrently held with the Pennsylvania Heritage Partnerships Conference, sponsored by Preservation PA, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC), Pennsylvania Heritage Areas Program, National Park Service, PennDOT, Pennsylvania Downtown Center, AIA Pennsylvania, Center for Rural Pennsylvania, and the Oil Region Alliance. The ORA's Heritage Advisory Council and its recently formed Preservation Subcommittee will provide guidance and oversight of preservation activities and policies throughout the region.

The region's numerous historical societies include: the Venango County Historical Society, which is extremely active in genealogical research and publishing; the Venango County Genealogical Club, which is open several days a week to the public within the Oil City Library; the newly reconstituted Oil City Heritage Society, whose monthly meetings at the Oil City Library have an educational focus; the Titusville Historical Society, which has important collections; and the individuals who oversaw the installation of the exhibits in the Pumping Jack Museum in Emlenton and provide on-site tours. The Crawford County Historical Society in Meadville supports the county's many smaller community historical societies and maintains a large research and archives facility that includes many oil and gas-related historical documents and artifacts.

State

Several state agencies and organizations, in particular the Pennsylvania Heritage Areas Program, have been involved in ORNHA activities. The Pennsylvania Heritage Areas Program, formerly the Heritage Parks Program, of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, has provided technical assistance and funding to the Oil Region State Heritage Area since its establishment in 1994. Preservation Pennsylvania, the statewide non-profit preservation organization, provides technical assistance to organizations and coordinates Pennsylvania at Risk, a list of endangered historic properties that included the Coal Oil Johnny House. The state's historic preservation office, the Bureau of Historic Preservation within the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, coordinates regulatory reviews; offers technical assistance on tax credits, National Register nominations, and inventories; and provides limited funding for survey and planning projects. Other agencies include the Pennsylvania Downtown Center, which is holding a conference in Erie, about an hour north of the ORNHA, in June 2006, and the Pennsylvania Main Street Development.

National

Since the 2004 designation of the Oil Region NHA, the National Park Service's Northeast Region Philadelphia office has provided technical and administrative assistance. The Alliance of National Heritage Areas, a membership organization open to the 27 National Heritage Areas and their supporters, recently formed Heritage Preservation Development, Inc., a 501(c)(3) organization that can assist NHA organizations with best practices in management, education, development, and preservation. The National Trust for Historic Preservation has assisted the ORA in the past with tourism efforts and offers a wide variety of technical and financial assistance programs that further rehabilitation, tourism advocacy, and economic development.

Other programs of the National Park Service that may be able to provide assistance in the future include the Historic American Building Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER) program, which records significant buildings and structures; Rivers and Trails Conservation Assistance program, which provides technical advice on recreational interests; and

Cultural Resources Programs, Preservation Action, the national preservation advocacy organization, coordinates grassroots lobbying efforts for historic preservation.

5.3. Potential Elements of a Preservation Program

The following section describes a series of preservation initiatives that should be considered as elements of the Management Plan Augmentation for the Oil Region National Heritage Area. Many of these elements have been pursued in the past by OHR and its successor, ORA; however, the proposal is that the preservation effort be made more systematic and be closely integrated with related economic development. The emphasis and scale of each element may vary, depending on the approach that is selected to augmenting the Plan.

Nearly all suggested preservation programs or projects involve technical and/or financial assistance. Technical assistance programs may be undertaken either directly by existing or new staff at ORA or through funding of consultants to provide such services. Financial assistance, offered directly through ORA or through their assistance as a pass-thru agent, could be aligned to support many of the technical assistance programs described above. In addition to technical and financial assistance, ORA may also provide advocacy support for preservation efforts, in the form of public testimony on the importance of threatened cultural resources and programs aimed at their preservation; articulation of policies and strategies for enhancement and protection, and; pro-active establishment of programs that aid long term maintenance, appreciation, and protection of the region's cultural resources.

5.3.1. Resource documentation assistance

Resource Inventory/Recordation Programs would identify and document important properties within the ORNHA. Recordation programs include inventories using Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) forms that can be completed by volunteers with guidance/assistance from ORA or consultants or directly by consultants. Inventory programs have been done in the past in the region and have been important in achieving NHA designation.

Historic American Building Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER) Surveys thoroughly document the appearance, history, and operation of significant resources. The HABS/HAER program previously recorded 17 resources in ORNHA. Established in 1933 as a dual employment program for architects, photographers and historian, the HABS program continues this tradition of recording significant buildings and interiors through photographs, narrative text, and measured drawings. The Historic American Engineering Record is a more recent program for the documentation of bridges, industrial facilities, and equipment. Fragile industrial resources, such as oil pumping equipment/industrial buildings with older and/or original equipment, and bridges should be recorded through this program, possibly through local college and university assistance and funding by ORA.

National Register of Historic Places/Determination of Eligibility Programs can document key resources. The act of determining properties eligible for the National Register is usually triggered by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, which requires review and mitigation of the effects of federal undertakings on historic properties. ORA should participate as fully as possible in this process to ensure that public consultation required by the review is carried out. Eight (8) extant individual buildings, structures and sites and six (6) historic districts are currently listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the official federal list of significant properties. A multiple property documentation form that presents the historic and physical context for oil-related resources in western Pennsylvania provides the basis for future nominations of properties

associated with this historic context, which should be encouraged by ORA through financial or technical assistance.

Artifacts/Documents Cataloging and Conservation Programs can assist historical societies and other public or public organizations that collect documents and artifacts to properly catalogue and conserve their collections. ORA has provided funding for such efforts in the past and should continue to provide support and technical assistance for such efforts.

Centralized Archives and/or Database would allow historical societies and other related organizations to safely store their collections in a central repository, if they so chose. This proposal was outlined in the 2004 Management Plan. A centralized database of all collections in the ORNHA or those outside that possess relevant information would provide ease of access for researchers. The database could be available on-line at all archival facilities in the ORNHA. ORA could fund the creation of the centralized database and should support the feasibility study – defined in the 2004 Plan Update - for a centralized archives facility.

5.3.2. Planning assistance to communities

A Main Street Program would emphasize storefront and upper floor reuse or retention of existing commercial/residential uses in the core communities' downtown buildings. The program may include organizational, marketing, design, and economic development assistance and direction. The Pennsylvania Downtown Center and the Pennsylvania Main Street Development agencies, as well as the National Trust's well-established Main Street program can provide assistance.

A Small Communities Initiative could complement a Main Street effort and could promote economic and visitor development, as well as preservation, in smaller communities, such as Nickelville, Pleasantville, and President and provide design and funding assistance for physical improvements.

Visualization programs and/or charrettes are intensive efforts – often held in a single day or over a weekend – organized to develop design and reuse goals for certain highly visible and /or strategic areas within the region. Such programs often invite outside professional to lead workshops in order to provide building owners, architects, economic development professionals, preservationists, concerned citizens, and others the chance to envision what an area could like look and be in the future through an interactive solution process. Workshop sessions often produce conceptual drawings for both infill development or reuse and rehabilitation of existing structures. The outcome could also include a set of business goals for proposed reuse or successful continuation of uses in the area.

Preservation plans or comprehensive plans with a preservation component would provide another useful source for identifying important resources and the favorable/unfavorable factors influencing their preservation. Specific tools for retention and rehabilitation of buildings and areas, guided by priorities and an action plan with designated partners and funding, are essential elements of the planning process. ORA could guide municipalities through the process through sample plans and strategic advice or funding of consultants to prepare the plan.

Grant writing assistance can be provided to communities and nonprofit groups to solicit external funds in support of proposed projects or programs.

5.3.3. Building conservation technical assistance

A Code Enforcement Program would include training for municipal code officers regarding waivers to historic buildings in compliance with the new Uniform PA Building Code. The

training program could be coupled with incentives to building owners to comply with the code and reduce the number of older buildings lost to code violations.

Guidance on appropriate rehabilitation techniques to building owners, architects, and contractors with could be achieved through many channels. Literature could be distributed either at specified locations or at events or through information on ORA website or to links to relevant websites. Assistance could also include one-on-one consultations or public workshops. Interpretation of the Secretary of the Interior's Treatment for Historic Properties, and more specifically the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, could be circulated through sample design guidelines, demonstration projects, and articles in local publications. Several sub-programs that would fit within this element might include:

- **Exterior Paint Program** to technical assistance with paint preparation issues to both dramatically improve the appearance of an area and hopefully deter the use of artificial siding. Many successful programs around the country have teamed with a paint supplier for donations of materials and technical advice.
- **Old Building Fair or Expo** exposes old building owners, contractors and architects to appropriate products, craftsman, professional services, rehabilitation techniques, historic architectural styles, and other topics related to owning and maintaining an older building. The event could include exhibitors' booths, lectures, and demonstrations of rehabilitation techniques. ORA could sponsor or coordinate such an event on an annual or other basis.
- **Old Building Doctor Program** would enable building owners and others to receive diagnoses of building problems, such as water infiltration or peeling paint, and solutions to resolve them. This program would involve a team of preservation specialists (architects, contractors, PHMC staff) who provide an overview of common building issues, accompanied by a series of house visits to individual buildings to diagnose symptoms and devise a cure. The program could be offered periodically within the ORNHA. A small fee for the individual site visits could be charged. ORA could work with the PHMC and Preservation Pennsylvania to identify knowledgeable local architects and contractors and to solicit assistance with program participation and funding.
- **Local Contractor/Building Professionals/Products Directory** could list local contractors and other building professionals by specialty and supplies product sources. ORA could compile and update the directory as necessary. Listed companies and individuals could include references and recommendations.

5.3.4. Education and recognition programs

A Cemetery Preservation Program would respond to an area of some local interest and might help maintain and protect ORNHA cemeteries through assistance with cleanup, restoration of gravestones, fences, buildings, and landscaping, technical advice, financial assistance, and coordination of activities such as volunteer clean up and recording efforts.

A Marker/Plaque Program would expand the current awareness program in Franklin to other communities across the Oil Region. ORA volunteers, staff, or consultants could research buildings to determine dates of construction and original owners' names. An attractive plaque with the ORA logo could be provided to recipients who pay a small fee for research and the plaque. ORA should lead efforts to identify and document additional sites for the State Historical Marker program, especially along pedestrian-oriented streets.

Educational Programs of many types could open up new ideas and information about the importance of ORNHA's cultural resources. These could include lectures, tours, conferences, articles, books, or theatrical performances. Special programs created by individuals and organizations within ORNHA that meet the Pennsylvania Department of Education curriculum requirements and learning objectives could provide area schoolchildren greater knowledge and appreciation of their history and built environment. ORA should take a leading role in promoting educational programs through sponsorship or creation of educational programs.

5.3.5. ORA investment/partnership in rehabilitation and preservation projects

Pre-Development Assistance could give developers initial support in the form of feasibility studies, preliminary architectural plans, and professional advice regarding rehabilitation/financial issues for older buildings. Either ORA technical staff or consultants could provide these services. Several examples are underway, including the Route 8 & 62 Corridor Study and Neilltown Church Historic Structure Report. A reuse feasibility study can be one of the initial steps in determining the reuse potential of a building and provide direction on the future use, type of rehabilitation, marketing efforts, and funding that would follow.

Grant/loan programs for preservation “bricks and mortar” projects would provide additional sources of funding for key residential rehabilitation projects, façade rehabilitation projects in downtown areas, and, possibly, for brownfields clean-up efforts. An important potential for such projects would be that ORA might structure relationships and agreements that would provide immediate financial or technical assistance to projects but would net the organization a long-term income stream after completed projects becomes financially viable.

A **“This Old House” initiative**, carried out locally, could target a threatened, but strategically located building and show step-by-step decision-making and rehabilitation work to return the building to a productive use. The program might be formed through a partnership between ORA and a local non-profit preservation organization, and could be a vehicle for training local people in specific building crafts; demonstrating appropriate rehabilitation techniques, and; potentially recapturing the set-up costs after rehabilitation and sale. Periodic tours and articles might draw attention to the project and sustain interest and education of residents and visitors. This type of effort could be coordinated with Venango Video in order to tape and produce the segments for local cable TV viewing.

Historic building tax credit assistance could be provided to support developers as they “walk through” the financial, design and agency approval processes associated in order to claim either a 10% or 20% historic building tax credit for substantial rehabilitations or for other tax incentive programs. Assistance could take the form of workshops to present an overview of the programs and one-on-one advice on how the programs work in specific projects.

Specialty accommodations projects, as already suggested in the 2004 Management Plan, could assist and encourage rehabilitation of historic structure in appropriate locations (such as conversion of the Egbert Oil Company Building in OCSP) for bed and breakfast use. The program could provide assistance with historic building tax credit programs that could be applied to the type of development.

5.3.6. Regulatory tools to preserve cultural resources

Approaches to help preserve cultural resources could assist municipalities and community residents to develop sample legislation and ordinances and the means to gain support for implementation. Examples would include:

- **Demolition delay ordinance**, as has been used in many districts with significant historic resources. Such ordinances are adopted by municipalities and typically require a period of review for feasible alternatives to demolition for significant buildings.
- **Local Historic District ordinances** typically contain a review/approval process for exterior work on buildings within a significant area as well as standards and criteria for accomplishing such reviews and approvals. ORA staff or consultants could write or provide sample ordinance language, design guidelines, case studies, and public testimony to help pass such an ordinance.

Conservation easements or restrictions are methods for providing long-term protection of significant buildings and landscapes through the building or landowner's donation or sale of some of their development rights to a qualified 501(c) (3) preservation organization. An easement donated in perpetuity for a qualified building or scenic area would allow the owner to take a charitable contribution deduction. Congress is currently investigating and revising tax and legal implications of conservation easement programs, which would result in a more stringent program regarding the situations and deduction amounts that may be taken. ORA could also include preservation requirements that would last for a limited number of years for historic projects to which ORA provides financial assistance.

5.4. Criteria for Determining Preservation and Related Investment Priorities

Several criteria are reviewed below to determine which cultural resources should be preserved and to make decisions about the type and level of support they warrant. Depending on the priority given to each criterion, different emphasis may be given within the alternatives to this Plan augmentation.

Historic Significance is paramount when considering how resources of ORA should be directed. Levels of priority within this category, in descending order, include:

1. Officially designated and recognized landmarks, buildings and structures, and properties either listed on or determined to be eligible for the National Register, which would include the six National Register-listed historic districts in Titusville, Oil City, Franklin and Emlenton and individually listed properties within the ORNHA boundary.
2. Oil and gas-related resources and sites, whether or not officially designated.
3. Structures, districts, and landscapes with historical and/or architectural importance that are not officially designated, with special focus on such areas that adjoin or could have the potential to enhance areas defined in item (1), above. Examples of such areas include the Siverly area in Oil City, Franklin's Third Ward neighborhood, and smaller communities with a concentration of historic buildings, structures, or landscapes.
4. Important natural settings, including the tree-covered hilltops and settings adjacent to rivers and creeks.

Other criteria may supplement historic significance and be useful for setting investment priorities; these can relate to the overall shape and emphasis of the plan and the strategic approach to be taken by ORA in its implementation. Several of these criteria include:

- **Geographic focus** – could prioritize funding, technical, and advocacy assistance for preservation projects and programs to targeted communities or areas. Examples include the four major communities of Titusville, Oil City, Franklin and Emlenton, the Route 8 & 62

Corridor Study area, Oil Creek State Park, and the smaller communities that retain historic landscapes and buildings. The intent of such focus would be to achieve cumulative positive impact from investments made by ORA within ORNHA.

- **Interpretive potential** – this criterion might place priority on the capability of a resource to contribute to telling ORNHA's stories. Candidates would include venues where markers/waysides could be installed, buildings or settings where interpretation is available or could be added, and artifacts and documents that could be available for public access as part of a display.
- **Visitor potential** – this criterion would place highest priority on resources that have the potential to be accessible for visitor use, and would place lower priority on resources that cannot be made accessible to tourists and/or residents.
- **Economic development potential** – this criterion would consider the highest rated preservation projects or programs to be those that have the most potential to attract other private or public investment in other key resources and strengthen the core of individual or multiple communities.

Urgency of need – is a criterion that deals with immediate threats to historic resources, which can come up suddenly when resources are proposed for demolition or radically alteration that would diminish their historic values. Funding or technical assistance for this priority can be further categorized by: 1) importance of endangered historic resource; 2) type of threat (maintenance, proposed redevelopment, alterations to existing significant fabric, change in use); and 3) precedent-setting issue (demolition by neglect, demolition by franchise development, or use of non-sympathetic materials).