



National Preservation Institute

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Cultural Landscapes: An Introduction

Seminar Overview

In this introduction to the basics of cultural landscapes, learn about designed, vernacular, and ethnographic landscapes, and historic sites. Review applicable laws and regulations, and discuss how to identify and inventory character-defining features of a landscape. Explore the concepts of preservation planning and documentation, and the development of the cultural landscape report for use in managing historic and cultural landscapes. Case studies illustrate realistic approaches to effective landscape management and preservation.

Agenda

What are Cultural Landscapes?

- Examples, definitions, and categories of cultural landscapes
- History of landscape preservation in the United States
- Who works with cultural landscapes?

Documentary Film: *Connections: Preserving America's Landscape Legacy*

Produced by the National Park Service, American Society of Landscape Architects, and Garden Conservancy; narrated by Angela Lansbury

Reading the Landscape

- Landscape design principles
- Character-defining features of cultural landscapes
- Case study

What Makes a Landscape Historic?

- Defining integrity and significance for landscapes
- Aesthetics and authenticity
- Case study

Documentation

Types of documentation

- Cultural Landscape Reports
- Research, inventory and documentation of existing conditions, evaluation, and assessment

- Process
- Case study

Preservation Planning and Treatment

- Types of treatment: preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, and reconstruction
- Applying the Secretary of the Interior's Standards
- Stabilization
- Maintenance planning
- Regulations and laws

Managing a Landscape

- Managing natural change
- Integrating new initiatives
- Adaptive reuse
- Adapting to changes in values
- Politics and the cultural landscape
- Protecting landscapes and viewsheds
- Case study

State and Regional Cultural Landscapes

- Case study