

**POLICY - South Carolina**

**State Historic Parks**

**and Sites**





POLICY FOR SOUTH CAROLINA  
STATE HISTORIC PARKS AND SITES

PREPARED FOR THE STATE PARKS,  
RECREATION AND TOURISM COMMISSION

SOUTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND TOURISM  
BOX 1358  
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29202  
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## INTRODUCTION

The State Parks, Recreation and Tourism Commission Chairman designated the PRT staff to prepare a policy or philosophy that should be considered by the State in accepting historic sites or other properties for preservation and development as state parks or state operated facilities.

With recommendations from other Division staff members within the Department and staff members of the Department of Archives and History, the History Section of the Division of Parks and Recreation has formulated this policy. The following policy was adopted by the Commission to fulfill the aforementioned objectives in February, 1971.

Janson L. Cox  
Chief Historian



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## Criteria for the Policy

1. Subject: Designating State Historic Sites

According to Section 51-76(d) of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, "The Commission's plan shall also include the preservation and perpetuation of our State's rich historical heritage by acquiring and owning, recognizing, marking and publicizing areas, sites, buildings and other landmarks and items of national and state-wide historical interest and significance to the history of our State. No area, site, building or other landmark shall be acquired for its historical significance without the approval of the Commission of Archives and History."

These criteria need to be further clarified for the guidance of the Department and the information of the public. Obviously, only sites and structures which illustrate in an exceptional way the history of South Carolina should be selected. While undoubtedly sites in other states are associated with events of significance to South Carolina, practical considerations would indicate that state historic sites should be interpreted to mean sites within the geographic boundaries of South Carolina.

### Policy

It is the policy that state historic sites shall be located within the geographical boundaries of South Carolina and shall be designated on the basis of the following criteria:

- (i) The site or structure shall be closely associated or identified with events that have shaped South Carolina history in a prominent way, or illustrate effectively the broad cultural, social, political, economic or military patterns of South Carolina history;

or

- (ii) The site or structure shall have been prominently associated with the life of a great South Carolina personage;

or

- (iii) The site or structure shall have been prominently associated with an important movement in South Carolina history;

or

- (iv) The site or structure shall shed light on or illustrate effectively the culture of a prehistoric people, or shall be associated with important archeological discoveries which have affected ideas and concepts to a major degree;

or

- (v) The structure shall embody the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type exceptionally valuable for the study of a style or method of construction or its period or be a notable example of the work of an early master builder, designer or architect.

If the site or structure has religious importance in order to be eligible it shall also be significant in other fields of South Carolina history and shall be no longer in active use by a religious order or congregation.

The potential for illustrating South Carolina history shall be high--that is the site or structure shall be such that it will be possible for the visitor to gain an understanding of the history with which it is associated.

The site shall possess integrity; that is, it shall be known to be what it is represented to be, and shall include the original site. A further important consideration would be the extent of original materials and workmanship remaining. Intangible elements of feeling and association, though immeasurable, may be important factors in weighing criteria.

2.           Subject:           Selection and Establishment of State Historic Parks and Sites

For the purposes of definition, a state historic park shall generally be considered to be an area with or without structures of major historic significance suitable in size for development as a park with effective interpretive displays. A state historic site shall be any area or structure considered to be of major historic significance.

Selection of places to be commemorated as state historic sites and parks must depend, in the first instance, on their importance in South Carolina history. However, a consideration of almost equal importance is how will such sites illustrate that history. Of several sites of equal or about equal importance, the ones with the greatest potential for illustrating history should be preserved. This calls for judgment of the kind and condition of historic structures involved, as well as the degree to which they have been altered, and the availability of artifacts with which to furnish them.

Geographical location may also be important. Very remote sites may call only for preservation or stabilization, with little or no development for many years. Similar sites separated by distance may provide illustrations

of history or architecture which represent regional contributions to state history of such importance that would justify their preservation.

State historic parks may generally be established in either of two ways. First, an existing major historic site of suitable size may be selected and its potential realized to a fuller degree by the undertaking of extensive restoration and/or faithful reconstruction of buildings, and by the development of comprehensive interpretive display facilities and the creation of a visitor center. Second, the same kind of extensive development may take place on a significant new area of suitable size which has hitherto not been designated as a state historic site.

### Policy

It is the policy to commemorate only places of national and state-wide historical importance, and of these to preserve or restore only those which illustrate in an exceptional way the history of South Carolina.

State historic parks may be created either from existing state historic sites of suitable size whose potential for illustrating South Carolina history is very high, or in new areas whose historic potential is similarly high.

### 3.           Subject:           Need for Comprehensive and Balanced Historic Sites Program

The historic sites program as it has developed over the years has not been as comprehensive and balanced as would seem desirable. Sites have generally been acquired and developed on the basis of a specific set of circumstances. An analysis of existing historic parks and sites would show several examples of imbalance.

The historic parks and sites program must therefore achieve a proper geographic and thematic balance. It should give suitable coverage to important themes such as the Indians and the colonization of South Carolina, and to social, cultural, economic and prehistoric themes as well as to military history. It is also essential that such a program should be planned with a view to achieving adequate and appropriate geographical representation across the state.

### Policy

It is the policy that state historic parks and sites should present a comprehensive picture of all major aspects of South Carolina history and should be planned to achieve an appropriate geographic and thematic balance.

4. Subject: Development of Long-Range State Program

A proper thematic and regional balance will require a long-range program prepared on a state wide basis.

Such a long-range program will involve setting thematic and regional priorities. The program will cover both the greater restoration and development of existing historic parks and sites, and the necessary creation of a considerable number of new historic parks and sites. In accordance with the agreed thematic and regional priorities, the establishment of new parks will take place simultaneously with the full development of appropriate existing parks.

In this connection, land needed for new parks, or property to round out existing parks to permit better interpretation, should be acquired at the earliest possible moment in order to avoid probable continuing escalation in land prices. Actual restoration can then, if necessary, take place at a later date.

Additional skilled staff and considerable increases in budgets will be required to carry out this new long-range state program. The difficulties of recruiting and where necessary training suitable skilled staff and the need to spread the additional financial requirements over a reasonable period will probably necessitate a program phased over 10 years.

Policy

It is the policy to prepare a long-range state program under which regional and thematic priorities will be established and a comprehensive program laid down for the simultaneous creation of a series of new state historic parks and sites and the development of existing parks and sites to their full poteneial in accordance with these priorities. Wherever possible and within the availability of funds, land for new parks and to round out existing parks will be acquired as soon as possible.

5. Subject: Provisional Master Plans for State Historic Parks and Sites

The historic sites program has not as a rule in the past benefited from long-range and well-conceived development plans for each park. Too many parks and sites have been developed on a short-term and largely "ad hoc" basis and as a result their full potential has not been realized. Provisional master plans governing the phased development of all aspects of each state historic park and site should therefore be prepared as soon as possible.

Policy

It is the policy that comprehensive and carefully-conceived provisional master plans shall be prepared as soon as possible for each state historic park and site.



6.           Subject:           Methods of Preservation

Not every site of state historical importance lends itself to the same kind of preservation program. This will depend on a variety of factors, such as the following: How important was the person, event or place? How extensive are the structures or ruins, if any? What is their physical condition? How well have original features survived? Does the site lend itself to interpretation? Can artifacts be found to furnish or illustrate it? How accessible is it? Do we actually know enough about the site to interpret it satisfactorily? The policy should therefore be a flexible one and a plan for preservation should only be developed after answers to these and similar questions are known.

Policy

It is the policy with respect to a site recommended for preservation to carry out an exhaustive study of the site's potential in order to fit the site to the overall state program.

7.           Subject:           Exclusion of Certain Items from State Historic Sites Program

The items and themes not considered suitable for inclusion in the state historic sites program are: churches and other buildings still used for religious purposes; graves; disaster areas; and monuments situated outside of South Carolina.

Policy

It is the policy to exclude from any state historic sites program: churches and other buildings still used for religious purposes; graves; disasters and disaster areas; and monuments situated outside of South Carolina

8.           Subject:           Standard for Structural Restoration and Reconstruction

Restoration is the process of repairing physical deterioration in a structure by the use of materials and techniques, either original or as close to the original as possible. Reconstruction is the process of rebuilding from plans a replica of the original structure by the same methods. Both of these may be considered desirable objectives with which it may not always be within our power to comply. Cost may be prohibitive, materials may be impossible to come by, and furthermore it may be possible to increase the life expectancy of a structure by introducing materials and techniques

unavailable to the original builder. Consideration for visitor enjoyment of the site may also justify the use of special techniques, in lighting for example.

The important consideration, if one has to compromise with history, is to do it as unobtrusively as possible. If it is not possible to restore or reconstruct with modern materials and techniques in such a way as to conceal their use from the visitor, it is generally better not to try. The authenticity or faithful reconstruction of the original is the single most important asset in providing educational enjoyment of a state historic site. Departure from the use of authentic materials and methods must not be permitted however, except for just cause, and only after every effort possible for their use by the principle enunciated by the National Trust for Historic Preservation: "It is better to preserve than repair, better to repair than restore, better to restore than reconstruct."

Restoration or reconstruction should in all instances be carried out on the original site. Existing historic structures will not be moved to new locations in other areas for restoration purposes, unless there is no feasible alternative for their preservation, when their importance is other than in direct relation to their location, or when desirable for interpretive purposes. "As-found" drawings of existing structures should be made wherever possible before restoration or reconstruction begins.

### Policy

It is the policy in restoration and reconstruction of historic structures that line, level and fabric shall be as true to the original as possible, and that departure from this rule shall be justified only by overriding necessity or for the purpose of substantially increasing the life expectancy of the structure, and only then when modern materials and techniques can be effectively concealed. Restoration or reconstruction will in most instances be carried out on the original site.

#### 9.           Subject:           Research

The foundation of any sound development program is research - documentary, architectural and archeological. Without knowing as much as there is to learn about an historic place it is virtually impossible even to forecast its potential or to work out a master development plan. Implementation of a master plan cannot proceed satisfactorily until the physical character of a structure and its full history are known. It is a fundamental principle that to be useful, research must precede actual development work. The reverse order would not only result in an attempt to develop without adequate evidence but also cause the destruction of much evidence before it had been revealed and understood. Furthermore, it should be borne in mind that once inaccurate restoration or reconstruction has been made, it is difficult, if not impossible, to repair the error. The Department must be capable of proving the authenticity or faithfulness of its work.

Of equal importance with research on specific potential historic sites is research on a particular theme or aspect of South Carolina history. Thematic studies are needed in order to enable the Department to assess the relative merits of different historic sites to illustrate a theme, or to determine the extent of gaps in the over-all historic sites program and assist in the planning of projects that may be considered desirable in filling such gaps.

Both thematic studies and research on individual potential historic sites may be undertaken by research staff within the Department itself, or may be carried out under contract by a qualified outside source such as a university history department or an individual historian.

### Policy

It is the policy that no plan for development of an historic place shall be implemented until every reasonable step has been taken to determine its potential through documentary, architectural and archeological research, and, further, that no development activity shall take place until relevant research of the above nature has been conducted.

#### 10.           Subject:           Interpretation

The function of interpretation is to create understanding by explaining a site to the public. It is a job of communication. Whether visual or oral technique of interpretation is used, its purpose is to render more meaningful the significance of a particular site. The selection of the technique will depend on many factors, and fortunately there are almost as many techniques as potential situations. However, the objective in every technique is to reduce the spoken or written word to the minimum - to let the visual facts speak for themselves.

For example, let us start by considering an empty room in a house. One could identify it by means of a simple label, on the one hand, or, on the other hand, by furnishing it with the appropriate period furniture. It has been said that a picture is worth a thousand words. If this is so, then a three dimensional re-creation of the real thing would be worth many thousands. Besides heightening the dramatic effect, the furnished room communicates something of the culture of the time and the personalities of the people who occupied it. In this context the word "restoration" applies only to the actual fabric of the building. A building furnished or equipped to period is referred to as a "living display," and where human beings are added to the picture it is referred to as an "animated display."

The purpose of the living or animated display technique is to provide historical atmosphere. It attempts to re-create as faithfully as possible an impression of the life and times of a selected period.

It is limited as an interpretive device in the same way as one frame from a motion picture reel is limited: It is unable to provide the true perspective by which the broad patterns of history may be understood; or, to say it even simpler, it lacks background.

To overcome this limitation, it is generally necessary to resort to more flexible techniques. The best of these is the interpretive center (which may often be combined usefully with a reception or orientation center). The interpretive center attempts to add the dimensions of time and space which are denied the visitor viewing the historic house. It combines carefully selected three dimensional and flat objects (artifacts, documents, paintings) with illustrations and text to tell the visitor the Why and How of history, as well as the What, and will probably make extensive use of modern electronic interpretive techniques.

The reception or orientation center is a useful adjunct to the interpretive center and is necessary for all complex sites whether or not they include interpretive centers. Besides providing rest rooms and general information facilities, it usually includes simple exhibits which orient the visitor geographically and historically to the whole site and its environs.

Field interpretation is carried out in large and complex sites, such as battlefields. It normally uses simple devices, such as signs and trailside exhibits, to provide for the walking visitor auxiliary points of reference apart from the main interpretive and visitor centers, but may also employ some electronic techniques.

## Policy

It is the policy to provide historic parks and sites as required with effective interpretive facilities for the purpose of illustrating and explaining history in such a way as to enhance the visitors' appreciation of state history.

### 11. Subject: Publications

Publications are an important part of the interpretive program. They are also necessary both for the better understanding of historic sites and parks, and for the creation of greater public interest in them. There is, after all, small point in developing a comprehensive historic sites program at considerable expense if South Carolinians and visitors from other states are not encouraged to see them.

A properly conceived publications program will perform several different functions and calls for several types of publication. Some eight separate kinds of publications are desired:



- (i) Attractive, well-designed and appealing leaflets in at least two and preferably four colors for each park or major site, in a simple but imaginative and exciting format, each to be available free in considerable quantities, and each designed to tell in simple terms the story of that park, how to reach it by road and what to see on arrival.
- (ii) Equally attractive guidebooks for each park, again in an imaginative and exciting standard format and well illustrated with photographs and plans, to be sold and designed to tell the story of the historical significance of that park in greater depth, to describe in more detail the different features of the park and to set it in the proper perspective of South Carolina history. In certain instances in major parks the production of specially written and illustrated guidebooks for sale to children may also be justified.
- (iii) A somewhat simplified and less costly version of (ii) above, designed for students and to be given away free either in answer to individual written inquiries for such material or to parties of students visiting parks and sites as part of their school curriculum.
- (iv) Regional leaflets, to be a larger edition of (i) and with the same attractive appearance, designed to describe all the historic parks and major historic sites in one area and to tell how to find each park and how to get from one to another, to be available free in large quantities.
- (v) Books and booklets on major South Carolina historical themes attractively produced and illustrated and written for the general public and containing a distillation of the most important features of the thematic studies and other research carried out by the Department and to be sold at appropriate historic parks and regular retail bookstores.
- (vi) A major historic parks series, to be produced over a period of years one for each major historic site, which would primarily be designed for school and university libraries and similar readership. The series, which would be in two parts, one part containing detailed information on the history of the restoration of the park and good illustrations of its present appearance, and the other part consisting of a contributed appreciation by someone, preferably a distinguished historian, qualified to describe its historic significance.
- (vii) Monographs on special subjects drawing upon the points of the Department's research efforts, e.g. a study of South Carolina ceramics as revealed in archaeological research or a detailed analysis of the different research steps and programs involved in the reconstruction of Old Dorchester, designed primarily for serious post-graduate and graduate students in an attractive standard format, well-illustrated and written with distinction by experts of repute.

- (viii) Occasional papers on the results of different archeological or historical research projects, again designed for serious students and university libraries and again produced in an attractive standard format, but probably more simply and less expensively than the monographs referred to above.

## Policy

It is the policy to publish and where appropriate sell leaflets, guidebooks, related booklets of different kinds for the guidance of visitors to historic parks and sites and also more fundamental reports resulting from it research and restoration activities in order to disseminate the knowledge derived from the prosecution of the South Carolina historic sites program as widely as possible in South Carolina and elsewhere.

### 12. Subject: Buffer Zones

It is important that visitors to state historic parks and sites should wherever possible not be distracted from the appreciation of the historical environment and the historical theme of the park or site by the obvious or violent intrusion of modern developments such as service stations or supermarkets. Where appropriate, therefore, every effort should be made to acquire enough land around a park or site to create a suitable buffer zone to minimize these intrusions.

## Policy

It is the policy where necessary and feasible to acquire land to create buffer zones around state historic parks and sites to preserve and enhance their historical value.

### 13. Subject: Use of Historic Parks and Sites for Special Events

In some state historic parks special events having little or no relationship to the historical themes of the parks in question have been staged by outside organizations for many years, with jeopardy to the local historical environment. In such instances, when the park reaches an appropriately advanced stage of restoration and interpretation the Parks' Director may authorize the Park Superintendent to give ample and reasonable notice to the organization concerned that the special event may no longer take place in the park. Where the special event has a close relationship to the theme of the park and does not jeopardize the historical environment or public enjoyment of the park, the Parks' Director may approve its continuance.

## Policy

It is the policy to permit special events staged by outside organizations to be held in state historic parks and sites only when the events are closely related to the theme of the park and will not jeopardize its historical environment or its enjoyment by the public.

### 14. Subject: Public Information

As the state agency responsible for a publicly oriented program of research, preservation and interpretation of important historic sites, the Department bears a responsibility for public information activities related thereto. As the program and public interest grow, the need for a comprehensive public information program will grow. It is important that the public should be made fully aware of our growing number of significant historic parks and sites and encouraged to visit them.

A public information program can take a number of forms. The most obvious is the conveyance of information in oral or written form right at the parks and sites; sale of related literature at park reception center sales desks is another. The medium of the periodical - daily, weekly or monthly - will be used. Radio has always been effective, but today few media can compare in impact and coverage with television. Films and slides will also be utilized, for use by members of the Department or for loan or purchase by education authorities, service clubs, church groups, etc. In addition, where possible talks will be given to leading local clubs and groups in the more important centers.

## Policy

It is the policy to promote public interest in state historic parks and sites as historical and educational attractions, and to use all effective types of communication media for this purpose in an integrated program.

### 15. Subject: Co-operation with Education Authorities

Visits to properly developed state historic sites with modern, effective interpretive display facilities can do much to bring South Carolina history alive for students. The presentation free of charge of well-prepared brochures or booklets on the history of each park to all students at the end of their visits to such parks will further enhance the value of these visits.

## Policy

It is the policy to co-operate with state and local education authorities and encourage organized class visits by students to suitable local parks and sites.



16.           Subject:           Co-operative Arrangements with Other Bodies

Not all sites of state historical importance are so exceptional as to justify operation and maintenance by the State of South Carolina. The interest of other bodies (historical societies, municipalities, etc.) sometimes make it convenient to arrange for joint preservation. In some cases state-owned sites may be turned over for use by other bodies in return for a commitment to maintain them for a certain term. In other cases sites owned by other parties may be restored through contributions by the State of South Carolina in return for guarantees that for a certain term they will be operated for public purposes. In all instances a plaque should be erected in a suitable and prominent location to commemorate the state historic importance of the site and, where appropriate, to make mention of the Department's participation.

#### Policy

It is the policy to preserve state historic sites by entering into agreements with responsible parties, wherever such agreements are feasible.

17.           Subject:           Permanent Visitor Accommodations

Historic parks and sites are not the kind of attractions which call for overnight accommodations within their boundaries. Most sites are adjacent to built-up areas where hotels and motels are available. Even where large developments are under way, such as Charles Towne Landing, it is considered to be more in the public interest to protect the historic environment by keeping hotels and motels out of the park.

#### Policy

It is the policy to leave the providing of permanent visitor accommodations to the private sector of the economy, with such facilities to be located outside state historic parks and sites.

18.           Subject:           Picnicking and Camping

The appreciation of history is the prime purpose of the establishment of state historic parks or sites. Where the size and nature of the terrain are suitable, nature trails may be established and brochures on flora and fauna prepared for visitors. The provision of trails and the production of inexpensive booklets on the flora and fauna would contribute effectively to the achievement of one of the economic objectives of the park, namely the attraction of visitors and their encouragement to stay as long as possible.

Picnicking is a natural part of recreational travel today, and unnecessary disappointment and hardship would be caused to visitors if picnicking facilities were not provided.

Camping presents very different problems, in that camping facilities are potentially harmful to historic environment and, furthermore, almost all existing historic parks are of such limited size that there would be no room for the provision of camping facilities. Necessary facilities for camping should therefore be weighed in respect to terrain, location, and historic environment prior to being provided.

### Policy

It is the policy to provide nature trails and information on local flora and fauna. Picnicking and camping may be permitted and facilities provided, where the terrain and location will not adversely affect the historic environment.

#### 19. Subject: Souvenir and Refreshment Concessions

It is a natural expectation of many visitors to historic parks and sites today to be able to take away some reminder of their visit. The control of the sale of souvenirs can, however, present serious problems, and uncontrolled sales can impair and even defeat the preservation of the historical environment and atmosphere of a park. If souvenirs are sold on site, they should relate to the history of the site in question. The atmosphere of a resort souvenir shop must at all costs be avoided.

Experience has shown that one way of providing suitable souvenirs and securing the necessary degree of control is to set up park stores. Working closely with Park Superintendents suitable souvenirs would be procured, including related commercially produced books, for sale in the various parks, the final decision as to what is to be sold in each park lying in each instance with the State Park Director and his appropriate staff.

Visitors to South Carolina historic parks will also expect to be able to obtain light refreshments in some parks or sites which are remote from normal tourist facilities and in some major parks requiring many hours to visit. In such cases limited light refreshment facilities should be provided, without jeopardy to the local historical environment.

### Policy

It is the policy, if and when the demand arises, to allow the sale of suitable souvenirs in state historic parks and sites, and to permit the sale of light refreshments in remote parks or sites far from ordinary tourist facilities and in major parks requiring a visit of several hours, provided that in all instances the sale of souvenirs or light refreshments can be completely controlled and arranged without detriment to the harmony of the historic environment.

20.           Subject:           Admission Fees

At present admission fees are not charged at state historic parks and sites in South Carolina. This is now being done, however, in an increasing number of United States National Historic Parks, the usual charge being 50¢ for adults. Revenue from admission as a rule does not cover operating costs, but does defray much more than the cost of animation and demonstrations.

There is growing evidence that the public appreciates best what it has to pay for, and that the payment of admission fees tends to create greater interest in and respect for the site or park that is being visited. With the establishment of new parks and the full development of existing parks there will be an urgent need to keep the unavoidable increases in operating and maintenance costs as low as possible. All potential sources of revenue will accordingly have to be examined.

In future, therefore, admission fees to state historic parks and major sites will be charged wherever the volume of attendance will more than cover the costs of collection and wherever the park site is in a sufficiently advanced state of development or restoration to warrant the charging of admission. The amount of the admission charge will vary from park to park and will depend on the scale of the park and the extent of its restoration and development. In all cases very low charges should be made for students and children of 16 years and under. For organized school class visits under the supervision of a teacher, the fee may be waived.

### Policy

It is the policy to charge admission fees at suitably developed state historic parks and sites and where revenue will exceed the costs of collection, the amount of the fee to vary from park to park depending on the scale of development and restoration in each park and the charges for students and children to be minimal.

## THE POLICY

1. State historic sites shall be located within the geographical boundaries of South Carolina and shall be designated on the basis of the following criteria:

- (i) The site or structure shall be closely associated or identified with events that have shaped South Carolina history in a prominent way, or illustrate effectively the broad cultural, social, political, economic or military patterns of South Carolina history;

or

- (ii) The site or structure shall be prominently associated with the life of a great South Carolina personage;

or

- (iii) The site or structure shall be prominently associated with an important movement in South Carolina history.

or

- (iv) The site or structure shall shed light on or illustrate effectively the culture of a prehistoric people, or shall be associated with important archeological discoveries which have affected ideas and concepts to a major degree;

or

- (v) The structure shall embody the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type exceptionally valuable for the study of a style, or method of construction, or its period, or be a notable example of the work of an early master builder, designer or architect.

If the site or structure has religious importance, in order to be eligible it shall also be significant in other fields of South Carolina history and shall be no longer in active use by a religious order or congregation.

The potential for illustrating South Carolina history shall be high -- that is, the site or structure shall be such that it will be possible for the visitor to gain an understanding of the history with which it is associated.



The site shall possess integrity; that is, it shall be known to be what it is represented to be, and shall include the original site. A further important consideration would be the extent of original materials and workmanship remaining. Intangible elements of feeling and association, though immeasurable, may be important factors in weighing criteria.

The following philosophies are included:

2. To commemorate only places of national and statewide historical importance, and of these, to preserve or restore only those which illustrate in an exceptional way the history of South Carolina.
3. That state historic parks and sites should present a comprehensive picture of all major aspects of South Carolina history and should be planned to achieve an appropriate geographic and thematic balance.
4. To prepare a long-range state program under which regional and thematic priorities will be established and a comprehensive program laid down for the simultaneous creation of a series of new state historic parks and sites and the development of existing parks and sites to their full potential in accordance with these priorities. Wherever possible and within the availability of funds, land for new parks, and to round out existing parks will be acquired as soon as possible.
5. That comprehensive and carefully-conceived provisional master plans shall be prepared as soon as possible for each state historic park and site.
6. With respect to a site recommended for preservation, to carry out an exhaustive study of the site's potential in order to fit the site to the overall state program.
7. To exclude from any state historic sites program: churches and other buildings still used for religious purposes, graves, disasters and disaster areas, and monuments situated outside of South Carolina.
8. In restoration and reconstruction of historic structures that line, level and fabric shall be as true to the original as possible, and that departure from this rule shall be justified only by over-riding necessity or for the purpose of substantially increasing the life expectancy of the structure, and only then when modern materials and techniques can be effectively concealed. Restoration or reconstruction will in most instances be carried out on the original site.



9. That no plan for development of an historic place shall be implemented until every reasonable step has been taken to determine its potential through documentary, architectural and archeological research, and further, that no developmental activity shall take place until relevant research of the above nature has been carried out.
10. To provide historic parks and sites as required with effective interpretive facilities for the purpose of illustrating and explaining history in such a way as to enhance the visitors' appreciation of state history.
11. To publish and where appropriate sell leaflets, guidebooks, related booklets of different kinds for the guidance of visitors to historic parks and sites and also more fundamental reports resulting from its research and restoration activities in order to disseminate the knowledge derived from the prosecution of the South Carolina historic sites program as widely as possible in South Carolina and elsewhere.
12. Where necessary and feasible to acquire land to create buffer zones around state historic parks and sites to preserve and enhance their historical value.
13. To permit special events staged by outside organizations to be held in state historic parks and sites only when the events are closely related to the theme of the park and will not jeopardize its historical environment or its enjoyment by the public.
14. To promote public interest in state historic parks and sites as historical and educational attractions, and to use all effective types of communication media for this purpose in an integrated program.
15. To co-operate with state and local education authorities and encourage organized class visits by students to suitable local parks and sites.
16. To preserve state historic sites by entering into agreements with responsible parties, wherever such agreements are feasible.
17. To leave permanent visitor accommodations to be provided outside state historic parks and sites by the private sector of the economy.

18. To provide nature trails and information on local flora and fauna. Picnicking and camping may be permitted and facilities provided, where the terrain and location will not adversely affect the historic environment.
19. If and when the demand arises, to allow the sale of suitable souvenirs in state historic parks and sites, and to permit the sale of light refreshments in remote parks or sites far from ordinary tourist facilities and in major parks requiring a visit of several hours, provided that in all instances the sale of souvenirs or light refreshments can be completely controlled and arranged without detriment to the harmony of the historic environment.
20. To charge admission fees at suitably developed state historic parks and sites and where revenue will exceed the costs of collection, the amount of the fee to vary from park to park, depending on the scale of development and restoration in each park, and the charges for students and children to be minimal.



