



# Historic Context Statements Now What?

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# Historic Resources = A\$\$\$ET\$

## WISE MANAGEMENT OF ASSETS:

- Respect value
- Prolong life
- Effective use
- Multiple benefits
- “Stewardship”



# Historic Context Statements

- What are they?
- Why do we need them?
- How can we use them?



# HISTORIC RESOURCE?



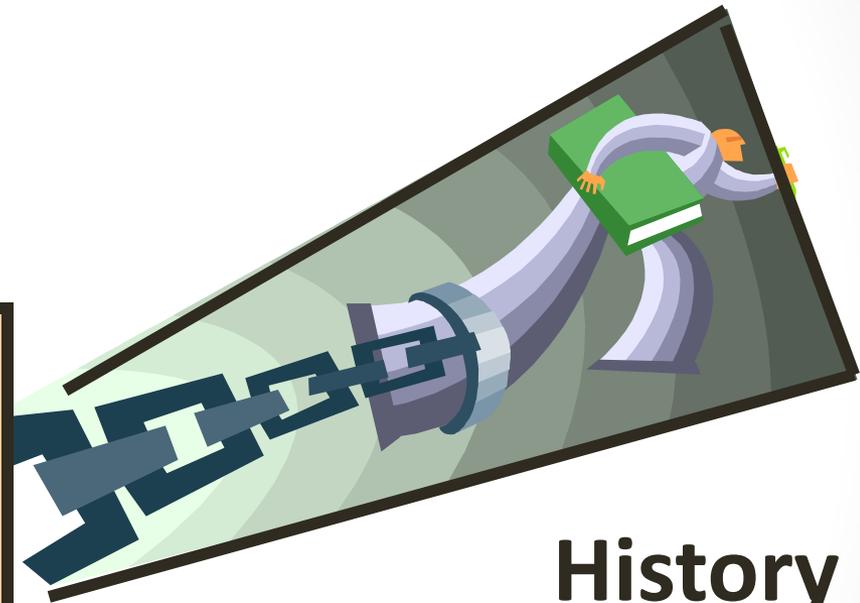
# HISTORIC RESOURCE?



# What is a Historic Context?

Describes significant aspects and broad patterns

## Built Environment



## History

of an area's history and  
cultural development.

# Historic Contexts

Tell the stories that explain

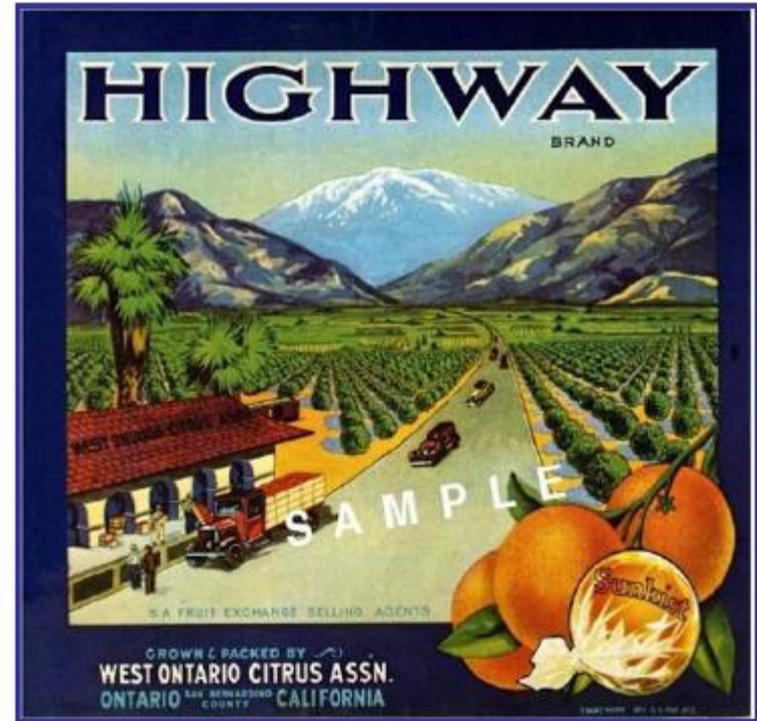
how,

when, and

why

the built environment developed or looks the way it does.

## Historic Context for The City of Ontario's Citrus Industry



Prepared For:

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Submitted to:

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# HISTORIC CONTEXTS



Analytical frame work for decisions about the identification, evaluation, registration and treatment of historic properties

# Historic Context Statements are not ...

- A chronological recitation of “important” events
- A list of community luminaries and also-theres
- A comprehensive community history
- A writing exercise to demonstrate prodigious research, the ability to cite a myriad of primary and secondary resources, and write complex and confusing prose comprehensible only to professionals in the field.

# HISTORIC CONTEXT STATEMENTS



- **Focus** on property types.
- **Permit** identification, evaluation, and treatment of resources even in absence of complete knowledge of individual properties.
- **Facilitate** better understanding of the relative importance of resources for initial study as well as planning purposes.
- **Identify** additional Information Needs
- **Recommend** Preservation Goals and Strategies
- **Evolve** as additional information is acquired

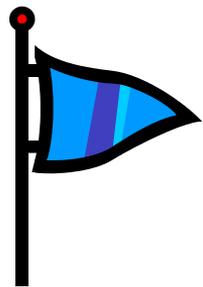
# Why do we need a historic context?

- *Resources do not exist in a vacuum.*
- *Land use patterns & the built environment are expressions of the ideas and cultural practices of individuals and groups in response to the climate geography, economy, politics, technology and available resources in a particular locale.*
- *The significance of a resource can only be understood within its historical context.*



*“The development of historic contexts is the foundation for decisions about identification, evaluation, registration and treatment of historic properties”*

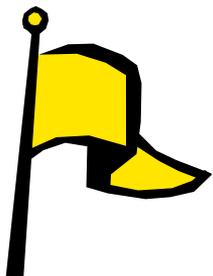
# SOI Preservation Planning Standards



**Standard I: Establishes Historic Contexts**



**Standard II: Uses Contexts To Develop Preservation Goals And Priorities**



**Standard III: Preservation Planning Is One Element Of Larger Planning Processes**

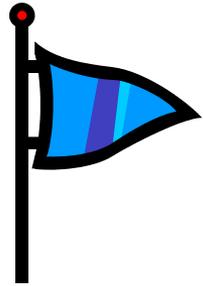
SOI (Secretary of the Interior)



***“The use of historic contexts in organizing major preservation activities ensures that those activities result in the preservation of the wide variety of properties that represent our history, rather than only a small, biased sample of properties.”***



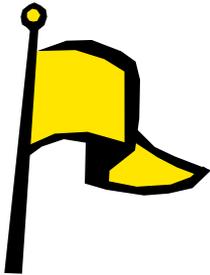
# SOI Identification Standards



**Standard I: Identification of Historic Properties Is Undertaken to the Degree Required To Make Decisions**

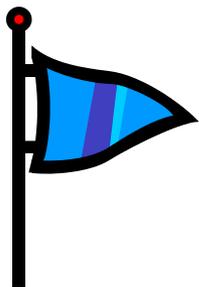


**Standard II: Results of Identification Activities Are Integrated Into the Preservation Planning Process**



**Standard III: Identification Activities Include Explicit Procedures for Record-Keeping and Information Distribution**

# SOI Evaluation Standards



**Standard I: Evaluation of the Significance of Historic Properties Uses Established Criteria**

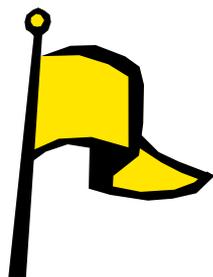
**Standard II: Evaluation of Significance Applies the Criteria Within Historic Contexts**

*Properties are evaluated using a **historic context** that **identifies** the significant patterns that properties represent and **defines** expected property types against which individual properties may be compared.*

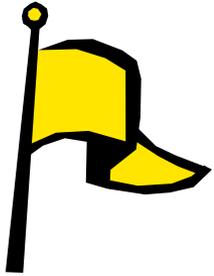
*Within this comparative framework, the criteria for evaluation take on particular meaning with regard to individual properties.*



**Standard III: Evaluation Results in a List or Inventory of Significant Properties That Is Consulted In Assigning Registration and Treatment Priorities**

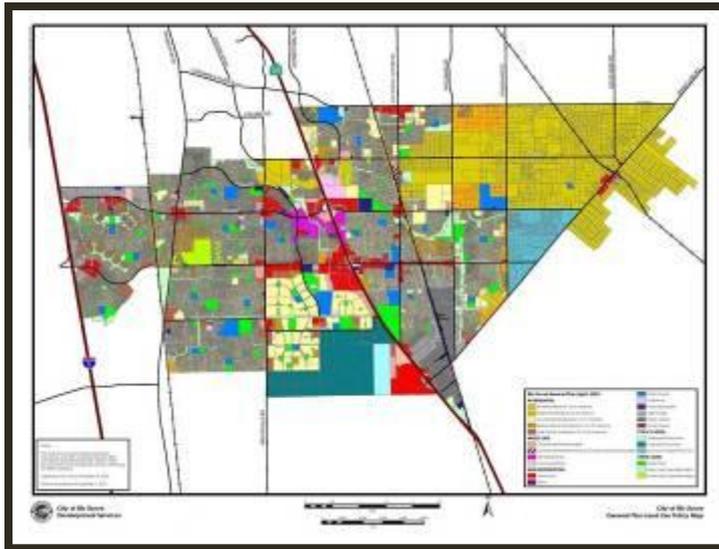


# How to Use Historic Contexts?



Planning Standard III

*Results of Preservation Planning Are Made Available for Integration Into Broader Planning Processes*



# Dynamic Processes of Preservation Planning

- Contexts developed and revised
- Surveys conducted
- Goals and priorities established
- Plan revised through regular and systematic review
- Goals and priorities altered based on new information
- Resolve conflicts in historic preservation goals
- Resolve conflicts between historic preservation and other land use planning goals



# Contexts Provide Direction

**Revitalization**

**Incentives**

**\*Design Guidelines**

**General Plan Element**

**Specific Plans**

**\*Registration/Designation**

**NR Multiple Property Submissions**

**Transportation &  
Infrastructure**

**\*Surveys & Updates**



**Infill & Community  
Development**

**Adaptive Reuse**

**Affordable Housing**

**\*Heritage Tourism**

**\*Project Review**

**Ordinances**

**Disaster Planning & Response**

# For More Information

- [Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Archaeology and Historic Preservation](#)
- [Guide to Developing Downtown Design Guidelines](#)
- [National Register Bulletins 15 and 16B](#)