

Glossary

Air infiltration - Uncontrolled inward leakage of outdoor air through cracks, interstices, and other unintentional openings of a building, caused by the pressure effects of the wind and/or the movement of air through chimneys, flue gas stacks, or other containers driven by the difference in air temperature.

Contributing structure - A structure judged to add to the historic district's sense of time, place and historic development.

Fenestration - The arrangement and design of windows in a building.

Low-emissivity coatings - Coatings that reduce heat flow by slowing the rate at which heat is emitted from the glass.

Minimum intervention - The principle that the less change or alteration done to a historic resource the more integrity that resource retains.

Reversibility - The principle that nothing should be done to a historic resource that cannot be undone or reversed without permanent damage to the resource.

Princeton is a community committed to sustainability efforts. Awarded the Silver Level Certification by Sustainable Jersey in 2014, Princeton has been a leading community in encouraging sustainable solutions through recycling, green building, and energy conservation.



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Princeton Historic Preservation Commission

Guidelines for Sustainable Historic Structures



Historic properties are inherently sustainable because of their embodied energy. **Embodied energy is the energy required to extract the raw materials, manufacture, transport, and installation of a building. An existing building represents all of the fossil fuels and resources needed to construct the building originally. But there are still things that a homeowner can do to save energy and water, as well as keep heating and cooling costs down.**

Sustainable Guidelines

Homeowner Tips

Windows and Doors

A well maintained historic window with a storm window is usually as energy efficient as a new window; historic windows are typically made of superior old-growth wood and are usually restorable. Operable shutters can also increase energy efficiency. The Princeton HPC prefers owners to keep historic windows and doors if possible. Replacing windows can mean two things; replacement of the window sash, while leaving the frame and sill, or replacing the entire window, including frame and sash. Preserving the frame and sash is preferable to replacing the whole window.



Other Ways to Save Energy

Use Energy Star rated appliances. Here is link to the Energy Star website:

<http://www.energystar.gov/products/certified-products>

Adjust your operational controls. Lower your thermostat to 68°F or lower in winter and 78°F or higher in summer.

Use operable windows, shutters, awnings, and vents as originally intended to maximize fresh air.

If insulation needs replacing, consider one with lower thermal transmittance.

Change light bulbs to Light Emitting Diode (LED) and Compact Fluorescent Light (CFL) bulbs when possible. Incandescent bulbs have started being phased out by the US Government in 2014.

Maintain shade trees on your property to provide cooling shade in the summer.



Building Materials:

Try to use lumber that is Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified. Salvaging and reusing historic elements is a great way to save on cost and help the environment. Use adhesives and stains that have a little or no Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs). Look for products that have a Green Seal rating. Check their website for a list of products:

<http://www.greenseal.org>