

Comprehensive Planning Standards

- Comprehensive Planning Standards Manual (2021) – Defines what local comp plans must include; the “checklist” used in state review.
[Standards Manual \(PDF\)](#)
- Comprehensive Planning Guidance Handbooks – Guidance on data, mapping, and formatting (e.g., Handbook #15: Mapping, June 2024).
[Guidance Handbooks](#)

RI Comprehensive Planning Standards Manual required and recommended content for the Historic and Cultural Resources element is as follows:

- 4.1 Identify historical and cultural resource areas and sites such as, but not limited to, historical buildings, landmarks, and scenic views.
- a. Include one or more maps showing: i. Properties or districts listed on the State or National Register of Historic Places; and ii. Locally designated historic districts established through the zoning ordinance.
 - b. Include clear identification of the name of each mapped resource area or site.
 - c.(Recommendation) Include other resources that the community has identified as significant such as known properties that meet the eligibility criteria for listing on the State Register of Historic Places but have not yet been listed and cultural assets, such as theaters, museums, and galleries.
- 4.2 (Recommendation) Include a description of the significant historical and cultural resource areas and sites that exist within the community.
- 4.3 (Recommendation) Assess issues related to historical and cultural resources such as discussing any current or potential future threats to the community’s significant historical and cultural resources.
- 4.4 (Recommendation) Identify any existing local programs related to the preservation of historical and cultural resources such as a local historic district ordinance.
- 4.5 Include goals that embody the state’s goals for historical and cultural resources and policies to support each goal.
- 4.6 Include implementation actions within the Implementation Program that address the protection of historical and cultural resources.