

Why Do Old Places Matter?

Historic places, if kept and used, can continue to be a living part of our society. Why do old places matter to you?
From The National Trust for Historic Preservation

Continuity: Old places create a sense of continuity that helps people feel more balanced, stable and healthy.

Memory: Old places help us remember.

Individual Identity: Old places embody our identity.

Civic, State, National And Universal Identity: Old places embody our civic, state, national and universal identity.

Beauty: Old places are beautiful, and beauty is profoundly beneficial.

History: Old places give us an understanding of history no other evidence possibly can.



Architecture: Old buildings are part of the history of civilization and they place us on the continuum of time.

Sacredness: Sacred old places provide deep spiritual and psychological benefits of peace, serenity and inspiration.

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Creativity: Old places inspire creativity and entrepreneurship.

Learning: Old places teach us about the past and give us perspective on the present in a way nothing else can do.

Sustainability: Old places—through their embedded energy, avoided impacts of demolition and new construction, use of traditional design features compatible with local climates, and locations close to existing infrastructure—are inherently “green.”

Ancestry: Old places connect us to our ancestors, giving us a sense of identity and belonging.

Community: Old places give people a sense of shared community.

Economics: Old places foster a sustainable and equitable economy.