



Georgia Scenic Byway Program Intrinsic Qualities Definitions

Archeological

Archeological Quality involves those characteristics of the byway corridor that are physical evidence of historic or prehistoric human life or activity that are visible and capable of being inventoried and interpreted. The byway corridor's archeological interest, as identified through ruins, artifacts, structural remains, and other physical evidence, has scientific significance that educates the viewer and stirs an appreciation for the past.

Cultural

Cultural Quality is the evidence and expressions of the customs or traditions of a distinct group of people that are still currently practiced. Cultural features include but are not limited to crafts, music, dance, rituals, festivals, speech, food, special events, and vernacular architecture.

Historic

Historic Quality encompasses legacies of the past that are distinctly associated with physical elements of the landscape, whether natural or manmade, that are of such historic significance that they educate the viewer and stir an appreciation for the past. The historic elements reflect the actions of people and may include buildings, settlement patterns, and other examples of human activity. Historic features can be inventoried, mapped, and interpreted. They possess integrity of location, design, setting, material, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Natural

Natural Quality applies to those features in the visual environment that are in a relatively undisturbed state. These features predate the arrival of human populations and may include geological formation, fossils, landform, water bodies, vegetation, and wildlife. There may be evidence of human activity, but the natural features reveal minimal disturbances.

Recreational

Recreation Quality involves outdoor recreational activities directly associated with and dependent upon the natural and cultural elements of the corridor's landscape. The recreational activities provide opportunities for active and passive recreational experiences. They include but are not limited to rafting, boating, fishing, and hiking. The recreational activities may be seasonal, but the quality and importance of the recreational activities as seasonal operations must be well recognized.

Scenic

Scenic Quality is the heightened visual experience derived from the view of natural and manmade elements of the visual environment of the scenic byway corridor. The characteristics of the landscape are strikingly distinct and offer a pleasing and most memorable visual experience. All elements of the landscape- landform, water, vegetation, and manmade development- contribute to the quality of the corridor's visual environment. Everything present is in harmony and shares in the intrinsic qualities.