

Conserving Energy in Historic Buildings

Quick Factsheet

Overview:

- Energy improvements for historic buildings should both maximize energy efficiency and protect the historic character of the building.
- Before improvement work is actually undertaken, preliminary activities, such as energy audits and the identification of a building's inherent energy efficient features, will provide the necessary information for making the most appropriate decision for energy improvements.
- Consider the most non-invasive improvement measures first (e.g. weather-stripping doors and windows, adding insulation without significant exterior changes, changing user operations). These measures can often produce significant results.
- More invasive improvement measures (e.g. replacing windows, adding insulation to wood-frame walls) should be considered on a case-by-case basis.
 - Professionals in historic building energy performance should carefully analyze these measures for suitability.
- Careful planning and decision-making for new energy improvements will result in the most appropriate measures for a specific building and prevent adverse effects to a building's historic character.
- ❖ **Most importantly, consulting with Cultural Resource staff, Elizabeth Cook, 361-3002 or Casey Woster, 361-9685, can assist with timely project completion.**



The steep, snow shedding slope and small overhangs on the roof of Building 1024 are inherent energy efficient features.



The windows on Building 1021 were fitted with storm windows in 1980.



The arctic entryway on Building 1021 helps to reduce heat loss from open exterior doors.