

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
FOR
KERSHAW COUNTY
SOUTH CAROLINA
2006 - 2016**

**PART V
CULTURAL RESOURCES ELEMENT**

**PART V
CULTURAL RESOURCES ELEMENT
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CULTURAL RESOURCES ELEMENT
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PART V CULTURAL RESOURCES ELEMENT

INTRODUCTION

This element of the Comprehensive Plan focuses on historic places, buildings, structures, and other cultural resources within Kershaw County.

HISTORICAL RESOURCES

Because of its strategic location in the state, Kershaw County has long played a principal role in the history of South Carolina. The area of which it is part was a major attraction to the aboriginal Indian population as well as the early settlers. It afforded a strategic advantage to the early settlers from which they could see for miles into the lower country, an advantage which was to play an important role during the American Revolution.

Perhaps the most important reason for the major settlement of Kershaw County was its cooler drier weather which prevailed in the higher elevations. After the early pioneers had proven the area agriculturally rich, numerous wealthy planters from the coastal areas settled here. During the period of 1750 to 1770, permanent estates appeared in the County, greatly spurring future growth and development which accelerated even more following the Revolution. Joseph Kershaw, for whom the County was named, arrived in 1758 from England via Charleston and built a store within the present city limits of Camden.

Camden grew and prospered during the latter part of the eighteenth century and emerged into the 1800's as a bustling commercial town. The period from 1800 to 1850 became a "golden age" of development and expansion of both fine homes and small cottages, many of which are still standing today. Most of these buildings are located in the City of Camden, but numerous houses and log cabins still stand in rural Kershaw County. In combination, they serve as examples of the various types of people and styles of architecture which typified the times. Other important settlements also developed in Kershaw County near the present day town of Bethune and the communities of Boykin and Liberty Hill.

Kershaw County was a primary southern theatre setting during the American Revolution. The Battle of Camden and the Battle of Hobkirk Hill were among the most significant of the Revolution. Kershaw County is the place of death and the grave site of internationally known Revolutionary War hero, Major-General Baron DeKalb.

Kershaw County was also heavily engaged in the American Civil War. Many homes and other structures from that period still stand, providing grace and enjoyment for all who live and work in the County. Camden provided six Confederate generals, believed to be more than any other community of comparable size. Kershaw County was in the path of General W.T. Sherman's Army in its march north from Savannah. Sites of five crossings, encampments, military engagements, etc. are precisely documented in the County.

With the distinction of being the oldest interior settlement in South Carolina, Kershaw County has historical and architectural qualities that are unique. They are cultural reminders of the past

and should be preserved and protected so future generations may appreciate their contribution and influence in the development of Kershaw County.

Six major historical sites or areas in Kershaw County are indicated on the accompanying map (Figure V-1). The largest and single most important is the Wateree Archeological Site located south of Camden. This site parallels the Wateree River from Cane Creek to Town Creek and encompasses an area approximately four miles wide. This site, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is comprised of some 19 known archeological sites dating to 7,000 B.C.

Beginning around A.D. 1400, large populations of Native Americans occupied the area leaving the present Adamson, McDowell, Belmont Neck, Boykin, Blanding, and other significant recorded archaeological sites. There is evidence that Cofitachequi, the “lost empire” described by Hernando Desoto, A.D. 1540 was located in the Wateree Valley of Kershaw County. Additionally, the area encompasses the Mulberry Plantation (also listed in the National Register of Historic Places), as well as numerous small sites, prehistoric villages, Indian ceremonial centers, and Colonial and nineteenth century farmsteads.

Other major areas of historical significance listed on the accompanying map (Figure V-1) are:

Site #2 - Historic Camden Area

Site #3 - Boykin Mill, located approximately eight miles south of Camden on Highway 261.

Site #4 - The Wateree Canal site located immediately south of the Wateree Dam.

Site #5 - The Battle of Camden site located on County Highway 58, seven miles north of Camden. This site is a National Historic Landmark.

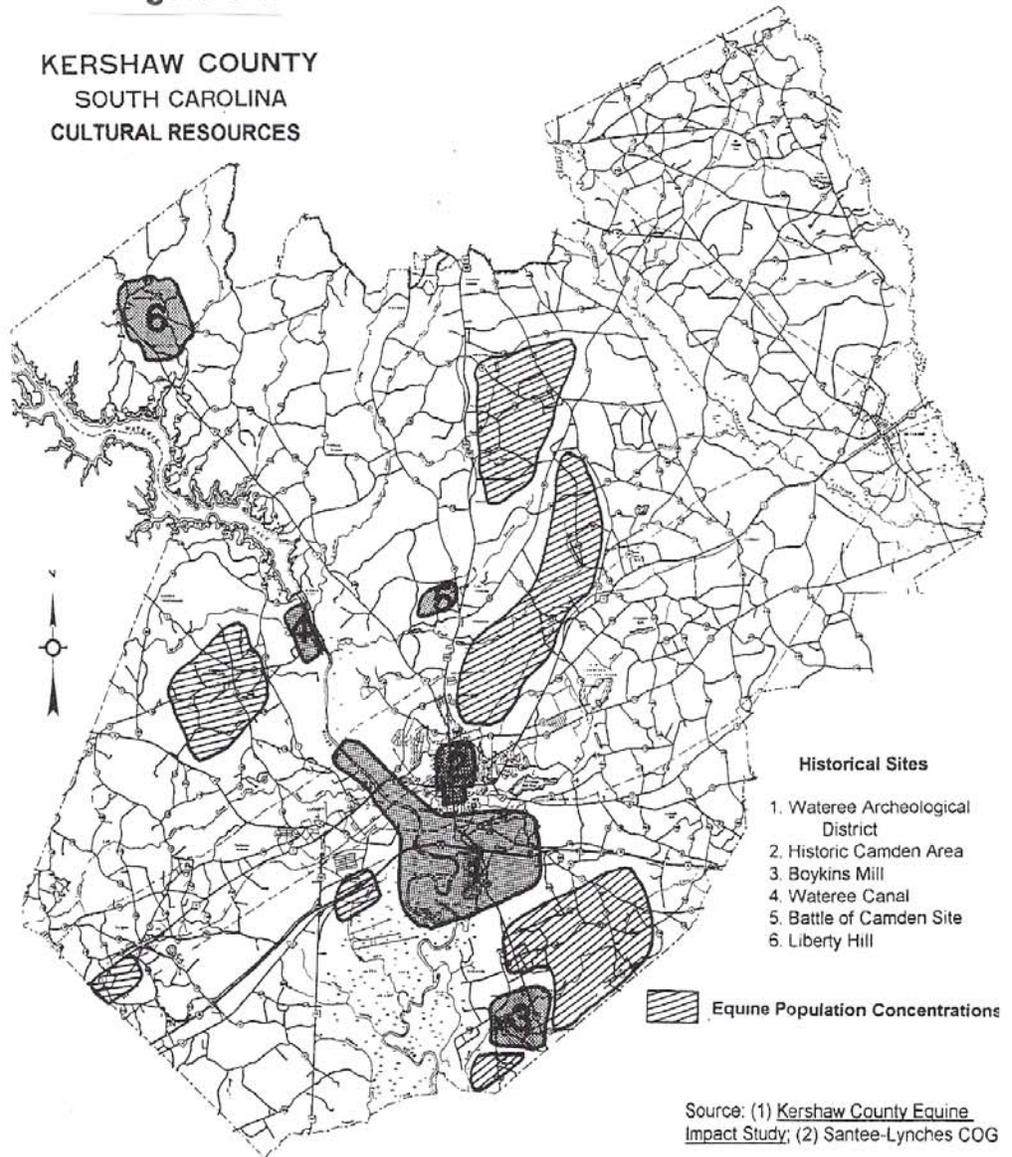
Site #6 - Liberty Hill, a small unincorporated community situated in the northwest corner of the County.

A comprehensive list of Historical sites is contained in Historic Resources Survey, Kershaw County, South Carolina: New South Associates, September 30, 2002. Historic sites within the City of Camden can be found in the Historic Resources Survey of Camden published in 1996.

It is evident from the number of historically significant sites that Kershaw County is rich in history. An objective important to the future of the County will be the maintenance of these resources for future generations to appreciate, while promoting their utilization in the development of a balanced economy with tourism playing a historical role.

Figure V-1

**KERSHAW COUNTY
SOUTH CAROLINA
CULTURAL RESOURCES**



EQUESTRIAN RESOURCES

Kershaw County and the Camden community are home to the Carolina Cup, the Colonial Cup, polo, and an equine industry that produces social, cultural and economic dividends. Although not the site of the first racing events in South Carolina, Camden and Kershaw County have become synonymous with the sport where racing began in 1802.

The Hawthorn Track, since relocated, was home to early Camden racing. The Springdale Course, the home of the Carolina Cup, was inaugurated in 1930. Media coverage, attendance, and the economic impact of the Cup have increased over time, adding to the significance of the equine industry and its unique imprint on the Camden community.

The following quotation is from A Strategic Tourism Plan for Kershaw County, South Carolina: Dr Rich Harrill, International Tourism Research Institute, University of South Carolina. April, 2006. p.82:

“The Colonial Cup and Carolina Cup Steeplechase typically generate the second biggest economic impact on Kershaw County. Although the Colonial Cup currently contributes \$280,361 of value added, \$41,566 indirect business tax, 10.8 additional jobs, and \$462,545 total output, the economic impact of Carolina Cup is estimated at \$1,822,318 of value added, \$270,176 indirect business tax, 70.9 additional jobs, and \$3,006,502 total output. A 40 percent increase in attendance and a two-night increase in visitor nights could well contribute \$4,196,369 value added, \$626,428 indirect business tax, 236.7 additional jobs, and \$6,980,188 of total output to the county economy. The Camden Equestrian Center & Entertainment Complex also makes a significant contribution to the county’s equine industry. It is estimated that about 32 events at the complex each year could generate an economic impact of \$1,309,452,02.”

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

There are 18 public primary and secondary schools in the Kershaw County School District (see Figure V-2A). These schools are supplemented by the Continuous Learning Center, an alternative school for at risk 6–12 graders that houses 100 students on a referral basis as well as the adult education Parents Center; and ATEC (Applied Technology Education Campus). Currently 825 County high school students are enrolled in trade, vocational, and technical courses. ATEC also offers adult education classes.

Since 1996, the School District has constructed two new elementary schools, one middle school and has expanded facilities at four existing schools. Currently construction schedules have been set for improvements in six of the District schools.

**Figure V-2A
Public Schools in Kershaw County**

Camden Area

	RUL (years)	Condition			Capacity vs. Projections				
		Condition	Action	Description	2004-05 Enrollment	Projected Enrollment	Existing Capacity	Planned Capacity	Diff.
Elementary									
Camden ES					500	506	570	500	70
1950's Building	0	Poor	C4	Replace					
1983 Addition	20	Fair	C2	Modernize					
Jackson School					440	519	471	500	-29
1981 Building	20	Fair	C2	Modernize					
Pine Tree Hill ES					668	719	720	750	-30
2002 Building	40	Good	C1	Finishes					
Totals					1608	1744	1761	1750	11
Middle									
Camden MS					875	905	974	950	24
1958 Building	0	Poor	C4	Replace					
1950's (late) Memorial Hall	0	Poor	C4	Replace					
1964 Auditorium	15	Fair	C2	Modernize					
1964 Gym	10	Fair	C2	Modernize					
1977 Band Room Addition	12	Fair	C2	Modernize					
2002 Cafeteria Addition	35	Good	C1	Finishes					
High									
Camden HS					1035	1211	1343	1250	93
1967 Building	5	Poor	C2	Modernize					
1992 Classroom Addition	25	Good	C1	Finishes					
Grand Totals					3518	3860	4078	3950	128

Condition Legend: C1 Interior finish upgrades: painting, ceiling tile and flooring replacement
 C2 Major finish replacement and mechanical, plumbing, electrical, roofing and technology upgrades
 C3 C2 + new addition to increase capacity
 C4 New facility, replacement or on new site

Wateree Area	Condition				Capacity vs. Projections				
	RUL				2004-05	Projected	Existing	Planned	
	(years)	Condition	Action	Description	Enrollment	Enrollment	Capacity	Capacity	Diff.
Elementary									
Blaney ES					587	637	659	650	9
1986 Building	20	Fair	C2	Modernize					
Doby's Mill ES					700	860	660	850	-190
2002 Building	40	Good	C1	Finishes					
Lugoff ES					590	623	620	650	-30
1967 Building	10	Poor	C2	Modernize					
1984 Classroom	20	Fair	C2	Modernize					
Wateree ES					588	657	579	650	-71
1956 Building	0	Poor	C4	Replace					
1992 Addition	15	Fair	C1	Finishes					
2000? K-1 Addition	35	Good	C1	Finishes					
Totals					2465	2777	2518	2800	-282
Middle									
Leslie M. Stover MS					549	761	650	850	-200
1999 Building	35	Good	C1	Finishes					
2002 Gym Addition	35	Good	C1	Finishes					
Lugoff-Elgin					605	665	536	750	-214
1971 Building	5	Poor	C4	Replace					
1977 Classroom	12	Fair	C4	Replace					
Gym Addition	20	Good	C1	Finishes					
Totals					1154	1426	1186	1600	-414
High									
Lugoff-Elgin					1350	1800	1335	1800	-465
1992 Building	25	Good/Fair	C1	Finishes					
Grand Totals					4969	6003	5039	6200	-1161
Condition Legend:	C1	Interior finish upgrades: painting, ceiling tile and flooring replacement							
	C2	Major finish replacement and mechanical, plumbing, electrical, roofing and technology							
	C3	C2 + new addition to increase							
	C4	New facility on a new site							

North Area

Elementary	RUI (years)	Condition		Description	Capacity vs. Projections				Diff.
		Condition	Action		2004-05 Enrollment	Projected Enrollment	Existing Capacity	Planned Capacity	
Baron DeKalb ES									
1956 Building	0	Poor	C4	Replace	210	213	235	200	35
1999 Media Center	35	Fair	C1	Finishes					
2003 Multipurpose Wing	35	Good	C1	Finishes					
Bethune ES									
1956 Building	0	Poor	C4	Replace	118	134	150	150	0
1964 Classroom Addition	0	Poor	C4	Replace					
1983 Gymnasium	15	Fair	C2	Modernize					
1996 Media Center	30	Good	C1	Finishes					
Midway ES									
1950's Gymnasium	0	Poor	C4	Replace	390	414	374	400	-26
1977 Building	10	Fair	C2	Modernize					
1996 Classroom Addition	30	Fair	C1	Finishes					
Mt. Pisgah ES									
1923 Building	0	Poor	C4	Replace	130	149	135	150	-15
1950's Classroom Building	0	Poor	C4	Replace					
1956 Gym/Cafeteria	0	Fair	C4	Replace					
1966 Classroom Addition	0	Fair	C4	Replace					
Totals					848	910	894	900	-6
Middle									
North Central MS									
2002 Building	40	Good	C1	Finishes	470	435	460	475	-15
High									
North Central HS									
1979 Building	20	Fair	C2	Modernize	511	541	722	550	172
1995 Classroom Addition	30	Good	C1	Finishes					
Grand Totals					1829	1886	2076	1925	151

Condition Legend: C1 Interior finish upgrades: painting, ceiling tile and flooring replacement
 C2 Major finish replacement and mechanical, plumbing, electrical, roofing and technology upgrades
 C3 C2 + new addition to increase
 C4 New facility, replacement or a new site

Source: Condition and Capacity Report of Kershaw County School District's Schools Facilities Equalization and Needs Assessment, August 16, 2005

There are seven private schools in Kershaw County with a total enrollment of 707 students (see Figure V-2B).

Figure V-2B Private Schools in Kershaw County

School	Current Enrollment
Emanuel Baptist Church Learning Center	175
Camden Adventist School	16
Camden Military Academy	279
First Baptist Children's Center	96
Mt. Olivet Christian School	37
Montessori Learning Center	80
Pine Grove School	24

Source: Private School Report 2005.

RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

The assessment of recreational resources conducted for the 1996 edition of the Comprehensive Plan concluded that the County's recreational facilities were inadequate to meet the recreational needs of the County's citizens and were insufficient when gauged by nationally recognized standards. The 1996 Plan made extensive recommendations to improve the County's recreational resources.

In response to the 1996 Plan recommendations, the Kershaw County Council began a strategic planning process to identify current and long-term recreational needs of the County. In 2001 the County Council issued a request for proposals from qualified firms interested in developing a master recreational plan for Kershaw County. The firm selected to help facilitate the plan was Seamon, Whiteside and Associates, Inc. The Kershaw County Recreation Master Plan 2002-2030 was completed in March of 2003. The Plan includes recommendations for capital projects through the year 2012 and continued planning through 2030. County Council subsequently adopted this plan. The Kershaw County Recreation Master Plan 2002 - 2030 is hereby adopted by reference into the Cultural Resources Element of the Kershaw County Comprehensive Plan.

To date, the County is on target with the implementation of the Recreational Master Plan's Parks and Recreational Development Plan for years one through three:

1. Negotiations are currently underway for an approximately 100-acre tract with lake frontage on Lake Wateree.
2. Land has been acquired for regional recreational complexes in the Camden and Lugoff areas. Construction of the Lugoff complex is anticipated to begin in August, 2006. At this writing, the Recreation Department is soliciting proposals from qualified architects to design a plan to convert the existing Woodward and Seaboard Parks into a regional complex for the Camden area.
3. The County is currently negotiating the acquisition of lands from the Kershaw County School District for a new recreational facility in Mt. Pisgah and the existing Bethune Elementary School recreational facilities.
4. Upgrades have been completed at the Bethune ball fields.

- A computerized registration and accounting program is now in place at the Recreation Department, and upgrades have been made to the Department offices.

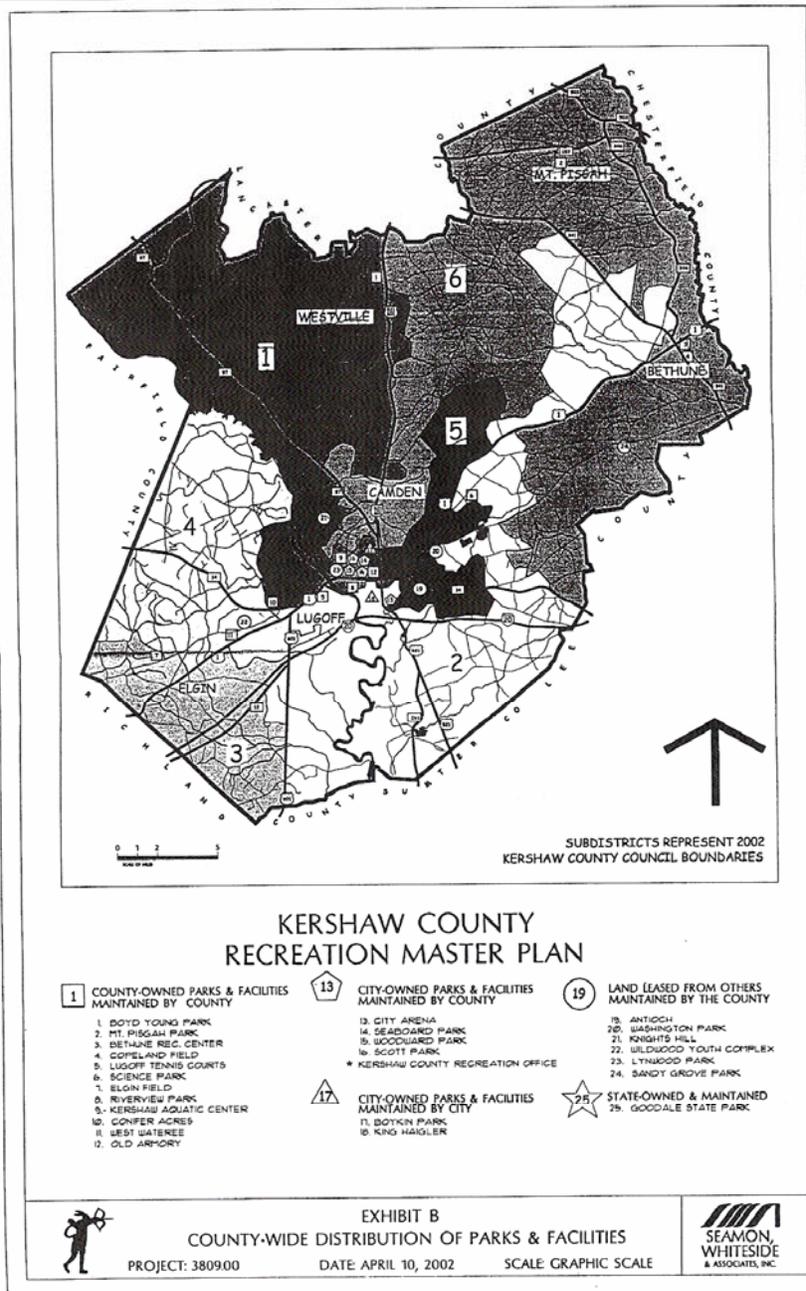
Figure V-3, Existing Parks and Facilities Inventory; along with Figure V-4, County Wide Distribution of Parks and Facilities, are taken from the Kershaw County Recreation Master Plan 2002-2030.

Figure V-3

Kershaw County Recreation Master Plan Existing Parks & Facilities Inventory																		
Park Type	Ownership	Acreage	Gymnasium	Community Building	Baseball Field	Soccer Field	Football Field	Basketball Court	Playground	Tennis Court	Volleyball	Picnic Shelter	Swimming Pool	Trail / Track	Parking	Concession Stands	Restrooms/Shower	Other
Subdistrict #1																		
Boyd Young Park	CP	Co	9.9		1	2			1	2					✓	✓	✓	✓
Riverview Park	CP	Co	20		1	4			1						✓	✓	✓	✓
Kershaw Aquatic Center	SP	Co	4.27		1								1		✓	✓	✓	✓
Confier Acres	NP	Co	1.5		1	1			1						✓	✓	✓	✓
Woodward Park	CP	Ci	63		9	1				4					✓	✓	✓	✓
Scott Park	CP*	Ci	34						1	4	4	1		2	✓	✓	✓	✓
Knights Hill	CP	L	5		1	1		1	1			1			✓	✓	✓	✓
Lynwood Park	SP*	L	35		1	8	2								✓	✓	✓	✓
* Could become Regional Recreation Complex if combined																		
Subdistrict #2																		
Lugoff Tennis Courts	SP	Co	4							4					✓	✓	✓	✓
Science Park	SP	Co	18									1			✓	✓	✓	✓
Goodale Park	RPP	S			1				1			3			✓	✓	✓	✓
City Arena	SP	Ci	5	1	1										✓	✓	✓	✓
King Haigler	NP	Ci	16		1	1									✓	✓	✓	✓
Subdistrict #3																		
Elgin Field	SP	Co	1			1												
Elgin Tennis Court	SP	L	0.5							1								
Subdistrict #4																		
West Wateree	NC	Co	17			3			1						✓	✓	✓	✓
Wildwood Youth Complex	SP	L	21		1	4									✓	✓	✓	✓
Subdistrict #5																		
Old Armory	SP	Co	3	1	1			1							✓	✓	✓	✓
Seaboard Park	CP	Ci	12		1				1	2					✓	✓	✓	✓
Boykin Park	SP/NP	Ci	7					1	1						✓	✓	✓	✓
Antioch	SPP	L	4		1										✓	✓	✓	✓
Washington Park	CP	L	4		1				1	2				1	✓	✓	✓	✓
Subdistrict #6																		
Mt. Pisgah Park	NP	Co	6		1	1	1								✓	✓	✓	✓
Bethune Rec. Center	CP	Co	0.75		1	1			1	2					✓	✓	✓	✓
Copeland Field	NP	Co	6.45			2									✓	✓	✓	✓
Sandy Grove Park	NP	L	6.1		1	1						1			✓	✓	✓	✓
Total Park Facilities:			26	2	13	33	12	2	3	11	21	4	7	1	3			
Total Park Acreage:			304.5															

Park Types- NP: Neighborhood Park
 CP: Community Park
 NC: Neighborhood/Community
 Ownership Legend- S: State L: Leased From Others
 SP: Special Purpose Park
 RRC: Regional Recreation Complex
 RPP: Regional Passive Park
 Ci: City Co: County

Figure V-4



ARTS AND ARCHIVES

The Fine Arts Center of Kershaw County is located in the City of Camden. It hosts live theatre, concerts, plays, musicals, exhibits, classes, affiliate clubs, and more. The facility also hosts art exhibits and features a library of steeplechase memorabilia.

The Camden Archives and Museum is also located in the City of Camden. It contains exhibits of local and regional history, and is equipped with a large and diverse collection of genealogical and historical research materials. The facility also is home to the South Carolina Daughters of the American Revolution.

NEEDS AND GOALS STATEMENT

Kershaw County is well endowed with cultural resources. The challenge will be to optimize the use of these resources without compromising their value to the community and future generations. Toward a course of optimal use and development of its cultural resources, the following goals are hereby established.

Historical Resources

CR-1: Integrate the County's heritage into the overall economic development process.

Promote the history of the State's oldest inland community and the attributes that contributed to this settlement. Make it part of the economic development process, especially as it relates to building a cultural tourism industry.

CR-2: Enhance and protect the County's historical ties to the past.

It is not enough to research, identify, and restore historical artifacts, buildings, places, and structures, or even protect them in place through acquisition, trust, ownership commitment or regulation (zoning) although recommended as a means of goal attainment. Surrounding areas also should be enhanced and regulated to the extent necessary to ensure compatibility and a proper setting for such uses.

CR-3: Continue to survey, list and record the County's archaeological and historical assets.

CR-4: Work to make the Battle of Camden Site a National Park

CR-5: Support efforts to become a National Heritage Area.

Equestrian Resources

CR-4: Maintain a user friendly climate for the equine industry, and protect the natural resources contribution to the viability of the industry.

CR-5: Integrate the County's equine resources, and its role in the development of an equine industry in South Carolina, into the overall economic development process.

Educational Resources

CR-6: Prepare students to enroll and contribute as productive and responsible citizens in a global society by ensuring innovative, challenging learning experiences.

The Kershaw County School District, in its Strategic Plan 2005, has an established mission (goal) “...to prepare students to excel as productive and responsible citizens in a global society by ensuring relevant, innovative and challenging learning experiences in partnership with parents and communities.”

Objectives and strategies designed to produce measurable results are contained in the Plan, and adopted herein by reference (and the succeeding five-year updates), as a means of reaching Goal CR-6 (refer to Goal PG-2).

Higher educational opportunities will be expanded through development of the proposed new Central Carolina Technical College campus.

CR-7: Establish and maintain cooperative planning efforts between the Kershaw County Government and the Kershaw County School District.

Recreational Resources

CR-8: Continue to implement the Kershaw County Recreation Master Plan 2002 – 2030.

Arts and Archives

CR-9: Make the County a must stop on the performing arts and cultural circuit.

A Strategic Tourism Plan for Kershaw County, South Carolina, April 2006 affords a good roadmap for achieving this goal.