

## Heritage Stewardship Process and Principles

### Context and background:

The University of Saskatchewan (USask) Heritage Registry

<https://leadership.usask.ca/financeandresources/campus-planning.php> is a valuable and thoughtful resource that identifies heritage buildings on campus, and was endorsed for implementation by the Board of Governors in 2014 to provide guidance on the manner in which projects affecting heritage assets should be undertaken.

### Stewardship Approach for Heritage Buildings:

Decisions about investment in and removal of heritage buildings will be made with:

**USask Heritage Registry** will be used as the resource for determining:

- Heritage defining characters of a building.
- It will be updated approximately every ten years by an accredited architect.

**Evidence-based** stewardship approach that includes:

- Building condition assessments
- Structural, space or other studies
- External heritage designations
- Internal USask Heritage Register (2014)

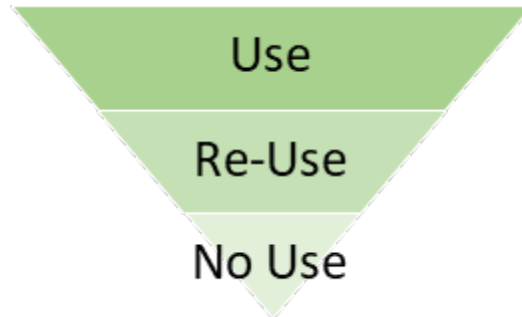
Supported by **Heritage Principles**:

- Principles are designed to be **“always true”** because they align with an organization’s vision, mission, and values.
- **Principles “support” decision-making criteria** but are not decision-making criteria.
- The following **“hierarchy”** is the basis for the criteria.

A **Holistic and Comprehensive** Approach:

- All USask buildings, including those with heritage features, will be regularly assessed, in a strategic building renewal matrix to ensure a holistic and comprehensive approach to all investment and removal decisions.

## Heritage Preservation Hierarchy



## Heritage Principles

1. The best way to preserve buildings and sites is to ensure they have a **use** that meets the USask teaching and research mandate.
2. The best way to preserve a building that is no longer meeting the USask mandate, is to identify a financially feasible **re-use** that meets the USask mandate.
3. Operating buildings as **museums** unto themselves is not part of the USask mandate, but some buildings may be a feasible landscape feature.
4. USask has **reputational obligations** to buildings and sites that have existing external designations but will not seek new external designations unless there are financial and usage advantages.

## Existing Constraints / Realities / Best Practices:

In the Preservation of any building USask will experience the following known constraints:

- **Changing the use** of a building will bring updated code requirements into effect that may reduce the financial feasibility of preservation.
- In nearly all cases, an investment in **hazardous material remediation** will be required.
- Prioritizing the **roof, foundation and window maintenance** is often needed to maintain the integrity of the structure.
- **Removal** of buildings that have **no use** will continue to be necessary in order to prioritize resources on facilities that are serving the academic mission.