

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF INTRINSIC QUALITIES

THE PURPOSE OF SIGNIFICANCE

SIGNIFICANCE is the importance of the intrinsic qualities along the roadway that make them important within the region of the United States or to the Nation as a whole.

- Significance is the meaningfulness of the intrinsic quality to both the communities along the byway as well as to the byway visitor.
- Intrinsic qualities can be identified by theme, through which the significance of trends or the common elements within a corridor can be interpreted, illustrated, and enhanced because of their uniqueness.
- Certain events, associations, or physical aspects of the scenic byway corridor will take on greater or lesser importance when reviewed and compared in the national or regional context.
- It is easiest to make the case for the significance of an intrinsic quality when it is associated with themes or trends that are widely recognized.

THE CASE FOR SIGNIFICANCE

A **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE** is the portion of the nomination package that discusses the specific intrinsic qualities that make the route unique. For example, if the route has scenic features, it describes what they are and why they may be unusual, exceptional, or distinctive to the Region of the Nation or to the Nation as a whole. The statement is a concise, factual, and well-organized essay about the intrinsic qualities.

A statement of significance contains several parts:

1. A paragraph summarizing the significance of the intrinsic qualities of the byway corridor.
2. Several supporting paragraphs that briefly discuss the:
 - Intrinsic qualities for which the byway is being nominated and
 - Reasons for which the intrinsic qualities are either regionally (NSB) or nationally (AAR) significant.
3. A summary paragraph identifies the following items:
 - Specific aspects of the intrinsic qualities that make the route outstanding
 - Specific way in which the route meets the qualifying criteria.
 - Ways the route meets the special standards for any criteria consideration marked on the form.