

GMP Dynamic Sourcebook, version 2.1 - Appendix F: Alternatives

F.1 Examples of Alternative Concepts Emphasizing Various Interpretive Themes

Spanish Colonization National Park (a hypothetical example)

Technique	Alternative Concept
<p>Start with significance and fundamental resources and values of Spanish Colonization NHP</p>	<p>Spanish Colonization NHP contains the nation’s most complete and diverse representation of landscapes, structures, archeological and ethnographic resources, and museum collections reflecting and documenting the history of first contact and interactions between the Spanish and the American Indians in the lower Rio Grande valley during the Spanish Colonial period. These resources, compared to other historic communities in the Southwest, offer a high degree of integrity representative of a long history at this site.</p> <p><u>Fundamental Resources and Values:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscapes – cultural landscapes, natural landscapes • Structures – associated with Fremont, ancestral Puebloan/Spanish contact,; • Archeological resources – prehistoric, historic • Ethnographic resources – historic and existing cultures, interactions, landscapes <p>The park contains sites and resources that have been and continue to be important to the Tohono O’Odham and Pueblo traditional people for hundreds of years.</p> <p><u>Fundamental Resources and Values:</u> Same as above.</p>
<p>From significance statements, brainstorm topics that incorporate significant resources and summarize important and related stories. Develop and evaluate draft primary theme statements. (Are they important, clear, comprehensive, concise, useful, complete, and accurate?)</p>	<p>Theme A: Containing the nation’s most complete and diverse archeological and ethnographic resources that depict first contact between Spaniards and American Indians in the lower Rio Grande valley, Spanish Colonization National Historical Park offers opportunities to explore many of the cultural biases that are often exhibited in first-contact situations, and comparisons of how some biases tend to hinder survival while others tend to increase the likelihood of survival.</p> <p>Theme B: The landscapes, structures, artifacts, and museum collections that document the history of cultural relationships between Spaniards and American Indians inhabiting this area help us better understand the potential for diverse cultures to work together to achieve mutually sought goals such as security, health, individual freedom, and success.</p> <p>Theme C: The park continues to be an important cultural touchstone to the Tohono O’Odham and Pueblo traditional people, and offers insights into the deep and abiding attachments between people and places.</p>
<p>Use the resulting primary interpretive themes in brainstorming alternative concepts and area-specific desired conditions.</p>	<p>The park’s set of primary interpretive themes is designed to be a single conceptual construct. These primary themes are designed to work together, as a whole, to represent the entire set of park significances (as described by the park’s set of significance statements). Even so, individual themes focus on different aspects of the stories, meanings, and resources.</p> <p>As the planning team brainstorms alternative management concepts in a general management planning workshop, Theme A might prompt consideration of the importance of public interaction with the park’s tangible archeological and ethnographic resources. These insights might in turn assist the planning team in determining the type and location of facilities, such as trails or curatorial facilities, for the purpose of prompting visitor reflection on bias (cultural and personal) and its impacts on survival, then and now. The brainstorming prompted by Theme A would likely apply to every management concept, although how those ideas are enacted might differ from one concept to another.</p> <p>Theme B might prompt the planning team to consider how best to manage landscapes, structures, artifacts, and the museum collections to fulfill the intent of providing visitor experiences that increase understanding and appreciation of the potential for diverse cultures working together to achieve mutually sought goals. For example, decisions about landscapes might weigh the importance (or unimportance) of preserving certain viewsheds. Decisions about structures might include providing direct visitor access only to those structures that best accomplish the intent of this theme, which then leads to specific facility management implications. Decisions about artifacts might include displaying only those artifacts that best help achieve the intent of Theme B (rather than maintaining the displays of artifacts that don’t contribute very well to this or other themes). These ideas might have staffing implications regarding curation and the operation of the visitor center. Decisions about the park’s collections might include whether or not to actively curate and store the bulk of the collection on site, which results in other facility design and management decisions, as well as staffing decisions. The brainstorming prompted by Theme B would likely apply to every management concept, although how those ideas are enacted might differ from one concept to another.</p> <p>Theme C might prompt the planning team to consider how best to provide high-quality visitor experiences for the general public in only limited portions of the site. Other portions</p>

Technique	Alternative Concept
	<p>of the site would allow only specialized access for tribes to enable affiliated peoples to maintain some of their historic connections to this important place. Implications of this theme include site management that provides a variety of ways to help the general public understand and appreciate the thinking behind such limited-access management decisions that may, initially, seem unjust to many visitors. The brainstorming prompted by Theme C would likely apply to every management concept, although how those ideas are enacted might differ from one concept to another.</p>