

Historic Preservation Related Extensions, Scripts and Forms

Extensions:

- Extensions are optional and provide additional GIS functionality.
- Some extensions are free downloads, while others are only available at a cost.
- All extensions add capabilities to the ArcGIS desktop...ArcView, ArcEditor and ArcInfo.

Evaluating Extensions:

To review and determine which extensions might be applicable for a particular project, you can evaluate the extensions by performing the following steps:

1. Open ArcMap
2. Click on “Help” on the Toolbar
3. Click on ArcGIS Desktop in the drop-down bar
4. On the left side of the page, click on the “search” heading
5. Type in “evaluation an ArcGIS extensions”
6. A list of extensions will appear as well as a description of what they generally do.
7. Once you have determined which extensions you need you can download them from the ESRI website as follows:
http://www.esri.com/software/arcgis/about/desktop_extensions.html.

Enabling Extensions:

- To use an extension that you have already downloaded, it must be enabled.
- To enable an extension, click on “tools” in the toolbar, in the drop-down, click on extensions, and a list of the extensions currently installed on your system that are available with the current application of GIS that you are using, will appear.

- To enable an extension, click the box next to it. If an extension is successfully enabled, a check will appear in the box.
- Important to note: Enabling an extension does not automatically cause the feature to run. Typically the extensions controls are on a toolbar, and you will need to display the toolbar by choosing it from the toolbars pull-right menu in the View menu.

Common Extensions Associated with Historic Preservation Applications:

- ArcGIS 3D Analyst – this extension allows for three dimensional visualization and analysis.
- ArcGIS Survey Analyst – creates accurate parcel survey data (useful for historic district mapping).
- ArcGIS Data Interoperability – eliminates barriers for data sharing by providing state-of-the-art direct data access, transformation and export capabilities.
- ArcGIS Publisher – adds easy and cost-effective map publication capabilities (works in conjunction with ArcReader) and allows you to create interactive maps (useful for heritage education programs).
- Maplex for ArcGIS – Used to generate text saved to map documents.
- Districting for ArcGIS – can be used to create historic district overlay information.

Scripts:

- A script is a set of instructions in plain text, usually stored in a file and interpreted or compiled at run time. Scripts can be used to automate tasks, such as data conversion or to generate geodatabases.
- Scripts are basically programs written in a computer language (frequently Python).
- Scripts can be used in creating forms.
- There are standard script modules already set up from which you can pull.

Evaluating Scripts:

To find scripts, follow the same directions as for extensions as follows:

1. Open ArcMap
2. Click on “Help” on the Toolbar
3. Click on ArcGIS Desktop in the drop-down bar
4. On the left side of the page, click on the “search” heading
5. Type in “scripts”
6. A list of scripts will appear as well as a description of what they generally do.
7. Once you have determined which scripts you need you can download them from the ESRI website as follows:
<http://support.esri.com/index.cfm?fa=downloads.geoprocessing.scripts>

Forms:

- Layer Definition file that illustrates how ArcPad can be used to collect data for a housing condition survey
<http://arcscripts.esri.com/details.asp?dbid=13049>
- Custom ArcPad application with forms for selecting and attributing parcels and buildings layer
<http://arcscripts.esri.com/details.asp?dbid=15110>
- Map Scaling
<http://arcscripts.esri.com/details.asp?dbid=13858>
- Form for ArcPad data collection for potential historic resources including structures and cultural landscape.
<http://arcscripts.esri.com/details.asp?dbid=14122>