

THE NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS PROGRAM



3. Private Uses

Many Landmarks are used as residences and, occasionally, for professional, institutional, and cultural purposes unrelated to Landmark significance. These uses are appropriate to the extent that they do not impair the integrity of the Landmark. In this regard, refer to the standards for Commercial Visitor Use.

4. Architectural Modifications

Landmarks important for their architecture should not be remodeled or altered in any way which seriously modifies historic style or destroys the original or authentically restored or reconstructed fabric. If the interior aspects of the architecture significantly contributed to the original designation, temporary internal changes to accommodate acceptable uses may be undertaken so long as sufficient authentic work remains to permit accurate, ready restoration to the original condition or the previously restored or reconstructed state of authenticity. If the interior did not contribute significantly to the designation, it may be modified as necessary to accommodate acceptable uses.

RELATED PROGRAMS

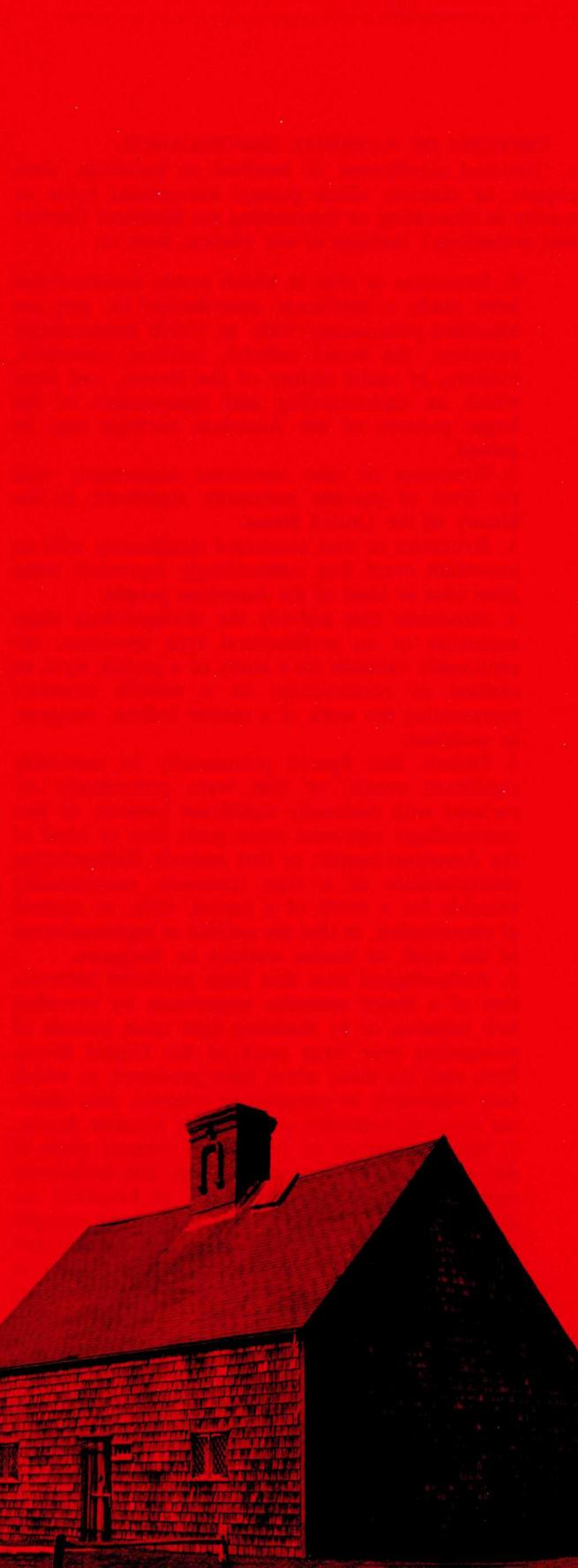
THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES. The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 directs the Secretary of the Interior to expand the National Register, authorized by the Historic Sites Act of 1935, to include places of State, regional, and local significance as well as those nationally significant places qualified for designation as National Historic Landmarks.

This act provides certain safeguards against damage by Federal undertakings for all properties included in the National Register and a grant-in-aid program to assist in their preservation. It also authorizes the establishment of an Advisory Council on Historic Preservation composed of Federal department heads, the Chairman of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and citizens appointed by the President.

While the National Register includes places of national, State, regional, and local significance, Landmark designation is the unique status accorded limited numbers of properties meeting the stringent criteria of national significance. All properties eligible for National Historic Landmarks status, whether the owner applies for the formal designation or not, are entered in the National Register as soon as the Secretary of the Interior finds them of national significance.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY. This program for recording important examples of American architecture is conducted in cooperation with the American Institute of Architects and the Library of Congress. The records—photographs, measured drawings, written data—are deposited in the Library of Congress, where they are available for inspection and study.

Recording by HABS is evidence that a building is worthy of preservation. Most recorded buildings will be entered in the National Register either as National Historic Landmarks or by nomination of the States.



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ARCHEOLOGICAL PROGRAM. Archeological research and protection are other major responsibilities of the National Park Service. Prehistoric ruins were among the earliest areas set aside for Department of the Interior protection. The Antiquities Act of 1906 provided the Department with initial protective and research powers in respect to archeological resources. The Act of 1916 creating the National Park Service charged that agency with protection of historic resources in the National Park System. The Historic Sites Act of 1935, the Reservoir Salvage Act of 1960, and the Historic Preservation Act of 1966 greatly broadened these responsibilities.

The Service now conducts a program of salvage archeology where highway construction, dams, pipelines, and other projects threaten sites rich in prehistoric or historic data. A large proportion of the archeological fieldwork in this country is conducted under the Inter-Agency Archeological Salvage Program, sponsored by the Service.

THE NATURAL LANDMARKS PROGRAM. The first areas in the Register of Natural Areas were designated in 1964. This program is similar to that of the National Historic Landmarks. Natural areas considered of national significance are cited by the Secretary of the Interior as eligible for recognition as Registered Natural Landmarks, regardless of ownership. At the Secretary's invitation, the owner may apply for a certificate and a bronze plaque designating the site.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION LANDMARKS. The third part of the National Landmarks Program was started in 1968. These Landmarks are designated for use of schools and the general public for teaching the principles of environmental awareness.

OTHER PROGRAMS. Among the newer programs of the National Park Service is a plan to identify and record significant engineering landmarks. The Service works closely with the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Library of Congress in establishing a graphic, documentary record of the Nation's distinctive engineering accomplishments.

RELATED PRESERVATION FOLDERS

The National Park Service publishes the following information folders similar to this one on its preservation programs: *National Park Service Archeological Program*, *The National Register of Historic Places*, *The Historic American Buildings Survey*, and *The Natural Landmarks Program*. These publications, along with this folder, are available in packet form (*National Park Service Preservation Programs*, 50 cents) from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

For further information about any of the programs mentioned in this folder, write to the Director, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

**U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

In evaluating continuing Landmark eligibility, the National Park Service applies the following criteria:

Adverse effect occurs when any condition creates an adverse change in the qualities that made the property eligible for Landmark status. Generally, adverse effect occurs under conditions which include but are not limited to:

1. Destruction or alteration of all or part of the property;
2. Isolation from, or alteration of, its surrounding environment;
3. Introduction of visual, audible, or atmospheric elements that are out of character with the property and its setting.

ACCEPTABILITY OF USE. Many Landmarks are in private ownership. Indeed, a primary purpose of the Landmarks program is to encourage and assist private individuals and organizations in protecting and preserving important elements of the Nation's cultural and natural heritage.

Some of the Landmarks are operated as commercial enterprises. Income from admissions and sale of goods and services may support a business, and the profit motive may be an essential consideration in the management and preservation of the property. Commercial operation *per se* does not disqualify a site for continued landmark status. It is recognized, however, that the enterprise itself, by location, impact, excessive use, or management philosophy, may so dilute the quality of the Landmark that it no longer meets the test of integrity. Therefore, the following guidelines will be used in evaluating acceptability of use of Landmarks.

1. Commercial Visitor Use

- a. The commercial services and developments, if any, are located so as to avoid impairing the integrity of the resource which is recognized as a Landmark.
- b. The tone and atmosphere of the commercial activity, if any, are in good taste and compatible with the values of the Landmark.
- c. Advertising and promotional activities are factually correct, in good taste, and reflect the concept that it is the feature, not the commercial activity, that has been awarded Landmark status.
- d. Interpretation, if any, of the Landmark is accurate.
- e. Use of the site is so planned and disciplined as to avoid an adverse effect on the resource which was designated a Landmark.

2. Consumptive Uses

Certain consumptive uses of renewable resources, such as grazing, may be compatible with maintenance of integrity and significance. Some may be part of the historic pattern of use. Such uses are appropriate to the extent they do not impair the integrity of the Landmark.

THE PROGRAM

Americans have long revered their Nation's history and treasured its tangible reminders. National Historic Landmarks are among the most treasured.

A National Historic Landmark is a Bunker Hill, a Mount Vernon, an Alamo. More formally, it is a district, site, building, structure, or object nationally significant in American history, architecture, archeology, or culture.

Publicly owned or privately owned, it is a special part of America's heritage, judged by the Secretary of the Interior to possess significance for all Americans and to be worthy of a place on the Department of the Interior's roll of Landmarks commemorating the Nation's past.

The Antiquities Act of 1906 gave the Department authority for historic preservation on the public domain. This responsibility has been delegated to the National Park Service.

Congress widened the authority of the Service in the Historic Sites Act of 1935, which states a "national policy to preserve for public use historic sites, buildings, and objects of national significance for the inspiration and benefit of the people of the United States." In addition to maintaining historic properties, the National Park Service is authorized to conduct surveys, publish studies, and otherwise encourage the preservation of historic properties not owned by the Federal Government.

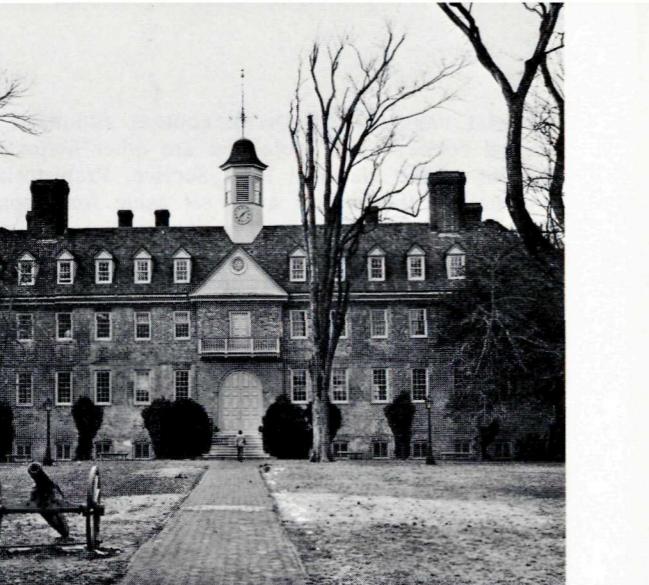
The Reservoir Salvage Act of 1960 took special note of archeological resources, affording protection to those that might otherwise be lost to dam construction.

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 expanded the preservation concept to historic places of State and local significance. This act pledged Federal matching grants for historic preservation, authorized an expanded National Register of historic properties worthy of preservation, and provided a measure of legal protection for registered properties.

The National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings is the program for studying and identifying prospective National Historic Landmarks. It is a cooperative program in which State and local agencies and professional historians, architects, and archeologists share their knowledge with the professional staff of the National Park Service. In accordance with the Historic Sites Act, authorizing the cooperation of "any educational or scientific institution," colleges and universities are participants in this program.

The review of potential Landmarks also is a cooperative process. Eminent experts in the pertinent disciplines contribute their judgment in order that only qualified properties will be declared eligible for designation.

The field of American history has been divided into periods, or themes, ranging from early man to the 20th century. Sites associated with the themes are surveyed and evaluated and the findings are presented in a formal study for each theme.



CRITERIA OF NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

a. National significance is ascribed to buildings, sites, objects, or districts which possess exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the historical (history and archeology) heritage of our Nation, such as:

1. Structures or sites at which events occurred that have made a significant contribution to, and are identified prominently with, or which outstandingly represent, the broad cultural, political, economic, military, or social history of the Nation, and from which an understanding and appreciation of the larger patterns of our American heritage may be gained.
2. Structures or sites associated importantly with the lives of persons nationally significant in the history of the United States.
3. Structures or sites associated significantly with an important event that outstandingly represents some great idea or ideal of the American people.
4. Structures that embody the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type specimen, exceptionally valuable for a study of a period, style, or method of construction; or a notable structure representing the work of a master builder, designer, or architect.
5. Objects that figured prominently in nationally significant events; or that were prominently associated with nationally significant persons; or that outstandingly represent some great idea or ideal of the American people; or that embody distinguishing characteristics of a type specimen, exceptionally valuable for a study of a period, style, or method of construction; or that are notable as representations of the work of master workers or designers.
6. Archeological sites that have produced information of a major scientific importance by revealing new cultures, or by shedding light upon periods of occupation over large areas of the United States. Such sites are those which have produced, or which may reasonably be expected to produce, data affecting theories, concepts, and ideas to a major degree.
7. When preserved or restored as integral parts of the environment, historic buildings not sufficiently significant individually by reason of historical association or architectural merit to warrant recognition may collectively compose a "historic district" that is of historical significance to the Nation in commemorating or illustrating a way of life in its developing culture.

b. To possess national significance, a historic or prehistoric structure, district, site, or object must possess integrity. For a historic or prehistoric site, integrity requires original location and intangible elements of feeling and association. The site of a structure no longer standing may possess national significance if the person or event



associated with the structure was of transcendent importance in the Nation's history and the association consequential.

For a historic or prehistoric structure, integrity is a composite quality derived from original workmanship, original location, and intangible elements of feeling and association. A structure no longer on the original site may possess national significance if the person or event associated with it was of transcendent importance in the Nation's history and the association consequential.

For a historic district, integrity is a composite quality derived from original workmanship, original location, and intangible elements of feeling and association inherent in an ensemble of historic buildings having visual architectural unity.

For a historic object, integrity requires basic original workmanship.

c. Structures or sites which are primarily of significance in the field of religion or to religious bodies but are not of national importance in other fields of the history of the United States, such as political, military, or architectural history, will not be eligible for consideration.

d. Birthplaces, graves, burials, and cemeteries, as a general rule, are not eligible for consideration and recognition except in cases of historical figures of transcendent importance. Historic sites associated with the actual careers and contributions of outstanding historical personages usually are more important than their birthplaces and burial places.

e. Structures, sites, and objects achieving historical importance within the past 50 years will not as a general rule be considered unless associated with persons or events of transcendent significance.

STANDARDS FOR CONTINUING SIGNIFICANCE

INTEGRITY. Continuing integrity is essential in maintaining the quality of national significance. The owner of the Landmark is encouraged to maintain its integrity by observing commonly accepted preservation standards. Reference to the original Landmark application and description provides a useful guide to continuing integrity. The object is to maintain those qualities for which the property received its recognition as nationally significant.

An adverse effect on the integrity of a Landmark, whether due to an action of the owner or to circumstances beyond his control, can constitute cause for withdrawal of the designation, the plaque, and the certificate. Representatives of the Service periodically visit the Landmark to ensure its continuing integrity and to consult with the owner on matters of preservation and interpretation to the public.