

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

RECOGNIZING AND DOCUMENTING NEW YORK STATE'S DIVERSE HERITAGE

HISTORIC PROPERTIES ARE TANGIBLE LINKS WITH THE PAST THAT PROVIDE A SENSE OF IDENTITY & INSPIRE PRIDE IN OUR HERITAGE. NEW YORK IS A LEADER IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER PROGRAM, WITH MORE THAN 6,000 LISTINGS, INCLUDING APPROXIMATELY 120,000 PROPERTIES.

What is the National Register of Historic Places?

Established by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Register of Historic Places is the official list of historic properties that have been recognized as significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, or culture. The Division for Historic Preservation in the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation coordinates the National Register program in New York State, as well as the parallel State Register program.

What qualifies a property for listing on the National Register?

There are five categories of historic properties that are eligible for listing on the National Register: buildings, sites, structures, objects, and districts.

Buildings are houses, churches, barns, railroad stations, theatres, schools, and factories.

Sites range from designed landscapes, such as parks and cemeteries, to archaeological sites.

Structures are bridges, fire towers, roadways, and ships.

Objects are often artistic in nature and can include outdoor sculptures, monuments, and fountains.

Districts are groupings of resources, such as residential neighborhoods, commercial areas, and industrial complexes, that are linked by shared associations.

In order to qualify for listing, properties must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- associated with events that have made a significant contribution to our history,
- associated with persons significant in our past,
- clearly illustrate an architectural style, period, type, or method of construction,
- yield information important in prehistory or history (archaeological sites).

In general, properties must retain sufficient integrity to illustrate their significance. Qualities of integrity include location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Properties less than 50 years old are not usually considered eligible for National Register listing.

What are the benefits of listing?

The National Register is a recognized and visible component of land-use planning and promotes heritage tourism, economic development, and appreciation of historic resources. Benefits include:

Recognition

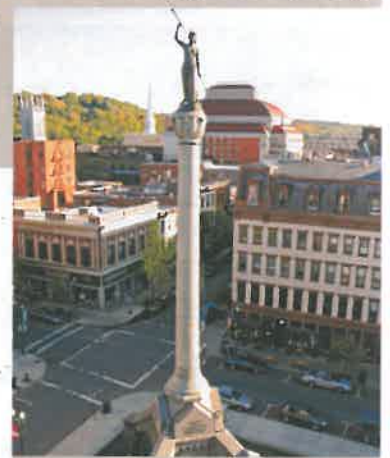
- Listing honors the property by recognizing its importance to its community, the state, or the nation.
- Listing raises the community's awareness and pride in its past.

Economic Incentives

- Owners of historic *commercial* properties (e.g. office, industrial, rental residential) listed on the National Register may qualify for a preservation tax credit.



Great Camp Sagamore, Raquette Lake



Central Troy Historic District, Troy



Niagara Mohawk Building, Syracuse



West End Presbyterian Church, Manhattan



Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation



Trans World Airlines Flight Center, Queens



Little Falls Historic District, Herkimer County



Montauk Lighthouse, Suffolk County



Li's Diner, Albany

The Tax Reform Act of 1986 allows a 20 percent federal tax credit for the substantial rehabilitation of income-producing historic properties. The work performed must meet federal preservation standards. **NYS legislation also provides an additional state tax credit for Income-Producing properties and for rehabilitating Owner-Occupied homes in eligible census tracts.**

- National Register listing is often a prerequisite for historic preservation grants and loans available through not-for-profit organizations, private foundations and government agencies.
- Not-for-profit organizations and municipalities that own registered properties are qualified to apply for New York State historic preservation matching grants.

Protection

- Properties listed on the National Register or determined eligible for listing receive protection and consideration in the planning of projects that involve state or federal funding, permits or licenses. State and federal agencies must consult with the Division for Historic Preservation staff to avoid, minimize or mitigate adverse project effects.
- In New York State, the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) provides additional protection to listed properties.

Are there any restrictions?

Listing on the National Register does not interfere with a private property owner's right to remodel, alter, manage, use, sell, or even demolish a property. If state or federal funding is used or a project requires a state or federal permit, project developers are required to consult with division staff regarding the plans. The consultation process considers how historic resources may be impacted and whether there are alternative plans that will bring about the desired results. National Register listing does not provide absolute protection against any change to

a property.

National Register listing should not be confused with local landmark designation, which is enacted by local governments and provides additional protection for historic properties. National Register designation does not regulate the actions of private property owners unless they receive funds or need permits from state or federal government agencies.

What is the process for listing properties ?

1. Sponsor contacts the Division for Historic Preservation National Register staff for application and guidance;
2. Property is evaluated by National Register staff for eligibility; If property is eligible, the sponsor prepares required nomination materials (description, history, photos, and maps) under guidance of National Register staff.
3. Nomination is reviewed by the New York State Board for Historic Preservation. The board's recommendation is forwarded for approval to the State Historic Preservation Officer, who is the OPRHP Commissioner.
4. If approved, property is listed on State Register and forwarded to the National Park Service for approval and listing on the National Register.

For more information

The National Register website has detailed guidelines on criteria, how to prepare nominations, etc.:

www.nps.gov/history/nr/

National Park Service has online publications on preservation topics, including technical issues:

www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/

**National Register Unit
Division for Historic Preservation
NYS Office of Parks, Recreation
& Historic Preservation**

Peebles Island, P.O. Box 189

Waterford, NY 12188-0189

518.237.8643

www.nysparks.com/shpo

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Agency *This material has been financed in part with Federal funds from the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. However, the contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Department of the Interior. This project has been administered by the Field Services Bureau, Division for Historic Preservation, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. This bureau receives Federal funds from the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. Regulations of the U.S. Department of the Interior strictly prohibit unlawful discrimination in departmental Federally Assisted Programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, or handicap. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility operated by a recipient of Federal assistance should write to: Director, Equal Opportunity Program, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20012-7127.*