



NATIONAL REGISTER BULLETIN

HOW TO COMPLETE THE NATIONAL REGISTER REGISTRATION FORM

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

APPENDIX IV

GLOSSARY OF NATIONAL REGISTER TERMS

Accompanying documentation---USGS map, photographs, and sketch maps that accompany completed registration form.

Acreage---area of a historic property measured in acres.

Amendment documentation---provided on a new registration form or continuation sheets for a property already listed in the National Register officially changing the significance, boundaries, name, or other aspect of the listing.

Antiquities Act---enacted in 1906, the first legislation in the United States to preserve American antiquities, including the designation and protection of national monuments on federally owned land.

Archeological district---a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites important in history or prehistory.

Architectural classification---item on registration form calling for the entry of an architectural style or other term by which property can be identified.

Architectural significance---importance of a property based on physical aspects of its design, materials, form, style, or workmanship, and recognized by criterion C.

Area of significance---aspect of historic development in which a property made contributions for which it meets the National Register criteria, such as agriculture or politics/government.

Association---link of a historic property with a historic event, activity, or person. Also, the quality of integrity through which a historic property is linked to a particular past time and place.

Associative characteristic---an aspect of a property's history that links it with historic events, activities, or persons.

Boundaries---lines delineating the geographical extent or area of a historic property.

Boundary description---a precise description of the lines that bound a historic property.

Boundary justification---an explanation of the reasons for selecting the boundaries of a historic property.

Building---a resource created principally to shelter any form of human activity, such as house.

Certification---process by which a nominating authority signs a National Register form or continuation sheet to verify the accuracy of the documentation and to express his or her opinion on the eligibility of the property for National Register listing; also, the signature through which the authority nominates a property or requests a determination of eligibility; also, the process and signature by which the Keeper of the National Register acts on a request for listing, a determination of eligibility, or other action.

Certified Local Government (CLG)---a local government officially certified to carry out some of the purposes of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended.

Certifying official---SHPO or FPO who initiates and supports a nomination or requests other official action related to National Register listing.

CLG---see "certified local government."

Commenting official---any official whose comment is required or requested on the nomination of a property to the National Register or other action related to National Register listings.

Contributing resource---a building, site, structure, or object adding to the historic significance of a property.

Criteria---general standards by which the significance of a historic property is judged; see National Register criteria.

Criteria Considerations---additional standards applying to certain kinds of historic properties.

Cultural Affiliation---archeological or ethnographic culture to which a collection of sites, resources, or artifacts belong.

Cultural resource---building, site, structure, object, or district evaluated as having significance in prehistory or history.

Current function---purpose that a property, or portion of it, currently serves or will serve in the near future.

Design---quality of integrity applying to the elements that create the physical form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property.

Determination of eligibility---an action through which the eligibility of a property for National Register listing is decided but the property is not actually listed; nominating authorities and federal agency officials commonly request determinations of eligibility for federal planning purposes and in cases where a majority of private owners has objected to National Register listing.

Description---section of the registration form where the historic features and current condition of a property are described.

Discontiguous district---a historic or archeological district containing two or more geographically separate areas.

District---a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development.

Documentation---information that describes, locates, and explains the significance of a historic property.

Documentation standards---requirements for describing, locating, and stating the significance of a property for listing in the National Register.

Eligibility---ability of a property to meet the National Register criteria.

Evaluation---process by which the significance and integrity of a historic property are judged and eligibility for National Register listing is determined.

Evaluation methods---steps through which the eligibility of a historic property is determined.

Event---an occasion, circumstance, or activity that occurred within a particular period of time, or continued over an extended period of time.

Federal Preservation Officer (FPO)---official designated by the head of each Federal agency to be responsible for coordinating the agency's activities under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, including nominating properties to the National Register.

Feeling---quality of integrity through which a historic property evokes the aesthetic or historic sense of past time and place.

Function---(or use) purpose for which a building, site, structure, object, or district is used. (See also current and historic function.)

Geographical area---an area of land containing historic or archeological resources that can be identified on a map and delineated by boundaries.

Historic context---an organizing structure for interpreting history that groups information about historic properties which share a common theme, common geographical location, and common time period. The development of historic contexts is a foundation for decisions about the planning, identification, evaluation, registration, and treatment of historic properties, based upon comparative significance.

Historic district---see "district."

Historic function---use of a district, site, building, structure, or object at the time it attained historic significance.

Historic property---any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object.

Historic significance---importance for which a property has been evaluated and found to meet the National Register criteria.

Historic Sites Act---enacted in 1935, the legislation providing for the preservation of historic American sites, buildings, objects, and antiquities of national significance, including the designation of National Historic Landmarks and historic units of the National Park System.

Identification---process through which information is gathered about historic properties.

Identification methods---steps through which information about historic properties is gathered.

Important person---an individual who has made significant contributions in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture.

Information potential---ability of a property to provide important information about history or prehistory through its composition and physical remains; importance recognized by criterion D.

Integrity---authenticity of a property's historic identity, evidenced by the survival of physical characteristics that existed during the property's historic or prehistoric period.

Level of significance---geographical level local, State, or national at which a historic property has been evaluated and found to be significant.

Local significance---importance of a property to the history of its community, such as a town or county.

Location---quality of integrity retained by a historic property existing in the same place as it did during the period of significance.

Materials---quality of integrity applying to the physical elements that were combined or deposited in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property.

Multiple property documentation form---official National Register form (NPS 10-900-b) used for documenting the contexts and property types for a multiple property listing.

Multiple property listing---a group of historic properties related by common theme, general geographical area, and period of time for the purpose of National Register documentation and listing.

Multiple property submission---format through which historic properties related by theme, general geographical area, and period of time may be documented as a group and listed in the National Register.

Multiple resource submission---format previously used for documenting and listing groups of historic properties located within the same general geographical area; see "multiple property submission."

National Historic Landmark (NHL)---a historic property evaluated and found to have significance at the national level and designated as such by the Secretary of the Interior.

National Historic Preservation Act, as amended---1966 legislation establishing the National Register of Historic Places and extending the national historic preservation programs to properties of State and local significance.

National Register criteria for evaluation---established criteria for evaluating the eligibility of properties for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

National Register Information System (NRIS)---computerized data base of information on properties included in the National Register of Historic Places.

National Register of Historic Places---official federal list of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering and culture.

National significance---importance of a property to the history of the United States as a nation.

Nominating Authority---Federal or State official authorized to nominate properties to the National Register of Historic Places.

Noncontributing resource---a building, site, structure, or object that does not add to the historic significance of a property.

Notification---process through which property owners, public officials, and the general public are notified of nominations to and listings in and determinations of eligibility for the National Register.

Object---a construction primarily artistic in nature or relatively small in scale and simply constructed, such as a statue or milepost.

Owner objection---a notarized written statement from a property owner disapproving the nomination and listing of his or her property in the National Register.

Ownership---legal status in which an owner holds fee simple title to a property, or portion of it.

Period of significance---span of time in which a property attained the significance for which it meets the National Register criteria.

Physical characteristics---visible and tangible attributes of a historic property or group of historic properties.

Potential to yield information---likelihood of a property to provide information about an important aspect of history or prehistory through its physical composition and remains.

Preservation planning---series of activities through which goals, priorities, and strategies for identification, evaluation, registration, and protection of historic properties are developed.

Preservation planning process---process by which goals, priorities, and strategies for preservation planning activities are set forth and carried out.

Property---area of land containing a single historic resource or a group of resources, and constituting a single entry in the National Register of Historic Places.

Property type---a grouping of properties defined by common physical and associative attributes.

Public notice---notification made through a public notice in a local newspaper or public place.

Public participation---process by which the opinions of property owners, public officials, and the general public are considered prior to making a decision to nominate or list a historic property in the National Register.

Registration---process described in 36 CFR Part 60 which results in historic or archeological properties being listed or determined eligible for listing in the National Register.

Registration requirements---attributes of significance and integrity qualifying a property for listing in the National Register.

Resource---any building, structure, site, or object that is part of or constitutes a historic property.

Resource type---the general category of property--building, structure, site, district, or object--that may be listed in the National Register.

Setting---quality of integrity applying to the physical environment of a historic property.

Significance---importance of a historic property as defined by the National Register criteria in one or more areas of significance.

Significant date---date of an event or activity related to the importance for which a property meets the National Register criteria.

Site---location of a significant event, a prehistoric or historic occupation or activity, or a building or structure, whether standing, ruined, or vanished, where the location itself possesses historic, cultural, or archeological value regardless of the value of any existing structure.

State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO)---the official designated by the Governor to administer the State's historic preservation program and the duties described in 36 CFR Part 61 including nominating properties to the National Register.

State historic preservation office---office in State or territorial government that administers the preservation programs under the National Historic Preservation Act.

State preservation plan---document that sets forth the process by which a State develops goals, priorities, and strategies for preservation planning purposes.

State review board---a board, council, commission or other collegial body appointed by the SHPO to review the eligibility of nominated properties and the adequacy of nomination documentation.

State significance---importance of a property to the history of the State where it is located.

Statement of significance---section of the registration form where the reasons a property is significant and meets the National Register criteria are stated and explained.

Structure---a functional construction made for purposes other than creating shelter, such as a bridge.

Thematic resource submission---format previously used for documenting and listing a group of historic properties related by a common theme; see multiple property submission.

Theme---a trend or pattern in history or prehistory relating to a particular aspect of cultural development, such as dairy farming or silver mining.

UTM reference---a set of coordinates (easting and northing) that indicates a unique location according to the Universal Transmercator Grid appearing on maps of the United States Geological Survey.

Verbal boundary description---a statement that gives the precise boundaries of a historic property, such as a lot number, metes and bounds, or township and range.

Workmanship---quality of integrity applying to the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture, people, or artisan.

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