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# The National Register of Historic Places

**The National Register of Historic Places** was authorized under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and is administered by the Department of the Interior's National Park Service. It is the nation's official list of historically significant structures, and includes districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture.

A National Register designation mandates that a property must be considered in the planning of federal or federally assisted projects impacting the registered property, and qualifies that site for financial assistance from governmental funds for historic preservation when these funds are available.

For more information visit the National Register website, [www.cr.nps.gov/nr](http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr). It includes information on the program, the more than 70,000 listed properties, and how to nominate a property.

## The process for listing a property on the National Register

Properties are nominated to the National Register by the State Historic Preservation officer (SHPO) of the State in which the property is located, by the Federal Preservation Officer (FPO) for properties under Federal ownership or control, or by the Tribal Preservation Officer (TPO) if the property is on tribal lands.

Ordinarily, nomination forms are prepared by private individuals or the staff of the SHPO (in NH, the SHPO is the Division of Historical Resources). These nomination forms are then submitted to the State review board, composed of professionals in the fields of American history, architectural history, architecture, prehistoric and historic archeology, and

other related disciplines. The review board makes a recommendation to the SHPO either to approve the nomination if, in the board's opinion, it meets the National Register criteria, or to disapprove the nomination if it does not.

During the time the proposed nomination is reviewed by the SHPO, property owners and local officials are notified of the intent to nominate. Local officials and property owners are given the opportunity to comment on the nomination and owners of private property are given an opportunity to object to or concur with the nomination. If the owner of a private property, or the majority of private property owners for a property or district with multiple owners, objects to the nomination, the SHPO may forward the nomination to the National Park Service for a determination of eligibility. Without formally listing the property in the National Register, the National Park Service then determines whether the property is eligible for listing. If the property is eligible, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation must be afforded the opportunity to comment on any Federal project that may affect it. If the review board and the SHPO agree on the eligibility of the property (and the owner has not objected to the nomination), then the nomination is forwarded to the National Park Service to be considered for listing.

As of August, 2007, there are over 700 New Hampshire properties listed on the National Register

Contact the NH Division of Historical Resources, [preservation@nhdhr.state.nh.us](mailto:preservation@nhdhr.state.nh.us) to request more information.

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