

**SOUTH DAKOTA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
NATIONAL REGISTER PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT FORM**

The following is an initial documentation form and information sheets used to introduce property owners to the National Register of Historic Places and to determine the eligibility of a historic resource for listing on the register. Please read the enclosed information and complete the attached form to the best of your knowledge. Be sure to include recent photographs of both the **exterior** and **interior** features of the property. We also request a simple floor plan or basic sketch of the building with the primary features marked and labeled (ex. walls, window, doors, stairs, second floor).

DESCRIPTION:

PROPERTY NAME:

Historic _____

Current _____

PROPERTY ADDRESS: _____

(Please indicate if the building has been moved from its original location)

OWNER(S) OF PROPERTY: (name and address)

Historic _____

Current _____

PROPERTY USE: (i.e. school, residence, commerce, industry, etc.)

Historic _____

Current _____

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: (include date and source of information)

EXTERIOR MATERIALS: (list both historic and current, if not the same)

Foundation _____

Walls _____

Roof _____

INTERIOR MATERIALS: (list both historic and current, if not the same)

Ceilings _____

Walls _____

Floors _____

ALTERATIONS: (list and describe any additions, alterations or removal of any features and give date of change)

Additions _____

Windows (indicate any that have been closed up, added or changed)

Entrances/Doorways (exterior or interior additions or modifications)

Porches (added or removed) _____

Decorative Elements (i.e. columns, balconies, railings, shutters, cornices, molding, brackets, etc.) _____

SITE FEATURES: (briefly describe the surrounding area and structures)

Outbuildings _____

Setting/Landscaping _____

SIGNIFICANCE/ HISTORY:

Please check the criterion for eligibility that applies to your property. Refer to the information sheet on National Register Criteria for descriptions.

- CRITERION A (history): _____
- CRITERION B (person): _____
- CRITERION C (architecture): _____
- CRITERION D (archaeology): _____

Based on the criterion checked above, briefly describe the history of your property and why it is significant on either a local, state, or national level. Refer to the source list for suggestions on historical research. Please document any references used. (Attach additional pages if needed).

FORM PREPARED BY: _____
STREET: _____
CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____
TELEPHONE: _____ DATE: _____

PLEASE ATTACH RECENT COLOR OR BLACK/WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE PROPERTY, INCLUDING FULL SHOTS OF EACH SIDE OF THE BUILDING (exterior) AND REPRESENTATIVE PHOTOS OF THE INTERIOR. ANY OTHER ELEMENTS, PARTICULARLY ADDITIONS, OUTBUILDINGS, OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES SHOULD BE PHOTOGRAPHED AS WELL.

The information sheets are for your files, but please return the **completed** assessment form with **photographs and sketches** to the National Register Coordinator in your region. The Historic Preservation staff will review the form and make a determination of eligibility based on the information received. In some cases, a determination may be deferred for additional research or site visit. If the property is determined eligible, you will receive a National Register **nomination** packet with instructions regarding the nomination process. If you have any questions or comments, please contact the Historic Preservation Program.

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
900 GOVERNORS DRIVE
PIERRE, SD 57501-2217
phone (605) 773-3458
fax (605) 773-6041

GUIDE TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

The National Register of Historic Places Criteria are designed to determine and evaluate the significance of historic resources within the proper historic context. There are four main categories which are listed below, followed by a brief description. Please keep in mind that while a single property must qualify under **at least** one category, it may be eligible under more than one criterion.

CRITERIA:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, material, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A** That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B** That are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C** That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D** That have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS:

There are seven Criteria Considerations listed on the National Register Nomination Form which are applicable to cemeteries, birthplaces, graves of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes, structures that have been moved from their original locations, reconstructed historic buildings, properties primarily commemorative in nature, and properties that have achieved significance in the last fifty years. Typically, the types of properties listed above would not be considered for the National Register but may qualify under one of the criteria considerations. If your property is one of the above, please fill out the preliminary assessment form but attach a brief description of the property type and explain its significance.

A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES:

The National Register of Historic Places is a program designed to identify, recognize, and to some degree, protect significant historic resources. Listing on the register does not restrict the rights of property owners, nor does it prevent destruction of historic properties, but there are benefits to both the private owner and general public.

The National Register DOES:

- *Identify and evaluate significant buildings, structures, sites, objects, and districts according to the established National Register Criteria.

- *Make the public aware of historic resources by documenting their importance.

- *Provide information about historic resources that can be used as a planning tool for federal, state, local and private agencies.

- *Expedite the review of federal undertakings that could affect historic resources and attempt to mitigate adverse effects on identified historic properties.

- *Make owners of historic properties eligible for federal grants for preservation projects, when such funds are available.

- *Enable income-producing depreciable historic properties to use tax incentives when rehabilitated according to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards.

- *List properties only if they meet the National Register criteria and the owner, or a majority of owners, agree to the listing.

The National Register DOES NOT:

- *Limit or restrict the rights of property owners to use, develop, or sell their historic properties; require that historic properties be maintained, repaired or restored; or require that historic properties be open to the public.

- *Provide markers or plaques for listed properties. Owners may purchase plaques and markers if desired.

- *Automatically facilitate local landmark designation or local district zoning. Nor does it require the review of state, local, or privately funded projects that could affect historic properties.

- *Automatically stop federal undertakings that could affect historic resources.

- *Assure that owners of historic properties will receive grants when funds are available.

- *Provide state or local tax benefits or low-interest loans to owners.

- *List historic properties according to local criteria or if the owner or majority of owners object to the listing.

SUGGESTED SOURCES FOR RESEARCHING A HISTORIC PROPERTY

ARCHITECTURE:

Architectural style books or dictionaries are very helpful for determining building forms and identifying stylistic elements. These manuals also introduce general terminology for key architectural features. The following selections are popular guide books that are available in most bookstores and libraries.

Blumenson, John J.G. Identifying American Architecture. Nashville, Tennessee: American Association for State and Local History, 1977.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1988.

Phillips, Steven J. Old House Dictionary: An Illustrated Guide to American Domestic Architecture, 1600-1940. Lakewood, Colorado: American Source Books, 1989.

Poppeliers, John, et al. What Style is It? Washington, D.C.: The Preservation Press, 1992.

HISTORY:

Public libraries are excellent resources for historical records. State, county, and local histories are usually available at all state, county, and public libraries, as are historic newspapers, city/county directories, census records, and court minutes. Other relevant sources include deeds, abstracts, homestead records, and wills, which are accessible at the county courthouse. City maps, property plats, and developer layouts are also good references for researching a property.

Other Sources to Consult:

Hale, R.W., Jr. Methods of Research for the Amateur Historian. Nashville, Tennessee: American Association for State and Local History, 1969.

Kyvig, David E. and Myron A. Marty. Nearby History: Exploring the Past Around You. Nashville, Tennessee: American Association for State and Local History, 1982.