



National Register of Historic Places

What is it?

The National Register of Historic Places is the nation's official list of places recognized for their historical, architectural, or archaeological significance. The National Register is maintained by the U.S. Department of the Interior, and nominations of Illinois properties to the Register are processed through the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office (IL SHPO).

Listing criteria

Properties eligible for listing include buildings, districts, sites, structures, and objects that are significant to local, state, or national history because of the integrity of their location, design, setting, materials, feeling, and association. A place must meet at least one of the following criteria: ► be associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history; ► be associated with the lives of significant persons in our past; ► be distinctive for its type, period, or method of construction; or represent the work of a master, or possess artistic value; or, in the case of a district, be representative of a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; ► yield important information about the area's history or prehistory.

Benefits

National Register listing makes the property eligible for certain financial benefits and increases a community's awareness and appreciation of its cultural resources by promoting a sense of pride in local history and the built environment.

Misconceptions

The National Register does NOT: ► interfere with a private owner's property rights; ► prevent private property owners from making changes or force improvements; ► cause additional regulatory review if a project that effects the property uses state or federal permits, licenses or funds; ► limit the use of listed buildings; or ► require that properties be open to the public.

Process

The IL SHPO's National Register staff coordinates the four-part application process. **Part 1: Preliminary Staff Review:** ► Applicants must submit a [Preliminary Evaluation Form](#). ► The staff will send the applicant their opinion. If the staff believes that the property meets National Register criteria, they will send the applicant a nomination form with recommendations for its completion. If the staff believes that the property does not meet the criteria, the applicant still may request a nomination form, and the staff will advise the applicant of issues that should be addressed. **Part 2: The National Register Form:** ► When the staff receives a completed nomination form, the property will be scheduled for consideration at the next meeting of the Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Council (IHSAC). ► If the property is within a Certified Local Government, the staff will forward the nomination to the community for comment. **Part 3: IHSAC Review:** ► IHSAC members representing academic and advocate positions in history, archaeology, architecture and its history, and related fields are appointed by the Director of the Historic Preservation Division at the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. IHSAC meets three times each year to evaluate nominated properties and votes whether or not to recommend their listing. **Part 4: State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO)/Department of the Interior:** ► A positive vote by IHSAC advances the nomination to the SHPO, who is the Director of the Historic Preservation Division and has the authority to officially nominate the property. ► The nomination is sent to the Keeper of the National Register, Department of the Interior in Washington, D.C., who has the final authority to list properties to the National Register. ► If the nomination is not approved by IHSAC or the SHPO, the applicant may appeal to the Keeper of the National Register.

Questions?

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<https://www2.illinois.gov/dnrhistoric/Preserve/Pages/Places.aspx>