

State Register Criteria for Evaluation

In 2001, the Division for Historic Preservation and Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation adopted the [National Register Criteria for Evaluation](#) to evaluate properties for inclusion in the State Register of Historic Places. It is important to note that when this change was made, all properties that were listed in the State Register prior to 3/15/2001 remained listed in the State Register. They did not, however, automatically become eligible for the National Register of Historic Places due to the adoption of the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. Such properties should be considered *potentially* eligible for the National Register, pending a full evaluation using the State Register Criteria for Evaluation.

The following criteria are designed to guide property owners, state agencies, and the Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation in evaluating potential State Register entries.

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, 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 the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, 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.

Ordinarily cemeteries, birthplaces, or 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 within the past 50 years shall not be considered eligible for the National Register. However, such properties will qualify if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the criteria or if they fall within the following categories:

- a. A religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance; or
- b. A building or structure removed from its original location but which is significant primarily for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a historic person or event; or

- c. A birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no other appropriate site or building directly associated with his or her productive life; or
- d. A cemetery which derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive features, or from association with historic events; or
- e. A reconstructed building when accurately executed in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and when no other building or structure with the same association has survived; or
- f. A property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own exceptional significance: or
- g. A property achieving significance within the past 50 years if it is of exceptional importance.

For more information about the State Register of Historic Places, please contact **Devin Colman**, State Architectural Historian, at devin.colman@vermont.gov or 802-585-8246.