

HERNDON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Historic Homes Registry
(January 29, 2019)

Purpose:

The Herndon Historical Society sponsors a Historic Homes Registry program within the Town of Herndon. The program is intended to increase public awareness of Herndon's older homes and buildings and their contribution to the Town's distinctive character and spirit. It is hoped that this increased awareness will help to preserve important structures, stimulate the rehabilitation of existing structures, and promote development that is harmonious with the unique character of the Town.

Criteria for Consideration:

Structures (residential and commercial) will be considered for the Registry if:

1. The original construction of the existing building is at least 50 years old (exceptions can be made, but only in extraordinary circumstances).
2. The building or residence is in the Town of Herndon (it is not required to be within the town's Historic District).
3. The application is from the owner of the property.
4. The present exterior of the building retains the "spirit" of its original design and the structure satisfies the criteria of being compatible with the character of Herndon.

Compatibility with the character of Herndon signifies that if the structure were to be demolished, the flavor and character of Herndon - based as it is upon its heritage and historical character - would be diminished, either directly or through the disruption of the integrity of the neighborhood surrounding the structure.

Criteria for Approval:

The property must meet one or more of the following criteria for the committee to approve the application for the property to receive a plaque:

1. Have significant character, interest or value as part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of the Town.¹
2. Be the site of a significant historical event.²
3. Be identified with a person or group of persons who influenced society.³
4. Embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of design or construction.⁴
5. Represent the work of a master craftsman, architect, designer, or builder.⁵
6. Possess high artistic value.⁶

Application:

Each owner applying for the registry must submit a written summary of the history of the structure as far as can be determined from land records, local residents, and other sources. The intent of this submission is to demonstrate to the committee that the structure contributes to the character of Herndon and is worthy of recognition as a structure of significance to the Town.

The application must include the following information:

1. What year it was built.
2. By whom it was built and for what purpose.
3. Subsequent owners, if information is available, and uses if changed from original purpose.
4. When significant additions or modifications were made. (Please include simple sketches of the floor plan as it now exists and of any known changes.)
5. A basic description of the architectural style.
6. A concise but thorough description of the significant, intriguing, or unique features of the structure.
7. Sources of the submitted information.
8. A photograph of the structure as it presently appears, along with any available earlier photographs/drawings.

This information, when combined, should clearly document the historical significance of the structure. Please **do not** include information about the history of the Town. Information about the history of former residents or owners may be included if it has a direct bearing on the significance of the structure or the Town's history. If you have information that you believe would be of historical interest that does not relate directly to the purpose of this application, please provide it as a separate document.

Submit the completed application to: HerndonHistoricalSociety@gmail.com.

HHS Historic Homes Registry Committee:

The committee will consist of five members:

1. The President of the Board of the Herndon Historical Society (HHS), or an officer of the HHS Board as designated by the Society President, will act as chair of the committee.
2. A person involved in the arts (architect, artist, etc.).
3. A person who has resided in Herndon for at least 15 years.
4. An owner of a structure already having been recognized as deserving of a plaque.
5. A Town of Herndon homeowner of a structure that clearly cannot obtain a plaque.

Award:

Once the committee has designated, in writing, a structure is deserving of a plaque, the plaque will be ordered. The applicant and the Historical Society will share the cost of the plaque. The applicant will be notified of their share of the cost before applying.

After the structure has been entered in the register maintained by the Historical Society, the Society will present the owner with an official plaque to be displayed on his or her structure. The register, consisting of the application and supporting documentation, will be available for public review through the Historical Society.

¹ Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites document

² ibid

³ ibid

⁴ ibid

⁵ ibid

⁶ ibid