



Yorktown Heritage Preservation Commission Town of Yorktown, New York

Application for Designation as a Home of Historic Distinction

Three Easy Steps to Becoming the Proud Owner of a Yorktown Home of Historic Distinction

Step 1 – Obtain an application at the Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) website, <https://www.yorktownny.org/hpc>, or write to preservation@yorktownny.org.

Step 2 – Submit your application with cited information to support your home's historic importance and the HPC will validate its authenticity and contact you to accept your application or request additional information.

The HPC may consider an individual property for designation as a Home of Historic Distinction if it:

- ✓ Possesses special character or historic or aesthetic interest or value of the property as a part of the cultural, political, economic or social history of the locality, region, state or nation; or
- ✓ Is identified with historic personages; or
- ✓ Embodies the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style; or
- ✓ Is the work of a designer who has significantly influenced an age; or
- ✓ Because of the unique or singular physical characteristic, represents an established and familiar visual feature of the neighborhood.

Research Sources and Citations - Be sure to list your sources. The data presented in the application must be able to be confirmed through research in the form of historical documents, deeds, maps, or other primary and secondary sources. For ease of use, please provide citations to your information using the Chicago Manual of Style -

(<https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/>), format as shown here:

Last name, First name. *Title of Book*. Place of publication: Publisher, Year of publication. Page numbers.

Complete Deed History Search – Using the Westchester County Land Records at wro.westerchesterclerkgov.com, complete the template below:

-Trace the deed history OF THE STRUCTURE on the property site as far back as can be authenticated by proof of deed and

-Include the seller name, buyer name, deed liber number, page and affix copy of deed, add more rows if necessary

Note: The HPC can assist you in completing the deed history if you need help; contact Adam Fetzer at afetzer36@gmail.com; also be mindful that you may find ownership information in historic sources other than the land records database (eg: Biographical sources, verified historical texts, tax assessor documents)

Note: Westchester County Clerk’s Office, 914-995-3130, may be another source

From (Grantor/Seller)	To (Grantee/Buyer)	Date	Liber	Page	Copy Made of Deed (Yes?)

Step 3 – Once approved, the HPC will arrange to have your historic marker fabricated, deliver it to you with mounting instructions and hardware and assist you with where and how to install it.

Application for Designation:

Name:

Address:

E-Mail Address:

Telephone Number: AC: Number:

Year Structure Was Built:

Concise Statement - Why Structure is of Historic Importance: Consider any of the criteria listed in Step 2: a) age of home/structure: typically 100 years old but more recent may qualify, b) architectural significance: designed by renowned architect, c) previous ownership: personages of local, regional and national prominence and d) linked to / relationship to events: like Revolutionary War, e) a fixture or anchor in the community

Recommended Verbiage for Your Historic Marker Sign:

Example - Line One: One Room Schoolhouse

Line 2: ca. 1825 - 1920

Line 3: Historic Yorktown (Mandatory by Yorktown Heritage Preservation Commission)

Your Line 1:

Your Line 2:

Line 3: Historic Yorktown

1. Please attach any supporting documentation, with sources and citations.
2. Please attach an updated color photograph of the exterior of your house.
3. Are you willing to have your Home of Historic Distinction noted on a Yorktown map with other homes of distinction and posted at the HPC website, <https://www.yorktownny.org/hpc?>
Yes () No () Comment:

Are you willing to give the HPC permission to post a picture and a short history of your home in a local newspaper to bring awareness to the Homes of Historic Distinction program? Yes ()
No ()

Signature Required:

Please attach your check for \$175 made out to the Town of Yorktown.

Note: If you find that the cost of the historic marker is prohibitive, a small grant program is available on a case by case basis. For more information, contact preservation@yorktownny.org.