

National Register of Historic Places

The National Register is our country's official list of historic buildings, structures, sites, objects, and districts worthy of preservation. The Historic Preservation Division (HPD) nominates eligible properties in Georgia to the National Register. More than 80,000 historic properties in Georgia are listed in the National Register. The National Register is maintained by the U.S. Department of the Interior.

HPD invites nomination proposals from property owners, historical societies, preservation organizations, civic and business associations, governmental agencies, and others. Proposed nominations are reviewed by HPD and the Georgia National Register Review Board. Approved nominations are submitted by HPD to the U.S. Department of the Interior in Washington, D.C. for final review and listing in the National Register.

National Register-eligible properties must meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. These criteria require that a property be old enough to be considered historic (generally at least 50 years old). Moved and reconstructed buildings are generally not eligible for National Register listing.

In addition, the property must:

- ◆ Be associated with events, activities, or developments that were important in the past; or
- ◆ Be associated with the lives of people who were important in the past; or
- ◆ Be significant in the areas of architectural history, landscape history, or engineering; or
- ◆ Have the potential to yield information about our past through archaeological investigation.

The National Register **DOES**:

- Identify significant historic properties according to the National Register Criteria.
- Encourage the preservation of historic properties by documenting their significance.
- Provide information about historic resources for planning purposes.
- Facilitate the review of federally funded, licensed, or permitted projects to determine their effects on historic properties.
- Assist state government agencies in determining whether their projects will affect historic properties.
- Make owners of historic properties eligible to apply for federal grants for historic preservation projects.
- Provide federal/state tax benefits to owners of historic properties upon rehabilitation, according to preservation standards.
- Insure that listed properties are considered in decisions to issue surface mining permits.
- Allow consideration of fire and life safety code compliance alternatives.

The National Register **DOES NOT**:

- Provide a marker or plaque for registered properties (property owners may obtain markers of plaques at their own expense).
- Restrict the rights of private property owners or require that properties be maintained repaired or restored.
- Automatically invoke local historic district zoning or local landmark designation.
- Stop federally assisted government projects.
- Stop state assisted development projects.
- Guarantee that grant funds will be available for all properties or projects.
- Require property owners to follow preservation standards when working on their properties, unless they wish to qualify for tax benefits.
- Automatically stop the permitting of surface mining activities.
- Mandate that special consideration be given to compliance with life safety and fire codes.
- List individual properties if the owner objects, or districts if the majority of property owners object.

For more information, visit georgiashpo.org, or contact Lynn Speno, National Register Specialist at 770-389-7842 or lynn.speno@dnr.ga.gov.

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