

# City of New Port Richey Local Standards for Designation of Historical Significance



For the protection and preservation of New Port Richey's historic resources, the following standards will serve as a guide for the identification, evaluation, and designation of a property or resource as significant. Properties or resources that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and that meet at least one of the Criteria for Evaluation are eligible for consideration. Property or resources should be evaluated for historical significance according to the Criteria for Evaluation and the essential aspects of significance (integrity, period of significance, and area of significance).

## Criteria for Evaluation

These five Criteria for Evaluation encompass the aspects for which a resource can be significant in exemplifying or reflecting the broad cultural, political, economic or social history of New Port Richey, Pasco County, the State of Florida, or the United States of America. A resource may be considered significant due to its association with culture, events, persons, architecture or design, and information.

*Criterion A. (Culture)* Applies to properties that are associated with the broad cultural, political, economic, or social history of our local, state, or national history.

*Criterion B. (Events)* Applies to properties that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our local, state, or national history.

*Criterion C. (Persons)* Applies to properties that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our local, state, or national history.

*Criterion D. (Architecture/design)* Applies to properties 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.

*Criterion E. (Information)* Applies to properties or archaeological sites that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, significant information about prehistoric or historic time periods.

## Integrity

The term integrity refers to the ability of a property to convey its significance. Before the integrity of a property can be evaluated, a researcher must determine why, where, and when a property is significant, define the essential physical features that must be present for a property to represent its significance, and determine which aspects of integrity are most essential to the property being eligible. Properties must retain the ability to communicate their significance through the following six aspects of integrity:

*Location* - The place where the historic property was constructed or where the historic event occurred.

*Design* - Combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property.

*Setting* - The physical environment of a property.

*Materials* - Physical elements used at a particular time and in a particular pattern to form a historic property.

*Workmanship* - Physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during a given period in history or prehistory.

*Association* - The direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property.

In order to retain integrity a property must possess at least three of these aspects. Integrity and condition are not the same. A property can have a physically deteriorated condition yet retain integrity. A property that has been updated repeatedly over the years may lose integrity unless care has been taken to retain historic fabric and features. A reconstructed building may possess integrity 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 association has survived.

## Period of Significance

The period of significance is the length of time when a property was associated with important events, activities, or persons, or attained the characteristics which qualify it for local designation. A period of significance usually begins with the date when significant activities or events began giving the property its historic significance; this is often a date of construction, a date of an event (i.e., a battle, opening of a business, establishment of a settlement, etc.). Typically, a property achieving significance must be at least 50 years old.

## Area(s) of Significance

The “area of significance” refers to the historic theme with which a property is associated under the applicable Criteria for Evaluation (Criterion A, B, C, D and/or E, as listed above). A property must be associated with at least one area of significance from the following list to qualify for local designation.

## Local Standards for Designation of Historical Significance

**AGRICULTURE** - The process and technology of cultivating soil, producing crops, and raising livestock and plants.

**ARCHITECTURE** - The practical art of designing and constructing buildings and structures to serve human needs.

**ARCHEOLOGY** - The study of prehistoric and historic cultures through excavation and the analysis of physical remains.

Prehistoric - Archeological study of Aboriginal cultures before the advent of written records.

Historic - Archeological study of Aboriginal cultures after the advent of written records.

Historic - Archeological study of non-Aboriginal cultures after the advent of written records.

**ART** - The creation of painting, printmaking, photography, sculpture, and decorative arts.

**COMMERCE** - The business of trading goods, services, and commodities.

**COMMUNICATIONS** - The technology and process of transmitting information.

**COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT** - The design or development of the physical structure of communities.

**CONSERVATION** - The preservation, maintenance, and management of natural or manmade resources.

**ECONOMICS** - The study of the production, distribution, and consumption of wealth; the management of monetary and other assets.

**EDUCATION** - The process of conveying or acquiring knowledge or skills through systematic instruction, training, or study.

**ENGINEERING** - The practical application of scientific principles to design, construct, and operate equipment, machinery, and structures to serve human needs.

**ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION** - The development and practice of leisure activities for refreshment, diversion, amusement, or sport.

**ETHNIC HERITAGE** - The history of persons having a common ethnic or racial identity.

Asian - The history of persons having origins in the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent.

African American/ Black - The history of persons having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.

European - The history of persons having origins in Europe.

## Local Standards for Designation of Historical Significance

Hispanic - The history of persons having origins in the Spanish-speaking areas of the Caribbean, Mexico, Central America, and South America.

Native American - The history of persons having origins in any of the original peoples of North America, including American Indian and American Eskimo cultural groups.

Pacific Islander - The history of persons having origins in the Pacific Islands, including Polynesia, Micronesia, and Melanesia.

Other - The history of persons having origins in other parts of the world, such as the Middle East or North Africa.

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT - The investigation of unknown or little-known regions; the establishment and earliest development of new settlements or communities.

HEALTH/MEDICINE - The care of the sick, disabled, and handicapped; the promotion of health and hygiene.

INDUSTRY - The technology and process of managing materials, labor, and equipment to produce goods and services.

INVENTION - The art of originating by experiment or ingenuity an object, system, or concept of practical value.

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE - The practical art of designing or arranging the land for human use and enjoyment.

LAW - The interpretation and enforcement of society's legal code.

LITERATURE - The creation of prose and poetry.

MARITIME HISTORY - The history of the exploration, fishing, navigation, and use of inland, coastal, and deep-sea waters.

MILITARY - The system of defending the territory and sovereignty of a people.

PERFORMING ARTS - The creation of drama, dance, and music.

PHILOSOPHY - The theoretical study of thought, knowledge and the nature of the universe.

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT - The enactment and administration of laws by which a nation, State, or other political jurisdiction is governed; activities related to political process.

RELIGION - The organized system of beliefs, practices, and traditions regarding mankind's relationship to perceived supernatural forces.

SCIENCE - The systematic study of natural law and phenomena.

SOCIAL HISTORY - The history of efforts to promote the welfare of society; the history of society and the lifeways of its social groups.

TRANSPORTATION - The process and technology of conveying passengers or materials.

## Local Standards for Designation of Historical Significance

OTHER - Any area not covered by the above categories.

### Historic Signs

Signs can express valuable historic information about a community's history and culture. It is in the City's best interest to designate and preserve historic signs when appropriate to retain a sense of community uniqueness and identity. Signs should be evaluated for historical significance using the above Criteria for Evaluation and essential aspects of significance and may be evaluated, regardless of age, when they are:

- a. Associated with historic figures, events or places.
- b. Significant as reflecting the history of the building or the development of the historic district. A sign may be the only indicator of a building's historic use.
- c. Characteristic of a specific historic period such as gold leaf on glass, neon, or stainless-steel lettering.
- d. Incorporated into the architecture of a building, so as to be essential to the integrity of the building.
- e. Outstanding examples of the sign maker's art, due to craftsmanship, use of materials, or design.
- f. Local landmarks or signs recognized as popular focal points in a community.
- g. Elements important in defining the character of a district, such as marquees in a theater district.

### Historic Districts

Specific geographically defined areas possessing a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of landmarks, improvements, or landscape features, united by historic events or aesthetically by plan or physical development may be eligible for significance as historic districts. An appropriately defined historic district will retain its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, and association and:

- a. Represent a significant entity whose components may lack individual distinction;
- b. Represent a geographically defined area which contains buildings, structures, sites, objects and spaces linked historically through location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association; or
- c. Represent a geographically designed entity whose individual structural components collectively convey a sense of time and place in history.

A historic district is considered to be one collective historic resource and should be evaluated as such. Historic Districts should be evaluated for significance using the Criteria for Evaluation and the essential aspects of significance as described in these local standards.

## County and National Register Properties

Properties or districts previously listed in the Pasco County or National Register of Historic Places, or determined eligible for listing in the Pasco County or National Register, are accordingly eligible for listing in the local register upon application of the property owner and approval of an ordinance designating the property or district by the Board and City Council based upon the assumption that the property or district meets or exceeds the necessary criteria for local designation.

This document was developed with the following resources: National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation; Virginia Department of Historical Resources: Guide to the Essentials for Evaluating and Nominating a Property to the National Register of Historic Places and Virginia Landmarks Register; National Park Service Preservation Brief 25: The Preservation of Historic Signs