




## How should I display the sign?

The following methods are recommended for displaying each commemorative historic sign:

-  mounted parallel to the front of the structure, or on a fence or gate;



-  mounted parallel to the front of the structure on a 1 ½ inch square tube post of black or white metal, not to exceed 36 inches in height; or

-  mounted parallel to the front of the structure on a 2x2 inch black or white wooden post, not to exceed 36 inches in height.



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## Obtaining Signs for Historic Properties



## Does my building qualify for a historic sign?

The Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) reviews applications for the City's Historic Signs. Two signs are available, Historic Building and Historic District signs. The Commission is charged with assessing the "historic integrity" of a property. Historic integrity is the sum total of factors that contribute to the overall historic look and feel of a property. These factors include:

**setting, location, association, feeling, materials, workmanship, and design.**



As changes to properties are made over time, they may diminish the historic character of a building. While each change by itself may be small, the accumulation of changes can have a dramatic visual impact on a property.




Properties that have undergone few changes qualify for a Historic Building Sign. Those buildings retain their historic materials and have experienced few alterations. Repairs, additions, and introductions of new materials on these properties has been done in a sensitive manner so that the

overall integrity of the property has not been compromised. Buildings that are not located in designated historic districts must qualify for a Historic Building sign. To do so they must retain a high level of integrity.

Properties that still retain their overall historic form and character but have experienced other changes will be evaluated by the HPC to determine how those changes impact the integrity of the building. Changes such as siding replacement, window replacement, addition of non-historic shutters, porch enclosures, and front yard parking areas impact the elements of historic integrity. In cases where the HPC determines that the changes have altered the historic appearance of a property, a Historic District sign will be issued.

Commemorative sign applications are available through Planning Controls and on our web site. Signs are \$40 each.

Generally, the signs are available to owners of the following:



-  locally designated historic structures (individual properties, or those included within historic districts) which are 50 years old or older; *For a structure in a historic district, it must still retain enough of its original design elements to contribute to the historic character of its historic district.*
-  any National Register listed property; and
-  any contributing structure located within a National Register Historic District.

The HPC will consider applications for historic structures that do not meet any of the above criteria, but those properties will have to meet the criteria for a Historic Building sign.

Applications should include a date of construction, any available information about the history of the property, and any significant physical changes to the property.

## What is printed on the sign?

Each sign has a designated area for the addition of an inscription to identify each individual historic property. However, because of limited space this inscription must be confined to the following:

-  For historic landmarks or for individually designated structures on either the local or National Register, the inscription will consist of its generally recognized name (Governor Jones House, Winter Building, etc.) and the date it was constructed.
-  For eligible residences or buildings located in historic districts, the inscription includes the district name and the approximate date of construction.



It will be the property owner's responsibility to supply all needed information (e.g. date of construction, brief history of the property), and each inscription must be approved by the Montgomery Historic Preservation Commission prior to display.

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