



Application & Guidelines for Eligibility for Historic Landmark Sign

This page will help you determine whether your property may be eligible for nomination.

It is Sevierville Significant?

Sevierville significant properties tell important stories that have meaning for all Sevierville Residents, regardless of where they live.

A Sevierville significant property/area may:

- Be the location of an event that had a significant impact on Sevierville history overall.
- Be the property most strongly associated with a Sevierville significant figure in Sevier County and or Tennessee history.
- Provide an outstanding illustration of a broad theme or trend in Sevierville's history overall.
- Be an outstanding example of an architectural style or significant development in engineering.
- Be part of a group collective properties that together form a historic district.
- Be a property that can provide nationally significant archeological information.
- To be eligible for a Historic Landmark Sign; a Structure/Building or an Event must have been built or an event continued for a minimum of 50 years.

All applications will be reviewed by the Advisory Committee on Historic Signs and Areas; members include:

-Chairman Carrol McMahan

Vice-Chairman-Dennis Chambers

-Member-Emily Kile

Member-Annette Carpenter

-Director of Parks and Recreation-Bob Parker

-Director of Planning and Development- Dustin Smith

Six Criteria for Significance

Criterion 1

Properties or areas that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to, and are identified with, or that outstandingly represent, the broad patterns of Sevierville's history and from which an understanding and appreciation of those patterns may be gained.

This criterion is used for properties that are associated with major events or major patterns in Sevierville's history. The property should possess one of the strongest associations possible with a nationally significant historical event or pattern.

Nominations using Criterion 1 must also include a discussion of comparable properties associated with this major historic event or pattern. This discussion should clarify why the nominated property possesses the strongest association with a specific event or pattern over the other associated properties.

Criterion 2

Properties/areas that are associated importantly with the lives of persons in Sevierville with significant contribution to history of the Sevierville.

This criterion is used for properties/areas associated with individuals who have made a significant or exceptional contribution to Sevierville's history. The individual's association with the property must be connected to the specific period when he or she made his or her contributions to Sevierville's history. Properties that are not associated with an individual's significant accomplishments, such as birthplaces, childhood homes, vacation homes, or retirement homes, are usually not eligible.

Properties using Criterion 2 must be compared to other similar properties to identify the one that possesses the strongest association with a person's contributions. The length of residency is often an important factor when assessing similar properties.

Criterion 3

Properties/Areas that represent some great idea or ideal of from Sevierville people.

This criterion relates to properties/areas that represent an overarching ideal unique to the Sevierville. This ideal could be a belief, principle, or goal. The application of this criterion requires the most scrutiny and *applies only in rare instances*.

Criterion 4

Properties/areas that embody the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type specimen exceptionally valuable for a study of a period, style, or method of construction, or that represent a significant, distinctive, and exceptional entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

This criterion is used for properties that are exceptionally important works for their design, either as an individual building or a collection of buildings/resources comprising a district.

The property might be a key work of a significant architect or builder. Not all works of a documented master are eligible for designation.

A property can also be considered under Criterion 4 as one of the best examples of an important type, period, form, or construction method (such as its engineering). It cannot be merely a competent design or representative example. The importance of a property type is determined by prevailing scholarship. Artistic value is considered only in the context of history's judgment to avoid conflicts with current taste and aesthetic trends.

Criterion 5

Properties/Areas that are composed of integral parts of the environment not sufficiently significant by reason of historical association or artistic merit to warrant individual recognition but collectively compose an entity of exceptional historical or artistic significance, or outstandingly commemorate or illustrate a way of life or culture.

This criterion covers groups of resources known as **historic districts**. Most of the individual resources within historic districts could not stand alone as National Historic Landmarks; however, collectively they are associated with a nationally significant event, movement, or broad pattern of national development.

Many of the historic districts that are recognized by this criterion are nationally significant for their extraordinary historic importance in illustrating or commemorating a way of life or culture. Criterion 5 is rarely used on its own; many of these historic districts also use Criterion 1.

Criterion 6

Properties/Areas that have yielded or may be likely to yield information of major scientific importance by revealing new cultures, or by shedding light upon periods of occupation over large areas of the Sevierville. Such sites are those which have yielded, or which may reasonably be expected to yield, data affecting theories, concepts, and ideas to a major degree.

This criterion most often recognizes significant archeological properties. Data produced at these sites have already produced and are likely to yield significant information.

Use of this criterion requires a discussion of how recoverable data are likely to substantially modify a major historic concept, resolve a substantial historical or anthropological debate, or close a serious gap in a major theme of Sevierville's history. These arguments are generally made by discussing specific, nationally significant research questions which may be answered by the data contained in the property. Research questions can be related to property-specific issues, to broader questions about a large geographic area, or to theoretical issues independent of any geographic location.

Special Consideration

Properties which fall into the following categories require special consideration to be designated as eligible for an exception, it generally must meet higher standards in its other criteria for designation.

- **Exception 1:** Properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes either historically or currently.
- **Exception 2:** Buildings or structures that have been moved from their original historic location.
- **Exception 3:** Site of a building or structure no longer standing.
- **Exception 4:** Birthplaces and graves of historical figures
- **Exception 5:** Cemeteries
- **Exception 6:** Reconstructed buildings or grouping of buildings.
- **Exception 7:** Properties that are primarily commemorative in nature.
- **Exception 8:** Properties that have achieved national significance within the past 50 years.

Checklist - Eligibility

1. Can I provide evidence that my property is significant to Sevierville's History?
2. Which of the above criteria does my property address?
3. Does my property require an exception and, if so, have I consulted with NHL staff about it?

- Application Process:

Justification Document should be no more than (3) typed pages. Additional pages are allowed for photos or any other information relating to the justification process. A location map is required with each application along with a \$50-dollar non-refundable fee. Sign location will require public access.

Check should be made to the:

Sevierville Parks and Recreation Foundation

- **Application Period:** The Application Period begins August 1st each year and end on October 31st of each year. The Advisory Committee will begin discussion of all Applications in November of each year.
- **If recommended;** the Application will then be forwarded to the Sevierville Planning Commission for final review and consideration.
- **If rejected;** the Committee will send a Written Letter to the applicant notifying the applicant as to the reason the application was not considered.
- **If approved;** process for location of sign will be scheduled and legal work would be completed.
- **Once legal work, sign design and location are finalized;** Applicant will then be required to pay the Sign Fee for purchase of the Sign. The check for this phase would be made to the:
Sevierville Parks and Recreation Foundation
- **Final design of sign will then commence with both City and Applicant signing a Document as to approval of the design.** Sign would then be fabricated.
- **Upon receiving the Sign, the Parks and Recreation Department will notify Applicant and installation will be completed.**

Send Application to:

City of Sevierville

Director of Parks and Recreation

120 Gary Wade Blvd.

Sevierville, Tennessee 37862

Yellow markers on the map denote remaining locations available for Historic Landmark Signs in the original Downtown Streetscapes area



The Central Hotel

Civil War Skirmish

Sevierville's Infamous Whitecaps

Sevierville's First Woman Merchant

Court Avenue

Floods & Fire

President Franklin D. Roosevelt Visits Sevierville

Old Slow & Easy

Legend

● Historical Landmark Signs

▭ Parcels

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