

NRHP E-Blasts

Electronic Blasts from the National Register of Historic Places (NPS – WASO), sharing news and information with the Historic Preservation Community September 2019

Preliminary Determination of Individual Listing (PDIL): A Ticket to Mediocrity?

A well prepared nomination is a requirement for properties that have received a Preliminary Determination of Individual Listing (PDIL). There are no shortcuts and National Register nominations will be returned if any part of the nomination is inadequate. The nomination must include an explanation of how the criteria is met, a comparison with similar properties, thoroughly developed contexts, and the property history. Often, the latter is the full focus of Section 8; preparers believe that a well-developed history is paramount, because eligibility has already been established. This is not the case. Please emphasize the "preliminary" part of PDIL to your consultants. Although it may be rare for an evaluation of eligibility at the PDIL stage to be overturned, it is not unusual for the nomination to be returned. Let your consultants know that the National Register staff at NPS cares about coherent explanations of eligibility--not project schedules that may be blown or cost overrides incurred with nomination returns!

National Register Nominations Online at National Archives

The National Register nominations listed from 1966-2012 are now online at the National Archives and Record Administration's (NARA) Electronic Records Archive (ERA). Scanned by the Western Archaeological and Conservation Center (WACC) of the National Park Service, the electronic nominations are now unavailable to the public online at <https://catalog.archives.gov> or can be reached by utilizing the National Register guides online at <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/database-research.htm>. In the future, the National Register nominations will be permanently held at the National Archives and available online for researchers, excepting those nominations that are withheld from public distribution under the authority of Section 304 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. §307103). Plans call for the National Register to provide the scanned NR nominations listed from 1913 through 1918 to the National Archives.

How is a Multiple Property Cover Not a Shortcut?

It is not acceptable to submit a nomination under a Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) with the rationale that the property pertains to one of the contexts and is a defined property type and therefore is eligible. Nominations that pertain to an MPDF are not all about compatibility. Significance (Section 8) must be emphasized. The purpose of the MPDF is not to open the door for properties "of the period" or "related to the context" or that "fit the definition of the property type". Although these are all requirements, the nomination must establish

the significance of the nominated property within the context, among others in the property type, and from the period of significance. The shortcut with an MPDF primarily pertains to the contexts developed and the assurance that related property types illustrate the context. Significance must be established.

Entering the Historic Name of a Property

Section 1 of the National Register nomination form is the section for entering the name of the resource/property. The first line of section 1 is *Historic Name*, the *National Register Bulletin: How to Complete the National Register Registration Form* states:

Enter the name that best reflects the property's historic importance or was commonly used for the property during the period of significance.

This is a reminder to use a historic name for the property/resource and not request or use a current/preferred name that was not used during the period of significance.

Geographic Datum

Place Geographic Datum of the coordinates in the proper place on the nomination (Section 10 of the National Register Nomination Form, Geographic Data). It is very important to note the correct information as coordinates can vary significantly among nominations. Also, please indicate the source on any maps submitted. As a rule, where coordinates are concerned fewer generally means better. Anything less than 10 acres only requires 1 (acre?). Unless the nomination requires a very specific or accurate delineation, a generally rectangular polygon surrounding the feature is sufficient. More than one coordinate for anything less than an acre could cause problems as any GPS data, unless it originates from a system with dual frequencies and or augmentation systems. A GPS smartphone is generally accurate to within 16 ft. but accuracy worsens near buildings, bridges and trees (GPS.gov, 2019).

Getting the Word Out for Grants

The State, Tribal, Local, Plans & Grants Division (STLPG) recently launched the Certified Local Government (**CLG Gateway Web Application**). This can be found online at the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF): <https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1623/hpf-in-action.htm> Once here, click on the Gateway to Certified Local Governments Web Application link. The Web App shows the connections among Certified Local Governments, National Parks, federal lands, and historic resources. Built a GIS-tool to facilitate resource management conversations among park staff and community stakeholders undertaking historic preservation efforts, it comes with a small suite of tools including a two-page Instructions Page (PDF 317kB) at, a short Video Tutorial (YouTube) and a one-page promotional Fact Sheet/Handout (PDF 882 kB) which can also be linked to from the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) In Action page.

Please direct any questions or concerns about the Web App and materials to stlpg@nps.gov.

Examples of Pushing the “Less than 50” Criterion Consideration “G” Envelope

Some good examples of properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years under Criterion Consideration G are listed below. Samples listed in the National Register from 2013-present are available upon request from the National Register of Historic Places at nr_reference@nps.gov. Samples listed in the National Register of Historic Places from 1966-2012 can be found online at NARA's ERA system at <https://catalog.archives.gov/search?q=%22national%20register>

Properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years may be listed in the National Register of Historic Places, according to the National Register Criteria for Evaluation, only if they are of "exceptional importance," or if they are integral parts of districts that are eligible for listing in the National Register.

Roger Brown Home and Studio, Chicago, IL [Ref #: 11000029; NR 2011] Period of Significance: 1974-1995

Criterion B, Art. The Roger Brown Home and Studio at 1926 N. Halsted is a singular location for the study of twentieth century art in the State of Illinois. The property is of exceptional significance because no other considerable artistic landmark exists in Chicago or elsewhere: it is the only remaining intact artist's studio, workshop and residence of the Imagist art movement of which Roger Brown was an important part.

Peter Drucker House, Claremont, CA [Ref# 100001890; NR 2017] Period of Significance: 1971-1995.

Criterion B, Commerce. Peter Drucker House is a 1963 Ranch style house in Claremont designed by Clair Earl & Associates. It was the home and office of renowned management expert, advisor, author, and Professor Peter Drucker, an internationally prominent figure in the business management field. Drucker, an influential advisor to some of America's largest organizations, requested that his clients come to Claremont to meet with him instead of him going to them, making the house the epicenter of his work.

Portland Public Service Building, Portland, OR [Ref # 11000770; NR 2011] Period of Significance: 1982-1985.

Criterion C, Architecture. Michael Graves Post-Modernist Design.

Kemper Arena, Kansas City, MO [Ref # 14000160; NR 2016] Period of Significance: 1974-1996.

Criterion A, Entertainment/Recreation.

Peachtree Center Historic District, GA [Ref #100002207; NR 2018] Period of Significance: 1961-1988.

Criteria A & C, Architecture, Social History, Community Planning & Development.
Exceptional work of architect/developer John C. Portman Jr. in creating a multi-use complex feature his trademark atrium hotel design.

James Baldwin House, [Ref #100004332; NR 2019] New York, NY Period of Significance: 1967-1987.

The last residence owned by James Baldwin and it is associated with the last phase of his career (1967-1987). It is also significant in social history for his work as a civil rights and LGBT activist and was done with our underrepresented communities LGBT grant. The National Register has several other LGBT sites with periods in the 1980s.

J.S. Dorton Arena, [Ref # 73001375; NR 1973] Raleigh, NC Period of Significance: 1950-1974

Criterion C Architecture, Engineering. Twenty years old when listed.

50th Anniversary of Woodstock Celebrated Online at National Register

The Woodstock Music Festival Site, listed in the National register of Historic Places on February 28, 2017, is being highlighted online to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the famous musical event at <https://www.nps.gov/places/woodstock-music-festival-site.htm>. The National Register nomination, prepared by Kathleen LaFrank, National Register Coordinator for the New York State Historic Preservation Office, commemorates a three-day music festival that took place on August 15, 1969 - August 18, 1969, on nearly 300 acres of rolling farmland in rural Sullivan County, NY.

Woodstock is nationally significant, under Social History and Performing Arts/Music, as one of the most important cultural and social events of the second half of the twentieth century. The festival was the definitive expression of the musical, cultural, and political idealism of the 1960s and was recognized almost immediately as a watershed event in the transformation of American culture.