

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Old State House
150 Benefit Street
Providence, R. I. 02903
(401) 277-2678

January 27, 1978

City Clerk Rose Mendonca
Providence City Hall
25 Dorrance Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

IN CITY COUNCIL
FEB 16 1978

READ:

WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT
THE SAME BE RECEIVED.

Rose M. Mendonca CLERK

Dear Ms. Mendonca:

The Commission is pleased to inform you that it has approved the preparation of nominations to the National Register of Historic Places for the following Providence properties:

All Saints Church, 674 Westminster Street
Trinity United Methodist Church, 389-393 Broad Street
Gorham Manufacturing Company Complex, Adelaide Avenue
Aylsworth Apartments, 188-194 Broad Street
Mason Tillinghast House, 169 Broad Street
Calvary Baptist Church, 747 Broadway
Home for the Aged, 807 Broad Street
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 15 Hayes Street
SS. Sahag and Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church, 68 Jefferson St.
Smith Street School, 396 Smith Street
Merchants Cold Storage Warehouse, 65 Harris Avenue
Brown & Sharpe Complex, Promenade and Holden Streets
Northup -Preston-Martin House, 17 Jefferson Street

The following Historic Districts (see attached maps) have also been approved for nomination preparation:

Elmwood Historic District, Elmwood
Wesleyan Avenue Historic District, South Providence
Rhodes Street Historic District, South Providence
Downtown Providence Historic District
Chalkstone-Douglas Historic District, Smith Hill
Andrew Dickhaut Cottages Historic District, Smith Hill
Oakland Avenue Historic District, Smith Hill

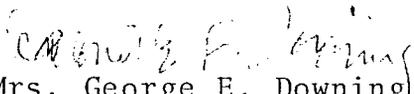
This preliminary approval is the initial step in the nomination process that will lead to entry on the National Register of Historic Places. Research and photography will be undertaken by the Commission staff as time permits to prepare the actual nomination. In the meantime, we welcome whatever information or written comments you may wish to offer concerning the significance of this property.

Nomination to the National Register is a formal and selective process for recognizing and recording at the federal level those sites, artifacts, structures, and districts which have particular value as physical evidence of our local, state, and national history. Entry on the National Register is, therefore, an honor.

Nomination to the Register also protects the property, through a review process at state and federal levels, from federally funded or licensed projects which would adversely affect it. Properties listed in the National Register are automatically listed in the Rhode Island State Register of Historic Places as well. The State Register provides protection through a review process from adverse effects of state or municipally funded or licensed projects. The owner of a property entered on the National Register is eligible to apply for federal grants-in-aid for restoration work. In addition, commercial properties on the National Register are eligible for tax incentives for certified rehabilitation as provided by the Tax Reform Act of 1976 (PL 94-455, Section 2124). The Tax Reform Act also stipulates tax disincentives in the case of demolition of a property on the National Register.

Following review and approval by the National Park Service, in Washington, D. C., public notification of entry on the National Register is by press release from the State Historic Preservation Officer. You will also receive a letter of notification. Included with this letter are folders explaining the purpose and scope of the National Register of Historic Places and the work of the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission. If you have any questions concerning the National Register, please feel free to contact Mrs. Ancelin Lynch, National Register Coordinator, at the Commission office.

Sincerely,


Mrs. George E. Downing
Chairman

Enclosures



The National Register

The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the Nation's cultural resources worthy of preservation.

Listing in the National Register

- makes private property owners eligible to be considered for Federal grants-in-aid for historic preservation through State programs
- provides protection through comment by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation on the effect of federally financed, assisted, or licensed undertakings on historic properties, as stated in Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and Executive Order 11593.

The Program

The Historic Sites Act of 1935 placed the Department of the Interior squarely in the field of historic preservation. This act gave extensive responsibilities to the Secretary of the Interior to effect, through the National Park Service, a national policy of historic preservation and authorized a national survey of sites of exceptional value in United States history. The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 expanded this mandate and called for a broadened program for the preservation of all cultural property throughout the Nation. The 1966 act states:

"The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to expand and maintain a national register of districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects significant in American history, architecture, archeology and culture, hereinafter referred to as the National Register. . . ."

The role of the Federal Government in preservation activities was further emphasized on May 13, 1971, with the signing of Executive Order 11593, entitled "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment," which states that:



Districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects are included in the National Register. Some of these are shown. Cover: David McKinney's Mill, Clinton, N.J. (John Barber) Above: Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad, vicinity of Antonito, Colo. (Ernest W. Roberts) Right: Cleveland Arcade, Cleveland, Ohio (Ohio Historical Society) Opposite side—Tapp Silver City, Idaho (Idaho Historical Society) Bottom: Lapham-Patterson House, Thomasville, Ga. (David K. Kaminsky)



"The Federal Government shall provide leadership in preserving, restoring and maintaining the historic and cultural environment of the Nation."

Under Section 2(a) of the order the heads of Federal agencies shall:

"... with the advice of the Secretary of the Interior, and in cooperation with the liaison officer for historic preservation for the State or territory involved, locate, inventory, and nominate to the Secretary of the Interior all sites, buildings, districts, and objects under their jurisdiction or control that appear to qualify for listing in the National Register of Historic Places."

Federal nominations are submitted through Federal representatives for Executive Order 11593. These representatives are appointed by the heads of Federal agencies.

ELIGIBILITY

All historic areas in the National Park System, together with those properties eligible for designation as National Historic Landmarks, are of national significance and are listed in the National Register. Properties of national, State, or local significance may be nominated by the States and the Federal agencies and are placed on the Register by approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM

The National Historic Preservation Act is implemented in cooperation with the State Historic Preservation Officers, who are responsible for administering the

National Register program within their jurisdictions. Before properties are nominated for inclusion in the National Register a statewide survey of historic, architectural, archeological, and cultural resources is undertaken.

Also before submission to the National Register, all nominations must have been approved by a State review board whose membership includes professionals in the fields of architecture (or architectural history), history, archeology, and other disciplines. If the property meets National Register criteria the board recommends it for nomination to the National Register. The nomination is then reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Officer, signed, and forwarded to the National Park Service.

The State Historic Preservation Officer and the State review board are responsible for the preparation and review of the State's historic preservation plan which includes background information on the State (Volume I), an inventory and analysis of the State's historic resources (Volume II), and a program for their protection (Volume III). The National Park Service, acting in behalf of the Secretary of the Interior, reviews the plan and gives approval. In Volume III (the Annual Preservation Program) each State has an opportunity to update the content of the basic plan.

PUBLICATION OF THE LIST

A hard-cover volume entitled *The National Register of Historic Places* was published in 1972, listing properties registered through June 30, 1971; it is supplemented by a hard-cover volume published in 1974 that lists properties registered between July 1, 1971, and June 30, 1973. The two volumes contain pertinent information and descriptions of 7,000 registered properties. A cumulative listing of all National Register properties is published each February in the *Federal Register*, and additions to the National Register are printed the first Tuesday of each month. These listings and the hard-cover volumes are available from Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

The following criteria are designed to guide the States, Federal agencies, and the Secretary of the Interior in evaluating potential entries (other than areas of the National Park System and National Historic Landmarks) for the National Register:

The quality of *significance* in American history, architecture, archeology, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- 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; or
- that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Ordinarily cemeteries, birthplaces, or graves of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes, structures that have been moved from their original locations, reconstructed historic buildings, properties primarily commemorative in nature, and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years *shall not be considered eligible* for the National Register. However, such properties *will qualify* if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the criteria or if they fall within the following categories:

- a religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance; or
- a building or structure removed from its original location but which is significant primarily for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a historic person or event; or
- a birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no other appropriate site or building directly associated with his productive life; or
- a cemetery which derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events; or



CITY PLAN COMMISSION
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND
 PHOTOGRAMMETRIC CORRELATION AND AERIAL CONTROL
 BY CHARLES A. MAHONEY AND ASSOCIATES—ENGINEERS
 PROVIDENCE BOSTON HARTFORD

CITY OF PROVIDENCE

