



Removal from Eligible Historic Properties List Application Submittal Requirements

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

- 1. The first two page of the Uniform Application must be typed or printed and filled in completely. Please recycle the remaining sheets.
If the applicant is not the property owner, the property owner shall designate the applicant as the authorized agent to act on his or her behalf and both shall sign this application.
- 2. Three (3) copies of any photos or similar documentation, including information from the City's historic resources survey and Modesto's Historic Resources Database. Photos should be recent and show all sides of the resource and include close-up photos of distinguishing characteristics.
- 3. Construction history and building condition, building plans, if available, any alterations to the building made since the most recent historic resources survey was conducted, and whether it is located on its original site and date moved, if applicable. This section will include potential threats to the property, including vandalism, zoning, or other factors that could or have damaged the property.
- 4. Historic significance of the property, including any information indicating how the building does NOT meet the criteria for designation described in the Landmark Preservation Ordinance (Title 9, Chapter 10, of the Modesto Municipal Code), including sources (books, documents, personal interviews).
- 5. All applicable filing fees (see adopted fee schedule).

FOR YOUR INFORMATION: Staff may deem additional information necessary to adequately review the application, complete environmental review for the project, or make recommendations to the Landmark Preservation Commission. Completion of the application does not presume approval nor staff support of the application. Such approval is discretionary with the Director, Planning Commission, and/or City Council. The Director, Planning Commission, or City Council may deny, modify, or conditionally approve the application.

About Removal from the Eligible Historic Properties List

The City Council, following the recommendation of the Landmark Preservation Commission, has declared almost 60 properties as Modesto Landmarks and hundreds of sites as eligible properties on the Historic Resources Database. Unfortunately, many of the properties surveyed in the 1990s have lost their integrity.

The Landmark Preservation Commission intends to reevaluate the properties on the Historic Resources Database, but this may take many years.

In order to streamline the process of evaluating and removing properties from the Historic Resources Database, property owners may request that their properties be removed from the list of eligible properties on the Historic Resources Database. If it is determined that your property no longer meets the designation criteria of the Landmark Preservation Ordinance (Title 9, Chapter 10 of the Modesto Municipal Code), the Landmark Preservation Commission will consider whether to remove it from the list. City Council will consider the recommendation of the Landmark Preservation Commission and make a determination.

Complete and submit an application with the material identified in the submittal requirements to the Planning Division. The Landmark Preservation Commission will hold a public hearing to consider the request.

Please note that any evaluation will be good for five (5) years. A property will only be evaluated if the most recent survey is over five (5) years old and an evaluation has not been made within the last five (5) years.

EVALUATION CONSIDERATIONS

Integrity In addition to having significance, resources must have integrity for the period in which it is significant. The period of significance is the date or span of time within which significant events transpired, or significant individuals made their important contributions. Integrity is the authenticity of a historical resource's physical identity as evidenced by the survival of characteristics or historic fabric that existed during the resource's period of significance. Only after significance has been established should the issue of integrity be addressed. The following concerns should be considered when evaluating properties for integrity.

1. **Design** Any alterations to the property should not have adversely affected the character-defining features of the property. Alterations to a resource or changes in its use over time may have historical, cultural, or architectural significance.
2. **Setting** Changes in the immediate surroundings of the property (buildings, land use, topography, etc.) should not have adversely affected the character of the property.
3. **Materials and Workmanship** Any original materials should be retained, or if they have been removed or altered, the replacements have been made that are compatible with the original materials.
4. **Location** The relationship between the property and its location is an important part of integrity. The place where the property was built and where historic events occurred is often important to understanding why the property was created or why something happened. The actual location of a historic property, complemented by its setting, is particularly important in recapturing the sense of historic events and persons. Except in a few cases, the relationship between a property and its historic associations is destroyed if the property is moved.
5. **Feeling** Feeling is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time. It results from the presence of physical features that, taken together, convey the property's historic character.
6. **Association** Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property. A property retains association if it is the place where the event or activity occurred and is sufficiently intact to convey that relationship to an observer. Like feeling, association requires the presence of physical features that convey a property's historic character. For example, a Revolutionary War battlefield whose natural and manmade elements have remained intact since the 18th century will retain its quality of association with the battle.

Because feeling and association depend on individual perceptions, their retention alone is not sufficient to support eligibility.

Historical resources must retain enough of their historic character or appearance to be recognizable as historical resources and to convey the reasons for their significance.