

MEMORANDUM

To: Historic District Commissioners

From: Jill Thacher, Historic Preservation Coordinator

Date: October 1, 2012

Re: Criteria for Historic Building Markers

The HDC does not currently have standards for eligibility for City of Ann Arbor Historic Building markers. The following criteria are proposed to determine if an application for a marker should be approved, and to help property owners determine if they may be eligible to apply for a marker for their building, structure, site or site feature.

The proposed criteria for a City of Ann Arbor Historic Building marker are:

1. The age of the building, structure, site or site feature must be 50 years or older.
2. The building, structure, site or site feature must be relatively well maintained and/or preserved.
3. The building, structure, site or site feature has been determined by the Commission to have historic significance, contribute to the history of Ann Arbor, maintain the historic fabric of the area, or have architectural significance.
4. The building, structure, or site feature must be in its original location, or in its current location for at least 50 years.
5. Historic buildings should not be extensively remodeled, altered, or reconstructed (unless significant restoration took place to return the building to its original appearance, based on documented evidence). This is especially important for the front elevation and those visible from the street.
6. It must be within the Ann Arbor city limits.

Sample Motion

I move to adopt the above criteria for City of Ann Arbor Historic Building markers in order to establish standards for use by the Historic District Commission to determine when a building, structure, site or site feature is eligible to install a historic marker.