

Date Received By _____
Review Committee _____
Action _____
Date _____

Century Structures

Zionsville Historical Society

The Zionsville Historical Society, at its October 18, 1987 meeting, authorized the development of a program, the purpose of which is to properly designate, recognize and honor our town's historic structures. Both residential and commercial units that have played – and continue to play – a role in the history of Zionsville will be so honored upon application by the present owners of the structure and approval by the Society. Only those structures within the Zionsville town limits at the time of application are to be considered as eligible. Applicants will be required to assemble a dossier which shows – to the satisfaction of a reviewing committee appointed by the Zionsville Historical Society (hereinafter referred to as the "Review Committee") – that the structure meets the following standards:

- a) The structure is at least one hundred years old at the time of application.
- b) The structure has not been unreasonably altered in exterior design and façade. One of the tests for this determination is whether the original owner would recognize the structure.
- c) The style of the structure shall be representative of its local time period style and not a replica of an earlier style.

Some members of the Zionsville Historical Society have firsthand knowledge of structures in Zionsville that may qualify as Century Structures. Present owners are encouraged to contact the President of the Zionsville Historical Society for guidance.

It is suggested that the applicant has – other than his own knowledge and collected data – several resources to draw upon from within the community. These are, as suggestions only:

- a) **Long-time Residents.** Older residents or those with family roots in the town.
- b) **Abstracts of Title.** While these have mostly been replaced by title insurance in real estate transactions, they are a fairly complete history of a property – usually dating back to the Land Grants of the 1830's and to the original platting of the residential additions (now called subdivisions) of the town. If the applicant does not have this, perhaps the previous owners (or their families) may still have it. It is also possible that a copy could be obtained from an abstract and title company. Only significant dates and names are needed and the applicant is not expected to incur undue expenses in obtaining this or any other reference material provided for review.

- c) **County Records.** The Boone County Recorder's Office is the repository of all documents pertaining to the ownership of property within the county. This is an excellent resource, considering that the records burned twice in the last half of the 19th century, and some research may be required.
- d) **SullivanMunce Cultural Center.** This is perhaps the best single source, and could be a starting point. Look for:
- 1) Genealogy records, for tracing ownership.
 - 2) Sanborn (also known as "fire maps") maps that were produced for insurance purposes from around the turn of the century. They contain details of structures as they were at the time of the survey.
 - 3) Copies of the individual structure's data included in the "Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory." This is complete data from which the "Walking Tour of Zionsville" was developed. It was collected by skilled survey personnel, and may answer a number of questions for the applicant.
 - 4) Copies of original plats with original names of streets. They may tie old data to new.
 - 5) Old photographs. There are many photos archived at the SullivanMunce Cultural Center that clearly show structures, transportation, and people of earlier times. Many have been identified – some have been dated – as to location and identities. The museum director has a number of photographs on file and on display.

Instruction for Application

The following are guidelines for the applicant. These should not be considered as limiting the amount of data, photos and references that the applicant may wish to provide for review.

1. Name of Applicant _____
2. Address of Applicant _____
3. Owner of Structure (if diff.) _____
4. Location of Structure (if diff.) _____
5. Historic Name(s) (i.e. "Old Smith House" or "First School Building") _____
6. Date Built _____ Architect/Builder _____
7. Original Owner (if known) _____
8. Location by Lot No. & Addition to Town _____
9. Has it Been Previously Listed by Any Historical Agency? Yes _____ No _____
 If yes, by Whom? _____ When? _____
10. Original Use of Structure _____
 Present Use _____

11. Has Structure Always Been on Present Site? Yes _____ No _____

If No, Where Was It Originally? _____

When Moved To Present Site? _____

12. Architectural Design, Style or Period _____

13. Number of Stories _____ Basement? Yes _____ No _____

Roof Type _____ Dormers? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, No. of Dormers _____ No. of Bays _____

Porches? Yes _____ No _____ If yes, How Many? _____

Façade Material (Shakes, Clapboard, etc.) _____

14. Be Specific as to Alterations (Removals, Additions, Exterior Structural Changes, Exterior Appearance) and Dates of Alterations (to the best of your knowledge)

15. Present Condition? Excellent _____ Good _____ Fair _____ Deteriorated _____

Alterations? Few _____ Many _____ None _____

16. Other Structures on Plot? Age _____ Use _____

17. Please attach a reasonably accurate sketch (plot plan) showing basic structure, porches, additions (a) as presently exists, (b) as originally built. Please tie this in with answers to #14.

18. Please attach current photos clearly showing structure from all sides.

19. Please submit copies for committee review any supporting materials such as: old photos, abstracts, Boone County Recorder documents, previous survey data, previous owner statements, Sanborn map information, and statements of knowledgeable persons.
20. Upon approval by the committee, the Zionsville Historical Society will provide a suitable plaque for mounting by the applicant upon, or in proximity to, the structure so approved. Such plaque remains the property of the Zionsville Historical Society, and may be recalled if the structure is thereafter altered to the extent that the committee determines – in its sole discretion – that it no longer qualifies for listing.
21. All applications are to be accompanied by a fee of \$25.00, payable to the Zionsville Historical Society, and are to be submitted to Ralph W. Stacy, 60 South Second Street, Zionsville, IN 46077. Upon approval, applicant shall pay in advance the current cost, as determined by the Society, of the recognition plaque to be provided for the structure. The recognition plaque shall remain the property of the Society, even after it is attached to the structure, and it may be removed there from if the structure is subsequently altered to the extent that it no longer qualifies. All applications and materials submitted will be considered the property of the Zionsville Historical Society and will be retained in its files at the SullivanMunce Cultural Center for use as reference materials.
22. The Review Committee will notify applicants as to its action in writing.
23. The Zionsville Historical Society is offering this program as a community service solely for the benefit of the property owner. The applicant agrees, by submitting an application, to indemnify and hold harmless the Zionsville Historical Society, its directors, officers, committees, and members from and against all damages, claims, and liability arising from or connected with any action or inaction regarding the application, consideration thereof, decisions, and recognition plaque. Applications that are not approved cannot be reconsidered for a period of one year, and then only where the application has changed materially.

Applicant's Signature _____

Printed _____

This application form was prepared by the Zionsville Historical Society for use in the Century Structures Program, 1988 (revised 2008).

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