



*Resource Guide #2*  
*Burlington Archives*

29 Center Street  
Burlington, MA 01803  
Phone 781.270.1604/1660  
Fax 781.270.1608  
[www.burlington.org/archives](http://www.burlington.org/archives)  
[archives@burlmass.org](mailto:archives@burlmass.org)

## YOUR OLD BURLINGTON HOUSE

### Historic resources survey

John Goff (Historic Preservation and Design, Salem, Mass.) completed a survey of Burlington's historic homes in 1999. The survey consists of two parts, the *Phase I Final Report* and survey forms for individual buildings and potential historic districts. The *Phase I Final Report* provides a summary of the survey findings, narrative history, and recommendations. The narrative history provides subsections on transportation, population, settlement patterns, economic base, and architecture. The survey forms provide detailed architectural and historical information, as well as how the building is potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places; *note that some properties are individually eligible and some properties are eligible as a historic district or because they contribute to a historic district*. Paper copies of the final report and survey are available at the Burlington Public Library (22 Sears St.), Burlington High School Library (124 Cambridge St.), Burlington Archives (located in the basement of the Burlington Town Hall). Copies are also available on the archives' web site ([www.burlington.org/archives](http://www.burlington.org/archives)). A bound copy is available by sending a check for \$30 to the Burlington Historical Commission, 29 Center St., Burlington, MA 01803. Please make the check payable to the Town of Burlington.

## FINDING OUT MORE ABOUT YOUR OLD BURLINGTON HOUSE

See the archives' *Resource Guide #1: Researching Burlington, Mass. Ancestors and History* (available in the Burlington Public Library or [www.burlington.org](http://www.burlington.org); follow the link to publications); and the archives' *Image Collection Guide (RG123)* (available at [www.burlington.org](http://www.burlington.org); follow the link to collections).

## WHY PRESERVE AN OLD HOUSE?

From Judith L. Kitchen's *Respectful Rehabilitation. Caring for Your Old House: A Guide for Owners and Residents* (Washington, DC: National Trust for Historic Preservation, Preservation Press, 1991), pp. 14-15:

1. Avoid waste—very simply, why waste something that is still basically sound and usable? With surprisingly few exceptions, old buildings, especially houses, are in good condition structurally. It's a fact—they don't build them like they used to! Would you throw away a good shirt with a missing button? Most people would not.
2. Conserve energy. National studies have shown that on average it takes less energy to rehabilitate an old building than to build a new one. Moreover, old buildings, because of better thermal efficiency, generally require less energy to heat, cool and ventilate than do new buildings. A majority of old houses have inherent energy-saving features, such as porches and wide overhangs, shutters, rooms that can be shut off during periods of extreme heat or cold and transoms for ventilation between rooms.
3. Save money. History preservation has numerous financial benefits over new construction. It generally costs less to repair than to replace or build new.

4. Make money. With the federal tax credit currently available for certified rehabilitation work to an income-producing certified historic structure, including rental housing, the cost of rehabilitation can be far less than the cost for a similarly sized new house.
5. Learn from the past. The past is our best source of information about what works, what does not, what looks good, what does not, and most important, how we developed as a nation and a culture.
6. Retain a sense of continuity with the past. Cultural development is a continuum. Without all the parts—including old houses—it is impossible to piece together an accurate picture of what and who we are.
7. Maintain variety in our environment. Visual variety adds immeasurably to the richness and enjoyment of our surroundings.
8. Educate future generations. Would you want your children and grandchildren to be able to see and experience historic houses only in books and other printed materials? Something that is three-dimensional, such as the architecture and the artifacts of a culture, must be experienced firsthand to be experienced at all.
9. Enrich the overall quality of life. Quality of life is determined by many factors, including physical environment. Old houses and established neighborhoods often have advantages not found elsewhere. Among these are easily accessible mass transportation, proximity to city services, workplaces and shopping; a rich mix of ages, ethnic groups and economic levels; an established parks and recreation system; and not least, mature trees.
10. Alleviate local unemployment problems. Because historic preservation work tends to be very labor intensive, more of the construction dollars spent for rehabilitation work than those spent for new construction go directly to creating and maintaining jobs at the local level.
11. Prevent the extinction of certain styles of buildings and types of building crafts. Unless the actual historic examples are available for us as an education tool and guide, teaching and learning such as early forms of metalworking or wood joinery may be impossible.
12. Preserve the setting of another building or site. A building's setting is a crucial part of its character. All too often, a historic house loses its neighbors and becomes, in a sense, orphaned. It helps to think of historic buildings in neighborhoods, not just as a series of individual structures.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The following information is excerpted from various Massachusetts Historical Commission publications:

### What Are Local Historical Commissions?

Established by a vote of the town or city government, a Local Historical Commission (LHC) is the municipal agency responsible for ensuring that preservation concerns are considered in community planning and development decisions. LHCs serve as local preservation advocates and as an important resource for information about their community's cultural resources and historic preservation activities.

*(MGL Ch. 40 Section 8d)*

### What Is the National Register?

The National Register of Historic Places\* (NRHP) documents and records the nation's important and irreplaceable buildings, sites, structures, objects, and districts worthy of protection. The National Register program is administered through the Massachusetts Historical Commission (see contact information in resource section or [www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc/mhcidx.htm](http://www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc/mhcidx.htm)) on behalf of the National Park Service ([www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)).

Based on local and state surveys, nominations to the NRHP are generally initiated by the local historical commission. Nominations are then reviewed by the MHC State Review Board at a public meeting and forwarded to the Keeper of the National Register for approval.

Listing on the NRHP recognizes the value of our nation's historical and cultural heritage and provides a basis for making informed planning and development decisions. NRHP status places no constraints on what owners may do with their property when using private funding. While the NRHP is not a design review program, it does provide limited protection from state and federal actions, as well as eligibility for matching state and federal

restoration and research grants (when available) and certain federal tax benefits for certified rehabilitation projects.

\*(*National Historic Preservation Act, 36 CFR Part 60*)

### How Do I Get My Property Listed on the National Register?

The first step is for the municipality to complete a comprehensive community survey; as noted in the introductory section, Burlington's comprehensive community survey was completed in 1999. MHC requires that a preservation professional prepare the nomination application: this ensures that the application is complete and that the technical information is done according to MHC standards. There are grants available for nomination work (see the *Funding Resources* section), but funding is currently available for municipalities and nonprofit organizations. Contact the Burlington Historical Commission and ask them to forward their recommendations to the Massachusetts Historical Commission. You can also nominate your own property for the National Register.

### What Are the Benefits of Listing in the National Register?

- **Recognition**  
The National Register recognizes the significance of a property to the community, state, and/or nation.
- **Tax Incentives**  
National Register listing allows the owners of income-producing properties certain federal tax incentives for substantial rehabilitation according to standards set by the Department of the Interior.
- **Protection**  
National Register properties are afforded limited protection from adverse affects of federally assisted projects; and through automatic inclusion in the State Register of Historic Places, limited protection from state actions.
- **Grants**  
Inclusion in the State Register of Historic Places, which comes automatically with National Register listing, provides eligibility for matching state grants for restoration of properties owned by private nonprofit organizations and municipalities, when such grants are available.

### Does This Mean I Will Have Restrictions on My Property?

No. Listing on the National Register in no way interferes with a property owner's right to alter, manage, or sell the property when using private funds, unless some other regional and/or local ordinance is in effect.

### If My House Is Listed in the National Register, Are Grant Monies Available for Rehabilitation Work?

Unfortunately, at present, the MHC does not administer federal or state rehabilitation funds for private homeowners. State monies, when available, are awarded only to properties owned by municipalities and nonprofit organizations. Federal tax credits are available for substantial rehabilitation of income-producing and commercial properties.

### What State Funds Are Available?

In years when the Commonwealth authorizes funds, monies are available for the restoration, rehabilitation, stabilization, and documentation of historic and archaeological properties owned by municipalities or nonprofit organizations. Through the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund (MPPF)\*, 50 percent matching grants are available to qualifying properties listed on the State Register to ensure their physical preservation.

A highlight of this unique program—the first of its kind in the nation—is the option applicants have to apply for up to 75 percent of the total project cost if they are willing to commit an additional 25 percent toward an endowment fund for long-range preservation and maintenance of the property.

Scopes of work for projects range from the acquisition of an endangered property, to the restoration of an historic building, to research projects such as historic structures reports, archaeological data recovery projects, or study of innovative preservation techniques. For more information, see *Funding Options* section.

\*(MGL Ch. 9 Section 27A)

### WHAT ARE Preservation Restrictions?

Preservation restrictions\* protect historic and archaeological properties from changes that may be inappropriate. A preservation restriction (easement) on a property restricts present and future owners from altering a specified portion of that building, structure, or site. A restriction can run for a few years or in perpetuity and may be included as part of the property deed. Preservation restrictions can be donated or purchased by a government body or private preservation organization, and are enforced by the holder of the restriction.

Charitable donations of easements on historical buildings or archaeological sites may qualify for federal income tax deductions.

\*(MGL Ch. 184 Sections 31-33)

### What Is a Local Historic District?

A Local Historic District\* (LHD) is established and administered by a community to protect the distinctive characteristics of important areas, and to encourage new structural designs that are compatible with the area's historic setting. A District Study Committee is appointed to conduct a survey of the area and to prepare a preliminary report for local and state review. A final report is then submitted to the local governing body for approval of the local historic district ordinance or by-law. Once a LHD is established, a Local Historic District Commission (LHDC) is appointed to review all applications for exterior changes to properties within the district. This design review process assures that changes to properties will not detract from the district's historic character. Review criteria are determined by each city and town and vary for each local district. For more information, see Massachusetts Historical Commission's *There's a Difference!* brochure [www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc/mhcpdf/theredif.pdf](http://www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc/mhcpdf/theredif.pdf).

\*(MGL Ch. 40C)

### WHAT IS THE STATE Register of historic places?

The State Register of Historic Places is the official list of the state's cultural resources deserving preservation consideration. The State Register is a compilation of eight different types of local, state, and federal designations. The most common designations on the State Register are National Historic Landmarks, National Register properties, and local historic districts.

### For More information

See Massachusetts Historical Commission's *Know How #3 What You Need to Know About Listing on the National Register* <http://www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc/mhcpdf/kn3.pdf>.

## FUNDING RESOURCES

Unfortunately, federal or state funds are not available for rehabilitation for private homeowners. Currently state monies, when available, are awarded only to properties owned by municipalities and non-profit organizations. State monies, when available, are awarded only to properties owned by municipalities and non-profit organizations. Federal tax credits are available for substantial rehabilitation of income-producing and commercial properties.

### ***1. Commonwealth of Massachusetts Dept. of Environmental Management***

Division of Resource Conservation  
100 Cambridge St.  
Boston, MA 02202

### ***Historic Landscape Preservation Grant Program***

#### ***Features***

The Historic Landscape Preservation Grant Program offers matching grants for funds and technical assistance. Grants are available to municipalities for projects aimed at preserving public historic landscapes, including parks, commons, former estates, cemeteries and the grounds of public buildings.

- Property must be open to the public.
- Property must be listed or eligible for listing on the State or National Register of Historic Places.
- Types of projects that are eligible: inventory and planning (including surveys, historic landscape reports, National Register nominations, preservation master plans, pre-acquisitions studies, etc.); construction (including stabilization, protection, rehabilitation and restoration); preservation maintenance (including cyclic maintenance activities); public education and stewardship (including workshops, brochures, signage, and interpretative elements).
- Up to \$50,000 per year for Planning and Inventory and Education and Stewardship and up to \$100,000 for Construction and Preservation Maintenance. Municipality is required to make a cash match of 30-48 percent of the total project costs.

### ***2. Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Massachusetts Historical Commission***

Secretary of the Commonwealth

220 Morrissey Blvd.

Boston, MA 02125

617-727-8470

[www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc/mhcidx.htm](http://www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc/mhcidx.htm)

### ***Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund (MPPF)***

#### ***Features***

- Matching grant program for municipal or non-profit organizations designed to support the preservation of properties, landscapes and sites (cultural resources) listed or, in certain circumstances, eligible for listing in the State Register of Historic Places.
- Eligible projects include:
  - Pre-development projects (including studied to enable future development or protection of State Register property, such as feasibility studies involving the preparation of plans and specifications, historic structures reports, and certain archaeological investigations)
  - Development projects (including stabilization, protection, rehabilitation and restoration)
  - Acquisition projects (for acquisition of State Register properties that are imminently threatened with inappropriate alteration or destruction)
- \$5000-30,000 for pre-development projects; \$7500-100,000 for development or acquisition projects.

### ***3. National Trust for Historic Preservation***

1785 Massachusetts Ave. NW

Washington, DC 20036

800-944-6847

[www.nationaltrust.org](http://www.nationaltrust.org)

### ***Preservation Services Fund***

The Preservation Services Fund provides matching grants ranging from \$500 to \$5,000 (typically from \$1,000 to \$1,500) to nonprofit organizations, universities and public agencies to initiate preservation projects. Funds may be used to support consultants with professional expertise in areas such as architecture, law, planning, economics and graphic design;

conferences that address subjects of particular importance to historic preservation; and curriculum development in preservation directed at select audiences.

### ***National Preservation Loan Fund***

The National Preservation Loan Fund provides below-market-rate loans of up to \$150,000 to nonprofit organizations and public agencies to help preserve properties listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Funds may be used to create or expand local and statewide preservation revolving funds, for site acquisition or rehabilitation work. This year priority will be given to projects that (i) increase the capacity of state and local preservation organizations, (ii) assist properties damaged in natural disasters, and (iii) are included in the National Trust's list of "11 Most Endangered Historic Places."

### ***Johanna Favrot Fund***

The Johanna Favrot Fund offers grants ranging from \$2,500 to \$25,000 (typically from \$2,500 to \$5,000) to nonprofit organizations, government agencies, for-profit businesses and individuals for projects that contribute to the preservation or the recapture of an authentic sense of place. Funds may be used to obtain professional expertise in areas such as architecture, planning, archeology or media relations; sponsoring preservation conferences and workshops; and designing and implementing innovative preservation education programs.

## **4. The Foundation Center**

In addition to the resources listed above, funds may become available from private organizations and foundations. The Foundation Center (79 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10003, 212-620-4230, [www.foundationcenter.org](http://www.foundationcenter.org)) maintains regional libraries; New York is the closest library to Burlington. The Foundation Center also maintains associations with cooperating collections. The closest cooperating collections to Burlington are:

Associated Grant Makers  
55 Court St., Rm 520  
Boston, MA 02108  
617-426-2606  
[www.agmconnect.org](http://www.agmconnect.org)

Boston Public Library  
Social Science Reference  
700 Boylston Street  
Boston 02116  
(617) 536-5400  
[www.bpl.org](http://www.bpl.org)

Be sure to call first to determine hours of operation.

## **PRESERVATION PROGRAMS**

Reprinted with permission of the author, Kathleen Reynolds, Wilmington Historical Commission, *Preservation Possibilities*. This section outlines preservation programs and actions that will ensure the protection of your old Burlington house.

### ***1. Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities***

141 Cambridge St.  
Boston, MA 02114  
617-227-3956  
[www.spnea.org](http://www.spnea.org)

## ***Stewardship Program***

- In partnership with the homeowner, SPNEA protects architecturally and historically significant properties via preservation restrictions. A property owner donates a preservation restriction to SPNEA, thereby protecting in perpetuity the significant physical features of the property from alteration, neglect, and demolition.
- Preservation restrictions are a legal interest in real property. Embodied in a Preservation Restriction Agreement, the owner of property in fee simple donates a portion of his property rights, but retains title to and use of the property. The agreements are recorded instruments that run with the land in perpetuity, thereby binding not only the owner who conveyed the restriction, but all subsequent owners as well.
- SPNEA ensures that the property remains in protective stewardship through
  - Prior review of proposed changes to protected features
  - Monitoring of the property's physical condition on an annual or more frequent basis; and if necessary
  - Instituting arbitration, legal or other remedial action in defense of the preservation restriction
- The owner and subsequent owners remain responsible for all costs associated with maintaining the property.
- Advantageous income tax incentives are available to taxpaying donors who meet specific federal statutory requirements, allow qualified donors to take a charitable contribution deduction for the appraised value of all legally binding preservation restrictions. The property must either be:
  - Listed individually on the National Register eligible for listing, or
  - Certified as contributing to the significance of a designated historic district
- Participants also make a financial contribution, which in turn yields income, enabling SPNEA to administer, monitor, and enforce the preservation restrictions it holds. Currently the minimum commitment is \$35,000 and can be established by direct or installment payments or by the donation of stocks, bonds, or real estate.
- Annual site visits are convenient to the owners and last between one to two hours and consist of viewing the protected features of the building, reviewing overall maintenance issues and discussing upcoming work. The annual visit must be taken at different times of year to view the structure's condition under varying weather conditions. A written report of the visit is sent to the owner after the visit.
- Regarding repairs and alterations proposed projects should first be discussed during the annual visit to determine whether protected features will be affected and/or SPNEA's approval will be needed. The proposed work, if accepted by SPNEA, is also documented by SPNEA, usually through measured drawings or photographs.

## ***2. Massachusetts Historical Commission***

Secretary of the Commonwealth

220 Morrissey Blvd.

Boston, MA 02125

617-727-8470

[www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc/mhcidx.htm](http://www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc/mhcidx.htm)

## ***Qualified Properties***

- The IRS defines a certified historic structure as any building, structure, or land area that is:
  - Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, or
  - Located in a registered historic district and certified by the U.S. Department of Interior as being historically significant to the district.
- Request an Historic Preservation Certification Application; complete Part 1, return to MHC; MHC forwards it to the National Park Service, who then issues certification on behalf of the Department of the Interior.
- The property must be certified by the National Park Service prior to conveying the easement or before the owner files a federal income tax return for the year in which the easement was granted.
- In order to claim the federal income tax deduction, the structure or land area must be accessible to the public. This is generally met as long as the property owner is not the sole individual benefiting from the donation of the easement;

the property is visually accessible from a public roadway; the public is allowed to tour the inside of a historic house two days per year, if an interior easement exists.

- The easement holding organization should require the donor to make an additional donation of funds to help administer the easement; funds are often held in an endowment that generates an annual income to pay for administrative costs.
- The easement holding organization should have the right to inspect the property to ensure that the owner is complying with the terms.
- Historic Preservation Restrictions prohibit the owner from demolishing or making alterations without prior review, consultation and approval by the easement holder. Some historic preservation restrictions also require the owner to make improvements or to maintain the property within a specified period of time e.g., fixing the porch.
- If the terms of the easement have not been upheld, the owner may be held responsible for covering the costs of revising unacceptable treatments or face other penalties.
- The Massachusetts Historical Commission or local government agency must approve all historic preservation restrictions. The restrictions can be released in whole or in part by the holder for such consideration as the holder may determine, but only after public hearing.

### ***Financial Options***

- Donor can claim a charitable deduction on federal income tax. The value of the easement is based on the difference between the appraised fair market value of the property prior to conveying the easement and its value with the easement restrictions in place.
- Federal estate taxes for property heirs also may be reduced.

### ***3. Trustees of Reservations***

572 Essex St.

Beverly, MA 01915-1530

[www.thetrustees.org](http://www.thetrustees.org)

- Cooperates with other agencies and acts on its own to own/control conservation and preservation restrictions.
- Financial donations are required to maintain the restrictions and are based upon the level of monitoring necessary to ensure that the restrictions remain. The minimum is 2% of the property value and is negotiable.
- The owner can donate a conservation (or preservation) restriction on the property to one organization, and then donate actual ownership of the land to another recipient. Each gift is independently deductible; added together they should almost equal the full value of the property. This technique is more complicated and costly to arrange, but it provides an extra, meaningful guarantee of the land's future ownership.

### ***Basic Issues to Consider***

#### ***Conservation Values***

Are there scenic, ecological and historical features of the property? Are arrangements necessary to protect the natural, scenic, and historic qualities available? Are the laws and regulations affecting the property sufficient to protect these qualities?

#### ***Conservation Restrictions***

Permanent restrictions while keeping the property in private ownership; deed restrictions, mutual covenants, management agreements and leases offer less secure protection but are appropriate for conservation planning.

#### ***Financial Situation***

Reducing property taxes (Massachusetts General Laws, chapter 61, Open Space Tax Programs); income tax reduction through donations and "bargain sales" of land or conservation restrictions; estate tax savings through conservation restrictions; selling property at discounted price to conservation organization or agency, or for full market value to private party with permanent conservation restrictions; portions of property with little conservation value can be sold for appropriate "limited development" without affecting the conservation valued of the remaining, protected portion

(\*less than maximum development of a parcel for the purpose of enabling conservation of remaining portions of the parcel). If the property has appreciated greatly and is sold, a capital gains tax may be triggered. Granting a conservation restriction prior to sale can minimize this.

- ***Needs and Wishes of the Donor***

***Options***

- Donate conservation restrictions to one organization, then donate the actual ownership of land to another.
- Seek an endowment. Be sure to consider the present and future costs of long-term ownership and management.
- Donating land eliminates the donor's property tax burden and removes the value of the property from the donor's estate, thus reducing estate taxes.
- Remainder Interest with a Reserved Life Estate. The donor donates property during his lifetime while reserving the right to continue using the property during his lifetime. Upon death or release of life interests, the recipient assumes full title and control over the property. The donor may be eligible for an income tax deduction in the year of the gift. The holders of a reserved life estate continue to be responsible for property taxes until the recipient obtains full title to the property.
- Gift of a Remainder Interest with Conservation Restrictions. Before donating a remainder interest, the donor donates a conservation restriction, preferably to another organization. Two separate income tax deductions are received—one for the restriction and the other for the remainder interest.
- Bequest or Gift by Will. No income tax benefit is received and the donor continues to be responsible for property taxes during their lifetime. This reduces estate taxes. A bequest is simple to prepare; the owner continues to enjoy the benefits of full ownership during their lifetime. Bequests are also reversible; a will can be rewritten at any time.
- Undivided Interests. Fractional portions of the whole parcel, or shares, are donated from year to year. The recipient is unable to effectively control and manage the land until it achieves full ownership. The recipient may ask the donor to sign a legally binding pledge agreement committing the donor to donate any remaining undivided interests by a specific date or at death. The donor will continue to pay property taxes and to maintain the property.
- Deed Restrictions. A short-term approach to preservation or conservation without the income and estate tax advantages. Certain restrictions may be imposed on the use or development of a lot. To be enforceable, a private deed restriction must be adjacent to the parcel benefited by that instrument.

***4. National Trust for Historic Preservation***

1785 Massachusetts Ave. NW

Washington, DC 20036

800-944-6847

[www.nationaltrust.org](http://www.nationaltrust.org)

***Gift of Heritage***

- ***Outright Gift***

The ownership is transferred immediately. The benefactor takes full possession of the property, assuming responsibility for its maintenance and disposition. Tax benefits may be realized immediately.

- ***Life Estate Gift***

The property can be donated immediately, while the owner is still living there. The owner benefits from a charitable tax deduction while retaining occupancy rights. The owner is responsible for taxes, insurance, and maintenance.

- ***Bequest***

The property is donated in the owner's will.

- ***Charitable Remainder Trust***

The real estate is transferred to a trustee charged with selling the property and managing the proceeds of the sale in a single investment fund. The fund, in turn, becomes a source of income for the donor and/or the beneficiary. A regular payment from the trust is paid out to the beneficiary for a designated number of years. At the expiration of the trust,

the remainder will be transferred to the National Trust. A preservation plan for the property should be developed and protective easements should be placed on the property prior to the sale.

### **5. *Massachusetts Audubon Society***

208 South Great Rd.

Lincoln, MA 01773

781-259-9500

[www.massaudubon.org](http://www.massaudubon.org)

- Requires 30 acres to use for environmental education.
- Will apply the appropriate restrictions on the property and monitor them.
- Will sell the property to private owner, use the proceeds from the sale to maintain and administer the restrictions, and monitor the property on an annual basis.

## RESOURCE LIST

### **1. *Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities***

141 Cambridge Street

Boston, Mass. 02114

617-227-3956

[www.spnea.org](http://www.spnea.org)

#### ***Old House Resource Line***

SPNEA offers a resource line to answer homeowners' questions about preserving and maintaining their old houses. Call 781-891-1985, extension 229 for answers to your questions on:

- Maintaining and preserving old houses
- National/State Register listings
- Styles of architecture
- Dating old houses
- SPNEA's color card and other paint questions
- General resources and references for old house owners

#### ***Library and Archives***

SPNEA maintains a library and archives devoted to New England architectural history. There is a small day-use fee for non-members.

### **2. *Massachusetts Historical Commission***

Secretary of the Commonwealth

220 Morrissey Blvd.

Boston, MA 02125

617-727-8470

[www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc/mhcidx.htm](http://www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc/mhcidx.htm)

### **3. *National Trust for Historic Preservation and Preservation Press***

1785 Massachusetts Ave. NW

Washington, DC 20036

800-944-6847

[www.nationaltrust.org](http://www.nationaltrust.org)

**4. National Park Services' Technical Preservation Services for Historic Buildings, including Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings**

[www2.cr.nps.gov/tps/tpscat.htm](http://www2.cr.nps.gov/tps/tpscat.htm) and [www2.cr.nps.gov/tps/standards](http://www2.cr.nps.gov/tps/standards)

The following organizations focus on various aspects of historic preservation and offer publications:

***Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation***

82 Wall Street  
Suite 1105  
New York, NY 10005

***American Association of State and Local History***

1717 Church St.  
Nashville, TN 37203-2991  
615-320-3203  
[www.aaslh.org](http://www.aaslh.org)

***American Institute of Architects***

Committee on Historic Resources  
1735 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20006  
[www.aiaonline.com](http://www.aiaonline.com)

***American Society of Interior Designers***

Historic Preservation Committee  
608 Massachusetts Ave. NE  
Washington, DC 20002  
202-546-3480  
[www.asid.org](http://www.asid.org)

***American Society of Landscape Architects***

Committee on Historic Preservation  
636 Eye St. NW  
Washington, DC 2001-3736  
202-898-2444  
[www.asla.org/general/Home.htm](http://www.asla.org/general/Home.htm)

***Association for Preservation Technology International***

4513 Lincoln Ave., Ste. 213  
Lisle, IL 60532-1290  
630-968-6400  
[www.apti.org](http://www.apti.org)

***Garden Clubs of America***

Conservation Committee  
598 Madison Ave.  
New York, NY 10022  
[www.gcamerica.org](http://www.gcamerica.org)

***Historic Massachusetts, Inc.***

45 School Street  
Boston, MA 02108  
617-723-3383

***National Center for Preservation Law***

1333 Connecticut Avenue NW, Ste. 300  
Washington, DC 200036

***National Park Service***

18th & C Streets, NW  
Washington, DC 20840  
202-208-4621  
[www.nps.org](http://www.nps.org)

***Society for American Archaeology***

900 Second St. NE #12  
Washington, DC 2002-3557  
202-789-8200  
[www.saa.org](http://www.saa.org)

***Society for Architectural Historians***

1365 North Astor St.  
Chicago, IL 60610  
312-573-1365  
[www.sah.org](http://www.sah.org)

***This Old House***

WGBH television show and web site  
[www.thisoldhouse.com](http://www.thisoldhouse.com)

**PERIODICALS**

***Early American Homes***

6405 Flank Dr.

Harrisburg, PA 17112-2753

Subscriptions: (800) 829-3340

[www.thehistorynet.com](http://www.thehistorynet.com)

***Old-House Interiors***

P.O. Box 56006

Boulder, CO 80321

Subscriptions: (800) 462-0211

Back issues: (978) 283-3200

***Old-House Journal***

Two Main St.

Gloucester, MA 01930

Subscriptions: (800) 234-3797

Back issues: (800) 931-2931

[www.oldhousejournal.com](http://www.oldhousejournal.com)

***Traditional Building Magazine***

69A Seventh Ave.

Brooklyn, NY 11217

(718) 636-0788

[www.traditional-building.com](http://www.traditional-building.com)