MICHIGAN HERITAGE HOME™ APPLICATION

The Historical Society of Michigan’s Michigan Heritage Home™ program recognizes our state’s historic domestic architecture. A home must be at least one hundred years old to qualify for recognition and its exterior must be substantially original in appearance. This form describes the requirements necessary for a home to be recognized by the Historical Society of Michigan with a Michigan Heritage Home plaque. The Michigan Heritage Home program is not affiliated with the State Register of Historic Places or the National Register of Historic Places. Recognition is strictly honorary and does not limit the homeowner from making alterations to the home, nor does it qualify homeowners for any type of financial incentives such as grants, property tax assessment freezes, or tax rebates.

SECTION ONE: HOUSE INFORMATION

Address: ______________________________ City: __________ Zip: __________
PIN [Property Index Number]: ____________________________________________
Property Description: ____________________________________________________

An example of a PIN: 09-08-316-003-000.

Examples of property descriptions: “Lot 7, Block 42, B. C. Hoyt’s 2nd Addition to the City of St. Joseph, Michigan” (urban); “Northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 10 of Township 9 North, Range 10 East” (rural).

You can find your Property Description and PIN on your property deed or your property tax bill. It is necessary to have this information as your street address may have changed in the past, but your property’s description and PIN has not.

SECTION TWO: APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name of Applicant(s): __________________________________________
Address: ______________________________ City: __________ Zip: __________
Phone Number: _______________ Email: ___________________________
Signature of Applicant: ________________________________
Date: ______________________________
Name(s) of Researcher (if different than applicant):

____________________________
Phone Number: _______________ Email: ___________________________
SECTION THREE: PHOTOGRAPHS

Please attach current photographs of your home taken from all four sides, if possible. If you have any historic photographs of your home, please attach a copy (not the original) of those as well. Photos sent will not be returned.

SECTION FOUR: HOUSE HISTORY

Year Built: _____ This is determined as a part of your detailed research into the history of your home. If, following extensive research it is not possible to ascertain the exact year of construction, the Historical Society of Michigan will consider recognizing a “circa” date of a limited time span, e.g., research shows that your house was built between 1908 and 1912, the home would be marked as “c. 1910.” A circa date will only be considered after all reasonable avenues for determining the exact year of construction have been exhausted to HSM’s satisfaction.

Original Owner(s): _____________________________
Name for House*: ______________________________

*Plaque Name Guidelines

The plaque will bear the surname of the original owner in keeping with the terminology used by the National Register of Historic Places. The Michigan Heritage Home™ program’s established policy is to keep the language consistent with the naming of dwellings as a “house” and using the “surname” of the original owner. Example: “Smith House”. The only accepted variation is if the house itself was named by the original owner as in Thomas Jefferson’s “Monticello”.

SECTION FIVE: DESCRIPTION OF HOUSE

Foundation:
___ Limestone ___ Field Stone ___ Cut Stone ___ Brick ___ Concrete ___ Concrete Block
___ Other: ________________________________

Exterior Walls:
___ Wood siding ___ Vinyl siding ___ Aluminum siding ___ Stucco ___ Stone ___ Brick
___ Concrete block
___ Other: ________________________________

Roof:
___ Asphalt shingle ___ Wood shingle ___ Metal ___ Slate ___ Tile ___ Rubber membrane
___ Other: ________________________________
SECTION SIX: ALTERATIONS

Has your house been significantly altered beyond its original character?

___ Yes  ___ No

Please list significant alterations to the exterior of your house:
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Has your house been moved to its current location?

___ Yes ___ No

If yes, please describe its original location:
________________________________________________________________________

SECTION SEVEN: ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION

Architectural Style(s):
___ Log Cabin ___ Federal ___ Greek Revival ___ Gothic Revival ___ Italianate
___ Octagon ___ Second Empire ___ Queen Anne ___ Stick ___ Shingle
___ Romanesque ___ Colonial Revival ___ Cape Cod ___ Neoclassical Revival
___ Tudor Revival ___ Dutch Colonial ___ Craftsman ___ Prairie ___ Spanish Revival
___ Italian Revival ___ International Style
___ Other (specify): ____________________________

Vernacular Building Form/Type(s):
___ Gable-Front and Gabled Ell ___ Folk Victorian ___ Foursquare ___ Bungalow
___ Other. Explain (if necessary): ____________________________

Typical architectural features:
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Any unusual or notable architectural features your home possesses:
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
SECTION EIGHT: SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE

An association with a notable person or event is not necessary for a Michigan Heritage Home certification, but if you believe your home was owned or occupied by a person (or people) of historical significance, use the space below to explain. Please attach research sources as well.

Person's(s') Name(s): ____________________________

Years the person(s) resided in the house: ______________________

Person's(s') Significance: ____________________________

SECTION NINE: HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

If you believe your home has significant historical or cultural value, please explain in the space below. Please attach research sources as well.

__________________________________________________________________________________

SECTION TEN: SIGNIFICANT BUILDER

If you believe your home was designed or constructed by a notable builder, please explain below. Please attach research sources as well.

Builder's Name: ____________________________

Builder's Significance: ____________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

SECTION ELEVEN: SIGNIFICANT ARCHITECT

If you believe your home was designed or constructed by a notable architect, please explain below. Please attach research sources as well.

Architect's Name: ____________________________

Architect's Significance: ____________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

I have enclosed copies of primary source documentation verifying the construction date of the house and name(s) of the original owners (city directories, newspaper articles, property tax rolls, census records, etc. that are contemporary to the date of construction).
SECTION TWELVE: PERMISSION TO LIST ADDRESS

PLEASE NOTE: By applying for Michigan Heritage Home designation, you agree to have your name and city included in Historical Society of Michigan lists, publications, website, and other communications. Your address will not be published unless you provide permission below:
I agree to allow the Historical Society of Michigan to include my address in publications, websites, or other communications:  ____Yes  ____No.

Signature: ___________________________ Date: __________________

SECTION THIRTEEN: PAYMENT INFORMATION

Please send a total payment of $443.70 with this application. This payment encompasses the $395 fee, $23.70 Michigan sales tax, and $25 for shipping and handling. Please mail payment information to:

Historical Society of Michigan,
7435 Westshire Dr.
Lansing, MI 48917

Your sign payment can be submitted via check or money order. Do NOT send cash.
To charge the fee to a major credit card, please see below:
Credit Card Type:  ____Visa  ____Master Card  ____American Express  ____Discover Credit Card Number:_________________________ Expiration Date: _________ CVV Code:_______
Billing Zip Code:________

I authorize the Historical Society of Michigan to charge the Michigan Heritage Home Application Fee to my credit card.

Signature: ___________________________ Date: __________________