

City of Boulder
Landmark Preservation Board

Significance Criteria for District Landmarks

Historical Significance

The district, as an entity, should show character, interest or value as part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of the community, state, or nation; be the site of historic or prehistoric event(s) that had an effect upon society; or exemplify the cultural, political, economic, or social heritage of the community.

1. Association with Historical Persons or Events: This association could be national, state or local.
2. Distinction in the Development of the Community of Boulder: This is the most applicable to institutions (religious, educational, civic, etc.) Or business area, though in some cases residential areas might qualify. It stresses the importance of preserving those places which demonstrate the growth during different time spans in the history of Boulder, in order to maintain an awareness of our cultural, economic, social or political heritage.
3. Recognition by Authorities: If a number of structures are recognized by Historic Boulder, Inc., the Boulder Historical Society, local historians (Barker, Crossen, Frink, Gladden, Paddock, Schooland, etc.) F.L. Olmstead, or others in published form, as having historical interest or value.
4. Date of Construction: This area of consideration places particular importance on the age of the structure.
5. Other, if applicable

Architectural Significance

The district should portray an environment in an era of history characterized by distinctive architectural period(s)/style(s); embody those distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type specimen, a good example of the common; include the work of an architect or master builder, known nationally, state-wide, or locally, and perhaps whose work has materials or craftsmanship which represent a significant innovation; or include a fine example of the uncommon.

1. Architectural Identity: The area should display common characteristics or continuity, and represent a distinguished entity that possesses integrity of appearance, and/or feeling (mood).
2. Recognized Period(s)/Style(s): It should exemplify specific elements of an architectural period/style, or contain good examples of more than one period/style, thereby preserving a progression of styles; i.e.: Victorian Revival styles, such as described by *Historic American Building Survey Criteria*, Gingerbread Age (Maass), 76 Boulder Homes (Barker), The History of Architectural Style (Marcus/Tiffin), Architecture in San Francisco (Gebhard et al), History of Architecture (Fletcher), Architecture/Colorado (Thorsen et al) and any other published source of universal or local analysis of “style”.
3. Architect(s) or Builder(s) of Prominence: A good example of the work of architect(s) or builder(s) recognized for expertise nationally, state-wide or locally.
4. Artistic Merit: A skillful integration of design, detail, material, and color which is of excellent visual quality and/or demonstrates superior craftsmanship.
5. Example of the Uncommon: Elements of architectural design, detail, material, or craftsmanship that are representation of a significance innovation.
6. Indigenous Qualities: A style or material that is particularly associated with the Boulder area.
7. Other, if applicable.

Environmental Significance

The district should enhance the variety, interest, and sense of identity of the community by the protection of the unique natural and man-made environments.

1. Site Characteristics: The site should be of high quality in terms of planned or natural vegetation, and streetscape objects, i.e.: lighting, fences, sidewalks, etc.
2. Compatibility with Site: Consideration will be given to scale, massing, placement, or other qualities design with respect to its site.
3. Geographic Importance: As an entity it represents an established and familiar visual feature of the community, having unique and irreplaceable assets to the city or neighborhood.
4. Other, if applicable.