



REVIEW STANDARDS AND RESOURCES

HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

BOROUGH OF BELLEFONTE

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

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www.bellefonte.net/historic-preservation

Review Standards: HARB uses the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation* when making recommendations to Bellefonte Borough Council. They also take into consideration Bellefonte standards highlighted in our local Historic District ordinance.

Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation

1. A property will be used as it was historically or be given a new use that requires minimal change to its distinctive materials, features, spaces, and spatial relationships.
2. The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The removal of distinctive materials or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided.
3. Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or elements from other historic properties, will not be undertaken.
4. Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right will be retained and preserved.
5. Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved.
6. Deteriorated historic features will be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature will match the old in design, color, texture, and, where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features will be substantiated by documentary and physical evidence.
7. Chemical or physical treatments, if appropriate, will be undertaken using the gentlest means possible. Treatments that cause damage to historic materials will not be used.
8. Archeological resources will be protected and preserved in place. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures will be undertaken.
9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.
10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be undertaken in such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

Bellefonte Considerations:

1. The effect of the proposed change upon the general historic and architectural nature of the district.
2. The appropriateness of exterior architectural or landscaping features which can be seen from a public street or way.
3. The general design, arrangement, texture, material and color of the building, structure or fence and the relation of such factors to similar features of buildings, structures or fences in the District, and to the properties immediately adjacent to the property for which a certificate is sought.

Resources: The Preservation Officer and HARB board are always available for consultation upon request. There are also limited resources available on our website. Links to additional recommended resources can be found below:

[*The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*](#)

[*National Park Service Preservation Briefs*](#) on various topics