



# Dorchester Historical Society

195 Boston Street  
Dorchester, Massachusetts 02125

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## House Marker Qualifications

### Location

- The house must be located in Dorchester or Mattapan

### Age

- Generally, the house must be at least 100 years old. The Dorchester Historical Society may consider a house less than 100 years old if one of the following conditions is met:
  - The house is associated with a particular event that has contributed to our understanding of local, regional, or national history.
  - The house is associated with the life or lives of an individual, a family, or a group who has made a notable contribution to local, regional, or national history, culture, or arts.
  - The building embodies distinctive characteristics of a particular architectural or construction style, including both the work of noted architects as well as unknown regional builders and craftsmen.

### Condition

- The house must have retained the integrity of the original design and construction. Additions or alterations do not necessarily exclude a property unless the structure no longer retains the significant elements of its original style. Questions about the historic integrity of modifications or additions will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

### Documentation

- The applicant must be able to document the age of the house through one or more of the following:
  - a clear and complete chain of title tracing the house from its original construction to the present day
  - a copy of the original building permit
  - other published primary source documentation of the age of the house
- If the application is based in whole or in part on the importance of the builder or architect of the house, the applicant must provide primary source documentation of the association, for example:
  - an original building plan that contains the name of the architect or builder
  - a copy of the architect's or builder's notes, invoices or other primary source evidence
  - newspaper articles, notices or other published documentation of the period that documents the attribution
- If the application is based in whole or in part to a notable event, individual, family or group, the applicant must provide documentation of the connection. Some examples are:
  - deeds, census records, tax records or other primary source documentation proving that the individual or family owned or resided in the house
  - newspapers, books, journal articles, etc. that document the connection between the house and the important event