

# Historic House Marker Program

## Application Instructions



Celebrate your home's special place in local history with your Stoneham neighbors. To emphasize the importance of stewardship in maintaining older buildings, the Stoneham Historical Commission sponsors a historic marker program that recognizes structures that maintain their basic historic character. This is a wonderful opportunity to show pride of ownership and help others appreciate your home's architectural heritage. Markers also make unique and thoughtful gifts.

### How to get a home recognized

Apply to the Historical Commission using the attached simple form. Provide any known information about the structure and its origins (deed, census, tax listing, etc.), plus a current photograph if available. Currently, it is free to apply, although there is a fee to have the physical historic marker created. You may also consider making a gift to the Historical Commission Donation Account.

### What if I don't know the history of my house?

We can help you research. Let us know as much as possible about your home's history (such as a deed, census info, or at least when you bought it). Historical Commission volunteers will use the information to research local and county records for background, owner info and to verify a construction date.

### Eligibility

The Commission will review the application and decide if the structure is eligible for the program. There is no requirement that the building be listed on the State or National Register of Historical Places. Structures are generally at least 75 years of age, but must have been built at least 50 years ago to be eligible. It should retain substantial design and architectural character. Additions and changes should be in keeping with the original style. The sign will generally list either the builder/original owner and their occupation or a later owner, if of more significant historical interest.

### Does it mean I can't change my house?

The program is voluntary and serves only to highlight a home that contributes to Stoneham's rich character. Awarded markers don't place any limitations on the property beyond the Town regulations for all buildings. That said, historic houses are treasures for the community and we urge home owners to keep the historical integrity of their home's appearance in mind before considering renovations.

### Plaque Details

- White with engraved black lettering and accents
- House-shaped, largest dimensions 12" high by 16" wide
- Durable PVC material with appearance of wood
- Holes pre-drilled to attach with 4 included screws.
- Cost, \$85, delivery included

### How do I apply?

Fill out the attached application and mail it, along with your check to us at Town Hall (35 Central St.) Questions? Contact us at [stonehamhistoricalcommission@gmail.com](mailto:stonehamhistoricalcommission@gmail.com).

The Commission recommends that the plaque be installed to the right of the front door at eye level.