



Dear Applicant:

Thank you for inquiring about the process of plaquing a historic site or structure located in McHenry County. It is our hope that the following application form will provide a lasting record of the property, site and structure.

Please complete as many items as possible. Not all questions will be applicable to your particular property. If you are uncertain of the meaning of any of the questions, please refer to the enclosed guide, "The How To's of House History Research" and the reference book list. Contact the museum (815-923-2267 or info@mchsonline.org) for any further guidance.

Please return the completed application to the Historic Sites Committee. Additionally, please include a current photograph of the site or structure along with documentation of the age of the site or structure to Historic Sites Committee, McHenry County Historical Society, P.O. Box 434, Union, IL 60180.

The application, photograph and documentation will become the property of the McHenry County Historical Society. Upon receipt of the application, the committee will arrange a time to conduct a field investigation of the site. If you wish, you may make a presentation to the committee regarding the historic and/or architectural significance of the property.

Plaquing a historic site or structure is an excellent means of calling attention to the heritage of McHenry County. It is not a legal proceeding, and thus does not interfere with the buying and selling of the property. However, once plaqued, the plaque will remain with and on the structure or site...not with the owner of the property at the time of plaquing.

Plaquing by the McHenry County Historical Society does not make the site eligible for reductions in property taxes. Plaquing also does not require you to open the site or structure to the public. Plaquing does not prohibit the owner from altering the structure or site (i.e., remodeling or additions). However, if the alterations detract from the architectural or historic integrity of the structure or site, and upon review, the Historic Sites Committee determines that the structure or site no longer meets the Minimum Standard for plaquing, you will forfeit your privilege of displaying the plaque on the structure or site. The cost of the plaque is currently approximately \$120 is the responsibility of the property owner.

Plaquing criteria for McHenry County Structures or Sites:

I.	Architectural Significance of a Building	20 points
II.	Maintenance of a Building, Outbuildings or Site	20 points
III.	Historical Significance of a Building or Site	20 points
IV.	Conservation of Original Architectural Details, Decorative elements and Character of a Building	20 points
V.	Age of a Building or Site	20 points

Definitions:

1. *Architectural significance:* The building may represent a particular architectural style, construction technique and/or design.

2. *Maintenance of a building or outbuildings:* The overall or general condition of a building or site. Is the building kept painted, tuck pointed, and in good repair? (Building maintenance, however, should not detract from the structure's original appearance and character).

3. *Historical significance of a building or site:* The historic association of a building or site to local, state, and/or national history, county development and settlement patterns as well as associations with county residents.

4. *Conservation of architectural elements:* The preservation of original, distinctive details and characteristics which define the aesthetic and architectural integrity of a building.

5. *Age of a building or site:* The date the structure was built, and the date of any subsequent additions or remodeling. A site must be at least 50 years old to be considered for plaquing. This is the minimum age requirement used by the National Register of Historic Places.

Revised May, 2007

McHenry County Historical Society

Historic Sites Committee

Application Form for Historical Plaquing Consideration

*Required information

All other answers would be beneficial and expedite plaquing consideration.

GENERAL INFORMATION *Please print or type.*

*Applicant's name(s): _____

*Address: _____

*Home phone: _____

*Business phone: _____

*Is the applicant also the owner of the home/building/site? Yes ___ No ___

*If no, please provide the following information:

*Owner's name: _____

*Owner's address: _____

*Owner's home phone: _____

*Owner's business phone: _____

*Current owners purchased this property in what year: _____

HISTORIC STRUCTURE INFORMATION

*Have you enclosed early and/or current photographs? Yes ___ No ___

Any drawings or renderings? Yes ___ No ___

*Address or location of historic structure: _____

*Directions (nearest intersection): _____

Style of house or building _____

(e.g., Greek Revival, Tudor, Victorian, Italianate, Cottage, Bungalow, etc.)

*Structure dates back to (year, circa): _____ Is this confirmed? _____

(Please attach copies of research to application.)

Site, house or structure known as: _____

(examples: The Cupola House, Richardson Homestead, etc.)

*Adjacent land use is presently (check all that apply): residential _____

commercial _____ institutional (school) _____ government property _____

agricultural _____ vacant _____

Other, please describe _____

Name of architect, contractor or carpenter, if known:

Were there any known local crafts persons involved in the construction?

yes _____ no _____ Names? _____

Original cost of property, construction and/or materials, if known:

*The original function(s) of the site: residence _____ barn _____ church _____

farm _____ factory _____ shop _____ cemetery _____ school _____

Other: _____

*If it is not, please state the current use of the site: _____

*If the consideration of the structure is based on a historic event that took place there, please note it briefly here, then attach copies of research material to the completed application:

(e.g., historic figure's birthplace, first of kind, property or workplace of local citizen who impacted the community, workshop of inventor, artist's studio, etc.)

CHRONOLOGY

*Names of subsequent owners, past to present:

_____ purchased _____ sold _____

_____ purchased _____ sold _____

_____ purchased _____ sold _____

_____ purchased _____ sold _____

_____ purchased _____ sold _____

(If additional space is needed, please attach a separate sheet, with research on all)

*Please list and describe additions to original structures(s):

date(s) _____ architect or contractor _____

date(s) _____ architect or contractor _____

Do you know of any architectural and/or historical building materials that were lost or disposed of during remodeling or fires, flooding, etc.? _____

Have any historic restoration measures been taken by past or present owners?

ARCHITECTURE AND CONSTRUCTION

*Number of original stories (do not include basements or attics): _____

*Is there a basement? _____ Is there an attic? _____

*Number of original interior rooms: _____

*Please name them: _____

*Do all of the original rooms still exist? _____ If not, please explain: _____

*The original exterior of the structure was: brick _____ stone _____ logs _____
cedar shingles _____ wood clapboard _____ board and batten _____
cement block _____ stucco _____ other: _____

Did any of the original exterior materials originate in McHenry County? _____
(i.e., Terra Cotta, marked local brick, cut limestone, straight cobblestone rows)
If yes, please describe: _____

*What is the present siding material? original _____ asphalt shingles _____
replacement wood clapboard _____ aluminum siding _____
vinyl siding (which size, type) _____
Other: _____

Describe distinctive or unique construction techniques or characteristics:

What is the original shape of the roof? flat _____ flat with parapet _____
gables _____ shed (half-gabled) _____ side-gabled _____ front-gabled _____
cross-gabled _____ saltbox _____ hip-on-gable (Tudor) _____ simple _____
gambrel (barn-shaped) _____ pyramidal _____ cross-hipped _____
dual-pitched hipped _____ mansard _____ deck (flat-top hipped) _____
gable-on-hip _____ other: _____

Are there any dormers? _____ How many? _____ What style?
gabled _____ shed _____ hipped _____ deck _____ flat _____ eyebrow _____
arched _____ inset _____ other: _____

Are the dormers original to the house? _____

Has the original roof massing changed? _____ Explain: _____

*Original roof covering material was: wood shingles _____ slate _____
tin _____ tiles _____ asphalt shingles _____ other _____

*If original roofing material has been replaced or covered, what is the present
Roofing material? Shingles _____ Which type? _____
Note any decorative style or shape of roofing materials: _____

*Did the original structure have one or more porches? (Also include balconies or
Widow's Walks) Please describe: _____

*Check all that apply to the present condition of the porches:

original____ minor alterations____ historical reproduction____

porch(es) added____ porch(es) enclosed____ porch(es) removed____

not applicable____ other: _____

*How many chimneys are visible on the exterior of the structure?

*Condition of chimneys: good____ fair____ poor____

*How many of the existing chimneys are original? _____

*Can the original foundation be seen from the exterior? _____

*Foundation material: stone____ cement blocks____ brick____

poured concrete____ cobblestone in rows____

Other: _____

Is the original foundation material coated with another material? _____

stucco____ cement____ traced cement____ paint____

exterior sealant____ other: _____

Are there any intact original cellar doors?____ Are they used now?____

*Are there any original doors remaining in the structure?____ All?____

*Are any of the original doors screened doors? _____

Please note any existing original door elements:

panels_____

hardware (hinges, knobs, locks & keys, doorbells)_____

frames, casings_____

crown moldings_____

pediments_____

windows, art glass or inserts _____

*How many original doors have been replaced? _____

Authentic reproductions (#) _____ non-authentic reproductions (#) _____

Is there a style or type of original door that is typical in the structure? _____

*Number of panels: 1 ___ 2 ___ 3 ___ 4 ___ 5 ___ 6 ___ other _____

Describe any unique or distinctive qualities of the original doors:

*Have the original doors ever been painted? _____ Are they now? _____

*Are there any original windows remaining in the structure? _____ All? _____

Please note any existing original window elements:

sashes _____ sills _____ sill casings _____ lintels _____ hoods _____

pediments _____ hand-glazed glass _____ locks _____ weights _____

ords or chains _____ stained or leaded glass _____

*How many original windows have been replaced? _____

authentic reproductions _____ non-authentic reproductions _____

Is there a style or type of original window that is typical to the structure? _____

Please describe: _____

window types: double-hung _____ casement _____ fixed _____ bay _____

jalousie (louvered) _____ palladian _____ ribbon (3+ in a row) _____

transom _____ oriole _____ other _____

Number of lights (panes) on double-hung windows: (e.g., 1 over 1, 2 over 1,

4 over 1, 4 over 4, 6y over 6, etc.) _____

EXTERIOR ORNAMENTAL DETAILS

Check all that apply:

____ arched doorways ____ shutters (original)

____ arched windows ____ quoins (cornerstones)

____ drip moldings ____ friezes

____ patterned brickwork ____ vergeboards (in gables)

____ patterned shingling ____ exposed rafters or beams

____ curved shingling ____ trusses (in gables)

____ brackets ____ towers

____ turned porch supports ____ cupolas

____ columns ____ half-timbering

____ gingerbread ____ metal roof cresting

____ turned balustrade ____ door surrounds

____ cut-out balustrade ____ window surrounds

____ belt course (molding between stories) ____ lightning rods

____ false parapet wall or castellations ____ weather vanes

Other, please list: _____

MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS

*The structure was originally heated by: fireplaces ____ stoves ____

coal ____ oil ____ forced water/steam ____ forced air ____ gas ____

electric ____ solar ____ other: _____

*The structure is presently heated by _____

*Has air conditioning been added: yes _____ no _____ If so, when? _____

central air _____ individual units _____

Please describe any other original ventilation mechanism, for example; cupolas, clerestory windows, "shotgun" hallways, transom windows, etc. _____

*Was the building originally outfitted for mechanical lighting? yes ___ no ___

gas _____ electricity _____ both _____

Is there still evidence of gas lighting? yes _____ no _____

pipe stubs _____ refitted fixtures (from gas to electric) _____

Other: _____

Is there still evidence of an antiquated electrical system? Yes _____ no _____

pull chain fixtures _____ old push button switches _____

winged knob switches _____ knob and tube wiring _____

cloth covered wiring _____ other: _____

*Did the structure originally have indoor plumbing? Yes _____ no _____

If no, when was it added: _____

*Are there any original plumbing fixtures remaining? yes _____ no _____

sinks? _____ how many? _____ what styles? _____

toilets? _____ how many? _____ what styles? _____

pull chain style? _____ gravity tank? _____

bathtubs? _____ how many? _____ what styles? _____

shower stalls or attachments? _____ how many? _____ styles? _____

Other: _____

*Is there evidence of outdated plumbing, heating and electrical systems in the basement?

Yes _____ no _____ Describe _____

*On the exterior of the structure" yes _____ no _____ Describe: _____

(examples: cisterns, coal chutes, stove pipes, etc.)

INTERIOR ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENTS

Does any original decorative plaster work exists on the ceiling or walls? _____

ceiling medallions _____ cove moldings (concave) _____ friezes _____

crown moldings (convex) _____ arches _____ niches _____

Other: _____

Are there any pressed tin ceilings in the structure? _____ If yes, which room(s)?

If yes, are the ceiling moldings (cove or crown) metal also? _____

Is the interior woodwork original? _____ all _____ dome _____ none _____

What type of wood has the woodwork been constructed from? (check all that

apply): oak _____ pine _____ maple _____ ash _____ fir _____

mahogany _____ cherry _____ walnut _____ other _____

Note any distinctiveness about the wood (quarter sawn, knotty, bird's eye, etc.)

Has any of the interior woodwork been painted? _____

Was it a painted finish originally? _____ Is there any faux graining? _____

Has the woodwork ever been stripped and refinished? _____ when? _____

Original interior woodwork elements present in the structure at this time:

Please check all that apply:

_____cove moldings _____crown moldings

_____open staircase _____picture rails

_____chair rails _____base moldings

_____window crowns _____door crowns

_____window moldings _____door moldings

_____exposed beams _____interior columns

Built-ins:

_____wardrobes _____cabinets

_____bookcases _____benches

Other, please describe: _____

Is there a particular style or pattern embossed or carved into the woodwork?

Has any of the original woodwork been replaced? Yes_____ no_____

If so, how? Reproduction to match_____ salvage_____

Other: _____

Are there any original fireplace mantels in the structure? Yes_____ no_____

wood_____ marble_____ tiled_____ brick_____ stone_____

stucco_____ beam_____ other: _____

Please describe mantel(s) _____

Have any mantels been replaced? Yes_____ no_____ Describe: _____

Are there any fireplaces that have been covered over? Yes _____ no _____

In which rooms? _____

Which types of original flooring were in the structure? plank width? _____

parquet _____ inlay _____ tile _____ marble _____

asphalt tiles _____ linoleum _____ other: _____

Describe any inlaid floor patterns: _____

If original flooring has been replaced, what type of material was used? _____

Please check any of the following elements that are or were a part of the structure:

_____ dumb waiter _____ laundry chutes

_____ speaking tubes _____ ice delivery chute

_____ butter & egg box _____ coal or oil receptacles

Other, please describe: _____

LANDSCAPING

Are there any known original plantings on the property? yes _____ no _____

Describe plantings: _____

Are there any deliberate plantings on the property? (i.e., windbreaks, farming,

Subsistence gardens, formal gardens, Indian trail trees, etc.) _____

Are there any other landscaping features? Such as:

trellises _____ window boxes _____ garden paths _____ statuary _____

Other: _____

OUTBUILDINGS

*How many outbuildings stand on the property at this time?_____

barns_____ sheds_____ garages_____ silos_____ gazebos_____

playhouses_____ outhouses_____ other_____

Describe any outbuildings that were on the property, but no longer exist:

NOTES OF INTEREST

*The Historic Sites Committee is interested in knowing your reasons for seeking a plaque.

Is there any folklore associated with this structure that cannot be substantiated?

Please describe:_____

ATTACHMENTS

Please attach copies of your research, including:

Survey(s)

Legal description

Chain of title

Photographs

Again, if you have any questions, please contact the museum at 815-923-2267 or info@mchsonline.org for further clarification or help in completing the application..

Revised May 2007