

History is out in the open here in Pound Ridge. Those who live in town see it for themselves every day, in the officially designated historic houses and in the landmark district of the Hamlet, but also in the dozens of historic buildings and areas that don't yet have landmark status.

The Town Board officially recognized the importance of Pound Ridge's history in 1976 when it passed a law allowing for the protection, enhancement, and perpetuation of historically significant buildings and historic districts. That



was not simply an attempt to remember the past. It was an acknowledgement of something important to everyday life: Historic preservation, the law states, is "a public necessity and is required in the interest of the prosperity and welfare of the people."



In Pound Ridge, landmarking is a cooperative process that respects landowners and relies on their voluntary participation. It's a process that results in historical discovery

and education. And it can bring personal and civic pride in being associated with an historically significant place and in being part of the preservation of community character.

Landmark status, as the town law states, can also "stabilize and improve property values."

In Pound Ridge, landmark status helps preserve the character of the exterior of historic buildings visible from public roads (interiors are not landmarked). Cemeteries and some stone walls have also been landmarked, and the Hamlet



has been designated an historic district. If you want to investigate the possibility of landmarking your buildings or property, the first step is to contact the Landmarks Commission through

the Town House 914 764 5511.

Its members include architects, designers, lawyers, scholars, the Town Historian, Pound Ridge natives and newcomers to the community. The Commission's members are dedicated to helping you determine the historic value of your property, deciding if landmarking is right for you, and in making the process easy and rewarding.



If you're already the owner of a landmarked building or property, the Commission can help you decide the best ways to continue to preserve its historic character.

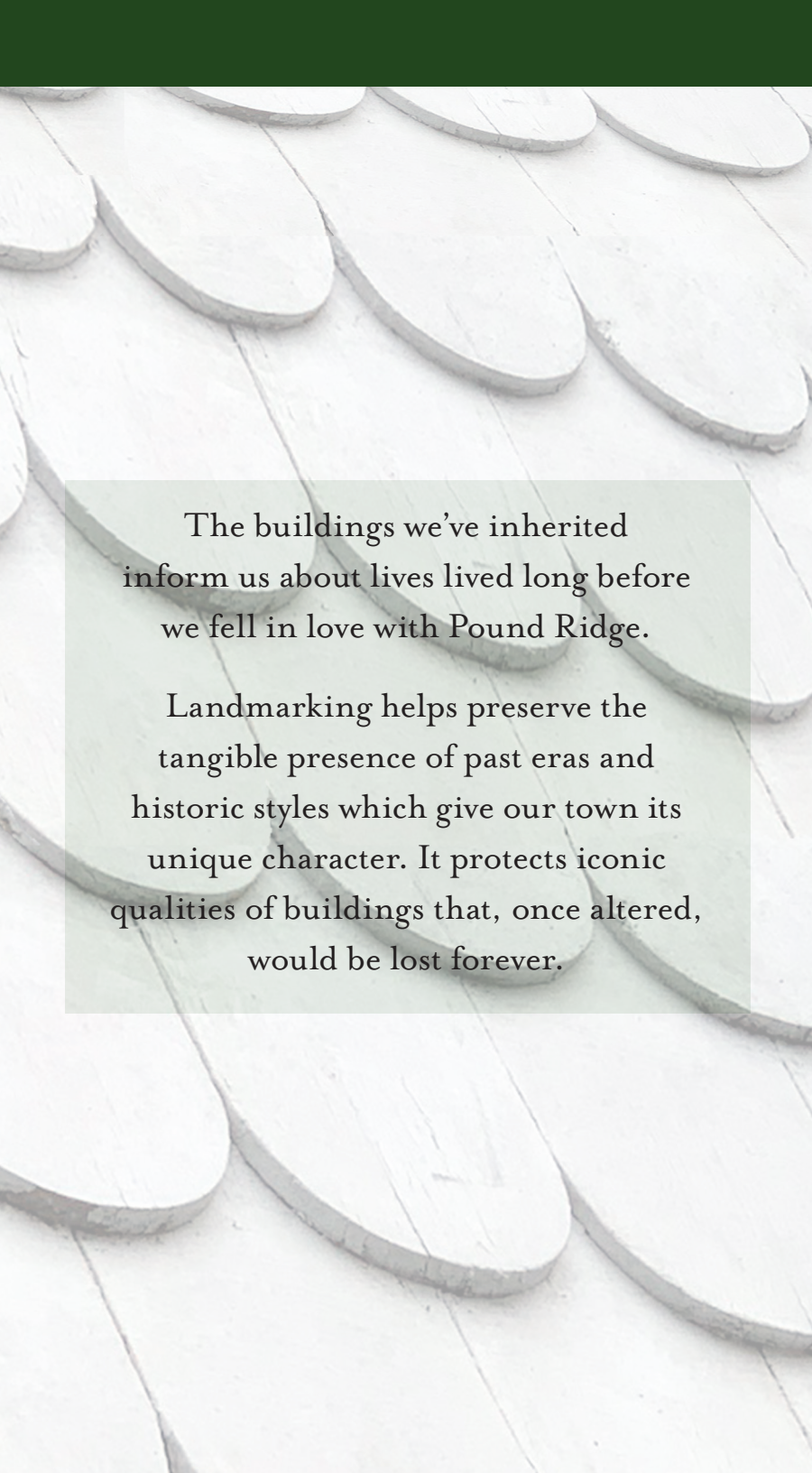
Most if not all of the landmarked properties in town date from the early days of the United States or were part of the extensive renovation and revitalization work undertaken by Hiram Halle in the 1930s and '40s. However, numerous other structures and perhaps districts are likely to be eligible, including properties associated with the town's many notable residents of the past, and many of the four dozen Mid-century Modern houses for which Pound Ridge is known.

Achieving landmark status requires the approval and cooperation of the property owner, or in the case of an historic district, the consent of 70 percent of the homeowners in the district. Landmark designation follows an application to the Commission and a public hearing. The owners of landmark buildings are awarded a plaque to display on an exterior wall and a certificate of designation.

Once a building is landmarked, exterior alterations visible from the road require a Certificate of Appropriateness, which the Landmarks Commission grants after working with the owners to ensure that the alterations maintain the building's historic character. The Commission strives to balance homeowners' needs with preservation goals, working in good faith and with a spirit of cooperation.

It's a satisfying, collaborative and engaging process that has stood the test of time since the nation's Bicentennial. The results are visible for all to see, and help make Pound Ridge the beautiful town that drew you to it.





The buildings we've inherited
inform us about lives lived long before
we fell in love with Pound Ridge.

Landmarking helps preserve the
tangible presence of past eras and
historic styles which give our town its
unique character. It protects iconic
qualities of buildings that, once altered,
would be lost forever.



Learn more about Landmarking in Pound Ridge

Find us online:


townofpoundridge.com > click on boards and commissions
> Landmarks and Historic District Commission

All communications regarding the Landmarks and
Historic District Commission can be directed to:

Carol A. Cioppa AIA LEED AP, Chair
Pound Ridge Landmarks & Historic District Commission
LandmarksChair@townofpoundridge.com
914 764 5511 – Pound Ridge Town House

The Town Code of Pound Ridge has specific information on
Landmarking and what the Landmarks Commission does:

townofpoundridge.com > Your Government > Town Code
> Chapter 17 – Historic Districts



Preserve the Past, Protect the Future

Landmarks and Historic District Commission
Town of Pound Ridge