

APPENDIX B

Guidelines for Boundary Identification

BOUNDARY SELECTION:

Boundary description is necessary when a nomination includes one or more structures on a single site, or includes the site itself as significant due to a geographic feature, historic event or activity. Examples are a battle location or a Native American encampment. Select boundaries to encompass, but not to exceed, the full extent of the significant resources and land area making up the property.

You may use one or more of the following techniques to describe properties:

- A. Legally recorded boundary lines.
- B. Natural topographic features, such as ridges, valleys, rivers, and forests.
- C. Manmade features, such as stone walls; hedgerows; the curb lines of highways, streets, and roads, alleys, and areas of new construction.
- D. For large properties, topographic features, contour lines, or section lines may be used.

TIPS FOR DETERMINING BOUNDARIES OF HISTORIC DISTRICTS:

Select boundaries to encompass the single area of land containing the significant concentration of buildings, sites, structures, or objects making up the district. The district's significance and historic integrity should help determine the boundaries. Consider the following factors:

- A. Visual barriers that mark a change in the historic character of the area or that break the continuity of the district, such as new construction, highways, or development of a different character.
- B. Visual changes in the character of the area due to the different architectural styles, types or periods, or to a decline in the concentration of contributing resources.
- C. Boundaries at a specific time in history, such as the original city limits or the legally recorded boundaries of a housing subdivision, estate, or ranch.

D. Clearly differentiated patterns of historical development, such as commercial versus residential or industrial.

A HISTORIC DISTRICT MAY HAVE DISCONTINUOUS ELEMENTS
ONLY UNDER THE FOLLOWING CIRCUMSTANCES:

- A. When visual continuity is not a factor of historic significance, when resources are geographically separate, and when the intervening space lacks significance: for example, a cemetery located outside a rural village.
- B. When human constructed resources are interconnected by natural features that are excluded from designation.
- C. When a portion of the district has been separated by intervening development or highway construction and when the separated portion has sufficient significance and integrity to meet the criteria for landmark designation.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

For all properties, provide a brief and concise explanation of the reasons for selecting the boundaries. The reasons should be based on the property's historic significance and integrity and should conform to the boundary description.

The complexity and length of the justification depends on the nature of the property, the irregularity of the boundaries, and the methods used to determine the boundaries. For example, a city lot retaining its original property lines can be justified in a short sentence. A paragraph may be needed where boundaries are very irregular, where large portions of historic acreage have been lost, or where a district's boundaries are ragged because of new construction.

Sample boundary justification: *The boundary includes the farmhouse, outbuildings, fields, orchards, and forest that have historically been a part of the Meadowbrook Farm and that maintain historical significance. The parcel of the original farming operation south of Highway 61 has been excluded because it has been subdivided and developed into a residential neighborhood.*