

### THE DARIEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY DBA MUSEUM OF DARIEN

# DARIEN PLAQUE PROGRAM FOR HISTORIC HOUSES OR ARCHITECTURALLY SIGNIFICANT HOUSES

### A plaque transforms your noteworthy house, without restrictions.

As of 2025, the Museum of Darien expanded its House Plaque Program from assessing the age of a house, to include the most important architectural styles of houses in Darien from any century. A plaque is an honor awarded to recognize the finest houses in the following categories: historical age, architectural style, and historical events.

There is pride in these special plaqued houses as part of Darien's permanent historical record.

All plaques on houses are for honorary purposes only and have absolutely no restrictions on painting, moving to another site in Darien , selling, or additions.

There are two categories of plaques: Antique Houses: c. 1700 to c. 1900

20th & 21st Century Houses to present

### **General Criteria for Antique Houses:**

- · Age of House
- Designed by acclaimed architect
- Found in Museum of Darien Archives or Plaque Program\*
- Listed in NAPS-Natural & Architectural Preservation Survey\*
- Listed in National Register of Historic Places
- Representation of key architectural style as identified in Darien Observed A Guide for our Future Heritage\*
- Registered Darien Town Landmark
- Included as part of a Darien Village District Zone
- **Key Architectural Elements** recognizable at street elevation (ref 1970 NAPS book images)
- Meets criteria of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation
- Endorsement by a Certified Architect, Historian or Preservationist

### General Criteria for Architecturally Significant 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> CenturyHouses:

- · Age of House
- Designed by acclaimed architect
- · A good representation of a recognized architectural style
- Meets criteria of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards
- · Architectural Style see attached list
- Endorsement by a Certified Architect, Historian or Preservationist

#### Instructions:

Please complete the Plaque Application in digital or printed form, and return it by regular mail, by hand, or by email to ekoch@museumofdarien.org

Please provide photographs, digital or standard, of the front facade of the home and of additional sides of the home.

Please include copies of any other documents or images that would be helpful in reviewing your building and its history for a plaque.

If applicable, enclose a copy of your house listing in the Natural Architectural Preservation Survey (NAPS) that was done in 1980. The Museum has the NAPS books in their library.

The Museum will take the following into consideration in reviewing plaque eligibility:

- 1. Where the structure fits into architectural history in terms of its age and whether it is a good example of a style.
- 2. Existence and condition of architectural and stylistic elements.
- 3. How much of the original architectural integrity remains, including the existence or absence of original materials, design features and the existence, proportions as well locations of later additions or alterations.
- 4. Whether the structure is associated with an event or person that has made a significant contribution to either the history of Darien, nationally or internationally.

The total cost of the plaque with application is \$350.

The Plaque Committee will notify applicants within 2 months of application date.

Your Search: Land, tax and title records can be researched at the Town Clerk's Office, Room 101 at Darien Town Hall.

Warranties of Deeds since 1969 can be obtained at Town Hall. Current owners can search by name as the Grantee of the Warranty Deed and find the Grantor ( the seller ) and then use this name (now a Grantee) to search for the next Grantor and repeat this process to the original owner.

Darien's records go back to 1820, Darien's year of incorporation. Older Darien records are in Stamford, CT. Please keep your research notes handy for our review of your Application.

Plaques will be presented at Museum of Darien's Annual Meeting each year in October, or can be picked up when notified.

Applications will not be accepted if the House is currently, or soon to be, on the market or if your House has any liens from the Town of Darien.

### DARIEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY/ MUSEUM OF DARIEN

# DARIEN PLAQUE PROGRAM HISTORIC HOUSES OR ARCHITECTURALLY SIGNIFICANT HOUSES

Name:		
Address:		
Email:	Phone:	
Building Date (source: owner /	town / other)	
Renovation Dates:		
Original Owner name:		
Architectural Style:		
	Describe Current Material / Style	Describe Original Material / Style (if known)
Exterior siding:		
Roof		
Windows (double hung, casement, # of sash/muntins)		
Shutters (describe - slates, panels)		
Porches, entrances, or porte-cocheres:		
Interior walls (plaster or wallboard)		
Fireplaces (include numberand style)		
Moldings, doors, and ceilings		
Foundation, stone walls and wells		
Barns and outbuildings (number and style)		

### DARIEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY/ MUSEUM OF DARIEN

## DARIEN PLAQUE PROGRAM HISTORIC HOUSES OR ARCHITECTURALLY SIGNIFICANT HOUSES

### Architectural styles include:

1750-1800: Neoclassical, Gothic Revival, Adam style, Pombaline style, Federal

1800-1850: Italienate, Empire, Egyptian Revival, Regency, American Empire, Moorish Revival,

Biedermeier, Tudorbethan, Victorian, Jacobethan, Romanesque revival,

Queenslander, Greek revival, Neo-Grec

1850-1900: Swiss Chalet style, Arts & Crafts, Beaux Arts, Second Empire, Queen Anne, Shin-

gle, Richardson Romanesque, American Renaissance, Modernisme

1900-1950: Prairie, Edwardian, National Romantic, Futurism, Nordic Classicism, Expression-

ism, Amsterdam School, Modernism, Spanish Colonial Revival, Constructivism, Bauhaus, Mediterranean Revival, Egyptian Revival, Fascist, Art Deco, International

Style, Streamline Moderne, Stalinist, Ursonian

1950-2000: Mid-Century Modern, Brutalism, Post Modernism, Shed Styles, High-Tech,

Arcology, Neo-Futurism

**2000-Present:** New Classical, Sustainable, Neo-Modern, Blobitecture, Contemporary,

Parametricism, Deconstructivism

#### Sources of Information:

Information on architectural styles can be found in <u>How Old Is this House</u>? (Hugh Howard) and in <u>Darien Observed</u>, that are both in our library collection. There are many sources for style information online, including:

Glossary of Architectural Terms, from New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission Rowhouse Manual (http://www.nyc.gov/html/lpc/html/glossary/glossary.shtml)

Glossary of architecture, from Wikipedia (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glossary\_of\_architecture) Ontario Architecture Website (http://www.ontarioarchitecture.com/).

Any building elements or unique attributes not previously listed:			
Exterior and interior alterations and additions with approximate dates (Please describe and identify what was changed and the locations):			
Please indicate location of exterior additions by sketching a plan below giving street and compass orientations:			
Please tell us why you think the house should be granted/ awarded a plaque:			

Please list the original owner of the land when house was built, with subsequent owners in order if possible, with the Land Record Volume Number and pages where this information was recorded, if applicable (please attach a copy of land record and title work sheets from your research):
Are there any descendants living in Darien at the present time (if so, please name)?
Were thereany residents in the house such as political or military figures, clergy, writers, actors, painters, or musicians?
Was the house a place of public interest such as a tavern, shop, school?
Would you be willing for a special group tour of your house?
Would you agree to have the facts in this application published?

### THIS SECTION BELOW TO BE FILLED OUT BY THE ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE

Field Notes:		
Approved By:	Date:	
Marian Castell, MoD Board Member, Darien Town Historia	an <i>Ex-Officio</i>	
Neil Hauck, Founder of Neil Hauck Architects, LLC		
Sarah Lexow Keena, Darien Town Historian, MoD Board M	Member Ex-Officio	
Emiky Koch, Assistant Director, MoD		

### PLEASE RETURN TO:

EMILY KOCH
EKOCH@MUSEUMOFDARIEN .ORG

Museum of Darien 45 Old Kings Highway North Darien, CT 06820

(203) 655-9233