

## Researching the History of Your Property

Who	Information Resources to Use
Built, designed, owned or commissioned it (client)? Owns, regulates, or manages it now?	Architectural Guidebooks; Landscape Guidebooks; Periodical Articles; Newspaper Articles; Archives; City Directories
Lived in or used it or worked in it? In the present?	City and Neighborhood Histories; Company Histories; City Directories
Lived in the neighborhood when it was built? Lives there now?	City Directories; Interviews & Oral Histories
Were the important people associated with this place? And now?	Architecture Biographical Dictionaries; Landscape Architecture Biographical Dictionaries; State and Local Biographical Sources
What	Information Resources to Use
Type of building or place is it? Are the precedents for it?	Architectural Guidebooks; Landscape Guidebooks; Building Styles; Building Types; Building & Landscape Types
Was the original function or use of the place?	City Directories; City Histories; Neighborhood Histories
Additional or changed functions has it had?	Sanborn & Other Fire Insurance Maps
Style is it; how does its style fit in the history of design?	Architectural Guidebooks; Landscape Guidebooks; Architectural Histories; Style Guides; American Architecture
Activities went on in the neighborhood when it was built? Current activities take place there?	Newspapers; City & Neighborhood Histories; General Plans
Was the political, regulatory, and economic environment in which it was built?	Newspapers; Zoning & Building Codes; Public Records; City Histories; General Plans
Are its features, materials or plants, and what do these choices signify?	Observation; Architecture Dictionaries; Landscape Architecture Dictionaries; Garden Plants; Archives
Is the (often invisible) structure under or behind the design?	Guidebooks; Archival Drawings; Plans, Photos
Important events happened here?	City Histories; Guidebooks; Newspapers
Condition is it in?	Observation; Public Records
Was there before it was built?	Maps; City Histories; Neighborhood Histories; Photos
Where	Information Resources to Use
Is it now?	Maps
Was it originally (as city grew & change)?	Historic Maps; Sanborn Maps
Did the construction materials originate?	Products & Trade Catalogs; Architectural & Neighborhood Histories; Archives; Newspapers
Does it fit technologically (typical or advanced for the time)?	Histories of Bldg Tech, Bldg Materials and Construction; Landscape Materials

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Why	Information Resources to Use
Was it built or designed?	Newspaper & Periodical Articles; Archives; General Plans
Was it built or designed in this specific location?	Census Data; Sanborn Maps; Architectural Histories; General Plans
Was it built or designed to look the way it does; what was the designer's intention?	Interviews; Works on Architects; Works on the Landscape Architect; Architectural Style Guides; Archives
Is and was it important or significant?	Architectural Guidebooks; Landscape Guidebooks; City Histories; Neighborhood Histories; Cultural Histories; General Plans
When	Information Resources to Use
Was it constructed?	Sanborn Maps; Architectural Guidebooks; Landscape Guidebooks; Archives; Public Records
Was it altered?	Newspaper & Periodical Articles; Public Records; Architectural Guidebooks; Landscape Guidebooks
Were buildings around it constructed; which were there when the place was new?	Photos; Architectural Guidebooks; Landscape Guidebooks; City Histories; Neighborhood Histories
How	Information Resources to Use
Did people respond to it originally?	Newspaper & Periodical Articles; Diaries; Oral Histories; Films, Videos
Do people respond to it now?	Interviews; City Histories; Neighborhood Histories
Did it affect the neighborhood or people in the community?	Sanborn Maps; Interviews; Public Records; Newspaper Articles
Did/do neighborhood people influence its design or use?	Newspaper & Periodical Articles; Observation; Public Records
Does it compare to similar places elsewhere?	Architectural Guidebooks; Landscape Guidebooks; Archives
Does it relate to its landscape or setting?	Newspaper & Periodical Articles; Observation; Archives
Was the topography altered to accommodate this place; how was it accomplished?	Topographic Maps; Photos; Neighborhood Histories
Much did it cost to build? Was it expensive?	Archives; Public Records; Newspapers
Does it fit in the designer's body of work (typical? a departure? have signature details?)	Works on the Landscape Architect; Works on the Architect
Does it look now compared to original appearance?	Archives; Photos; City Histories; Architectural Histories