

Handwritten mark

To: Sonna Loewenthal, Assistant Town Manager for Development
From: David Parham, Planner
Subject: National Register and Local Historic Districts
Date: January 7, 1982

I will try to briefly commit to paper an explanation of the differences between the local and National Register historic districts in Chapel Hill.

Chapel Hill National Register Historic District:

- listed in National Register of Historic Places by U.S. Department of the Interior.
- Includes Battle Park, portion of North Campus, the Boundary/Hooper Lane neighborhood, and Franklin/Rosemary from Post Office east to Park Place.
- No protection for National Register properties other than through Federal Environmental Review procedures for Federally-funded or licensed projects. Private owners of National Register properties can do anything they so desire to their property.
- A National Register property owner is eligible for Federal income tax incentives for property rehabilitation if the work is approved by the National Park Service.

Local Historic District:

- Created by local ordinance under state enabling legislation.
- Exceeds National Register District on west, north, and east and is smaller on the south (does not include the campus and Battle Park). They overlap in the Franklin/Rosemary and Boundary/Hooper areas.
- Protected by Historic District Commission authority and governed by design guidelines.
- If the local historic district ordinance and the district's historic and architectural significance are certified by U.S. Department of Interior, property owners may receive the same tax benefits as National Register property owners. Thus, under current circumstances, all property owners in Chapel Hill's local historic district are not afforded the same benefits because those outside the overlap area cannot take the tax incentives.