Finding Your Building’s History

If you need help researching the history of your building or home, the Historic Property Surveys, created by the Chatham Historical Commission and the Town of Chatham, are a great resource. They cover many, but not all of the properties in Chatham.

You can access the surveys online at http://mhc-macris.net, the Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System (MACRIS). This online system allows you to search the Massachusetts Historical Commission database for information on historic properties and areas in the Commonwealth.

The hard copy of the property surveys can be accessed at the Eldredge Public Library (564 Main Street, Chatham). Please contact the Reference Librarian (508-945-5170) if you need assistance either online or with the forms.

Mounting Your Sign

You are encouraged to mount your historic house sign on your building’s exterior, preferably at eye level on either side of the front door or door facing the street.

Eligibility

Only Chatham buildings 100 years old and older are approved by the Historical Commission as eligible for an official Historic House sign - not to be confused with the round Chatham Tercentennial Commemorative plaque.

How Many Buildings are Eligible?

The Historical Commission recognizes about 650 taxable Chatham buildings eligible for signs.

Why are These Signs Important?

They are visible histories that identify earliest predecessors, show the changes brought by time, connect us directly to years and centuries past, and strengthen the sense of history that makes Chatham such a very special place.

Need Help?

Contact us at housesignquery092@gmail.com

CHATHAM HISTORIC HOUSE SIGNS ORDER FORM

Print and complete this form and mail or bring your check and copy of the history record to:

CHATHAM SIGN SHOP | 40 KENT PLACE, CHATHAM MA 02633

Size: 11" x 7-1/2", Drilled for Mounting
Material: Durable White PVC & Black Vinyl Letters
Price: $85 (includes tax)
Additional Charge for Installation
Hardware: 2 Stainless Steel Screws & Covers for Exterior Wall Mounting

For questions about payment, delivery and installation, contact
Chatham Sign Shop | 508-945-1909

For all other questions, email
housesignquery092@gmail.com

The Chatham Historical Commission has approved the design of the historic house sign and determined eligibility. The Town and the Commission have no financial interests in the House Sign programs. Thus, the responsibility for coordination of the ordering, payment, delivery and installation rests solely between the historic building owners and the Chatham Sign Shop.