



Comparison Chart of Four Types of Historic Districts in Virginia

	National Historic Landmark District	National Register Historic District	Virginia Landmarks Register Historic District	Locally Designated Historic District
Legal Authorization	Historic Sites Act of 1935; Code of Federal Regulations - 36 CFR 65.5	National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended; Code of Federal Regulations - 36 CFR 60	§10.1-2206 of the Code of Virginia	§15.2-2306 of the <i>Code of Virginia</i> <u>and</u> local ordinance
Program Administrator	National Park Service (NPS)	National Park Service, in partnership with Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR)	Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR)	Local government
Application Process	Property owner(s) apply directly to NPS	Property owner(s) apply first to DHR, then NPS	Property owner(s) apply only to DHR	Property owner(s) apply only to local government
Process for Objecting to or Supporting District Designation	Yes – managed by NPS	Yes – managed by NPS in partnership with DHR	Yes – managed by DHR	Yes – managed by local government
Eligible for Preservation Incentives	Yes – Federal and State Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits; State Historic Preservation Easements	Yes – Federal and State Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits; State Historic Preservation Easements	Yes – Federal and State Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits; State Historic Preservation Easements	Yes – incentives are authorized by the <u>local</u> government; may include signage, plaque programs, tax abatements, heritage tourism, enterprise zone designation, or other programs
Historic District can be Designated at More than One Level	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Boundaries of Historic Districts Must Match at all Levels of Designation	No	No	No	No
Same Criteria are Used at All Levels of Designation	No	National Register and VLR Criteria often match, but are not required to do so	National Register and VLR Criteria often match, but are not required to do so	No
Designation of One Type of Historic District Automatically Leads to Other Designations	No	No	No	No
Requires Federal Government to Take into Account Impacts Caused by Federally Licensed, Permitted, or Funded Projects	Yes	Yes	Yes	No



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Provides Automatic Protection from Any or All Development, Demolition, or Other Threats	No	No	No	No
Automatically Results in Higher Taxes or Higher Property Values	No	No	No	No
Can Include Regulations on Private Property	No	No	No	Yes – typically through planning, zoning, and permitting processes. All regulations are created by the <u>local</u> government.
Can Restrict Private Property Owner’s Use of Property	No	No	No	Yes – by local government
Can Require Oversight of Private Property by an Architectural Review Board	No	No	No	Yes – typically to implement design guidelines and review proposed changes within the district. ARB duties are determined only by the <u>local</u> government.
Can Require a Property Owner to Maintain or Repair Property to a Certain Standard	No	No	No	Yes – typically through design guidelines and an architectural review board (ARB)
Places Regulatory Limits on a Private Property Owner’s Ability to Buy, Sell, or Lease Private Property	No	No	No	No
Places Regulatory Limits on a Private Property Owner’s Ability to Develop their Property	No	No	No	Property development is governed at the local level and typically includes planning, zoning, permitting, and inspection processes, <u>regardless</u> of whether the property is historic. A locally designated district also may be subject to review by an ARB, subject to local government ordinance.