

- Occupancy, usage and other zoning issues are not reviewed, nor are any interior alterations.

How Do I File an Application?

We recommend you consult with planning staff prior to application. No building or demolition permit may be granted for exterior work in the district without a certificate from the Historic District Commission.

Applications can be obtained from the Department of Planning and Community Development at Billerica Town Hall.

Questions?

You can find more information at www.town.billerica.ma.us/HistoricPreservation. If you have further questions please contact the Town of Billerica's **Planning and Community Development Office** at (978) 671-0962 or email at planning@town.billerica.ma.us.

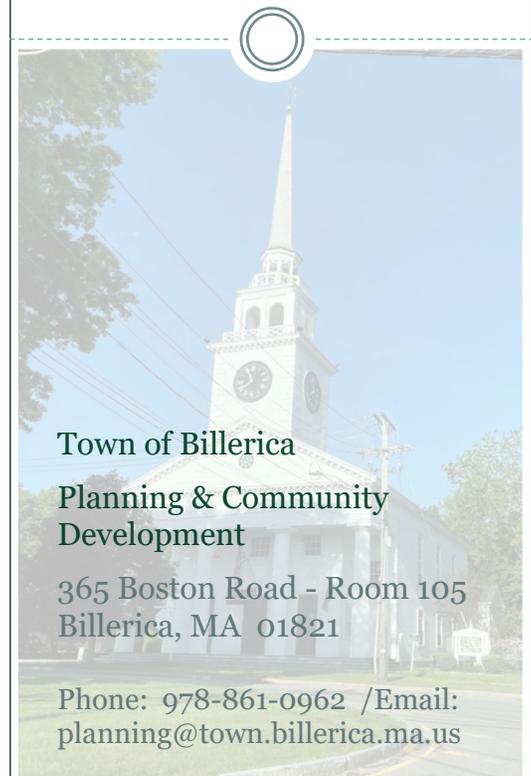


Town of Billerica
Planning & Community
Development
365 Boston Road - Room 105
Billerica, MA 01821

Mailing Label



Town of Billerica HISTORIC DISTRICTS



Town of Billerica

Planning & Community
Development

365 Boston Road - Room 105
Billerica, MA 01821

Phone: 978-861-0962 /Email:
planning@town.billerica.ma.us

www.town.billerica.ma.us/
Historic Preservation



Why do we have historic districts?

Local Historic Districts are established by municipalities under the authority of Chapter 40C of the Massachusetts General Laws and have three major purposes:

- To preserve and protect the distinctive characteristics of the buildings and places significant to the history of the Commonwealth's cities and towns.
- To maintain and improve the settings of those places.
- To encourage compatibility with existing buildings when new buildings are planned within the district.

[www.town.billerica.ma.us/
Historic Preservation](http://www.town.billerica.ma.us/HistoricPreservation)

Local Historic District Commissions do not prevent all changes from occurring, nor do they prevent new construction. Their purpose is to ensure that changes and additions are harmonious, and to prevent changes that might detract from the aesthetic and historic values of the district. The Commission simply allows for the careful consideration of change.

Who is on the Historic District Commission?

The Commission consists of seven members and up to seven alternate members appointed by the Select Board to three-year terms. The Commission is required by law to review the appropriateness of most exterior design changes, additions, new construction, and demolition.

Does the Historic District Affect My Property Value?

Your decision to purchase a property in the historic district was a sound financial move. Historic districts help protect property values. Studies by the National Trust for Historic Preservation have shown that historic districts bring consistency to the maintenance of property values. In districts throughout the country, realtors report that preservation and conservation efforts, supported by historic designation or actually increase property values.

What if I Want to Make Changes to My Home?

Any owner/resident within the district contemplating work on any part of his/her property that is “visible from a public way” should notify the Historic District Commission. Changes that require review include:

- Work includes any alterations, new construction, restoration, removal, demolition or changes in exterior composition.
- Historic District Guidelines include, but are not limited to, architectural style, general arrangement and setting, building materials, style of windows, lights, signs and other exterior features.
- Only exterior property changes that are visible from a street or public place are included.



Gerrit H. Bennink House—Andover Road