

# HISTORIC HOMES COMMITTEE

## VILLAGE OF BABYLON HISTORICAL & PRESERVATION SOCIETY





# **CIRCA BOARD APPLICATION**

Applicant/Owner Name
Street Address
Phone Number
E Mail Address
SIGNIFICANCE
Original Owner (if known)
Date of Initial Construction
ArchitectBuilder
HISTORICAL & ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE
LIST OF EARLY PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE STRUCTURE:
LIST MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND DATES (if known)
RELATED OUTBUILDINGS (i.e.: Barn, Carriage House, garage, privy, shed)

Please mail form to P.O. Box 484, Babylon, NY 11702. One of our committee members will contact you. MISSION STATEMENT of the Historic Homes Committee:

- To research and preserve the history of historic homes and structures in the Village of Babylon
- To create a set of guidelines for collecting research information
- To compile research information about historic homes and structures.
- To educate the public, and homeowners about the vast amount of local history in and about historic homes and structures in the Village of Babylon.



House or structure must be at least 100 years old and have maintained some historically significant architectural style.

- 1. Please fill out the application. If available, attach copies of any pictures or documents that help date the house or disclose the history of the house.
- 2. Return completed application to the Village of Babylon Historical & Preservation Society, 117 W. Main Street, Babylon (mailing address: P.O. Box 484, Babylon, NY 11702).
- 3. Once a Circa Board application is verified by the Historic Homes Committee (HHC), the applicant pays \$200 to VBHPS (cash or check). The applicant will receive a Circa Board and a custom survey of historical research, including maps, newspaper articles (primarily about the original person/family), house builder (if avail.), photos (if avail.). The Fee of \$200 includes one-year membership to the Historical Society.

### FAQs: What are Circa Boards?

The Village of Babylon Historical & Preservation Society (VBHPS) has a program to recognize structures that are at least 100 years old. The word "circa" means approximately. Homeowners who can prove the approximate date that their house was built, and the structure reflects its historic character, may complete an application for a Circa Board to be displayed on their house.

## FAQs: Does a Circa Board mean that I cannot alter my home?

No. The Circa Board program has no connection with Village of Babylon building codes. Having a Circa Board does not restrict homeowners from making building alterations, and homeowners should consult the Village of Babylon if there are questions about building alterations (e.g. permits).



Circa Board example. The VBHPS logo is laser engraved on a wood plaque, and the circa date is hand painted.

The display of a Circa Board reflects that a building is connected to the Village's past, through its age and historic research. Buildings that qualify for Circa Boards typically display the characteristics of historic architecture (e.g., stained-glass windows, double-leafed doors, corbels). Although there is no legal restriction from altering a building, it is hoped that any modifications would not change a building's historic character.

#### FAOs: How are the names given to these historic houses?

The HHC typically assigns the name of the first owner of the house. If the names of both the husband and wife were recorded on the deed, HHC will use both of their names in titling the residence. However, if only one of their names was recorded on the deed, then the historic name will be reflected.

#### FAQs: Where does the Historic Homes Committee get information about these historic houses?

The HHC uses many public records and resources, including land records, maps, and historic newspaper databases. In 1980, the Village of Babylon engaged a group of historic preservation experts to inventory about 470 buildings, structures and sites of potential historic value. The survey reports do not always have verified information, but they are a good starting point for researching structures.

For more information, or to submit an application, please email the HHC at <u>BVHistoricHomes@gmail.com</u> or call the historical society at 631-669-1756.