

HANDOUT:

Documentation and Significance of Historic Buildings.

In your historic building report, you will want to collect as much of the following information as possible:

1. Street address or geographic location of your building. A map would be one method of doing this.



2. Physical description of the building. This could be a photo, a drawing, a model, a painting or a written architectural description.



3. History of why the building is important (eg. construction date, architect, architectural style, construction system, important person or event). You can do research in your local archives, library, city hall or through on-line archives.



4. Your summary of the heritage value of the building. Heritage value refers to the aesthetic, historic, scientific, cultural, social, or spiritual importance or significance for past, present or future generations.



5. List the elements of the building that you think, if lost, would destroy the heritage value of the building. These are called its character-defining elements and may include the building's massing, façade, location, spatial configuration, colour, details such as windows, doors, cladding or perhaps it's past or current uses, and cultural associations or meanings.

