

Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) Guidelines for Recording Attached and Semi-Attached Buildings

Historic resources survey, whether as a stand-alone project or as part of an historic district inventory, helps identify which properties contribute to a community's character, illustrate its development, or provide information about its past. With this information, planners work together with community members to establish goals for preservation and future development.

When surveying attached and semi-attached buildings, both architectural elements of these resources and their property boundaries must be taken into account. This document provides visual guidance for recording resources such as rowhouses, duplexes, attached commercial buildings and other attached and semi-attached buildings.



Rowhouses/townhouses (whether attached or semi-attached) where shared walls also denote parcel boundaries are recorded as individual resources.



Duplexes that share a common wall and are within a single parcel are surveyed as a single resource. Likewise, a triple-decker multiple family dwelling, with one living unit per floor, is recorded as a single resource.



A single-family dwelling, warehouse, or other building subdivided to house multiple families or a group of offices is recorded as an individual resource.



A residential resource originally designed to house multiple families, such as an apartment or condominium building, is recorded as an individual resource whether entries to individual units are from interior shared corridors or exterior shared walkways.



A commercial building originally designed to accommodate a single dwelling, business, warehouse, etc. that has been subdivided to house multiple shops, offices, or dwellings is recorded as an individual resource.



A commercial resource originally designed to house multiple storefronts or offices, such as a strip mall or shopping center, is recorded as an individual resource whether entries to individual units are from interior shared corridors or exterior shared walkways.

Additional guidance can be found by visiting:

[Technical Guidance and Frequently Asked Questions for Preparing National Register Nominations](#)

For questions, please contact:

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