

Part 1: Regulatory Preservation Tools and Strategies

(alphabetical order)
Draft August 8, 2014

Tool	Regulates	Benefits	Type / Extent	Adoption	Administration	Examples	Statute or Authority
Barn Easement RSA 79-D	Municipality grants property tax relief to owners of historic barns in exchange for preservation easement	Public benefit in preserving historic agricultural structures. Assessed value of barn is reduced, reducing property tax.	Authorized by state statute	Barn owner applies to selectmen or city council by April 15 of year in which tax relief is desired.	Board of selectmen, heritage commission, or other.	87 towns in NH now have at least one. Hopkinton, Cornish, Jaffrey,	RSA 79-D
Demolition Review Ordinance	Provides for a process in a fixed period of time (usu 30 – 90 days) to explore alternatives to demolition for significant historic structures.	Provides collaborative forum, early on in building permit process, to respond to immediate threat of loss and work with owner toward better outcomes.	May apply to entire community or to limited designated area (local Historic District or NHD would have similar provision)	Usually adopted as amendment to Building Code; review triggered in several ways linked to building permit or site plan review.	Usually administered by Heritage Commission. Allows time (30 - 90 days) to evaluate significance, hold public hearing, work with owner, and if necessary, document and salvage building elements.	Concord, Keene, Exeter, Laconia, Stratham, Weare, Windham	
Design Review (Architectural Review)	Provides level of design review at beginning of building process to maintain uniform design standards; especially helpful to developers	Manages the appearance of new construction and rehabilitation, protects existing character, and articulates community vision	Process is same within local historic district		Design review committee reviews applications and makes recommendation to Planning Board.	Concord, Meredith	
Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive RSA 79-E	Offers tax incentive for redevelopment and new investment when project preserves historic	Helps restore deteriorated downtown properties to active use, creates new	Limited to downtowns or village centers unless 2013 amended	State enabling legislation in place; must be adopted locally.	Applicant projects subject to individual review and approval by ?	Berlin, Concord, Groveton, Hopkinton, Hooksett,	

	character; may also include energy investments.	housing, improves energy efficiency of historic properties.	version has been adopted, then to entire municipality.			Manchester, Moultonborou gh, Pittsfield, Rochester, Stratham, Warner.	
Form-Based Code	Maintains setbacks, form, massing, height, and to some extent materials, without regulating specific architectural features.	For new construction, infill and major additions, helps maintain harmonious streetscape without regulating detailed aspects of historic character.	Provides alternate to traditional zoning in that form, rather than use, is specified and regulated.	Adopted as part of municipal building code. Requires less specific knowledge of historic buildings than other tools.			
Local Historic District		Manages the appearance of new construction and rehabilitation, protects existing character. Often tailored very specifically to individual locale.	Zoning Overlay or				
Neighborhood Heritage District (elsewhere known as Conservation District)	Focuses more on "character" rather than specific architectural details. Reviews major alternations, additions, new construction, demolition, or relocation. May also review landscape changes. Flexible scope determined by	Responds to local desire for means to protect existing character. High degree of citizen participation. Less restrictive than historic district. Guides new investment, manages teardowns, protects existing character	Zoning overlay district	Local group proposes and presents draft ordinance; town meeting or City Council votes (new zoning req. 60% majority).	Advisory Committee comprised of at least one resident of District meets with applicants to discuss changes. Adv. Comm. submits their recommendation to Planning Board which issues decisions.	Greenfield is only town to have proposed one in NH; did not pass in 2014. May be proposed again in 2015. Hooksett also explored concept.	

Preservation	Provides term or	May prohibit or	Individually	Legally binding	Easement holder	NH
Easement	perpetual	restrict alterations,	crafted	on current and	responsible for	Preservation
	protection for	additions,	between	future owners.	working in	Alliance,
	architectural	incompatible uses,	property	Recorded at	cooperation with	Historic New
	features or	commercial	owner and	County Registry	property owner.	England,
	elements, as	development or	easement	of Deeds	monitoring and	other
	specified. May cover	subdivision. Owner	holder;	displaced and analysis of the second second	enforcement.	entities. May
	interior or exterior	may qualify for tax	property			be in tandem
	or both.	deduction.	owner			with a
			generally pays			conservation
			all costs.			easement.
Scenic Roads	Local designation			By citizen	Planning Board has	National
	protects trees and			petition, town	authority to grant	Scenic
	stone walls situated			meeting vote.	permission for	Byways are
	in the public right-				requested cutting or	Kancamagus
	of-way from				changes.	and White
	municipal, state or					Mountains
	utility actions					loop. State
	(except on Class i					byways
	and II highways.					include
	These may be					Coastal
	designated as state					Byway and
	or national scenic					Amoskeag
	byways).					Millyard.
						Local scenic
						roads are in
						? and ?.
Site Plan		Allows site-specific				
Review		control of				
		commercial				
		development				
		projects or				
Q.		residential units of				
		3 or more.				



Part 2: Honorary, Voluntary, and Non-Regulatory Preservation Tools and Strategies

(alphabetical order) DRAFT August 8, 2014

Tool	Purpose	Benefits	Туре	Adoption or Authority	Administration	Examples	Statute or Authority
Heritage Commission	Town appointed body that advises other town boards, educates citizens, and advocates for historic resources. May own property on behalf of the town; often manages a nonlapsing Heritage Fund.	A voice for preservation that can speak on behalf of the town and can be an action and decision-making resource for the town. (Historical Societies are private non-profits and do not serve this role.)	Municipally appointed Commission, analogous to a Conservation Commission	Authorized by municipal vote	Commissions generally meets monthly	X towns including Stratham,	
Historical Resources Survey	Lists and describes all types of historic resources 50 years old or older, including buildings, bridges, cemeteries, statues, etc. or may focus on a single resource type, e.g. barns or cellar holes.	Essential tool to plan protection strategies	Reconnaissanc e or Intensive Level;	Usually carried out with NH Division of Historical Resources. Often limited by funding constraints.	Local Heritage Commission or Historic District Commission works with paid preservation consultant.	Lyme, Bow, Merrimack	
Master Plan Chapter on Historic and Cultural Resources				,		Durham, Moultonbor ough,	

National	Recognizes		Administered by		NH has x	
Historic	properties of		the NH Division		including	
Landmark	exceptional		of Historical		Mt.	
	significance to the		Resources		Washington	
	history of the		working with		Hotel,	
	nation. Provides		the national		Robert Frost	
	some protections		Park Service		Farm in	
	from federally				Derry, and	
	funded, licensed,				the village	
	or permitted				of	
	actions.				Harrisville.	
National	Recognizes		Administered by		Portsmouth,	
Register of	properties of		the NH Division		Exeter,	
Historic Places	significance to the		of Historical		Amherst,	
(District or	history of the		Resources		Hebron,	
Individual	nation. Provides	a a	working with			
Listing)	some protections		the national			
	from federally		Park Service			
	funded, licensed,					
	or permitted					
	actions					
State Register			Administered by			
of Historic			the NH Division			
Places			of Historical			
			Resources			
Voluntary		May apply to		Part of site plan	Wolfeboro	
Design Review		entire		review process		
		municipality		administered by		
		or to limited		Planning board		
		area				