



## Historic Preservation Tax Incentives Program

Technical Preservation Services  
National Park Service

### Photographs for Historic Preservation Certification Applications

---

Despite the ever-increasing sophistication of digital photography, NPS has found that many digital photographs do not provide the level of detail or clarity required for project review. While they can be acceptable for overall views, they generally fail to provide adequate resolution of details that are important sources of information.

**The best photographic documentation is conventional 35mm color photographs at least 4" x 6" in size.**

Digital photographs are acceptable only if they are:

- Taken at a high resolution.
- Printed on photographic paper, not photocopy paper. Professional printing is recommended for best results.
- Printed at least 4" x 6" in size.
- Digital photographs must be printed for submission; disks of photographs are not accepted.

Photocopied photographs (black and white or color), instant photographs, and photographs smaller than 3" x 5" are not acceptable.

Applications with photographs that are not adequate for review will be placed on hold, and applicants will need to submit better quality photographs before NPS can complete review of the application.

February 2008