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Historic properties added to state register

BELMONT — The historic Belmont Mill is one of seven properties named to the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places.

The New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources announced last week that the State Historical Resources Council has added the properties, which include three library buildings, a town hall, a one-room schoolhouse, a mill and a movie theater.

It was the third historic listing of a building in Belmont, said Linda Frawley of the Belmont Heritage Commission.

The Province Road Meeting House was listed on the state register in 2002, and the Belmont Public Library was chosen for listing on the National Register of Historic Places in 1985.

Greenland's Weeks Public Library, an example of the Colonial Revival movement in architecture, was also chosen, as was the Hampton Falls Library, which was renovated in 1901 by John T. Brown and donated to the town for use as a public library.

The Classical Revival Rye Public Library, which was donated by Rye resident Mary Tuck Rand in 1911 when Rye was one of only a few towns in the region without a library, was also picked.

Other properties chosen were Conway's Bolduc Block, widely known as the Majestic Theatre, which was built in 1931 on Main Street, continuing a 19th-century tradition of including a theater with shops and retail under one roof, and the Little Red Schoolhouse in Danville, which was built in 1834 and served the community as a school until 1901, according to register officials.



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The historic Belmont Mill was named to the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places, alongside six other Granite State properties. (COURTESY)

The Hampton Falls Town Hall, an example of Italianate architecture that was popular after the Civil War, and was the fourth building to serve as the center of town government, will also be listed in the register.

The register helps to promote the significance of historic properties in New Hampshire. Inclusion in the register can lead to special consideration and relief from some building codes and regulations, and historical designations from other groups. The register acts as a pre-qualification for grant programs, such as the state's conservation license plate grants, and New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program grants.

Anyone wishing to nominate a property to the register must research the history of the nominated property and document it fully on individual inventory forms from the state Division of Historical Resources. Having a property listed in the register does not impose restrictions on property owners. For more information, visit [nh.gov/nhdhr](http://www.nh.gov/nhdhr) (<http://www.nh.gov/nhdhr/>).

Frawley said the Belmont Mill's designation was the result of the initiative of her town's heritage commission, which culled research and records with the help of town historian emeritus Wallace Rhodes and the professional assistance of architectural historian Mae Williams, as well as town officials.

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