

Locality	Name of Historic Review Board(s)	Link to guidelines/document with relevant info	Specific details/requirements for Demolition	Related notes/comments
Abingdon, Town of	Historic Preservation Review Board	https://files-backend.assets.thrillshare.com/documents/asset/uploaded_file/5513/Toad7e7b425-be29-4833-b7ace1cf26bfe521/bar-design-review-guidelines-with-title-page-1.pdf?disposition=inline	(p 2 of pdf): Historic Preservation Review Board may require that the application include drawings prepared by a licensed architect, architectural historian, engineer or other similar expert. In the case of an application for demolition, the application shall be accompanied by drawings and specifications of the remaining and/or adjacent structure(s) and, if none, then the lot or remaining alterations on the site. Such drawings shall address the view from a public way or public place of such lot or remaining structure(s). Upon the filing of such application, the Zoning Administrator shall transmit it, with such drawings and specifications, to the Board. (A library of prior submissions is on file in the Town of Abingdon Planning Dept and is available as a resource to applicants.)	
Alexandria, City of	Board of Architectural Review, <i>guidelines adopted 1993</i>	https://media.alexandriava.gov/docs-archives/planning/info/ohadandparkegraydistrictdesignguidelines1993.pdf	Chapter 4: Demolition of Existing Structures (p 143 of pdf) Application Requirements: All applications requesting approval of demolition of historic buildings require a plot plan; reason for demolition; written history, photographs, and measured drawings and a minimum scale of 1/4"=1'....	
Arlington County	Design Review Committee; Maywood Design Guidelines Committee	https://arlingtonva.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/38/2019/08/Certificate-of-Appropriateness-Submission-Requirements-July-2019.pdf	COA submission requirements (July 2019): Demolition of Dwelling or Outbuilding - Application; Photographs; Site plan/plat; Existing Elevations; Existing Floor Plans; Existing Roof Plan	Phase I Historic Resources Inventory (HRI) Goals and Policy Objectives, adopted by Arlington County Board (2011): Require Essential [listed, eligible, and/or contributing] buildings proposed to be demolished in whole or in part through the site plan and use permit process will be subject to the most detailed level of historic documentation according to the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) standards (including a research report, measured drawings, and photographs).
Blacksburg, Town of	Review Board	https://www.blacksburg.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/2091/635973011437330000	(p3 of pdf) Relocation and Demolition Chapter: RECOMMENDED PRACTICES - Prior to building removal, undertake documentation as comprehensively as possible, using the following list as a guide: ° Photograph the present appearance (exterior, interior, and site). ° Take notes on the present appearance (exterior, interior, and site). ° Record overall dimensions of the subject building. ° Sketch out property features, including the relationship of the building to the overall site, outbuildings, historic landscaping, and adjacent properties. Consider submitting a copy of all documentation prepared on the building and site to the Town or other publicly accessible repository for archival purposes.	

Charlottesville, City of	Board of Architectural Review; <i>guidelines adopted 2012</i>	https://weblink.charlottesville.org/public/0/edoc/793069/7_Chapter%20VII%20Moving%20and%20Demolition_BAR.pdf	Guidelines for Demolition 1. Demolish a historic structure only after all preferable alternatives have been exhausted. 2. Document the building thoroughly through photographs and, for especially significant buildings, measured drawings according to Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) Standards. This information should be retained by the City of Charlottesville Department of Neighborhood Development Services and the Virginia DHR. 3. If the site is to remain vacant for any length of time, maintain the empty lot in a manner consistent with other open spaces in the districts.	
Chesapeake, City of	Board of Historic and Architectural Review; <i>guidelines adopted 2025</i>	https://www.cityofchesapeake.net/DocumentCenter/View/24315/South-Norfolk-Historic-District-Design-Guidelines-PDF	GUIDELINES FOR DEMOLITION (p. 126, South Norfolk Historic District Design Guidelines): If a COA for demolition is approved by the HARB, prior to demolition, the following steps are required to be taken at the property owner's expense: 4. Document the building and provide the materials to the City of Chesapeake to create a physical record of the historic building; documentation should meet Historic American Building Survey (HABS) Level III documentation, which includes a sketch plan, interior and exterior photographs, and a written history of the property. These should be provided to City staff electronically. 5. Any new construction proposed for the cleared lot shall be in conformance with the New Construction Guidelines outlined in Chapter 7 of this document and shall be approved by the HARB prior to issuance of a demolition permit for the contributing resource.	(Also on p. 126) Non-contributing buildings may be proposed for demolition. A COA is required from the Planning Department prior to demolishing non-contributing buildings. The applicant should be prepared to document the condition of the building to justify demolition.
Clarke County	Historic Preservation Commission; <i>guidelines drafted: 2025</i>	https://www.clarkecounty.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/14540/638987144425170000	Draft Design Guidelines by Commonwealth Preservation Group. Includes same "Demolition Guidelines" as Chesapeake City's South Norfolk guidelines, with the EXCEPTION of the HABS-level III documentation requirement.	
Culpeper, Town of	Architectural Review Board; <i>guidelines adopted 2018</i>	https://files.culpeperva.gov/Historic%20District/8.%20Historic%20District%20Handbook.pdf?t=202304110851560&t=202304110851560	(p 7 of pdf) Any property owner or representative of the property owner is required to apply for a Certificate of Finding when completing any new construction, reconstruction, alterations, restorations, or when demolishing a historic structure within the Culpeper Historic District... Submission Requirements - Application for a Certificate of Finding may be required to include the following materials: 1. Scaled drawings; 2. Facade elevations; 3. Samples of materials, if needed; 4. The scope of work for the project; 5. Specifications and details, as needed; and 6. Drawings showing context to surrounding buildings, if attached. The zoning administrator may waive part or all of this requirement for emergency repairs.	

Danville, City of	Commision of Architectural Review; <i>guidelines adopted 2026</i>	https://www.danville-va.gov/DocumentCenter/View/35212/ARDG?bidId=	<i>No specific guidelines for documentation prior to demolition found.</i> Virginia statute § 15.2-23.06 outlines the regulations regarding demolition or razing of historical sites and architectural areas. Property owners wishing to demolish or raze their property must: • Apply to the ARB for such right to demolish historic property in the ARO. • Provide proof that attempts to sell the property have been made, over an established period of time, and in accordance with the schedule established in § 15.2-23.06, Section 3.	The application must be completed in full and copies of the required supporting material must accompany the application. Required supporting information and materials vary depending upon the type of project proposal. Supporting materials to an application may include a construction plan, photographs, and material samples.
Fairfax, City of	Board of Architectural Review	https://www.fairfaxva.gov/files/assets/city/v/1/development/documents/city-of-fairfax-design-guidelines.pdf	(p115 of pdf): Depending on the architectural and historic significance of the subject building, Staff may require additional information in order to better apply these criteria. B. Steps for a Building to be Demolished 1. After receiving a Major COA from the BAR to demolish, obtain a building permit. 2. Document the building thoroughly through photographs and measured drawings according to HABS Standards. This information should be retained in the City's Dept of Community Development and Planning as well as with the Virginia DHR. 3. If the site is to remain vacant for any length of time, improve the empty lot in a manner consistent with other open space in the HOD.	
Falls Church, City of	Architectural Review Board & Historical Commission; <i>guidelines adopted 2001</i>	https://www.fallschurchva.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1535/Design-Guidelines?bidId=	2. Criteria for Demolishing the Building a. Demolish a historic building only after all preferable alternatives have been exhausted. b. Document the building thoroughly through photographs and measured drawings according to HABS standards. c. Improve the empty lot in a manner consistent with other open space in the neighborhood if the site is to remain vacant for any length of time.	
Fredericksburg, City of	Architectural Review Board; <i>guidelines adopted 2021</i>	https://www.fredericksburgva.gov/DocumentCenter/View/19744/Historic-District-Design-Guidelines	(p. 122 of pdf, 3rd para) Demolition: An on-site review by ARB members is required prior to any determination that a building or structure no longer presents an opportunity for feasible rehabilitation. As part of this process, a thorough structural analysis must be undertaken by a licensed structural engineer experienced in historic preservation work. Thorough documentation will be required of any building to be demolished; long-term neglect is not considered an adequate reason to demolish an existing building.	(p. 123 of pdf) 7th bullet under Unsafe Structures: Thorough documentation of a structure, meeting standards set by the ARB, shall be allowed prior to any demolition. Documentation may be limited to the exterior depending on the extent of hazardous conditions.... (p. 121 of pdf) 5th bullet under Relocation: Seek professional assistance in documenting the building. All documentation must be submitted to the ARB for review. Documentation should include interior and exterior photographs. A record of careful measurements of the building will be beneficial to any substantial reconstruction project once the building is moved.
Herndon, Town of	Heritage Preservation Review Board; <i>guidelines adopted 1990</i>	https://www.herndon-va.gov/home/showdocument?id=1693	(p 188 of pdf): Guidelines for Demolition: Note: If demolition is granted and the building is removed, the following procedures should be carried out: A building permit is required which may be obtained from the Town's Building Official. The building should be thoroughly documented with photographs and measured drawings according to HABS Standards, and this information should be retained in the Town's Planning Department as well as with the Herndon Historical Society and the Virginia DHR. If the site is to remain vacant for any length of time, the empty lot should be improved in a manner consistent with other open space in the preservation district.	

Leesburg, Town of	Board of Architectural Review	https://www.leesburgva.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/1843/635477178326200000	Note on the Demolition of All Buildings and Structures 1. If the applicant successfully demonstrates that the building is a candidate for demolition, the BAR may approve the demolition request with one or more of the following conditions, depending on the circumstances surrounding the request: a. The applicant must conduct a reconnaissance or intensive-level survey in accordance with the Virginia DHR's Guidelines for Conducting Cultural Resource Surveys in Virginia.	b. The applicant must conduct a Phase I archaeological study to determine if the property yields information important in Leesburg's history. c. The applicant must demonstrate that the site will be prepared and maintained in accordance with a landscape plan once the building has been demolished. d. The demolition may occur only following receipt of a building permit for the new construction.
Lexington, City of	Architectural Review Board	https://www.lexingtonva.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/2534/638066045050770000	(p.XV-3) Recommended Steps for Demolition 1. Obtain a building permit. 2. Document the building thoroughly through photographs and measured drawings according to HABS Standards. This information should be retained in the City's Department of Planning and Development as well as with the Virginia DHR. 3. If the site is to remain vacant for any length of time, improve the empty lot in a manner consistent with other open space in the historic district. 4. Plan to salvage architectural elements, reuse building materials, and recycle any building materials that cannot be reused.	
Loudoun County	Historic District Review Committee	https://www.loudoun.gov/DocumentCenter/View/7011/k-Chapter-10-Guidelines-for-Demolition-and-Moving	1. Demolish a historic structure only after all preferable alternatives have been exhausted. 2. Document the building thoroughly through photographs and measured drawings. File this information with the Loudoun County Department of Planning and the Virginia DHR. 3. Maintain any empty lot appropriately so that it is free of hazards and trash and is well tended if the site is to remain vacant for any length of time	
Lynchburg, City of	Historic Preservation Commission	https://www.lyncburgva.gov/287/Certificate-of-Appropriateness-Design#docaccess-893dffb2ed0d326d0bc5a45e8b90caf8538f9c98c469bd5afa52de8d5821b448	No specific documentation requirements prior to demolition; focus on preventing demolition by neglect. (page 108 of guidelines) Demolition: A. Historic properties must be maintained in accordance with the standards of the Uniform Statewide Building Code (information on file with the HPC Secretary). Property owners cannot allow buildings to deteriorate by failing to provide ordinary maintenance or repair. Section 118.5 of the USBC permits the local building official to allow emergency repairs when it is determined that there is any immediate danger of a building collapsing or falling due to neglect or lack of maintenance. B. of any original feature or part of a historic building should be avoided.	C. of a building which contributes to the historic or architectural significance of a locally designated district cannot occur, unless public safety and welfare requires the removal of the building or structure;1. a building has lost its architectural and historical value and its removal will improve the appearance of the neighborhood; 2. a building does not contribute to the historical or architectural character and importance of the district and its removal will improve the appearance of the neighborhood; or 3. the applicant has been unable to sell the property after having made an honest attempt to sell the building to an individual or organization that will preserve and restore the building. 4. the property owner has applied to and received approval from the city council.

Martinsville, City	<i>guidelines adopted 2021</i>	https://www.martinsville-va.gov/DocumentCenter/View/375/2021-Historic-District-Guidelines-Updated-PDF	(p 16 of pdf): Relocation or demolition are options of last resort and require a permit from the ARB. This process applies to structures within public view as well as contributing buildings not in view. Relocation will be considered only to prevent demolition. A demolition permit for structures and buildings within Historic Districts will only be approved if the structure does not contribute to the district as a whole. Demolition by neglect will not be tolerated. If the structure is deemed unsound by the City of Martinsville Building Official, an application for a permit to demolish the building may be granted. If demolition or relocation is approved, the property owner will be required to provide written documentation of historic elements of the building, architectural elevations, plans, and photographs in compliance with the HABS standards.	
Manassas, City of	Architectural Review Board	https://cms9files.revize.com/manassasva/Community%20Development/historic%20overlay%20district/COM%20Historic%20District%20Design%20Guidelines%20(English).pdf	If demolition is granted and the building is removed, the following procedures should be carried out: 1. Before the building is demolished, the building should be thoroughly documented with photos and measured drawings and this information should be retained in the City's Planning Department as well as with The Manassas Museum and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. 2. If the site is to remain vacant for any length of time, the empty lot should be improved in a manner consistent with other open space in the historic district.	
Middleburg, Town of	Historic District Review committee; <i>guidelines adopted 2021</i>	https://www.middleburgva.gov/DocumentCenter/View/451/Historic-District-Design-Guidelines-PDF	(p. 145 of pdf): C. Additional Application Requirements: In addition to the information required for any COA application, including a plot plan accurately showing the extent of the proposed demolition, demolition requests must include: 1. Written reason for the demolition and alternatives explored; 2. For structures that are compatible, but not significant, clear record digital photographs; 3. For significant structures, items 1 and 2, plus a written history to include at a minimum the date of construction and any major alterations, information about persons or events associated with the structure, general architectural characteristics and background on the designer or architect and the builder; 4. For significant structures, document the building thoroughly through photographs and measured drawings according to HABS Standards. This information should be retained in the Town's Dept of Planning and Zoning as well as with the Virginia DHR; 5. If the site is to remain vacant for any length of time, improve the empty lot in a manner consistent with other open space in the historic district; 6. Plan to salvage architectural elements, reuse building materials, and recycle any building materials that cannot be reused.	

Newport News, City of	Hilton Village Architectural Review Board	https://www.nnva.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1321/Hilton-Village-Design-Guidelines-PDF	(p. 70 of pdf) 2) Plans to be submitted: a. All plans for new buildings and additions and alterations to existing buildings in the Historic District shall be reviewed by the architectural review board, unless otherwise provided herein. The department of planning shall be responsible for receiving applications and providing technical assistance to the board. Whenever a permit for a building, a sign, or demolition is needed within a historic district, the applicant shall submit to the board plans showing sufficient details for judgment to be made.... b. The board, where it deems it necessary in order to review a particular application, may require the submission of any or all of the following items: Architectural plans, plot plans, landscaping plans, plan for off-street parking, proposed signs, elevations of all portions of proposed structures facing streets, and elevation photographs or perspective drawings showing proposed structures and all such existing structures as are within one hundred (100) feet of the Historic District and are substantially related to it visually or by reason of function, traffic generation, or other characteristics.	
Norfolk, City of	<i>guidelines adopted 2026</i>	https://www.norfolk.gov/6540/Historic-District-Design-Guidelines-Update#docaccess-282d3174ed2d8a805a4d02bc03844f80440206fb8c8907f7dcf802de4be1c9ee	(p. 37 of pdf) Submittal requirements for a COA determined with assistance from City staff... (p 91 of pdf) Demolition specifically requires documentation of building interior and exterior with photographs to be submitted to Planning staff.	
Petersburg, City of	Architectural Review Board	https://va-petersburg.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/40/chapter11?bidId=	1. Demolish a historic building only after all preferable alternatives have been exhausted. 2. Document the building thoroughly through photographs and measured drawings according to Historic American Building Survey (HABS) Standards. This information should be retained in the town office and with the Virginia DHR. 3. If the site is to remain vacant for any length of time, improve the empty lot in a manner consistent with other open space in the historic district.	
Portsmouth, City of	Historic Preservation Commission	https://content.civicplus.com/api/assets/va-portsmouth/4f3ac0a8-5853-4550-a5e8-30ea369e0917?cache=1800	Demolish a historic structure only after all preferable alternatives have been exhausted. 2 Document the building thoroughly through photographs and measured drawings. File this information with the City of Portsmouth Planning Department and the Virginia DHR. 3 Maintain the empty lot appropriately so that it is free of hazards and trash and is well tended if it is to remain vacant for any length of time.	

Prince William County	Architectural Review Board	https://www.pwcva.gov/assets/2021-04/design_review_guidelines.pdf	<i>No specific documentation requirements prior to as a result of approved demolition</i> ; (pg 12 of guidelines pdf): Razing or demolition of a historic resource shall only be approved after all other alternatives have been considered. Razing or demolition of a contributing historical structure within a designated HOD shall be permitted only after the proper procedures have been followed. The subject structure must first be offered for sale in compliance with Section 32-502.06 (4) of the Zoning Ordinance and Section 15.2-2306 of the Code of Virginia.	(pg 6 of guidelines pdf): 2. Applicant shall submit an application for a COA as required by Section 32-502.05 of the County Zoning Ordinance. Adequate documentation must be provided. The application requires submission of the following materials in addition to any additional information necessary to best describe the proposed work [photographs, material samples; Location, dimensions, floor area and height of existing structures and proposed structures, etc.] 3. In addition to the items listed above, the application should also include: a statement of proposed use, a description of work, historic photographs if available, a site plan including topography, paving, grading (existing and proposed), exterior signs, graphics and lighting, design drawings showing building plans, elevations and sections, and proposed materials and their color. Design drawings must also include construction details of significant architectural elements such as window trim details, foundation details, eave and cornice details, porch details, etc. Photographs and/or drawings of existing conditions should also be submitted. Note that these submission materials may be in addition to those required for zoning approval or a construction permit.
Pulaski, Town of	Architectural Review Board; <i>guidelines for commercial buildings in histoirc district adopted 2020</i>	https://webgen1files.revize.com/pulaskiva/Documents/Departments/Planning%20&%20Zoning/Commerical%20Historic%20District%20Design%20Guidelines%202020.pdf	<i>No specific documentation requirements prior to as a result of approved demolition</i> ; focus on preventing demoltion by neglect, with ARB taking lead role in identifying decaying properties for enforcement (see p 129 of pdf)	In addition to general compliance with local health and safety codes, Pulaski's zoning regulations require that all buildings and structures in the Historic District be preserved against decay and deterioration and maintained free from structural defects that would, in the opinion of the ARB, result in irreparable damage to any building or part of a building within the district that would produce a detrimental effect upon the building or character of the district as a whole...The ARB will notify property owners by certified or registered mail of specific instances of failure to maintain or repair properties within the district. Property owners will be given an opportunity to appear before the ARB to propose remedial action to correct the cited condition. The owner or person in charge of the property will then have 90 days to correct the violation. If the condition is not corrected within that time frame, each additional day that the property remains in violation will constitute a separate offense and is punishable by a fine (see Chapter 13.6. Violations for additional information). Alternatively, if the owner fails to act, the ARB may order the Administrator, after due notice to the owner, to enter the property and make necessary repairs to preserve the integrity and safety of the structure. The reasonable costs of such repairs will be placed as a lien against the property or, in a proper hardship case, paid by the Town from a fund established for such purposes.

Richmond, City of	Commission of Architectural Review	https://www.rva.gov/sites/default/files/2022-04/Old_Historic_District_Guidelines.pdf	<i>No specific guidelines addressing the documentation prior to demolition, though all submissions state need for plans, drawings, elevations, etc.</i> (pg 86 of pdf) The following Standards for Demolition shall constitute the additional standards authorized in Section 930.7 (d) of the City Code and used by the Commission and staff in the interpretation of the Standards for Demolition in that section as a part of the review of applications for Certificates of Appropriateness... In general, demolition is considered an option of last resort for contributing historic properties, and is it only permitted under extreme circumstances. According to Sec. 114-930.7(d) and 114-930.9 of the Historic Preservation Ordinance...	Standards for Relocation (p 84 of pdf): 6. Seek professional assistance in documenting the building. Documentation should include taking interior and exterior photographs. A record of careful measurements of the building will be beneficial to any substantial reconstruction project once the building is moved. If the building is individually listed all documentation must be submitted to the Commission for review.... Under a new ordinance passed by the City Council (Jan 2026), anyone who tears down a structure in a designated Old and Historic District without permission will face a civil penalty of twice the market value of the demolished building.
Roanoke, City of	Architectural Review Board	https://www.roanokeva.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1102/Relocation-and-Demolition-PDF	Moving & Demolition chapter (p.57-59): Make every effort to preserve rather than demolish a historic building. Thoroughly evaluate all rehabilitation and use alternatives, including moving. ✓ Undertake thorough documentation of a building prior to its relocation or demolition, including: • professional photographic documentation of its present appearance, • dimensions of the overall building and its major features, and • relationship of the building to its site and adjacent buildings. • Submit a copy of all documentation to the Roanoke ARB for archival purposes.	Thorough photographic and written documentation of a building's size, condition, and appearance is necessary before undertaking relocation, salvage operations, or demolition
Smithfield, Town of	Board of Historic and Architectural Review	https://www.smithfieldva.gov/DocumentCenter/View/302/12-Chapter-XII-Moving-and-Demolition-of-Historic-Buildings-PDF	1. Demolish a historic building only after all preferable alternatives have been exhausted. 2. Document the building thoroughly through photographs and measured drawings according to HABS Standards. This information should be retained in the town office and with the Virginia DHR. 3. If the site is to remain vacant for any length of time, improve the empty lot in a manner consistent with other open space in the historic district.	
Stafford County	Architectural Review Board & Historical Commission; <i>guidelines adopted 1993</i>	https://cdn.staffordcountyva.gov/Planning%20and%20Zoning/Applications/Certificate%20of%20Appropriateness%20-%2012-18-24.pdf?t=202505141334190&t=202505141334190	COA application (2024) - all applications required attachments: site plan; elevation(s); detailed drawing(s); at least 5 photographs of the project area including general views and detailed views; manufacturers specification sheets or material samples of replacement materials; for properties under easement from a conservation or historic preservation organization, a signed letter from the easement holder approving the proposed project.	

Staunton, City of	Historic Preservation Commission	https://www.ci.staunton.va.us/home/showpublisheddocument/1672/636969728556070000	(p. 167 of Guidelines pdf): Recommended Steps for Demolition: 1. Obtain a building permit. 2. Document the building thoroughly through photographs and measured drawings according to HABS Standards. This information should be retained in the City's Community Development Department as well as with the Virginia DHR. 3. If the site is to remain vacant for any length of time, improve the empty lot in a manner consistent with other open space in the historic district. 4. Plan to salvage architectural elements, reuse building materials, and recycle any building materials that cannot be reused.	
Strausburg, Town of	Architectural Review Board	https://www.strasburgva.com/media/19026	GUIDELINES FOR DEMOLITION: 1. Demolish a historic structure only after all preferable alternatives have been exhausted. 2. Document the building thoroughly through photographs, sketch plans, and if possible measured drawings. File this information with the Town of Strasburg Dept of Planning and Zoning and the Virginia DHR. 3. Maintain any empty lot appropriately so that it is free of hazards and trash and is well tended if the site is to remain vacant for any length of time. 4. Preserve significant details and ornament, good flooring, old brick and stone for architectural salvage and subsequent reuse.	
Stephens City, Town of	Historic Preservation Commission	https://static1.squarespace.com/static/592ed2bc6a49639ddda69d79/t/5c4117b988251bf8eada880b/1547769785780/Certificate+of+Appropriateness.pdf	REQUIRED MATERIALS FOR DEMOLITIONS • Photograph of structure to be demolished and also of adjoining properties. • Reason for demolition.	
Suffolk, City of	<i>Guidelines adopted 2023</i>	https://www.suffolkva.us/664/Historic-Overlay-District#docaccess-4221d5e610bd81a9d5b3d77909182001bc794610e086848b685df202e09e5640	(p. 103 of pdf) Step 1: Document the condition of the structure to justify its removal and identify any existing hazards (i.e. structural unsoundness, abatement needs). a. Record the structure's exterior and interior in its historic context with photography and measured drawings. b. Salvage, or allow to be salvaged, historic materials from the structure, particularly significant features or materials. c. Provide signed reports from qualified professionals who specialize in historic properties discussing their findings; examples include a structural report prepared by an engineer or an abatement report. Details included in the reports should detail the on-site conditions that support demolition. d. Provide a cost analysis of the expense of rehabilitation versus market value of property.	

Virginia Beach, City of	Historical Review Board (City also has a Historical Preservation Commission); <i>guidelines adopted 2025</i>	https://s3.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/virginia-beach-departments-docs/planning/Boards-Commissions/Historical-Review-Board/Design-Guidelines-November-2021.pdf	(p. 80 of pdf): GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION FOR DEMOLITION - DOCUMENT THE CONDITION: It is the responsibility of the property owner to document the condition of the structure to justify its removal and identify any existing hazards (i.e. structural concerns). • Record the exterior and interior in its historic context with photography and scaled drawings. • Salvage, or allow to be salvaged, historic materials from the structure, particularly significant features or materials. • Provide signed reports from qualified professionals who specialize in historic properties discussing their findings; examples include a structural report prepared by an engineer or an abatement report. The reports should detail the on-site conditions that support demolition. • Provide a cost analysis of the expense of rehabilitation versus market value of property.	REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO DEMOLITION OF AN HISTORIC STRUCTURE IF APPROVED BY THE HRB • May include: ° HABS Level III Documentation ° New construction should conform to the Guidelines in Chapter 6 of this document.
Warrenton, Town of	Architectural Review Board; <i>guidelines adopted 2022</i>	https://www.warrentonva.gov/DocumentCenter/View/179/Historic-District-Design-Guidelines-PDF	Two (2) hard copies and one (1) digital copy of the following must be included in every COA application: 1.Current photographs of the proposed work area; 2.Plans, drawings, or sketches of the proposed work area; 3.Specifications, including finishes, of all proposed materials; 4.Any other accompanying permit applications.... (p. 108 of pdf): Demolition - APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS: 1. Applicant must prepare an historic structure report to accompany the application for demolishing the building. a. An experienced, licensed and qualified structural or architectural engineer and builder with experience on historic buildings should evaluate the condition of the subject building and whether it might be able to withstand relocation as an alternative to demolition. This assessment should consider how much damage can be caused by removal and be compiled into a historic structure report for the Town's evaluation. b. Recognize that other expert consultation may be necessary including involvement of the Virginia DHR. 2. Applicant must submit two copies of site plans. 3. Applicant must historically document the building, as per "Building Documentation Requirements," in Appendix 2 of this document. [Appendix 2 not included in pdf of Guidelines or found on Warrenton ARB/city website.]	BEST PRACTICES: • Applicants should understand that a demolition request cannot be settled in a single ARB meeting but may take months to reach a final decision. The ARB will need to inspect the building inside and out as well as the site, setting, location and related outbuildings. Consultation with experts may be necessary. A decision can only be reached after thorough analysis of the historic and architectural documentation that must accompany an application for demolition. • The reasons for demolition will be as carefully evaluated as the historic and architectural significance of the property if they involve claims that the building is beyond repair or rehabilitation. However, if the building(s) is planned for demolition to accommodate new construction, expansion of another building or new development, the ARB may not receive the future replacement designs for review until a later meeting after the demolition decision is reached. On the other hand, if the present building can be incorporated into the new construction in some manner, the ARB may request those future plans and drawings. If a COA is granted for demolition, the building may not be razed until the new construction design is approved, and no sooner than one-month prior to ground breaking. • In order for the ARB to reach the important decision of demolishing a contributing building, historic background and archival research as well as thorough documentation of the building and property needs to be undertaken by the owner and submitted with the application for demolition. Following a conclusive decision, this data will remain in the Town Records, with additional copies sent to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. It becomes a historic record of the building when the resource itself is lost.

Williamsburg, City of	Architectural Review Board	https://www.williamsburgva.gov/DocumentCenter/View/931/Full-Design-Review-Guidelines-PDF?bidId=	(p. 172 of pdf, Chapter 15 - Demolition): Before submitting a request for demolition of a building listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (Chapter 4), it is recommended that property owners analyze the situation carefully and explore alternatives to demolition. Depending on the building's condition and the nature of the intended land use, property owners should consider the potential of the building for rehabilitation. Many historic buildings are suitable for adaptive reuse projects, and the Rehabilitation (Chapter 13) section of the Design Review Guidelines outlines this process... If, after every other option is considered, the property owner still wishes to demolish the building, the procedures outlined in the Architecture Review Article of the Zoning Ordinance (Chapter 16, Appendix 6) must be followed..	(p. 172 of pdf, Chapter 15 - Demolition): At this time, if the building is listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (Chapter 4), the applicant shall submit interior and exterior photographs of the building and site to the Planning Department, or the property owner shall allow the City access to the property to photograph the building and site. It is recommended that the applicant contact the Planning Department for available information on the property to avoid duplicate reporting... (p. 180 of pdf) Appendix 6: ARB DENIAL OF A REQUEST: Zoning Ordinance - Section 21-853(e): In case of disapproval of the razing, demolition or moving of a building in the architectural preservation district, the review board shall state its reasons in writing.
Winchester, City of	Board of Architectural Review; <i>guidelines adopted 2017</i>	https://www.winchesterva.gov/files/assets/public/v/1/community-development/planning/2026-guidelines/brochure-8.-moving-demolition.pdf	Chapter 8: GUIDELINES FOR DEMOLITION: State enabling legislation referred to in Winchester's current ordinance (sec 14-11) requires that if a property owner wishes to demolish a building, the owner first must offer the property for sale. The length of time the property is offered for sale relates to its asking price and is spelled out in the state legislation. Winchester's ordinance has an additional requirement that the asking price be verified through an appraisal process. If a building owner wishes to demolish their building after going through the above process, the following steps should be taken: 1 Document the building thoroughly through photographs and measured drawings according to HABS standards. The resulting information should be retained in the offices of Preservation of Historic Winchester, Inc. and with Winchester Office of the Virginia DHR. 2 Demolish a historic building only after all preferable alternatives have been previously exhausted. 3 If the site is to remain vacant for any length of time, improve the empty lot in a manner consistent with other open spaces in the historic district.	