

## Why a contributing structure?

Some of the reasons why the Graves House was originally placed on the contributing structures list of Bluffton's Historic Preservation District were that the home:

1. was over 50 years old (since The Graves House was built in 1908 it is now over 100 years old),
2. exhibited a unique style of design for the area (Turn of the Century New England style),
3. was built and occupied continuously by the same family for many years (ultimately over 100 years),
4. holds unique Bluffton history, especially about the Graves and Guilford families, and is a symbol of their contributions to the town (see History tab on [graveshouse.org](http://www.graveshouse.org)). The house is also emblematic of the struggles of Bluffton's middle class in the 20th century, especially those working in the oyster and crab industries and the various merchant enterprises.
5. was located adjacent to, and visible from, other historic structures that also qualified for the district nomination (Seven Oaks, the Guilford House, the Fripp-Lowden House and the Bluffton United Methodist Church) thus making it part of a "continuous set of structures important to and reflective of local, state and national American history."

The Bluffton Historic Preservation District was listed in the National Register on June 21, 1996. See <http://www.nationalregister.sc.gov/beaufort/S10817707059/index.htm> for more information.