



## Historical Rehabilitation Fire Safety Checklist

Use this fire safety checklist to review some essential model code and standard requirements during rehabilitation projects for historical structures.

Each task shows you where requirements are referenced within ...

- [NFPA 101](#): *Life Safety Code (2018)*
- [NFPA 914](#): *Code for the Protection of Historic Structures (2019)*

... while pointing to the following documents that govern more requirements:

- [NFPA 70](#): *National Electrical Code (NEC)*
- [NFPA 72](#): *National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code®*
- [NFPA 114](#): *Standard for Reducing Structure Ignition Hazards from Wildland Fire*
- [NFPA 10](#): *Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers*

**Note:** this list is not comprehensive and should merely serve as a guide for some essential activities required for fire safety systems and procedures. The full spectrum of life and fire safety measures will depend on your facility, its specific systems, and your location. Contact your local authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) to learn specific needs.

### **Essential steps**

- Complete evaluation conducted by a registered design professional and approved by the AHJ. (NFPA 101: **Section 43.10.2**)
- Contractor selected. (NFPA 914: **Section 13.2.1**)
- Representative of historical building selected. (NFPA 914: **Section 13.2.3**)
- Initial meeting of contractors, subcontractors, and building representative conducted. (NFPA 914: **Section 13.2.2**)
  - Briefed on historical significance of structure.
  - Briefed on scope and expectations of work to be performed.
  - Briefed on requirements of project fire safety program.



## **Structural Components to be Evaluated**

- Egress (NFPA 101: **Section 43.10.4.3**)
  - Of sufficient width and height.
  - Operational controls to limit occupancy in place.
  - Adequate number of doors opening in the direction of egress to accommodate occupant load.
  - Exit signage clearly identifies egress path. (NFPA 101: **Section 43.10.4.10**)
  - Open stairwells are permitted (stairwell serves only one adjacent floor). (NFPA 101: **Section 43.10.4.7**)
  - Stairwell handrails and guards are in good condition and do not pose a danger to life. (NFPA 101: **Section 43.10.4.9**)
  - Building elements are appropriate to limit smoke spread. (NFPA 101: **Section 43.10.4.7.2**)
  
- Flammable finishes (NFPA 101: **Section 43.10.4.6**)
  - Interior finish meets the requirements for Class A, B, C.
  - Interior finish surfaced with fire-retardant paint or finish.
  - Building is protected throughout by an automatic fire sprinkler system.
  - Exterior roof covering treated with fire-retardant coating. (NFPA 914: **Section 13.6**)
  
- Hazardous areas (NFPA 101: **Section 43.10.4.8**)
  - Protected with 1-hour fire-rated assembly.
  - Existing lathe and plaster construction is in good condition.
  - Electrical systems evaluated. (NFPA 914: **Section 13.7**)
  - Electrical installations meet NFPA 70.
  
- Fire protection systems (NFPA 914: **Section 13.5**)
  - Kitchen hood/suppression system required. (NFPA 96)
  - Fire alarm system required. (NFPA 72)



- Fire extinguishers required. (NFPA 10)
- Fire sprinkler and system—if required based on use and occupancy classification (NFPA 101: **Section 43.10.4.11**)
- Other fire protection system—if required based on use and occupancy classification (NFPA 914: **Section 13.5.4**)
  
- Wildland/Urban Interface (NFPA 914: **Section 13.11**)
  - Evaluation conducted by landscape architect.
  - Recommendations implemented into fire protection program.
  - Requirements of NFPA 1144 have been met.

\*Code references are from the 2018 edition of NFPA 101, and the 2019 edition of NFPA 914.