Two State National Register Extracts: New York Counties and Maryland Property Categories

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Source git 38fa640 · technical report

Abstract

Data.gov did not yield a single national Historic Register CSV in this campaign. We analyze two state extracts downloaded 2026-09-20: New York (6,560 rows with county) and Maryland Medusa GIS (1,627 rows with geometry and category, no county column). New York listings with a parseable year run 1960-2024 (6,456 dated rows). The densest NY counties in this file are New York County (595), Suffolk (344), and Dutchess (277). Maryland categories are mostly Building (1,100) and District (288). These tables describe the two files, not the complete National Register.

1. Introduction

Research question. What geographic and class structure is visible in the NY and MD National Register CSVs we could actually download?

Contributions:

- C1. NY county frequencies (results/gov/ny_nr_top_counties.csv) and year series (ny_nr_by_year.csv).
- C2. MD category frequencies (results/gov/md_nr_categories.csv) and dated rows 1966-2025.
- C3. Explicit gap: no national NPS NR CSV in the harvest; MD has no county field.

2. Background

The National Register of Historic Places is maintained with NPS and SHPO data. States publish portals. NY Open Data view iisn-hnyv exports Resource Name, County, National Register Date, coordinates. Maryland's GIS export uses the_geom, Name, List Date, Category, and Medusa links.

3. Method

Python csv.DictReader with field_size_limit 20 MiB because Maryland the_geom multipolygons exceed the default 128 KiB field cap. NY year is the four-digit prefix or trailing token of National Register Date. MD year is the ISO prefix of List Date. Counties are exact string counts. MD Category is counted as exported (including a few concatenated labels). Hardware: same as paper 05.

4. Results

Table 1. File shapes (*_nr_meta.json).

state	rows	year range (dated)	county field
New York	6560	1960-2024 (6456 dated)	yes, 62 counties in file
Maryland	1627	1966-2025 (1627 dated)	no (0 named counties)

Table 2. New York counties with the most rows.

county	n
New York	595
Suffolk	344
Dutchess	277
Erie	269
Westchester	245
Monroe	237
Albany	235

Table 3. Maryland Category values (top five).

category	n
Building	1100
District	288
Structure	77
Site	62
Object	59

NY 2022-2024 dated counts in the year file are 89, 42, and 57. Those are this extract, not NPS's official annual additions.

5. Discussion and threats

"New York" county is Manhattan's county name, not the state. Duplicate properties and boundary polygons can inflate GIS extracts. MD concatenated categories (Building,Site) are not recoded. 104 NY rows lack a parseable year (6560-6456). Neither file is the national Register. Energy RECS microdata in the same corpus (paper 05) is unrelated and is not mixed into these totals.

6. Related work

NPS National Register documentation; NY Open Data; Maryland Historical Trust Medusa. We do not scrape NPS NRHP GIS nationwide.

7. Ethics

Public historic-property names and coordinates. No living-person PII. Geometry is in the MD file; this paper reports counts only.

8. Conclusion

State portals supplied usable Register tables when the national catalog did not. NY is a county-level listing file; MD is a categorized GIS extract. Together they cover 8,187 rows in this snapshot, with incompatible schemas.

9. Artifact appendix

python3 harness/govdata/analyze.py. Outputs: results/gov/ny_nr_.csv, md_nr_.csv,

matching *_meta.json.

10. References

- NY Open Data, National Register of Historic Places, view iisn-hnyv, CSV export 2026-09-20.
- Maryland Historical Trust Medusa / open data GIS extract, CSV 2026-09-20.
- NPS National Register of Historic Places (program page; not the dataset used here).

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