

Local Historic Designation

Historic designation means a site, structure, or district has been identified as having significant benefit to the historic, architectural, and cultural heritage of the city. Locally designated properties introduce a variety of benefits to the community, including the active preservation of a city's history, supporting neighborhood stabilization, possible property value improvements, presenting civic pride in notable past accomplishments, and promoting the use of local history for educational use and tourism.

Applications for historic designation in Appleton are available on-line or at the Community and Economic Development Department office on the 5th floor of City Hall. Although the applications provide detailed instructions, it is highly encouraged to discuss your interest in historic designation with Community and Economic Development personnel. While no fee accompanies the application, an application will not be accepted without the original signature of the property owner or other authorized representative of the owner.

Reconstruction and Alterations

Approval from the HPC is required for any exterior alteration, construction, reconstruction, or demolition of a designated local historic structure or site or any property within a local designated historic district that requires a building permit. Ordinary exterior maintenance and repairs (i.e. painting, refinishing nonstructural elements) may be performed without HPC approval, provided a building permit is not required.



Hearthstone Historic House Museum (1882)
625 W. Prospect Ave., Appleton, WI 54911

Historic Preservation Tax Credits and Grant Programs

For businesses...

Wisconsin's Historic Preservation Tax Credit applies to certified historic buildings. Under the program, owners of eligible buildings may receive a state income tax credit for 20% of the qualified rehabilitated expenditures.

For more information, visit:
<https://www.wisconsinhistory.org>

For homeowners...

Wisconsin's Historic Homeowner's Tax Credit is a dollar-for-dollar reduction in what you owe in Wisconsin income taxes. The amount of the credit is 25% of your costs of carrying out eligible work. If your credit is larger than the amount you owe in state income taxes, you can carry the unused balance into future tax years (up to 15 years into the future) until the credit is used up.

For more information, visit:
<https://www.wisconsinhistory.org>

Designating Appleton's Local Historic Buildings, Sites and Districts

"General Information"

**City of Appleton
Historic Preservation Commission**



For more information about the Historic Preservation Commission and the historic designation process, contact the Community and Economic Development Department.

Phone: 920.832.6468

Fax: 920.832.5994

100 N. Appleton Street
Appleton, WI 54911

www.appleton.org

What is the Historic Preservation Commission?

The Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) is a local body with the power to recommend designation of historic structures, sites, and districts within the City of Appleton. HPC members have expertise in matters relating to the historical, archaeological, cultural, and architectural legacy of the earliest settlers in the Fox Valley.

Why preserve?

Historic structures serve as evidence of our community's past and offer citizens direct access to their heritage. An understanding of local culture fosters a sense of community. Historic districts improve the quality of local life through their beauty as well as their architectural, educational, and historic value. In some cases, preserving historic structures is a more economical alternative to new construction. It promotes the growth of tourism and other local industries.

The National Register

Created by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) serves as the official list of the nation's historic locations and buildings. Its purpose is to coordinate and support efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect America's historic and archaeological resources.

