

The City/County of Spokane Historic Preservation Program



Providing historic property protection and development services to the City of Spokane and Spokane County since 1979

The mission of the preservation program is to identify and facilitate the preservation of significant properties over fifty years old, thereby recycling existing structures at a savings to the community and enhancing our quality of life.

Historic Registers

Historic registers are official lists of properties that are important and worthy of preservation. Listing on an historic register encourages preservation, recognition, and rehabilitation. Registers are reminders that the preservation and re-use of historic properties is economically beneficial.

Spokane Register of Historic Places

Established by local ordinance in both the city and county of Spokane, the Spokane Register of Historic Places is the local government's official list of properties that have contributed to the community's history. **Requirements:** Property must be 50 years or older, and fall under one or more of the following criteria:

- Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our local history;
- Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
- Embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction;
- Are important as a source of information or data about history or prehistory.

The Process: A [Spokane Register of Historic Places form](#) must be filed with the City-County Historic Preservation Office.

Benefits: Special Valuation tax incentive, Open Space Taxation, Façade/Conservation Easement, Conditional Use Permit, relief from certain building codes.

Restrictions: Owners must sign a Management Agreement and agree to abide by a review process and the outlined Management Standards for actions affecting use or exterior appearance, or involving demolition or new construction attached to the structure.

Fees: Filing fee \$50.00 Residential; \$100.00 all other property.

National Register of Historic Places

Managed by the federal government, the National Register honors an historic place by recognizing its importance to its community, state or the nation.

Requirements: Generally the same as the Spokane Register.

The Process: The applicant completes a [National Register form](#) and submits it to the [Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation](#).

Benefits: [Investment Tax Credit](#), Façade Easements, Open Space Taxation, Conditional Use Permit, and relief from certain building codes.

Restrictions: Property owners are free to maintain, manage, or dispose of their property as they choose provided that there is no federal involvement.

Fees: Contact state Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation in Olympia.

Washington Heritage Register

Listing on the Washington Register raises awareness about the values of historic and cultural resources and encourages preservation within the state. **Requirements:** Eligible properties include historic buildings, structures, historic and archeological sites, cultural landscapes, and traditional cultural properties.

The Process: The applicant completes a [Washington Heritage Register form](#) and submits it to the [Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation](#).

Benefits: Listing in the [Washington Heritage Register](#) is honorary and raises awareness about historic and cultural values that should be respected and preserved. While there are presently no financial incentives available for the rehabilitation of listed properties, a designation to the Register can be beneficial in securing state grants or other funding awards.

Restrictions: The State does not regulate the treatment of properties found to be significant; however, a local governing authority may choose to uphold the Office's

recommendation and require mitigation of adverse effects.

Fees: Contact state Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation in Olympia.

Historic Districts

A district is designated as a geographically definable area, urban or rural, possessing a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united by past events or aesthetically by plan or physical development.

Local Historic Districts

Contributing properties in local historic districts enjoy the benefits of individually listed Spokane Register properties and are protected from destructive rehabilitation and demolition by a Management Agreement. **Requirements:** Same as Spokane Register

The Process: A Spokane Historic District Nomination form must be filed with the City-County Office of Historic Preservation.

Benefits: A Spokane Historic District provides the highest level of protection to historic resources because most land-use decisions are made under the authority of local law.

Restrictions: Same as Spokane Register Nomination.

Fees: None.

Spokane Local Historic Districts:

Booge's Addition Historic District
Comstock-Shadle Historic District
Corbin Park Historic Neighborhood
Hillyard Market Street District

Contact Information

Spokane City-County Historic Preservation Office

808 West Spokane Falls Boulevard

Spokane, WA 99201

Phone: (509) 625-6983

FAX: (509) 625-6013

Web Page: <http://www.historicspokane.org>

E-mail: bdinfo@spokanecity.org

National Historic Districts

A National Historic District is created by the National Park Service as an honorary designation that recognizes and promotes the historic character of a determined area.

Requirements: The criteria for a district is based on the area's 1) physical features and characteristics, 2) historical association with events or movements of consequence in American history and culture, and 3) qualities that distinguish it from its surroundings.

The Process: A [National Register District Nomination form](#) must be filed with the City-County Office of Historic Preservation. A brochure is available in the HPO detailing the process.

Benefits: [Investment Tax Credit](#), Facade Easements, Open Space and relief from building code issues under Section 104 (f) of the UBC.

Restrictions: Property owners are free to maintain, manage, or dispose of their property as they choose provided that there is no federal involvement.

Fees: Contact state Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation in Olympia.

National Historic Districts

Browne's Addition Historic District
Corbin Park Historic District
Desmet Avenue Warehouse Historic District
East Downtown Historic District
Felts Field Historic District
Fort George Wright Historic District
Four Corners Historic District
Hillyard Historic Business District
Hutton Settlement
Marycliff-Cliff Park Historic District
Mission Avenue Historic District
Nettleton's Addition Historic District
Nine Mile Hydroelectric Power Plant Historic District
Ninth Avenue Historic District
Peaceful Valley Historic District
Riverside Avenue Historic District
Rockwood Historic District
West Downtown Transportation Corridor