



Marcy's Service Station/ Union Gas Station, 33-35 S Spokane

Maintaining Walla Walla's Historic Places

The City of Walla Walla Historic Preservation Commission was created after City Council recognized the need to systematically identify, designate, and protect historic and prehistoric resources within the boundaries of the City of Walla Walla.

Incorporated in 1862, Walla Walla is one of the oldest permanent settled communities in Washington. As such, it is home to a great number of historic sites, ranging from turn of the century Craftsman and Victorian homes, to 19th century commercial buildings, to the Fort Walla Walla Military Cemetery.

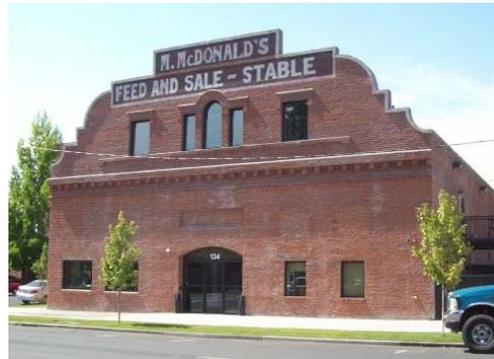
The Historic Preservation Commission has been operating since 2002 with the dual goals of safeguarding Walla Walla's heritage and stabilizing or improving the aesthetic and economic vitality of the city's historic neighborhoods. The primary tool at the commission's disposal is Special Valuation, a property tax program specifically designed for historic property restoration.



HISTORIC PRESERVATION



Charles Cooper Home, 123 Eagan Street



McDonald's Feed & Sale Stable, 126 W Poplar Street



Pantorium Building, 18-30 N. 2nd Ave

55 E Moore Street
Walla Walla, WA 99362
509.524.4710

A WONDERFUL PLACE TO
LIVE WORK PLAY



Electric Light Works Building, 111 N 6th Ave

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Rehabilitating structures to preserve neighborhood character and revitalize historic communities.

Using Washington State's Special Valuation Tax Credit, the Historic Preservation Commission has successfully encouraged continued reinvestment in Walla Walla's existing resources.

Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)

The HPC is an advisory commission made up of seven community members appointed by the City Council to make recommendations to the Council, Mayor, and other City staff on the conservation of Walla Walla's historic resources.

What is Historic Preservation?

Historic preservation is a concerted effort on the part of Federal, State, and local governments to maintain and restore historic resources such as residences, commercial buildings, cemeteries, and parks. Preservation is a practice that comes from a recognition of the importance of community character and in irreplaceability of historic resources. To learn more about Historic Preservation in Walla Walla, you can visit:

Walla Walla historic Preservation Commission at <https://www.wallawallawa.gov/depts/devservices/historic-pres-comm>

Walla Walla 2020 at <http://ww2020.net/> And the Whitman College Northwest Archives at <https://library.whitman.edu/archives/>

Why invest in preservation? SUSTAINABILITY, HISTORY, AND ECONOMY

Historic preservation has a number of documented benefits, the most readily visible of which is the preservation of unique local history. Historic resources are visible links to the past, which can create community pride through distinct neighborhood character. Historic

preservation is also inherently sustainable, as adapting and reusing existing buildings requires fewer resources than creating new properties. Finally, historic preservation creates a multitude of economic benefits, primarily derived from powerful tax credit programs designed to facilitate investment in rehabilitation. Between 2000 and 2004, an average of \$83.5 million of annual spending occurred each year in Washington State through these programs, generating an estimated \$221 million in sales each year.

Local Register of Historic Properties

30 PROPERTIES LISTED TO DATE

Chapter 2.27 of Walla Walla's municipal code created the HPC in 2002. One of the roles laid out at its inception was to establish and maintain a Register of Historic places as a catalogue of local historic resources. Since then, the register has grown to 30 properties that display Walla Walla's unique social and architectural history. Criteria for listing includes eleven categories, such as: embodying distinctive architectural traits; being associated with events or people who contributed to national, local, or state history; and being an outstanding work of a noted designer, builder, or architect. Properties listed on the local register are eligible to apply for the Special Valuation tax credit.

Special Valuation

\$1,836,452 IN WALLA WALLA COUNTY

Special valuation is a powerful tool to incentivize the preservation and rehabilitation of Walla Walla's historic homes. Special valuation revises the assessed value of qualified properties and deducts an approved portion of the rehabilitation costs from your property taxes for up to 10 years. To qualify, projects must amount to at least 25% of the pre-rehabilitation value, and receive approval from the HPC as historically appropriate.

Does listing restrict what I can do with my property?

Listing on the Local Register of Historic Places means that any work performed on the property, outside of ordinary repair and maintenance, must receive a certificate of appropriateness from the HPC. Listing does not, however, place restrictions on unlisted property components. This means that you can, for example, list only the exterior of a building, and any changes to the interior would not be subject to HPC review.

Where do I sign up?

Further information and register applications are available online via the Historic Preservation Commission section of the City of Walla Walla Development Services website, wallawallawa.gov. If you have questions or want to schedule a pre-application meeting with City staff, email permits@wallawalla.gov, or call Development Services at 509.524.4710.



J. Arthur Ingles House, 1040 Alvarado Terrace