

Frequently Asked Questions

Historic Review Process

Q: How do I know if changes to my property fall under Historic Review?

A: All properties within the Washburne Historic District, as well as all properties on Springfield's Landmark Inventory are subject to the Historic Review Process.

Q: What changes to my property require a formal application for approval?

A: Please visit the Historic Review Process section of this website.

Q: What alterations can I make to my property without submitting a formal application for approval?

A: Please visit the Historic Review Process section of this website.

Q: I have some ideas for changes to my property, but I do not want to go too far in the design process without better understanding what would be considered historically compatible. Can the Commission assist with this?

A: Yes. Some homeowners attend a Commission meeting on an "informal" basis to discuss their design ideas and to receive suggestions. No votes are taken and no binding approval decisions are reached as these are offered to assist homeowners who are seeking guidance in the earlier stages of planning larger projects.

Renovation of Historic Properties

Q: How can I obtain information about how to best restore my house?

A: Please visit the Springfield Historic Commission's Historic Preservation Resource Center.

Q: What funding programs are available for the renovation of historic properties?

A: Owners of properties listed on the National Register are eligible to apply for a variety of state and federal grant and tax benefit programs. For more information on these programs, please visit <http://www.oregon.gov/OPRD/HCD/SHPO/index.shtml>.

Q: Can the Commission recommend contractors or suppliers for historic renovation projects?

A: The Commission can make design suggestions but cannot endorse specific professional services, retailers, or products.

Historic Property Research

Q: How can I learn more about the history of my house?

A: There are several ways to learn more about your home:

- Explore the internet for possible information on your house.
- Contact the [Springfield Museum](#) as they have many photos and information about the City.
- Go to Lane County Deeds and Records to find out about your property's history
- Visit the Oregon Genealogical Society to find out about the people in the area and possibly those who lived in your house.
- Check out the Bureau of Vital Statistics for records of births, deaths and marriages.
- Search the United States Census for information regarding people who may have lived in your house.