

## **National Registry Designation**

### **Definition.**

Listing on the National Register means that a property joins the nation's official list of properties deemed worthy of preservation. It is directed by the National Park Service, etc. It is possible for a property to have both a local and a National Register designation or to have either one without the other.

This means that your property has been documented and evaluated according to federal standards and listed in the National Register because it is significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering or culture.

### **Process**

Public participation is an important part of the designation process. By law, property owners in a proposed historic district must be notified of the proposal so that they may testify for or against it during public hearings to assess the impact of the designation.

See LDC. 8.5.7 Heritage Preservation Site Designation

## **Pros**

Studies around the country suggest that property values increase faster in local historic districts than elsewhere. Local designation can help turn around a decline in residential properties in some areas. Buyers value the extra protection offered by local historic districts and so were willing to pay higher prices.

Listing a property gives it recognition and may change the way people or communities view historic properties.. It does not interfere with the owners right to alter or dispose of their property if they use their own money. Owners are encouraged to contact officials if they are thinking of making a change to their property. Staff will work with them on changes that respect the historic character of the property.

It does protect your property during Federal or State projects. If a project is undertaken, funded, or licensed, or permitted by Federal agencies, they are reviewed by the Preservation Office to determine if they will affect properties which are listed. The same is true for projects license by State departments and agencies, ways are then discussed to protect the property or mitigate the effects of the project.

The property owner may maintain the property as they choose following local requirements. Owners are not required to open their property to the public.

No covenants are put on the deed when the property is listed. Properties are de-listed when the lose the qualities they had at the time of listing, if they are destroyed by fire or storms or if they are substantially altered—or if they are moved.

Listed properties and be sold or inherited without notification.

Some tax credit programs are available if an income-producing property on the Register is rehabilitated according to certain standards. There is a federal program and also a state program that can be used in conjunction with the federal program. These programs change according to state and federal legislation.

*See "Comparisons National Registry to Local Designation"*

## **Cons**

Could be a "Pro" or a "Con" Historic designation means that any exterior changes you make must meet local preservation guidelines, based on the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and must be approved by your HPC. This review process ensures that proposed alternations are compatible with the nature of the property.

Listing a property does not bring with it greater protection.

If the owner wishes to demolish a listed property, an environmental assessment worksheet must be completed before demolishing in whole or in part.

Currently in Minnesota, there is no tax relief for National Register properties. Some other states have such programs.

**What we have now**

We have 65-69 buildings listed with the Historic Downtown District—updated 2019

3 houses: Carleton owns the Nutting House (Hill House doesn't seem to be there anymore)  
Drew Lord House—privately owned  
O.E. Rolvaag House—privately owned

All Saints Episcopal Church

4 properties at Carleton: Skinner Chapel, Scoville Library, Willis Hall, and Goodsell Observatory

2 properties at St. Olaf: Old Main and Steensland Library

Depot?

**Places to consider**

**See “Possible Designations” list**

**Seek volunteers**

**Nominate**