

Historic Preservation:

Local Landmark Designation



What is a Local Landmark?

It is a building designated by city residents as significant to the City's contribution to local, regional, or national history.

Why would you want to make a structure or building a local landmark?

You'll be recognized for owning a piece of history! Often when we remark how beautiful a European city is, we recognize that it's the combination of old and new, standing together and defining the character of the city. For a little effort, you can commemorate these old structures that, often times, are built with craftsmanship that has been lost to time, materials that may not be readily available, and connections to figures whose footprints are everywhere in our city and region.

Is there funding available to help?

The State Historic Tax Credits can help level the costs of repairs to craftsmanship that is not so easily fixed. Find more information on the State of Iowa's Historic Tax Credit Program website found at www.opportunityiowa.gov/community and clicking Historic Preservation then Historic Preservation Tax Credit.

What is the Historic Preservation Commission's role in nominating local landmarks?

The HPC is tasked with identifying and nominating local landmarks. But citizens can nominate a structure or neighborhood too.

What is the process for nominating a local landmark?

The process is detailed in City Code Chapter 14. Below is an abbreviated overview of the process. Before starting the process, we highly encourage you to review the city code and talk to Davenport's planners at **563.326.6198** or **planning@davenportiowa.com.** Below is the general process for nominating a building:

- Identify if the property meets at least one of the designation criteria. The criteria are: (1) resource is associated with events or persons that made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of the history of the city of Davenport, county, state, region, or the nation. (2) It embodies the distinctive characteristics of an architectural style valuable for the study of a type, period, or method of construction. (3) It represents the work of a master builder, craftsman, architect, engineer, or landscape architect or possesses high artistic value.
- The legal owner(s) OR the Commission may nominate a single structure for local landmark status or a historic district. If the owner(s) nominates a district, they must turn in a petition with the signatures of 51% of the other owners in the proposed district to the commission.
- Upon receipt of the application, the commission holds a
 public hearing. Any person(s), group(s), or organization(s)
 may submit oral and or written testimony concerning the
 property or neighborhood. The nominator has the burden
 of proof to furnish evidence necessary to nominate and
 approve of designation for the resource.