

Irondequoit Historic Preservation Commission

The Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) was formed in 2001 to preserve and protect local historic sites and foster civic pride in and awareness of the history of the Town of Irondequoit. Its primary tasks are to review and approve applications for landmark designation and applications for certificates of appropriateness for proposed changes to designated landmarks. In addition to its designation and review powers, the Commission also conducts surveys of landmarks and historic districts and increases public awareness of local history through outreach and public education.

What is a Landmark?

A landmark is a building, property or object designated by the HPC as significant due its historic and/or architectural significance in Irondequoit or beyond. When a property has been designated as an historic landmark, the Town of Irondequoit officially recognizes the property to have special historic and/or architectural value that is an important part of the town's heritage and culture. Landmark designation does not prevent an owner from making changes to their property, but instead involves the HPC to ensure that their plans preserve the historic character and value of their property.

How is a Property Designated?

Any person or organization may submit an application for landmark designation to the HPC for consideration. Copies of the application form can be obtained from the Town's website and interested parties are encouraged to contact the Irondequoit Town Historian at 585-336-7269 for more information.

FAQs

Can the HPC make me restore my property to the way it looked when it was first built?

No, the HPC only reviews changes that the property owner proposes to make

Will the HPC make me repair my landmark designated property?

Designation of a property does not impose a higher standard of maintenance than non-designated properties. The Historic Preservation law requires that designated properties be kept in good repair and meet the minimum requirements of the regulatory codes that apply to all town properties.

Do I need a CoA to make changes to my detached garage or other secondary structure?

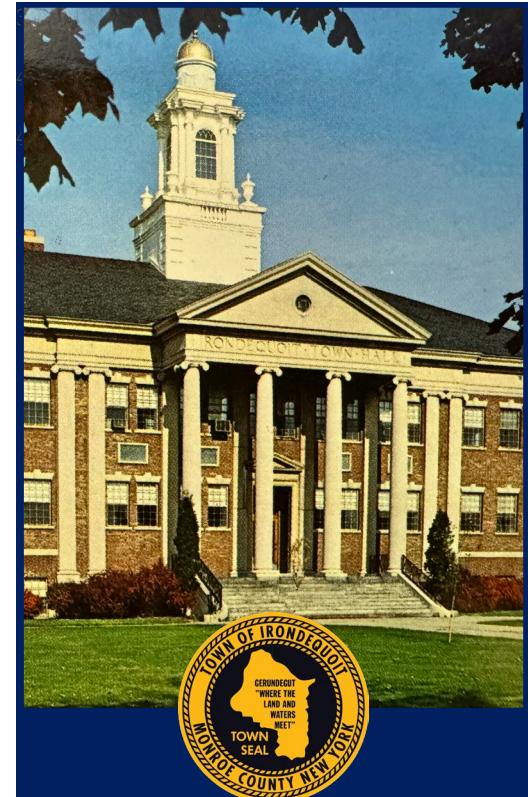
Yes, changes to any existing building on the designated property require a CoA. Priority will be given to the primary structure and what can be seen from the street.



For further information or questions about landmark designation in the Town of Irondequoit, please see our website at:

www.irondequoit.org/272/Preservation-Commission

Or contact the Town Historian at 585-336-7269.



*Irondequoit
Historic
Preservation
Commission
Guidelines for
Historic Properties*

Criteria for Designation

The criteria for the designation of landmarks are set by Chapter 236 of the Town Code and are in keeping with standards established by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation.

A property may be designated as an historic landmark based on one or more of the following criteria:

- Exemplifies or possess special character, or historic or aesthetic value as part of the cultural, political, economic, or social history of the town, region, state or nation
- Is identified with persons or events significant in local, state or national history
- Embodies the distinguishing characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or design style, or is a valuable example of the use of indigenous materials or craftsmanship
- Is representative of the work of a prominent designer, architect or builder.
- Represents an established and familiar visual feature of the community by virtue of its unique location or singular physical characteristic, represents an established and familiar visual feature of the community
- Has yielded or may be likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Once an application for landmark designation has been accepted, the HPC will conduct a public hearing to determine if the property meets one or more of standards for designation. The applicant and property owner are notified and encouraged to attend and participate in the hearing.



Changing Landmark Buildings

To protect from inappropriate changes or destruction to town landmarks, the HPC must review and approve most exterior alterations before work begins. These changes include, but are not limited to, exterior restoration, new construction, demolition, alterations, and/or additions to a designated building or landscape, as well as moving a landmark building. Interior changes that do not alter the exterior of a landmark building do not require reviews.

Normal maintenance that does not alter the appearance of a landmark property would not require review and approval. Examples include exterior painting, repairing a broken window, or replacing a roof with matching materials, would not require approvals from the HPC as long as it does not alter the appearance of a landmark property. A change in paint color does not require a Commission review.

Changes that Require Approval

To make exterior changes that alter the exterior appearance of a landmark property, the property owner must apply for a Certificate of Appropriateness (CoA) that will be reviewed by the HPC

This does not mean that changes cannot be made, but instead, the HPC must review the changes and certify that they are appropriate before any work can begin. To make this decision, the HPC will review the project to determine if the proposed work will retain significant historic features, the overall architectural integrity, and the character of the building's exterior. Elements such as materials, window size and arrangement, and roof shape, may be reviewed as part of this process with priority given to what can be seen from the street.

An application for a CoA can be obtained from the town's website or by contacting the Irondequoit Town Historian at 585-336-7269.

If a CoA is required for a project, it is in addition to and not in lieu of any other permits or approvals also needed for the project.



Designated Properties as of 2024

450 Avondale Road
101 Chestnut Hill Drive
2905 Culver Road
3390 Culver Road
763 Helendale Road
630 Rock Beach Road
2523 St. Paul Boulevard

2524 St. Paul Boulevard
3146 St. Paul Boulevard
4185 St. Paul Boulevard
4265 St. Paul Boulevard
690 Titus Avenue
21 Walzer Road
288 Wimbleton Road

959 Winona Boulevard
Hooker Cemetery
Resurrection Lutheran Church
Irondequoit Town Hall
Cobblestone Blacksmith Shop
Cobblestone Smoke House
Pioneer House Museum