



Flap

Funding Sources for Historic Preservation Projects

A variety of funding sources, including tax credits, grants and loans, are available to help save and restore historic places. Be sure to contact the appropriate entity about eligibility guidelines.

National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP)

Chartered by Congress in 1949, this privately-funded not-for-profit organization is charged with preserving America's most significant historic sites. The organization began the Main Street Program in the 1970s, and still maintains the National Main Street Center.

www.savingplaces.org

Indiana Landmarks

Indiana's statewide non-profit historic preservation organization, headquartered in Indianapolis with a network of regional offices.

800-450-4534
www.indianalandmarks.org

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

Federal agency which administers a number of programs affecting historic preservation, forestry, national parks system, and Native American tribal preservation.

www.nps.gov/tps/tax-incentives.htm

Indiana Office of Community & Rural Affairs (OCRA)

This state agency focuses on rural issues and is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life in Indiana's smaller cities, towns and rural communities. The Indiana Main Street Program and the Indiana Rural Development Council are housed within this agency. Community leaders are encouraged to contact their OCRA Community Liaison for information on preservation programs and assistance with funding.

800-824-2476
www.in.gov/ocra

Additional Preservation Resources

Vincennes Knox Preservation Foundation

PO Box 173
Vincennes, IN 47591
www.vincennespreservation.org

Vincennes Historic District Review Board

205 Vigo St
Vincennes, IN 47591
812-882-3338
www.vincennes.org

City Inspector's Office

205 Vigo St
Vincennes, IN 47591
812-882-3338
www.vincennes.org

Back

Within the Vincennes Historic District

The Benefits, Privileges, and Responsibilities of Living in the District



A Publication of the Vincennes Knox Preservation Foundation

Front

What is the Vincennes Historic District?

In 1974, the Vincennes Historic District was listed to the National Register of Historic Places. Both the State of Indiana and the United States government recognize the District for its historic and architectural significance. As the oldest city in Indiana, Vincennes holds a special place in American history.

The Vincennes Historic District is one of the largest single districts in Indiana. A Historic District is a designation provided by the State and or Federal government acknowledging the importance of an area. There are numerous communities with local historic preservation districts throughout Indiana.



What are the Benefits of Living or Owning Property in the District?

Studies have shown a direct link to increased property values with the establishment of local historic districts and proper enforcement of historic standards.

The 1997 Rypkema study “Preservation and Property Values in Indiana” cites specific benefits to local historic districts, including:

- Historic Districts often mirror the entire community in terms of their economic, educational, and racial diversity.
- Historic Districts promote increased levels of home ownership.
- People moving in to historic districts tend not to be just passing through, but become homeowners of extended periods, adding stability to the neighborhood.



- Buyers who choose historic districts often have wider choices and get more house, dollar for their money.

An increased property value is just one benefit to a properly governed district. Many communities have seen increased tourism and economic expansion from a well-preserved district. In Indiana, the cities of Madison and Corydon have dramatically improved their community’s economies through a growing tourism industry centered on area history and well-maintained historic districts.

The Vincennes Historic District Review Board

In 1984, the Vincennes City Council declared the protection, maintenance, restoration, rehabilitation, reconstruction, and development of a historic district as in the public interest. The City Council adopted Ordinance 40-84 creating the Historic District Review Board. The Mayor, with the approval of the City Council, appoints the five-member board. The City Council noted that the Vincennes Historic District would promote the economic growth of the designated historic district through the encouragement of tourism, business, residential and commercial investment, and foster pride in those historic areas.

In general, any proposed changes that are visible from the exterior and affect the exterior character of a building need to be reviewed by the Historic Review Board. If a proposed change is approved, the board will award a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) allowing an applicant to proceed with a proposed alteration, demolition, or new construction within the historic district. The following items fall within the jurisdiction of the Historic District Review Board and require an application to be submitted for the Board’s agenda:

- Demolition of a building in the Historic District
- The moving of any building
- Conspicuous change in the exterior appearance (such as additions, reconstruction, alterations, or resurfacing)



- New construction of any structure
- Change in walls or fencing along a public way or in public view
- Any change in the existing sidewalk

However, the following items are NOT required for review by the board:

- Construction, removal, or remodeling of small domestic utility buildings for storage
- Emergency roof repair to take care of leaks
- Repairing or replacing guttering and downspouts
- Repairing and installing flat roofs or their painting
- Repainting of exterior if color is not changed, or the change is insubstantial and the change would be acceptable to the neighborhood
- Planting, removal, or trimming of trees and bushes
- Repair or replacement of wooden floored porches or replacement with concrete.

The application for a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Historic Review Board is available at the City Inspector’s office at Vincennes City Hall and requires a fee. Visit the City’s website (vincennes.org) for current information on the Historic Review Board, including meeting dates and forms.

