

The City of Pullman's Historic Preservation Commission is developing and maintaining a local list of historically-significant properties. The State of Washington Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation and the National Park Service provide guidance and directives.

The City's purpose in historic preservation is to provide for the identification, evaluation, designation, and protection of significant historic and prehistoric resources within the City of Pullman. Properties more than 50 years old may qualify.

The City encourages the preservation and rehabilitation of eligible historic properties for future generations through special valuation. Special valuation is a provision in state tax law that allows for lower valuation for property tax purposes of restored or rehabilitated historic properties under certain circumstances.

The Historic Preservation Commission manages the special valuation program and additions to the City's list of historic properties. Owner approval is required for a property to be added to the list.

Applications are available at the Planning Department or on the department's web site.

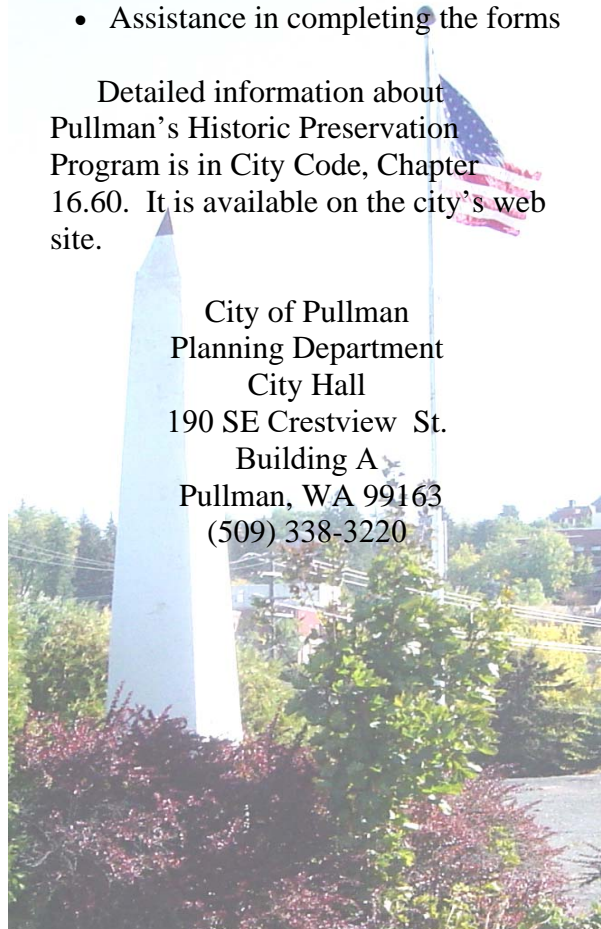
pullman-wa.gov/departments/planning

Additional resources and information are available from the Planning Department.

- Downtown historic walking tour map & brochure
- College & Pioneer Hills historic walking tour maps & brochures
- Forms to nominate historic properties (on paper and on the web)
- Assistance in completing the forms

Detailed information about Pullman's Historic Preservation Program is in City Code, Chapter 16.60. It is available on the city's web site.

City of Pullman
Planning Department
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Building A
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CITY OF PULLMAN



The City of Pullman is a Certified Local Government, approved by the National Park Service and the State of Washington to develop a list of historic places.

Preserving Our Heritage

Historic preservation safeguards the heritage of the community as represented in places that reflect significant elements of our history. Preservation fosters civic and neighborhood pride in the beauty and accomplishments of the past as well as a sense of identity based on our community's history.

Preserving historic sites improves aesthetics and revitalizes the use of such sites. The process is an environmentally friendly choice, extending the use of valuable materials in the existing built environment.

The Historic Preservation Commission assists and encourages private owners of historic properties to take advantage of incentives to preserve, restore, and redevelop their properties. Incentives might include special property tax valuation, special use permits, and building code relief.



The Local Register

Any building, structure, site, object, or district may be designated for inclusion in the Pullman Register of Historic Places if it is significantly associated with the history, architecture, archeology, engineering, or cultural heritage of the community; if it has integrity; is at least 50 years old and falls into one of at least eleven categories stated in the policy.

Anyone can nominate a place, but the owner of an individual property must approve the nomination. In the case of a district, at least 60% of the owners of distinct properties located within the district must approve the nomination. Nomination forms are available from the Planning Department or from the department's web site.

The Historic Preservation Commission considers nominations and approves adding a property or district to the city's register. Properties on the list share this honorary designation denoting significant association with the historic, archeological, engineering, or cultural heritage of the community. Properties on the register may be eligible for special property tax valuation.

Property Tax Valuation

The City of Pullman and the Whitman County Assessor administer a state program offering special property tax valuation for rehabilitated historic properties. If the Historic Preservation Commission approves the rehabilitation for special valuation, the Assessor subtracts the rehabilitation cost from the assessed value of the property for up to ten years.

- A property must be individually listed on the city's register of historic places or it must be certified by the Historic Preservation Commission as a contributing property within an historic district.
- Expenditures on rehabilitation must be at least 25% of the assessed value of the building (excluding the value of the land).
- All work must be completed within 24 months prior to the application.
- Work must comply with standards for historic rehabilitation and must be approved by the Commission.
- Applications must be filed by October 1 of the calendar year preceding the assessment year for which special valuation is sought.

The Historic Preservation Commission considers the application for special property tax valuation. If approved, the commission sends its decision forward to the County Assessor.

Details of the city's role in special property tax valuation for historic properties are in section 16.60.070.