

-Historic Preservation-

A statement by John Ruskin (1819-1900) a founder of the National Trust made more than a century ago said it best:

..."and if we do our job well, it is possible that our children will say, see they did this for us; they saw the beauty of the landscape and worth of these buildings, they protected and nurtured them and they passed them on to us".....

In many communities, historic preservation has been regarded as important not only as a memorial to the community's past and its founders, but also as an element of an economic development program. Authentic and careful rehabilitation of historic buildings and sites has often provided a focus or theme for revitalization. Owners of old buildings can claim a tax credit for rehabilitation for more information contact Utah Division of State History (Division). The Division also has a local program for towns called Utah Certified Local Government (CLG) program that provides grants for historic preservation. The purpose of this program is to assist local governments in documenting and preserving their historic buildings and archaeological sites. The grants require a 50/50 match.

To get started call Debbie Dahl at 801-533-3537 and get a package on how to start a Utah Certified Local Government (CLG) program in your town. You will have to pass a town ordinance in support of preservation of historic buildings and places. You would apply for a grant to hire a consultant to inventory your town for the historic buildings that could establish a local historic district.

Historic Preservation establishes a framework for a local historic preservation program that will identify and designate special resources in the community; recognizes and promote an awareness of community's history; and define policies for the preservation of significant historical, archaeological and cultural resources that retains the fabric of the community.

A Historic Preservation ordinance created by a community may create an local historic district, designate historic landmarks and formalize the community's commitment to historic preservation by:

- creating a sense of pride in our heritage; and
- preventing the loss of valuable historic resources; and,
- create economic benefits by enhancing tourism and increasing property values

What you can do:

- Before historic resources are lost, identify and preserve existing buildings with historical and architectural features that give your community its distinctiveness and visual character.
- Retain and reuse historic buildings even through it is more expensive to do so. They are priceless to future generations. The buildings and features of our communities have exceptional value in illustrating and interpreting our heritage and are tangible reminders of people, events and ideas that have shaped our history.
- Ensure that preservation of historic resources is included in planning and zoning documents.
- Under a design review ordinance, a community could create a design review in historic district to help preserve the character, shape and form of new structures built in a local historic area.
- Retain the integrity of exterior features of an historic building and do not remodel the exterior shape of the building.

Call:

Division of State History / (<http://www.history.utah.gov/>)

Utah State Historical Society

State Historical Preservation Office

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Utah Heritage Foundation

Utah Heritage Foundation (<http://www.utahheritagefoundation.com/>)

is an organization dedicated to preserving, protecting, and promoting Utah's Historic built environment. For more information visit their web site:

Utah Humanities Council also provides grants for historic preservation. For more information visit their web site. www.utahhumanities.org

Neighborhood Conservation Districts

Increasingly, local jurisdictions are turning to “Neighborhood Conservation Districts” in an effort to preserve neighborhoods that don’t qualify for a National Register Historic District. A National Trust for Historic Preservation publication,

Protecting Older neighborhoods through Conservation District Programs is a useful tool and can be found at <http://www.preservationbooks.org/>

The National Trust Main Street Program to help revitalize your main street

The National Trust Main Street Center is a program of the **National Trust for Historic Preservation**. (<http://nationaltrust.org/>) In the 1970s, the National Trust developed its pioneering Main Street approach to commercial district revitalization, an innovative methodology that combines historic preservation with economic development to restore prosperity and vitality to downtowns and neighborhood business districts. Today, the message has spread, as the Center advocates a comprehensive approach that rural and urban communities alike can use to revitalize their traditional commercial areas through historic preservation and grassroots-based economic development. It has created a network of more than 40 statewide, citywide, and countywide Main Street programs with more than 1,200 active Main Street programs nationally.



The Center has led the preservation-based revitalization movement by serving as the nation's clearinghouse for information, technical assistance, research, and advocacy. Through our consulting services, conferences, publications, membership, newsletter, and trainings, it has educated and empowered thousands of individuals and local organizations to lead the revitalization of their downtowns and neighborhood commercial districts

For more information visit their web page <http://www.mainstreet.org/>
