

Naperville Historic Preservation Ordinance

Current Purpose Statement:

The purpose of this chapter is to identify those structures, sites and neighborhoods in the city that have historic, architectural and aesthetic significance and to preserve and maintain them for current and future residents by encouraging renovation, rehabilitation and repair that is consistent with their historic, architectural and aesthetic character.

Furthermore, it is the purpose of this chapter to strengthen the economy of the city by stabilizing and improving property values in historic areas, and to encourage new or rehabilitated buildings and developments that will be harmonious with existing historic structures, sites and neighborhoods. (Ord. 84-201, 12-17-1984)

Revised Purpose Statement Proposed by the Working Group

In acknowledgment that Naperville's historic architecture, districts and neighborhoods contribute to the community's economic well-being and development, the purpose of this chapter [of the municipal code] is to protect these valuable resources by:

1. Fostering civic pride through public education and enhanced awareness of Naperville's rich history as embodied in its architecture, neighborhoods and districts.
2. Preserving Naperville's heritage by proactively providing tools and oversight to identify and regulate landmarks and historic districts.
3. Protecting neighborhood character by requiring that rehabilitations, renovations and new improvements are compatible in terms of scale, style, exterior features, building placement and site access.
4. Supporting property owners and property values for designated historic areas or landmarks by encouraging repair, rehabilitations and renovations that are compatible with their architectural and aesthetic historical character.