

CITY OF COLUMBUS
Historic Landmarks Preservation Commission
105 N. Dickason Blvd
Columbus, WI 53925



[Address]
Columbus, WI 53925

Dear Historic Homeowner:

Thank you for being a steward to one of Columbus's historic homes! Columbus has a long history of preservation and honoring architecture that goes along with the homes and businesses in our community. We have over 200 century-old buildings in our little town, along with a rich legacy of manufacturing and farming.

The city of Columbus has several historic districts in the community:

Columbus Downtown Historic District: This 10-acre area features 79, mostly cream-brick, buildings constructed between 1852 and 1938, serving as the city's commercial hub. It includes the Farmers and Merchants Union Bank, designed by Louis Sullivan, and was a filming location for the 2009 movie *Public Enemies*.

Prairie Street Historic District: A residential district comprising 39 houses, two carriage houses, and a church, showcasing diverse architectural styles, including Victorian Gothic and American Craftsman. It is noted for its large, subdivided lots and houses dating from 1860 to 1936.

Dix Street-Warner Street Historic District: A residential area on the west side featuring 26 houses, highlighting residential development patterns.

South Dickason Boulevard Residential Historic District: Recognized for its well-preserved, cohesive neighborhood, illustrating early 1800s development patterns.

The Columbus Historic Landmarks and Preservation Commission (CHLPC) has purchased additional markers homes listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in two of our historic districts: The South Dickason Boulevard Historic District and the Prairie Street Historic District. You may have seen these updated markers

in front of other historic homes that are listed on Columbus' Historic Walking Tour. Having purchased these additional markers, CHLPC has been able to complete recognizing

all homes on the NRHP in the South Dickason Boulevard Residential District and have only 5 more homes to recognize in the Prairie Street District to complete another recognized

district. This will be an ongoing project for CHLPC, with the goal of recognizing all homes in Columbus that are listed on the NRHP, in all four of our historic districts. Your home, originally owned by [Historic Owner] and built [Year] is in the [District].

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These markers are available to you at no cost. They come with one small fence post that will be attached to the marker and can easily be placed into the ground. The intent is to leave the markers in the ground year-round, as the product that was chosen for the marker is weather-resistant with a reportedly long life. In the past, homeowners placed them in a section of their yard that did not require them to be moved when lawn care or maintenance needed to be completed, as well as in a highly visible spot that allowed people to easily see them from the sidewalk.



Around the end of September and early October volunteers will place your marker near the front entrance of your home, such as on the porch, so that you can display it in an outdoor spot of your choosing. We encourage you to call the Diggers Hotline prior to putting the sign into the ground: 811 or 800-242-8511. We are hopeful that you will find the marker attractive and will be eager to display it to identify your historic home.

As a historic homeowner, you have access to an incentive to help you maintain and preserve your historic property – Historic Property Tax Credits. If you are interested in learning more information about the National Register of Historic Places or Wisconsin Historic Property tax credits, in depth information can be found with the web address below, in addition to a brief explanation included in this letter:

<https://www.wisconsinhistory.org/preserve/state-historic-preservation-office/historic-rehabilitation-tax-credits/homeowner-historic-tax-credit/>

Thank you for supporting Columbus's historic preservation mission!

Sincerely,
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