

Benefits of Historic Preservation

- Safeguards the heritage of the community represented in its buildings, objects and sites
- Fosters neighborhood pride and the sense of identity based on the community's history
- Stabilizes and improves the aesthetic and economic vitality and values of historic sites
- Promotes the conservation of valuable material and energy resources of the existing built environment

Special Property Tax Valuation

Property owners may qualify for an exemption for a portion of property tax on improvements to historic properties. To be eligible for the tax break, the property must be on the Millwood Register of Historic Places or be a contributing property in a designated historic district; the rehabilitation work must be at least 25% of the assessed value of the building prior to the work; and the work must

Clearwater House 3216 N Hutchinson

be done in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, and the improvements must have been completed within 24 months of the application. Contact the Millwood Planning office to learn more about the special property tax valuation program.

How We Can Help

- Assist with research on history of property
- Consult about local register qualification
- Guidelines for historic rehabilitation of property

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Millwood Register of Historic Places

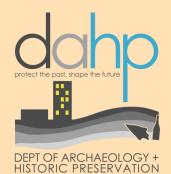
A property may be included on the Millwood Register if it is associated with the history, architecture, archaeology or cultural heritage of the community, have integrity (that is, it has not been altered too much), is at least 50 years old or if younger it has exceptional importance, and it falls into one of eleven historic categories such as a distinctive architectural style, an outstanding work of a builder or architect, or is associated with significant events.

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Who We Are

The Millwood Historic Preservation
Commission was established in 2014 to
promote the preservation and improvement
of the many historic properties in Millwood,
not just in the Millwood Historic District, and
to provide property owners with the special
tax valuation incentives available under
Washington State law. Commissioners are
appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the
city council.

The commission meets monthly on the third Thursday at 6:00 p.m. at city hall. Everyone is welcome.







Contact Us

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Rosebush House, 3318 N Marguerite Rd National Register of Historic Places, 2000



MILLWOOD HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Saving Millwood's Past for the Future

Historical Context

For centuries, the Upper Spokane Indians wintered next to the Spokane River at present-day Millwood. When a newly-formed Coeur d'Alene-Spokane Railroad Co. was planning an electric rail line in 1903, local settler Seth Woodard and his father, Joseph, enticed the company with the promise of free right-of-way through their adjoining properties.

In 1909, W. A. Brazeau convinced Nekoosa-Edwards Paper Co. of Appleton, Wisconsin to invest in building a paper mill at Woodard Station. The new mill began producing paper in September, 1911. In 1923, Mill management established a revolving home loan fund to help employees build homes. The company offered lots for sale and provided books of house plans for reference. The development of northeastern Millwood, platted as "Grandview Acres" was shaped by the early 1900's dream of owning rural land within easy commuting distance to shopping and job - a healthy place to raise food and children.

In 1928, Millwood became the first incorporated Town in the Spokane Valley. Increased housing demand following WWII spurred Millwood to annex and plat numerous tracts of land north and west of its historic core. These Millwood neighborhoods now display a variety of post-WWII ranch-style homes.



In 2001, the commercial buildings and homes located in Millwood's core were collectively listed on the National Register of Historic Places as "Millwood Historic District". In addition to the structures in the Millwood Historic District, there are numerous buildings in Millwood outside of the district that would qualify for historic preservation incentives.

History: Remembering the Past

Arts: Enriching the Present

Business: Promoting the Future



Millwood Business District c. 1920s

Planning a Renovation Project?

The idea is to keep the true character of the building, as it was originally designed. The intent is to preserve the building's historic integrity.

Preserve-Repair-Replace:

Preserve features that are important in defining the overall historic character of the structure. Protect or Repair if necessary using appropriate methods and materials. Replace with appropriate materials only if necessary.

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation are available on-line. These are excellent guidelines for your rehabilitation project. www.nps.gov/tps/standards/rehabilitation.htm

Online Resources

Millwood History Enthusiasts www.millwoodhistory.com

Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation www.dahp.wa.gov

National Register of Historic Places www.nps.gov/nr/

National Trust for Historic Preservation www.preservationnation.org

Spokane City-County Historic Preservation Office www.historicspokane.org



Stevens House, 3306 N Dale Rd



Historic Doesn't Mean It Has To Be Grand

What you might call "modest" homes are also eligible for historic preservation designation and incentives. In fact, the less value in the property, the easier it is to qualify for special property tax valuation. And it does not have to be located in a historic district either. There are over 500 potentially eligible homes throughout Millwood that could be added to the Local Register.

Woodard house, 3402 E Frederick

