



Council Agenda Item

Meeting Date:	June 16, 2026
Agenda Item:	Landmark Designation Request for Stone Stable Building
Staff Contact (name, email, phone):	Mason Becker, mbecker@whitewater-wi.gov

BACKGROUND

(Enter the who, what when, where, why)

A Local Landmark Designation Nomination Form has been submitted to the Community Development Department requesting designation of the building known as the “Stone Stable”, located at 301 W. Whitewater Street (Municipal Parking Lot B), as a local historic landmark under Title 17 of the Whitewater Municipal Code.

The subject property is owned by the City of Whitewater, which requires the Common Council to formally determine whether to consent to or object to the designation.

The nomination was prepared by the Chair of the Landmarks Commission (dated April 20, 2026), identifying the structure as historically significant, with origins dating back to the 1840’s and associations with early settlement and transportation uses in Whitewater.

The structure was relocated and reconstructed in 2007 and is currently maintained as an asset on City-owned land adjacent to the public parking lot area.

If the Common Council approves moving forward with the historical designation, a public hearing before the Landmarks Commission will be scheduled at a future meeting, at which time public input will be received prior to a recommendation being forwarded back to the Common Council.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

(Dates, committees, action taken)

- Landmarks Commission had previous discussion regarding landmark designation for Stone Stable February 4, 2026
- Landmarks Commission approved moving forward with the landmark designation at their June 3, 2026 meeting and forwarding the request to Common Council.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

(If none, state N/A)

- Designating the building as a local landmark could potentially increase staff time and expenses for any alterations or repairs done to the building in order to ensure they are done in a way that meets historic preservation standards. Any alterations to the building would also be restricted.
- Designation may also limit any future options the city may wish to consider for the property where the building is currently located. Staff are not recommending or suggesting any change in use for this property at this time.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff acknowledges the importance and value of preserving historical structures, however staff is also aware of potential added costs associated with maintaining such landmarked structures. The Landmarks Committee indicated at their June 3, 2026 meeting, that being designated a Local Landmark would not incur additional financial burden on maintenance of the structure. As long as this is true, staff is recommending a motion for the Landmarks Commission to schedule a Public Hearing on the designation of the Stone Stable as a Local Historical Landmark.

ATTACHMENT(S) INCLUDED

(If none, state N/A)

- Memo from Zoning Specialist regarding Nomination Form
 - Local Landmark Designation Nomination Form for Stone Stable
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