

FEATURED LANDMARK



THE FOOTE HOUSE 1130 Franklin Street

"The historic foundation of our community is what makes it unique and valuable. To have a tangible reminder of the original heritage and vision our founders had in mind actually helps shape the future of the town."

~Cynthia

Preserving your property as a historic landmark is easier than ever and there is no cost, so call the Village or visit us on the web and let us help landmark your historic home today.

630.434.5515
www.downers.us



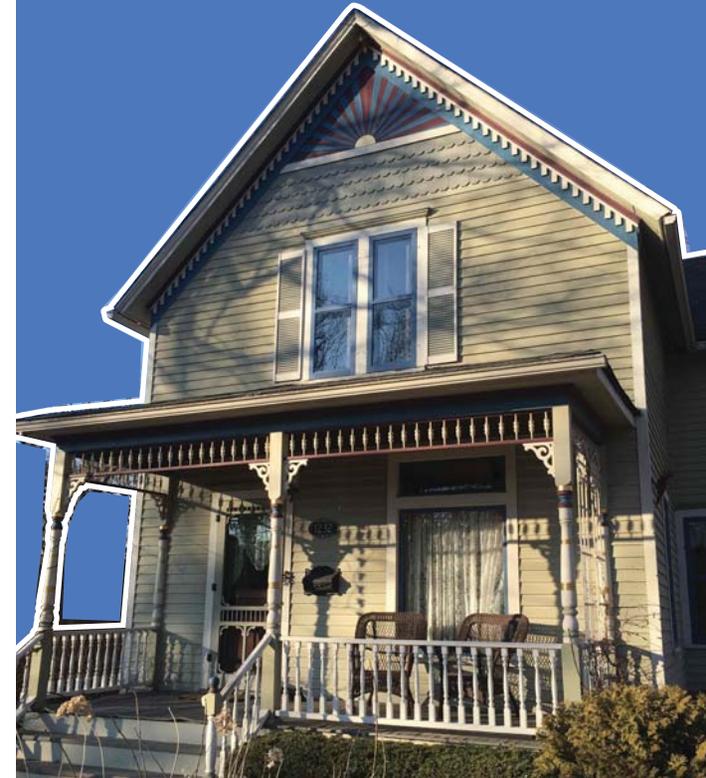
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National Park Service
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20013-7127

or
Equal Employment Opportunity Officer
Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
One Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, IL 62701

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HISTORIC PRESERVATION EASIER THAN EVER



"It has been said that, at its best, preservation engages the past in a conversation with the present over a mutual concern for the future."

William Murtagh

First Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places

BENEFITS

- Help preserve a part of Downers Grove's history for future generations to enjoy
- Free professional guidance from architectural and preservation specialists
- 8 year freeze of assessed value of your home for rehabilitation projects
- 20% Federal Income Tax Credit for rehabilitations to income-producing properties in federally certified landmark districts
- Flexibility in meeting multiple building codes
- Property values and the marketability of historic properties are typically enhanced by landmark designations
- Community recognition
- Receive a designation plaque



EASY STEPS

MEET WITH STAFF

Talk with staff to walk-through the process, application, and to identify available resources for further research. Staff can give you model nominations if you would like a guide.

APPLY

Answer the easy questions, and let staff help you with the rest! Focus on the exterior; the architectural style; the designer; or the importance of prior inhabitants. And there is no cost to apply.

ATTEND THE HEARING

Staff will present your application to the Architectural Design Review Board (ADRB). You are encouraged to talk about the unique qualities of your property. The board will make a recommendation to Village Council.

FINAL ACTION

Village Council will review the ADRB's recommendation and vote on landmark status.



LANDMARK TYPES

In December 2015 the The Village Council adopted a new Historic Preservation Ordinance. This new ordinance results in a simplified application process, waiver of all fees, a reduction in regulations, and a new type of landmark district.



INDIVIDUAL LANDMARK

A single property that possesses exceptional architectural style or a notable connection to the past.

CONTIGUOUS DISTRICTS

A contiguous district consists of two or more adjacent properties that meet landmark criteria, and must be supported by 51% of the property owners in the district.

THEMATIC DISTRICTS

A thematic district allows the owners of similar properties to form a historic district, regardless of their location. For example, the owners of Victorian-style homes located throughout the Village could form a district.