

Historic Preservation Committee

La Jolla Historical Society's Historic Preservation Committee promotes and supports the continuing evolution of a quality built environment through activities related to the preservation of historic sites, structures, and features in La Jolla. The Committee is composed of members with experience in preservation matters, with backgrounds as architects, consultants, property owners, real estate agents, city planners, and with municipal board and commission service. Committee members are knowledgeable of community history and late 19th Century and 20th Century architecture. The Preservation Committee works to—

1. Advocate for historic sites, structures, and features that are worthy of preservation, in accordance with the Local, State and National Register Criteria for Evaluation of sites and structures.
2. Advocate for selective new construction projects with future historic potential or impact.
3. Outreach and cultivate relationships with owners of historic properties and prospective owners of historic properties; their realtors, architects, attorneys, and other representatives; other historic preservation nonprofit organizations; and municipal, state, and national historic preservation regulators and officials,
4. Facilitate collaborative engagement towards the retention, preservation, and stewardship of historic assets in accordance with Secretary of Interior standards and best practices;
5. Provide educational programs related to historic preservation; and,
6. Serve as a resource for historical research by providing access to the LJHS archive and reference information about administrative process and subject matter experts.

If you have questions regarding historic properties, the designation process, need referrals to subject matter experts, or seek access to research materials related to La Jolla properties, please contact the La Jolla Historical Society office at 858.459.5335 or info@lajollahistory.org.

Who decides what is historic?

Historical status is established by a vote of the City's Historical Resources Board (HRB). Properties are designated by HRB based on review of a historical study that documents the property's significance. Historical studies are typically prepared by a historian consultant but property owners may prepare a study on their own for historical designation. Historical site designations are made by HRB at a publicly noticed hearing. The owner is specifically notified in writing before the hearing. After a property has been designated as a historical site, it will be placed on the City's Register of Designated Historical Resources.

What makes a property historically significant?

In order to be designated as a historically significant site, the historical study must provide evidence that sites meet at least one of the following City of San Diego historical designation criteria:

- Exemplifies or reflects special elements of the City's, a community's or a neighborhood's historical, archaeological, cultural, social, economic, political, aesthetic, engineering, landscaping or architectural development.
- Is identified with persons or events significant in local, state or national history.
- Embodies distinctive characteristics of a style, type, period, or method of construction or is a valuable example of the use of indigenous materials or craftsmanship.
- Is representative of the notable work of a master builder, designer, architect, engineer, landscape architect, interior designer, artist, or craftsman.
- Is listed or has been determined eligible by the National Park Service for listing on the National Register of Historic Places or is listed or has been determined eligible by the California State Office of Historic Preservation for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources.
- Is a finite group of resources related to one another in a clearly distinguishable way or is a geographically definable area or neighborhood containing improvements which have a special character, historical interest or aesthetic value or which represent one or more architectural periods or styles in the history and development of the City.

For more information about Writing an Historical Research Report* for submission to the city, please visit the **City of San Diego website**. Additional information can be found at **Save our Heritage Organisation****.

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