

# LANDMARK DISTRICTS IN PASADENA



A landmark district is a grouping of contiguous properties that is united by a plan or physical development and represents a specific aspect of the City's history – typically particular architecture trends or development patterns. The City currently has 23 designated landmark districts as well as 20 historic districts listed in the National Register of Historic Places. See map on reverse.

## BENEFITS OF LANDMARK DISTRICTS

### 1 PRESERVE NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTER

A landmark district enables a neighborhood to preserve its historic character through the Certificate of Appropriateness process. A Certificate of Appropriateness is a written approval, which confirms that exterior modifications to a historic resource comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and the City's Design Guidelines for Historic Districts. A certificate is required before a building permit can be issued. Projects are reviewed by the Historic Preservation Commission or Staff depending on the type of project proposed.

### 2 MILLS ACT ELIGIBILITY

The City of Pasadena Historic Property Contract Program, also known as the Mills Act, provides property owners of qualifying privately owned historic properties with a tax reduction to assist with rehabilitation, restoration and/or maintenance of their property according to the Secretary of Interior Standards. The contract is required to have a 10-year work program and is limited to property valued below \$1.5 million (with some exceptions). The City is allowed to enter into historic property contracts with 20 single family properties per year.

### 3 OTHER INCENTIVES- RELAXED BUILDING CODE & FREE CONSULTATION

For historic buildings, the City is authorized to use the State Historical Building Code, an alternative code that allows limited modifications to current building code standards. The use of this code can save a property owner money (e.g., a porch railing that does not meet the current standards for height could be kept instead of replaced with a higher railing). Also, properties that are proposing an addition can request a waiver of the two-car parking requirement. Landmark district designation also makes it possible for property owners to access professional consultation, free of charge, from City staff who have expertise in historic building rehabilitation.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

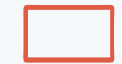
For additional information on this program:



Contact:  
(626) 744- 4009



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[www.cityofpasadena.net/historic](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/historic)

