

HERNDON IS *Historic*



Station Street in 1910. Do you see any buildings you recognize? Photo from Fairfax County Public Library.

- Herndon's oldest building, the Payne House, dates to 1783.
- The downtown Heritage Preservation District contains significant buildings ranging in age from 1855 to 1940.
- The Town was incorporated in 1879.
- Herndon's downtown Heritage Preservation District was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1991.
- Herndon's historic atmosphere is unique among nearby towns and cities.

"With the recent rapid growth and development of Fairfax County, Herndon represents one of the few communities in the region that has retained much of its original building fabric and small town character that date from the turn of the [20th] century."
– 1991 National Register Nomination



Questions?

Contact Herndon Department of Community Development at (703) 787-7380 or community.development@herndon-va.gov



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Above: The Herndon Depot was built in 1857 and represents Herndon's past as a railroad community.
Front Cover: 697 Spring Street in 1900 (top) and today (bottom). Historic photo from Fairfax County Public Library.



HISTORIC PRESERVATION IN HERNDON

An Introduction for Community Members



PRESERVATION *Benefits*

Studies show that historic preservation is a smart move...

- *Sustainably:* Reusing historic buildings and materials uses less energy than new construction.
- *Economically:* Historic districts boost property values, attract small businesses, and draw visitors and tourists.
- *Socially:* People derive a sense of well-being from older buildings.



Historic buildings attract small businesses, like Green Lizard Cycling and Coffee in Herndon.

COA *Applications*

A *Certificate of Appropriateness (COA)* is required for any alteration, restoration, or construction on a building or property within a heritage preservation district, regardless of whether the building is historic (contributing) or more recent (noncontributing).

Some types of minor work do not require a COA, though they do require a permit. These include:

- Adding or removing storm doors or windows, window boxes, or portable air-conditioners.
- Adding or removing antennas, sky lights, or a solar collector *in locations not visible from the street.*
- Landscaping, grading, walks, retaining walls less than twelve inches in height, and temporary fencing.
- Changes to private memorials in cemeteries.
- Minor additions or deletions to an existing building which are not subject to public view and *which will not significantly alter the character of the building.*
- Alterations that do not affect the exterior appearance of a structure.

In addition, paint palettes and fence type COAs can be approved by Heritage Preservation staff without a formal review

PRESERVATION *Incentives*

Historic Preservation Tax Credits are available for eligible work on National Register properties and properties over fifty years old. Virginia property owners can receive federal credits of up to 20% and state credits of up to 25% for qualifying work on a historic property.

Did you know that Virginia is one of few states that offers its historic preservation tax credit for homeowners? Because Herndon is listed on the National Register, homeowners can receive a credit of 25% of expenses for qualifying work on their historic property. For more information, see <http://www.tax.virginia.gov/content/tax-credits>.



In Virginia, owners of historic homes like this one are eligible for historic preservation tax credits.