

# A Property Owner's Guide *to*



# PRESCOTT

## HISTORIC

## DISTRICTS



CITY OF PRESCOTT PLANNING & ZONING DEPARTMENT/HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
201 South Cortez Street/Prescott, Arizona 86303



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## INTRODUCTION

The City of Prescott includes over 700 properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The first National Register Nomination for Prescott was submitted and approved in 1978. This district, called the “Territorial Architecture of Prescott MRA” (Multiple Resource Area), documents a number of buildings scattered around Prescott which were built before 1912. In 1989, three districts were approved: East Prescott, West Prescott, and Pine Crest. Subsequently, the following districts have been approved: Fleury’s Addition, Historic Homes at Hassayampa, Joslin and Whipple, Mile High Park, Prescott Armory, South Prescott Townsite and Whipple Heights. The City also has twelve local Historic Preservation Overlay Districts. The documentation for these historic districts provides valuable information to City volunteers, staff and the public about Prescott’s historic neighborhoods, commercial buildings, homes, cemeteries, parks and public spaces.

## WHY HISTORIC PRESERVATION?

The purpose of Prescott’s Historic Preservation Program is to increase public awareness of the City’s origin, development and historic significance; to conserve, protect and preserve the unique qualities and distinctive historic characteristics of the community; and, to facilitate restoration and rehabilitation of historic structures, landscape features and other culturally significant physical objects and geographic areas.



## CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The City of Prescott participates in the Certified Local Government (CLG) program, which is a nationwide program of technical and financial assistance to preserve historic buildings. Responsibilities of a CLG include maintaining a historic preservation commission, surveying local historic properties, providing public input and enforcing state and local preservation laws.

To help accomplish these responsibilities, the City Council established the Prescott Preservation Commission in 1980. A Historic Preservation Master Plan was approved and adopted by the City Council in 1998.



# PRESERVE AMERICA COMMUNITY

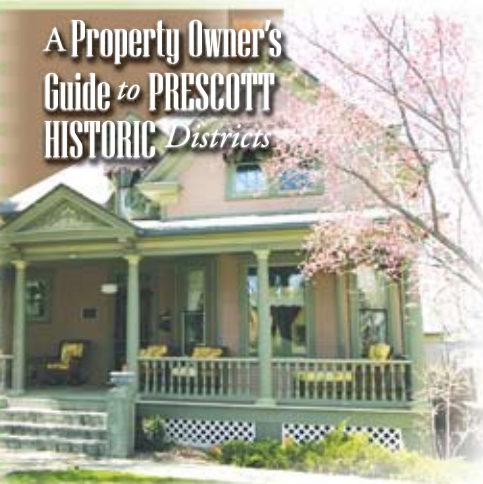
On July 23, 2004, Prescott was officially designated as a "Preserve America Community" by First Lady Laura Bush. This designation, only the second one in the State of Arizona, recognized the City of Prescott's long-term dedication to preservation; the City's exceptional efforts to protect and celebrate the City's heritage; its use of the City's historic assets for economic development and revitalization; and, the City's on-going encouragement of people to experience and appreciate local historic resources through educational and heritage tourism programs.



## THE FUTURE OF PRESERVATION

We "preserve" things every day (such as photographs, mementos, etc.) for a variety of reasons, but perhaps the most important is that preservation provides a link to our past. Historic preservation, however, is much more than protecting individual buildings; preservation means maintaining the character of whole communities. Our community is a tangible manifestation of who we are and the role our predecessors had in shaping the region. The many resources we have in our possession are not confined to a museum—they are a living history of the past handed down to us by previous generations. Preservation is a record written not with ink, but with brick, stone, wood, landscape, and space. To lose this record would be the same as losing the pages out of our history books. The Historic Preservation Master Plan is a proactive means of planning for the identification, preservation, and protection of Prescott's character and historic resources in order to enhance the quality of life and economic well being of current and future generations.

### A Property Owner's Guide to PRESCOTT HISTORIC *Districts*



#### TIMELINE

**1821**

Mexico gained military control of what would become Arizona Territory. The first trappers and traders from the United States came into the area.

**1848**

The United States won the Mexican War and gained all of the land that would become Arizona Territory north of the Gila River.

**1851**

Captain Lorenzo Sitgreaves lead the first American military expedition into the future Arizona Territory.

**1853**

The Gadsden Purchase completed the land transactions for what would become Arizona Territory.

**1862**

President of the Confederacy, Jefferson Davis, confirmed a proclamation declaring all of New Mexico south of the 34th parallel to be known as the "Confederate Territory of Arizona".

**1863**

On February 24, The Territory of Arizona was created by Congress as a result of the Organic Act, with Prescott as its capital and with four counties: Mohave, Pima, Yavapai and Yuma.

**1863**

In the spring, the Walker Party, a group of prospectors, arrived in the Prescott area.



# PRESCOTT HISTORY

Prescott was founded in 1864 as the Territorial Capital of Arizona. Though three of the names originally proposed for Prescott were “Audubon”, “Goodwin City” and “Aztlán”, the name “Prescott” was chosen in honor of William Hickling Prescott, author of *The History of the Conquest of Mexico*. *The Arizona Miner* reported that the name was accepted because Prescott was “a good citizen, a true patriot, with industry, perseverance under difficulty, amiability of character and love of country.”

At the same time Prescott was established as the Territorial Capital, it was also designated as the County Seat of Yavapai County, one of four original territorial counties. Although the Capital moved to Tucson from 1867 to 1877, the Capital returned to Prescott at the end of 1877 and remained until it was moved permanently to Phoenix in 1889. During these years as Territorial Capital, Prescott was the dominant political center of the Territory and was protected and influenced by the presence of nearby Fort Whipple.

The decade of the 1880s saw fluctuations in the economic condition of Prescott due to slumps in mining activity, especially a severe slump in 1885 which resulted in the closing of several Prescott businesses. The community was strong enough to recover economically based on the rapid growth of the cattle industry in the area. On December 31,



**1864**

On May 30, a community meeting was held to select a name for the new capital and to select a committee to lay out the townsite.

Prescott, named for historian William Hickling Prescott, was founded as the Capital of Arizona Territory. John N. Goodwin was appointed Governor of the Territory. The Governor's Mansion was constructed. Fort Whipple was established in Prescott.

**1865**

Prescott was described as a town “built entirely of wood and inhabited entirely by Americans”, a unique circumstance in the Territory and in the West. The first official Prescott weather report was recorded on January 1 at Fort Whipple. Pah-Ute County was created.

**1866**

Pah-Ute County was ceded to the State of Nevada.

**1867**

Territorial Capital was moved to Tucson. Prescott lost its designation as the Capital by one vote.

**1870**

Population of Arizona Territory was 9,568; population of Prescott was 666.

**1872 TIMELINE**

Prescott's first schoolhouse was built by Samuel C. Rogers on the south end of the current campus of Mile High Middle School. It burned in 1948.



## PRESCOTT HISTORY, *continued*

1886, the Prescott and Arizona Central Railway was opened connecting Prescott with the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad. In 1893 it was replaced by a branch of the Santa Fe Railroad. By 1895 the Santa Fe, Prescott and Phoenix Railroad (also known as the "Peavine") connected Prescott's mining area with the Southern Pacific line. The access to the railroad bolstered the mercantile sector of the local economy and led to the establishment of several new dry goods and mining supply businesses. Communication and utilities improved along with transportation. An electric light plant was built in 1889 and telephones arrived shortly thereafter. The year 1889 also marked the year that the Capital was moved to Phoenix. In spite of this political loss, Prescott continued to prosper and develop as the 19th Century drew to a close.

By 1900, established residences were clearly reflecting the Victorian era architectural styles: Cottages, Greek Revival, Octagon, Queen Anne, Gothic Revival, Eastlake, Stick, Shingle, Italianate. People were moving across Granite Creek and into areas south and west of town. Commercial development was altered dramatically when a disastrous fire on July 14, 1900, destroyed four and one-half blocks of downtown Prescott. Twelve hotels and 20 mercantile establishments were lost. After the fire, citizens soon viewed the event as a chance to replace the old wooden buildings common in the downtown area with more permanent concrete, brick and stone buildings. These buildings reflected a shift from exuberant Victorian styles to a more controlled formality of styles.

The Fire of 1900 not only brought on a new era in architecture, but it also seemed to stimulate a variety of social and public improvements. Downtown, cement sidewalks and paved streets replaced the dusty thoroughfares of the 1800s. Fort Whipple was

## A Property Owner's Guide to PRESCOTT HISTORIC *Districts*

### TIMELINE

**1873**

The first telegraph was sent to Prescott.

**1874**

The Bashford – Burmister Company was formed.

**1875**

W. Z. Wilson built what would become known as the "Fremont House".

**1876**

Morris Goldwater, one of the most influential merchants in the Territory, arrived in Prescott. Prescott Free Academy opened on what is now the campus of Washington School.

**1877**

The capital was moved back to Prescott. The Octagon House was built by Dr. Warren E. Day at 212 East Gurley Street. T. W. Otis built his Gothic Revival house on North Pleasant Street. The first bank in the Territory was chartered in Prescott.

**1878**

The pink brick Courthouse was completed on the Courthouse Plaza. Telephones were installed at Fort Whipple. The Edmund Wells House was constructed at 303 South Cortez. The Sisters of St. Joseph arrived in Prescott to establish a hospital and a school.





reopened after a brief closure in the 1890s which provided the community with a steady influx of federal dollars. Craftsman, Classical Bungalow, Vernacular and Revival architecture became the prominent residential styles during the first part of the century and remained popular through the 1930s.

The Yavapai Chamber of Commerce (now the Prescott Chamber of Commerce) was founded in 1914 to promote Yavapai County and especially the Prescott area for its healthful climate. Prescott, along with Arizona in general, was experiencing an increase in tourism. Summer, in particular, was a busy time of the year for Prescott. Many families from Phoenix would stay in summer homes in or around Prescott, or “camp out” in tents, or sometimes, in elaborate portable houses.

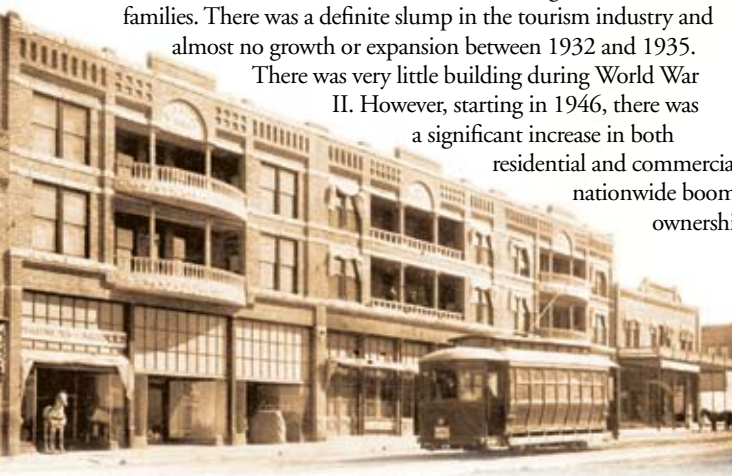
The copper mining industry also supported area growth in the early 20th Century because of the extra demands of World War I. However, by 1919 Prescott suffered the effects of postwar depression along with the rest of the state and nation. Even so, after a reduction in population during World War I, Prescott was again enjoying a steady growth rate with a population in 1920 of 5,010.

The pre-World War II depression was also very hard on the state and local area economy. Thousands of banks failed, and people were left without work or savings. However, local and federal assistance programs (the PWA, CCC, WPA) were well organized in Prescott during the late 1930s. Many local unemployed found work with the WPA in Prescott without having to leave their families. There was a definite slump in the tourism industry and almost no growth or expansion between 1932 and 1935.

There was very little building during World War II. However, starting in 1946, there was a significant increase in both

residential and commercial building, reflecting the nationwide boom in growth and home ownership for the middle class.

Prescott's significant growth occurred in the 1980s; and, since the 1980 census, the population has nearly doubled.



**1879**

The Goldwater Store opened in their new building on South Cortez Street at Union Street. It was demolished in the 1970s.

**1880**

Population of Arizona Territory was 40,440; population of Prescott was 1,836.

**1881**

The City of Prescott was incorporated and the first railroad crossed the Territory. The Prescott Morning Courier was founded by John Marion.

**1886**

The Central Arizona Railroad arrived in Prescott on December 31.

**1888**

The first Prescott rodeo was staged. William Bashford and his wife remodeled a simple cottage into the opulent Queen Anne "Bashford House", now on the grounds of Sharlot Hall Museum.

**1889**

The Capital of Arizona Territory moved permanently to Phoenix.

**TIMELINE**





# WHAT IS A HISTORIC DISTRICT?

## National Register Historic District

A National Register Historic District is a historic district that is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register is our country's official list of historic places worthy of preservation. It includes individual buildings, structures, sites, and objects as well as historic districts that are historically, architecturally, or archaeologically significant.

The National Register is maintained by the U.S. Department of the Interior. In Arizona, the National Register program is administered by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) of the Arizona State Parks Department.

## Local Historic Preservation District

A local historic district (Historic Preservation Overlay District) is a district designated by local ordinance and falls under the jurisdiction of a local preservation review commission (the Prescott Preservation Commission). A local historic district is generally an "overlay" on top of existing zoning classifications in a community; therefore, a local district commission deals only with the appearance of the district, not with the uses to which properties in the district are put.

The designation of a local district (HPD) protects the significant properties and historic character of the district. City Code (Section 3-9-1) adopts the Historic Preservation Code of the City of Prescott.

Designating a local historic district stabilizes and improves property values, fosters civic beauty, and strengthens the local economy. It results in preservation of the City's traditional qualities that reflect its cultural, social, economic, political, and architectural history. A resident's investment in a historic neighborhood property will not be undermined by new development that does not respect the character of the neighborhood or be threatened by the loss of neighboring resources that contribute to its character.

## A Property Owner's Guide to PRESCOTT HISTORIC Districts



### TIMELINE

1890	1898	1900	1903	1905	1907
Population of Arizona Territory was 88,243; population of Prescott was 1,759. J. I. Gardner built his mercantile store on North Cortez and Willis streets.	William Owen ("Buckey") O'Neill, Mayor of Prescott, helped to muster the Arizona volunteers for Teddy Roosevelt's "Rough Riders" to fight in the Spanish American War. On July 1, O'Neill, Captain, Troop A, First U. S. Cavalry, was killed at San Juan Hill, Cuba. The Sisters of Mercy Hospital was completed on Grove Avenue.	The population of Arizona Territory was 122,931; population of Prescott was 3,559. A devastating fire on July 14 burned down most of downtown Prescott. Rebuilding started almost immediately with Sam'l Hill's Hardware being the first to start reconstruction.	Prescott's Carnegie Library was completed. Washington School also opened.	On February 20, the Elks Opera House opened its doors for the first time.	On July 4, the Roughrider Memorial statue, created by Solon Borglum, was dedicated on the Courthouse Plaza.



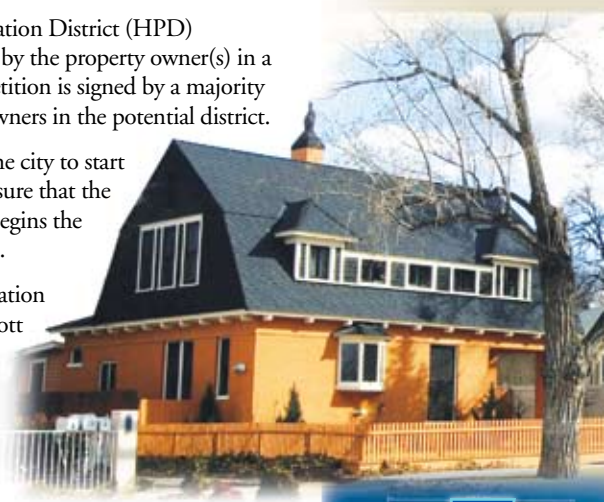
# ESTABLISHING A LOCAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION DISTRICT

The Prescott Local Historic Preservation District (HPD) designation process can be initiated by the property owner(s) in a potential district, provided that a petition is signed by a majority (51% minimum) of the property owners in the potential district.

The submission of the petition to the city to start the designation process does not ensure that the district will be created, but simply begins the steps necessary to establish an HPD.

Historic preservation district designation requests are considered by the Prescott Preservation Commission, the Prescott Planning and Zoning Commission and the City Council at public hearings.

Applications and petitions for the designation process are available at the Community Development Department. Property owners or citizens interested in establishing Prescott Local Historic Preservation Districts or obtaining information about them may contact the City of Prescott Historic Preservation Specialist at (928) 777-1318.



## REASONS TO CONTACT THE PLANNING AND ZONING DIVISION

- ✚ You are a property owner in a historic district and you are considering exterior alterations or rehabilitation, new construction or demolition.
- ✚ You want to know whether or not your property is in a National Register or Local Preservation District.
- ✚ You would like to purchase a bronze plaque for your National Register property.
- ✚ You are interested in having your property nominated to the National Register.
- ✚ You are looking for general information about your property or the District as a whole.
- ✚ You are looking for technical information about rehabilitation techniques, preservation methods, appropriate treatments, etc.



**1909**

Sharlot M. Hall of Prescott was appointed Arizona Territory's Historian, the first woman to hold an appointed political office in the Territory. Lincoln School opened.

**1911**

The Arizona Pioneers Home opened.

**1910**

Population of Arizona Territory was 204,354; population of Prescott was 5,092.

**1912**

On February 14, Valentine's Day, Arizona became the 48th State. The first Governor of the State was George W. P. Hunt.

**1913**

Tom Mix started making the earliest of his movies in Prescott. Miller Valley School opened. The first Northern Arizona State Fair, which in 1947 became the Yavapai County Fair, was held in Prescott.

**1914**

The new Prescott High School was completed on East Gurley Street. It was torn down in the early 1980s.

**TIMELINE**





## THE PRESCOTT PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Meetings of the Prescott Preservation Commission (PPC) are open to the public. The Commission usually meets the 2nd Friday of every month at 8:00 AM in City Council Chambers. Additional meetings are scheduled as necessary. Meeting agendas and minutes are posted on the City of Prescott website at [www.cityofprescott.net/leadership/meetings/](http://www.cityofprescott.net/leadership/meetings/). Printed agendas are available at City Hall approximately one week prior to a meeting.

Printed minutes are available after they are approved at the subsequent Commission meeting. Members of the Preservation Commission are volunteers and are appointed by the Mayor and City Council to serve staggered three-year terms. The purpose of the commission, according to City Code 1-22-3 is to: “[r]eview applications to establish Local Historic Preservation Districts and forward a recommendation to the City Council, and to:

- ✿ Review and approve, approve with conditions, or disapprove plans to remodel, demolish, move or change the exterior appearance of any existing building within an established district and review plans to construct any new building, structure or sign in an established district;
- ✿ Engage professional architects, designers and/ or planners as needed with approval of the City Council;
- ✿ Advise property owners in a proposed district, or from an established district, of preservation methods and techniques;
- ✿ Perform other preservation functions as the City Council may request.

If you would like to contact a Commission member, you may call the Historic Preservation office at (928) 777-1318.

If you would like to apply for consideration as a Commission member, you may call the City Clerk's office at (928) 777-1272.

### A Property Owner's Guide to PRESCOTT HISTORIC Districts

#### TIMELINE

1915 1917

On January 1, Prohibition was declared in Arizona.

On April 16, the United States entered World War I.

1918

The “new” Yavapai County Courthouse was completed on the Courthouse Plaza. On September 15, Ernest A. Love, for whom Prescott's airport is named, was shot down in his Spad XIII over France. He died 3 days later.

1919

The Grand Canyon became a National Park.

1920

Population of Arizona was 334,162; population of Prescott was 5,010.

1922

Fort Whipple officially became a Veterans Administration Hospital on April 29.

1923

Jefferson School on South Marina Street opened. It closed in 1938.



# THE APPLICATION PROCESS

All work requiring a City of Prescott permit on any building, structure, or site in a local historic district must be reviewed and approved by the Preservation Commission before work can be carried out. It is strongly recommended, but not required, that work on all National Register properties be brought to the Commission for a review to ensure compliance with the Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. The intent of these Standards is to ensure the long-term preservation of a property's significance through the preservation of historic materials and features.

The review of a project for consideration by the Commission is based entirely upon what is presented verbally and graphically. It is the Preservation Commission's desire to help you with your project as much as possible. However, a good review of your project requires enough information to make good decisions and recommendations. As much information as practical is encouraged to lessen the length of time the applicant must spend at the public hearing, the questions that may be asked during the hearing, and the chance that a decision will have to be postponed due to incomplete information.

A copy of the Historic Preservation Commission Application for project approval in a Historic Preservation District and/or Historic Preservation Landmark is available at the Planning and Zoning Department, 201 South Cortez Street or on the City of Prescott website, [www.cityofprescott.net](http://www.cityofprescott.net). Filing deadlines are generally eighteen days prior to the Commission meeting.

When an application is submitted to the Planning & Zoning Department, it will be reviewed by the Historic Preservation Specialist and/or a Community Planner for completeness. If all pertinent information is included in the application, the requested project will be placed on the Commission's agenda. A staff report and recommendation will accompany the project application and will be forwarded to the Commission members and the applicant.



1927

The Hassayampa Inn was constructed with funds raised from local citizens during an eight year effort.

1928

The Prescott Airport was dedicated on August 26th and named in memory of World War I pilot Ernest A. Love of Prescott. Sharlot M. Hall was given a lease on the "Old Governor's Mansion" and she moved herself and her collection of Arizoniana into the building. This was the beginning of the Sharlot Hall Museum on West Gurley Street.

1930

Population of Arizona was 435,573; population of Prescott was 5,517.

1931

The cornerstone for the Prescott Post Office and Federal Courthouse was laid with a parade of local citizens and dignitaries in attendance.

1932

The Smoki Museum and Pueblo buildings were completed as CWA projects.

1933

The Studio Theater opened in the newly-remodeled former Goldwater Store building on South Cortez Street. Local softball team competition programs were started as a WPA project. Prohibition ended.

TIMELINE





## THE APPLICATION PROCESS, *continued*

At its monthly meeting, the Preservation Commission will review and vote upon the projects presented. Applicants, or their representatives, are encouraged to attend the Preservation Commission meeting in order to answer any questions from the Commission or interested parties. All meetings are open to the public and neighbors/abutters are encouraged to attend.

The Building Division cannot issue a building permit until the Commission approves a project. All decisions of the Commission are logged with the Building Division following the Commission meeting. Subsequently, a building permit is issued.

## WHAT IF THE COMMISSION DENIES AN APPLICATION?

The Commission's role is to work with property owners to find appropriate treatments and solutions to design problems. It is rare that an application is denied, but it might happen if the applicant is unwilling to work with the Commission toward an acceptable alternative. Thus, it is more likely that an acceptable alternative is suggested than a denial is ordered. In any event, a decision of the Commission may be appealed to the City Council. An appeal must be filed within 30 days of the decision with the City Clerk's office.

## HOW TO VOICE YOUR OPINION

### Spoken Testimony

The Prescott Preservation Commission Chairman will call on those people who are interested in providing comments at a Commission meeting. Public hearings for "quasi-judicial" \* matters having a bearing on land use rights are held according to strict procedures established by the Arizona Open Meeting Law.

*\*The term "quasi-judicial" means that State law requires procedures which resemble those used in a court of law.*



### TIMELINE

### 1934 1939 1940 1943 1949 1950 1951

The Prescott Yavapai Indian Reservation was created.

The Prescott Armory was completed as a WPA project. The "new" Prescott High School opened, later to become Prescott Junior High School and then Mile High Middle School.

Population of Arizona was 499,261; population of Prescott was 6,018. Arizona became known as "The Grand Canyon State". Prescott's first radio station, KYCA, began broadcasting.

On April 9, Sharlot M. Hall died at the Arizona Pioneers' Home.

J. S. Acker willed 125 parcels of land to the City of Prescott for "parks and the advancement of musical culture in the community". He died six years later.

Population of Arizona was 749,587; population of Prescott was 6,764. There were 3,599 telephones in Prescott, soon to be handled by a direct-dialing system rather than an operator.

Natural gas was provided to Prescott.



## Written Testimony

A written statement may be submitted before or during a Commission meeting. If written testimony is delivered to Prescott's Historic Preservation Specialist in the Community Development Department before the agenda and staff reports are prepared, the statement will be included in the agenda packet provided to the Commissioners. This provides time to review the submitted testimony prior to the meeting.

## DESIGN REVIEW GUIDELINES

Design Review Guidelines apply to each of the Historic Preservation Overlay Districts. Any work which requires a City of Prescott permit must be agendized, reviewed and approved by the Preservation Commission. There are some exceptions, however, which can be administratively approved by the Community Development Director and/or his designee(s). These exceptions may include utility emergencies, work in the City right-of-way, minor construction projects (usually on the interior) and re-roof permits.



**1952**

The new Black Canyon Highway opened into Prescott, reducing the old Wickenburg highway trip by 18 miles.

**1954**

Prescott's first Christmas Celebration on the Courthouse Plaza was held.

**1956**

Prescott was chosen as an "All American City". The first shopping center, Park Plaza, was built on West Goodwin Street.

**1957**

In July, Prescott's second radio station, KNOT, took to the airwaves.

**1959**

Howey's Hall, which was built on the first lot sold in Prescott's Original Townsite, was demolished for the new City Hall.

**1960**

Population of Arizona was 1,302,161; population of Prescott was 12,861.

**1962**

Rotarians constructed a replica of Prescott's first school house on the grounds of Sharlot Hall Museum.

**TIMELINE**

## GLOSSARY



### A Property Owner's Guide to PRESCOTT HISTORIC Districts



**Alteration:** Any act that changes one or more of the architectural features or its accessories including, but not limited to, the erection, installation, construction, reconstruction, relocation or removal of any structure or accessory.

**Architectural Styles:** The details and architectural features of an individual building/structure classified by style. In Prescott, typical historic styles include Victorian era styles such as Greek Revival, Octagon, Queen Anne, Gothic Revival, Eastlake, Stick, Shingle and Italianate; Twentieth Century Commercial (after the Fire of 1900); Revival styles, including Beaux Arts, Classical, Romanesque and Greek Revival; Arts and Crafts period styles such as Classical and California Bungalow, Prairie, Tudor and Spanish/Mission Revival.

**Architectural Survey:** An inventory that identifies and describes the resources within a historic district, including architectural description, approximate date of construction, structural condition and relationship of the building to its setting on an Arizona Historic Property Inventory Form. It usually does not include in-depth research on a particular property.

**Building Permit:** A permit issued by the Building Division upon approval by the Prescott Preservation Commission of an alteration, construction, repair, removal, or demolition of a structure, or accessories of a structure, within a historic district.

**Construction:** The act of adding to an existing structure, erecting a new structure or adding accessories onto a structure or premises including, but not limited to, buildings, extensions, outbuildings and fire escapes.

**Design Guidelines:** The written tenets upon which the Preservation Commission and staff evaluate a proposed project for a historic property. Design Guidelines help guide the applicant's proposal, the Commission's decision and the subsequent work.

## TIMELINE

1963

Prescott's new City Hall on the southeast corner of Goodwin and Cortez was completed and was dedicated by Barry Goldwater.

1964

Prescott celebrated its Centennial. Lynx Lake, which was created by the construction of a dam, was dedicated. Barry Goldwater announced his run for the Presidency on the Courthouse steps in Prescott.

1966

Viola Jimulla, Chiefess of the Yavapai-Prescott Tribe, died as did sculptor and artist George Phippen. Prescott High School's new campus on Ruth Street opened for classes in September.

1968

Authorization was finally given for the construction of the Central Arizona Project. It was completed from the Colorado River to Tucson in 1991.

1970

Population of Arizona was 1,775,399; population of Prescott was 13,631. Yavapai College, established in 1966, opened at its present campus on East Sheldon Street.

1971

The Governor Fremont House was moved from East Union Street (it had previously been moved from East Gurley Street) to the grounds of Sharlot Hall Museum.





**Features:** Fixed results of human activity, usually at an archaeological site, such as a midden heap, petroglyph, mound or fire pit. Also, elements, such as window patterns, window hoods and shutters; porticoes, entrances and doorways; roof shapes, cornices and decorative moldings; or commercial storefronts with their individual detailing, signs and glazing, which distinguish one building or row of buildings from another and identify its architectural style.

**Fenestration:** The arrangement of openings in a building façade.

**Integrity:** A measure of the authenticity of a property's historic identity, evidenced by the survival of the physical characteristics that existed during the property's historic period in its unaltered state. In other words, maintaining the original appearance of a building, structure, site or object. If a person who was familiar with the structure, site or object when it was new, would he or she recognize it today as being essentially the same? If so, it probably has historic integrity.

**Local Preservation Ordinance:** The local law that establishes the Preservation Commission, states its purpose, powers and responsibilities. It is authorized under state enabling legislation.

**Massing:** The overall composition of the exterior of the major volumes of a building.

**Preservation:** The act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity and materials of a historic property.

**Remodel:** The process of modifying an existing building, or space, for current use; typically includes replacing some of the existing fabric and/or features.

**Restoration:** The act or process of accurately depicting the form, features, and character of a property as it appeared at a particular period of time by the means of the removal of features from other periods in its history and reconstruction of missing features from the restoration period.

**Rehabilitation:** The act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features which convey historical, cultural or architectural values.



**1974**

The Bashford House was moved from East Gurley Street to the campus of Sharlot Hall Museum, Prescott's first community-driven historic preservation project. In its place is Prescott's first fast-food restaurant, Jack-in-the-Box. Sharlot Hall Museum held its first Folk Arts Fair on the museum grounds.

**1975**

Jerri Wagner became Arizona's first woman mayor elected by popular vote. Prescott's modern, new library opened on East Goodwin Street, replacing the Carnegie Library built in 1903.

**1978**

On November 19, the Adult Center Club dedicated the building on East Aubrey Street. Prescott's first National Register Historic District was approved on December 14 by the U. S. Department of the Interior.

**1980**

Population of Arizona was 2,716,546; population of Prescott was 19,865.

**1981**

Louise Phippen, George's widow, opened the Phippen Gallery, now replaced by the Phippen Museum of Western Art.

**1989** **TIMELINE**

Sculptor Neil Logan's "All Veterans Memorial" statue was installed on the Courthouse Plaza. Prescott was officially declared "Arizona's Christmas City". Three National Register Historic Districts were approved: East Prescott, West Prescott and Pine Crest, by the U. S. Department of the Interior.

## GLOSSARY, *continued*

**Reconstruction:** The process of duplicating the original materials, form, and appearance of a vanished building or structure based on historical research.

**Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties:** Standards are general criteria against which work can be measured. In the case of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, the standards are "intended to promote responsible preservation practices that help protect our Nation's irreplaceable cultural resources". They are intended to provide guidance to historic building owners and building managers, preservation consultants, architects, contractors, and project reviewers prior to treatment.

**Setting:** The actual physical surroundings of a historic building, structure, site or object, including the parcel of land (if appropriate) upon which the building is situated, the landscape, streetscape, relationship to other buildings, structures, sites or objects, etc.

## INCENTIVES

To encourage historic preservation, incentives are offered through city, state and federal programs for properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

### Incentives include:

- ✚ Conservation and preservation easements allowing limited tax benefits;
- ✚ Federal Investment Tax Credits (National Register properties used for commercial purposes only);
- ✚ State Property Tax Reduction Program (owner-occupied residential properties);
- ✚ State Property Tax Reclassification Program (commercial properties);
- ✚ Assistance from the City of Prescott Historic Preservation Office through reference materials and style manuals, paint scheme/color assistance, resources for historical materials, and, in some instances, architectural assistance.



## A Property Owner's Guide to PRESCOTT HISTORIC Districts



## TIMELINE

1990

Population of Arizona was 3,665,228; population of Prescott was 26,592. "Cowboy Resting", a sculpture by Prescott artist John Skurja, was unveiled on the south side of the Courthouse Plaza. The Fleury Addition National Register Historic District was approved by the U. S. Department of the Interior.

1994

The Prescott Army National Register Historic District was approved by the U. S. Department of the Interior.

1998

Prescott-Yavapai Tribe held their first "pow-wow". The South Prescott Townsite National Register Historic District was approved by the U. S. Department of the Interior.

1999

The Mile High Park National Register Historic District was approved by the U. S. Department of the Interior.

2000

Population of Arizona was 5,130,622; population of Prescott was 33,938. The Whipple Heights National Register Historic District was approved by the U. S. Department of the Interior.

2001

The Joslin and Whipple National Register Historic District was approved by the U. S. Department of the Interior.

2003

The Hassayampa National Register Historic District was approved by the U. S. Department of the Interior.

# ARIZONA'S HISTORIC PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION PROGRAM

Information for owners of residential, non-income producing properties: The State Historic Property Tax program offers a substantial reduction in the state property tax assessment for eligible owners. This is an agreement in which the property is maintained according to federal and Arizona State Parks Board standards and must be used for non-income producing activities.

Information for owners of historic commercial (or income-producing) properties: The State Historic Property Tax Reclassification program is a tax reclassification program available to eligible commercial and rental residential properties. The property under consideration must receive approval from the State Historic Preservation Office for a rehabilitation project prior to acceptance into the program. Under this program, the temporary property tax classification set by the county assessor does not necessarily change the current base assessment; however, increased value of the historic property associated with the rehabilitation is assessed at only one percent for property tax purposes. This reduced assessment remains in effect for up to 10 years. Only rehabilitation efforts undertaken after reclassification are eligible.



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2004

In July, Prescott was designated as a "Preserve America Community" by First Lady Laura Bush.

2005

Prescott was named as one of the National Trust for Historic Preservation's "Dozen Distinctive Destinations". Prescott celebrated the Centennial of the Elks Opera House.

2007

"Bill" the elk was returned to the roof of the Elks Opera House on December 8 after a 25 year absence.

TIMELINE







## ARCHAEOLOGY

### What is Archaeology?

Archaeology is the study of the physical remains of the past. Prehistoric archaeology is concerned with cultures which predate exploration and settlement by non-aboriginal peoples. Historic archaeology in North America focuses on virtually all cultural groups that have been present since the arrival of aboriginal peoples. Both have a great potential as a means toward understanding the past.



### Why should I be concerned about Archaeology?

Archaeological sites are fragile and irreplaceable; they cannot be rebuilt or remade. The Prescott area has been settled by humans for many centuries. These humans have left behind many artifacts which tell their stories. Archaeologists obtain information from these cultural remnants by studying them in relationship with each other and with the environment in which the remnants are found. Thus, the study of an archaeological site prior to major disturbance or removal of remnants contributes immeasurably to the understanding of the past in our community.

### A Property Owner's Guide to PRESCOTT HISTORIC Districts

Arizona Laws Regarding Human Remains and Objects of Cultural Heritage: In 1990, the Arizona Legislature passed two laws that protect human burials and associated items on both private and State land. Pursuant to one of the laws, sacred and ceremonial objects and objects that may have special importance to Native American Indians are also protected if they have been found on State land or are in the possession of the State. These laws are important to everyone in Arizona. They were passed because of the need to treat human remains and associated items, sacred objects, and objects important to Native Americans with respect and dignity.

Pursuant to State law, individuals who think they have come across human remains or sacred or ceremonial objects should stop any activities that might further disturb the remains or materials. They must then call or write the Arizona State Museum in Tucson to inform the Museum of the circumstances

and to receive museum guidance on what to do. The Museum will assist in determining if these laws apply to the situation (*see Resources, page 17*).

Violating these laws is a criminal offense punishable by fines and by loss of the equipment used in the violations.



## RESOURCES

Arizona State Museum, Cultural Resource Management Division, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721, (520) 621-4795, website: [www.statemuseum.arizona.edu](http://www.statemuseum.arizona.edu).

Arizona State Historic Preservation office (SHPO), Arizona State Parks, 1300 West Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007, (602) 542-4009, website: [www.azstateparks.com](http://www.azstateparks.com).

Design Guidelines for Prescott's Historic Districts, available at the Community Development Department, City of Prescott, 201 S. Cortez St., Prescott, AZ 86303, (928) 777-1207.

Historic Prescott, Arizona Walking Tour Guide, available at the Prescott Chamber of Commerce, 117 West Goodwin Street, Prescott, AZ 86303, for \$1.00.

Historic Preservation Master Plan, reference copy available at the Community Development Department, City of Prescott, 201 S. Cortez St., Prescott, AZ 86303, (928) 777-1207.

Historic Property Inventory Form for each property located in a National Register Historic District in the City, available at the Community Development Department, City of Prescott Library, Sharlot Hall Museum Archives and State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

List of Locations of Historic Markers, available at the Community Development Department, City of Prescott, or on the City of Prescott, website: [www.cityofprescott.net](http://www.cityofprescott.net).

Maps of Historic Districts or individual parcels available at the Community Development Department, City of Prescott, 201 S. Cortez St., Prescott, AZ 86303, (928) 777-1207.

Nominations to the National Register of Historic Places, available at the Community Development Department, City Library, Sharlot Hall Museum archives and SHPO.

"The Secretary of the Interior's Standards", available at the Community Development Department, City of Prescott, or online at National Park Service website [www2.cr.nps.gov/tps/tax/rhb/stand](http://www2.cr.nps.gov/tps/tax/rhb/stand).

Sharlot Hall Museum Collections and Archives, 415 West Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ 86301, Phone: (928) 445-3122, website: [www.sharlot.org](http://www.sharlot.org).

Smoki Museum, 147 North Arizona Street, Prescott, AZ 86301, Phone (928) 445-1230. website: [www.smokimuseum.org](http://www.smokimuseum.org).

"Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow: A Guide to Preserving Your Prescott Home", available at the Community Development Department, City of Prescott, for \$12.00. City of Prescott, 201 S. Cortez St., Prescott, AZ 86303, (928) 777-1207.

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