

# 10 HISTORICAL RESOURCES

## PURPOSE

Historic resources include significant architectural, historic, archaeological, and cultural resources, including the stories of people that have lived, worked, and visited our city. Historic resources help create a unique sense of place in a community, provide beauty and interest, enhance the quality of life, and connect the people of today to the people and events of the past. Preservation of historic sites and structures can also be a tool for economic development, neighborhood revitalization, and environmental sustainability.



Ramsey County Poor House Barn  
Listed on National Register of Historic Places



Century Homes Program can include any home in Maplewood that is over 100 years old

## GOALS OF THE 2040 PLAN

1. **Integrate preservation** into City planning and procedures.
2. **Identify and designate** significant historic structures and sites.
3. **Protect city-owned heritage resources** and designated historic structures and sites.
4. **Increase knowledge** of Maplewood history.
5. **Promote understanding and appreciation** of Maplewood history and historic preservation.
6. **Collaborate** with partners to achieve preservation goals and activities.

## SNAPSHOT OF ACTIONS

(For a complete list, see Chapter 10 of the Draft 2040 Plan)

### Planning and Procedures

- » Develop voluntary, non-regulatory guidelines to support property owners as they invest in non-Landmark designated heritage resources that are not required to be reviewed by the HPC.
- » Develop guidelines for public improvement projects (i.e., streets, sidewalks, lights, utilities, etc.) that encourage protection of significant historic resources or patterns.
- » Develop management plans for City-owned heritage resources, including disaster management.
- » As Maplewood designates more historic sites and gains more understanding of historic preservation, the City shall develop its own design guidelines.
- » Investigate tax and financial incentives for preservation and restoration efforts.

### Survey and Inventory

- » Complete a reconnaissance survey of historic structures and sites in the City. This type of survey is a broad overview and identifies potentially significant historic resources.

### Designation of Heritage Landmarks

- » Continue the Century Homes Program, offering certificates to owners of 100+ year old homes every two to five years.
- » Designate a Maplewood Heritage Landmark each year.

### Research

- » Set research priorities and work with partners such as Maplewood Area Historical Society to research Maplewood history, including people, events, sites and structures.
- » Conduct additional archeological investigations in the Fish Creek area.

### Education, Outreach, and Celebration

- » Develop materials and educate staff, officials, and the public about Maplewood history, the value of historic resources, and how to preserve and maintain historic structures.
- » Establish a self-guided tour of historic sites.
- » Create interpretive signage for city-owned historic resources

## SOME ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE THE LAST PLAN

- Revised Heritage Preservation Ordinance
- Received Certified Local Government status, which makes the City eligible for federal preservation grants
- Completed an Historic Context Study
- Re-invigorated the Century Homes Program
- Developed procedures for local designation of historic sites
- Designated Gladstone Savanna as a local historic site
- Partnered with Maplewood Area Historical Society to create 60 Stories of Maplewood History
- Celebrated history at Maplewood's 60th anniversary
- Developed interpretive signage for three projects

## ISSUES + OPPORTUNITIES

### Key challenges include:

- » The City has very little documentation or knowledge of historic sites and structures within our boundaries.
- » Owners of historic structures often do not know the significance of their site and special practices that should be considered when making alterations or repairs.
- » Redevelopment plans often do not include evaluation of historic structures.
- » Preservation requires funding and professionals with specialized knowledge and training.
- » Maplewood does not have a lot of structures that the general public would see as historic.

### Opportunities include:

- » Maplewood is a certified local government, and is thus eligible for some federal grants.
- » Maplewood is eligible for state grants through the Arts and Culture Heritage Fund.
- » The non-profit Maplewood Area Historical Society is a strong partner of the City and has strong leadership for its programming, which includes: maintaining the Bruentrup Heritage Farm, researching and archiving Maplewood history, and hosting educational programs.
- » Structures built in the mid-20th century (Mid-century modern) are now historic. Much of Maplewood developed in that era and we have an opportunity to identify those structures that may be significant and educate residents about historic resources of this era.

WHAT WE'VE HEARD  
**“ Bruentrup Heritage Farm is a gem! ”**

## WHAT'S NEXT?

Do you have ideas, thoughts, or comments about the goals, actions, or direction of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan? Visit [www.surveymonkey.com/r/Maplewood2040](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Maplewood2040) to give your feedback!