



What is the Difference between a Local Landmark and being listed in the National Register of Historic Places?

Local Landmark designation and National Register designation are two distinct programs both with the goal of preserving the unique architectural and cultural heritage of a community. The programs are differentiated by the fact the one is **local (municipal)** and the other is **federal**.

Local Landmarks and Landmark District Designation

- This is a *local* program; properties are designated by local municipal ordinance.
- The Landmarks Commission, supported by the local landmarks ordinance, has authority to influence certain proposed inappropriate changes to protect the historic character of a landmark.
- The best tool available to protect local resources and the historic character of a community.

National Register of Historic Places: Individual and District listing

- This is a *federal* program; properties are designated by the National Park Service.
- There is no local control; private property owners are free to do what they want with their property. *
- Listing is honorific; listing offers no protection from inappropriate changes to the building or demolition when privately owned. **
- Owners of National Register listed properties are eligible for financial incentives for preservation.

Can my building be listed as both a local and national landmark?

- Yes. Because these are different programs, historic resources are often eligible for both designations. For further information please see the information sheets: *Is My Property a Local Landmark?* and *What is the National Register of Historic Places?*

** The responsibilities for private property owners varies from the responsibilities for local, state and federal governmental entities which own buildings listed in the National Register of Historic Places.*

***Private property owners have no restrictions on what they can do with their National Register listed building unless they are using public money for a project that affects the building.*