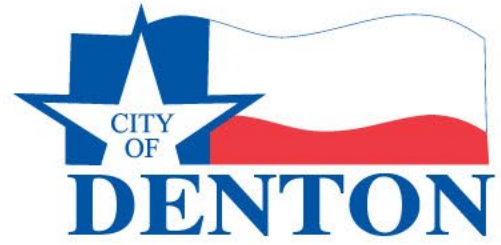


Historic Preservation Related Definitions

Cameron Robertson, AICP
Historic Preservation Officer
5/11/2026



Background

What:

- Minor updates to historic preservation related definitions within the Definitions Section of the Denton Development Code (DDC)

Why:

- Clear, concise definitions result in better customer service and consistent application of the Code.

Certificate of Appropriateness (COA)

An order issued by the Historic Preservation Officer (often with the approval of the Historic Landmark Commission) indicating approval of plans for exterior alterations, construction, or removal of deteriorating structures or features affecting a designated landmark or property within a designated Historic or Conservation District.

Conservation District

~~Any neighborhood or region designated by the City Council as a conservation district.~~

A Conservation District preserves an area's sense of place through architectural guidelines, development standards, and/or special zoning provisions. Each conservation district ordinance is unique to the district. Conservation Districts are adopted by City Council ordinance, and the conservation district designation requires that properties within the district comply with the City's legally enforceable conservation district regulations, along with other relevant development codes. These regulations are administered by the Historic Preservation Officer.

Historic District

~~Any neighborhood or region designated by City Council as a historic district.~~

A Historic District is an area with a significant concentration of structures unified by their architectural style and related historical events. They are protected by historic district ordinances with preservation criteria, specific to each district, administered by the Historic Preservation Officer and Historic Landmark Commission. Local Historic Districts are adopted by City Council ordinance and historic district designation requires that properties within the district comply with the City's legally enforceable historic district regulations, along with other relevant development codes. Local historic districts are distinct from National Register Historic Districts.

Historic Landmark Commission (HLC)

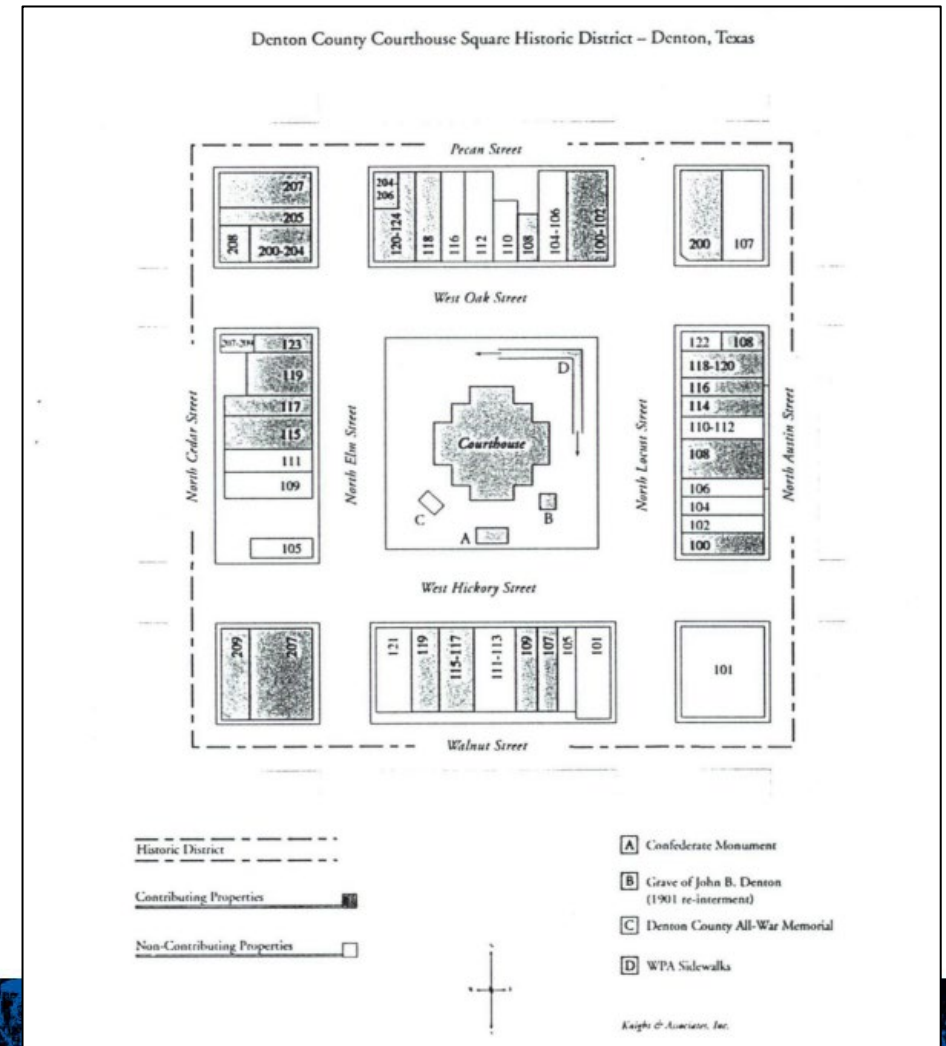
The City of Denton Historic Landmark Commission is a quasi-judicial commission that actively seeks opportunities to promote preservation and proactively takes steps to ensure protection of Denton's significant properties.

Historic Preservation Officer (HPO)

The Historic Preservation Officer for the City of Denton is a government official responsible for identifying, protecting, and promoting historic buildings, sites, and districts. They enforce local, state, and national preservation laws, review construction proposals for compliance, manage landmark surveys, and work closely with the Historic Landmark Commission. (HPO).

Contributing Building (DDC Section 4.10.4)

- Contributing Building: A building on a property **which that** is depicted on the **National Register of Historic Places'** map of the Denton County Courthouse National Register District as a "Contributing Property."
- Add Map to the DDC



Contributing Building (DDC Definitions Section)

- A property that adds to the historic association and/or architectural importance for which the district is significant. It must have been present during the district's historic period of significance and must physically retain most of the architectural characteristics representing that era.

Next Steps

Prepare to present definitions to the
Planning & Zoning Commission