Architectural Review and Historic Preservation in Medina, Ohio







The City Of Medina Ohio
Preserving the Past. Forging the Future.

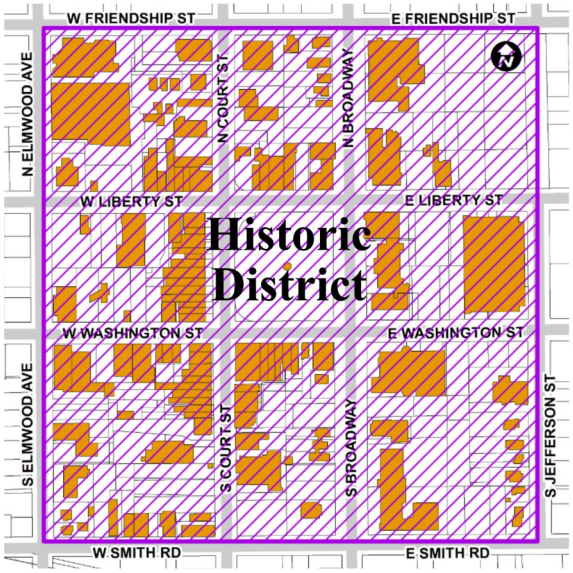
Including an overview of the Medina Public Square Historic District, certificate of appropriateness requirements, and research resources.

City of Medina
Public Square Historic District
& Designated Local Landmarks

In 1989, Medina City Council, being mindful of the proud history of our community, established the Historic Preservation Board (HPB) as the appointed body with authority to review proposed changes to buildings, structures, and sites in the City of Medina Historic District, and other designated local landmarks. The HPB promotes the use and preservation of historic buildings, structures, and sites which reflect the cultural, social, economic, and architectural heritage of the City of Medina for the education and welfare of its residents.

All properties, land, sites and structures within the City of Medina Public Square Historic District, as well as other designated local landmarks, are subject to the HPB review process for any exterior changes, alterations, or additions.

The nine block "District" shown below includes all properties within the area bounded by Friendship St., Jefferson St., Smith Rd., and Elmwood Ave.



Certificate of Appropriateness

Properties in the Public Square Historic District, and any other designated local landmark, must receive a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) **prior to starting ANY work** that may result in any exterior change or alteration of a structure of site. A COA may be requested by a building or business owner.

COA's are submitted to the City of Medina Community Development Director, and are reviewed by the City of Medina Historic Preservation Board. The Board typically meets the second Thursday of each month, and all applications are due for review at least three weeks prior to the meeting.

A COA is REQUIRED for ANY proposed:

- Building façade alteration on **ANY** side of any structure
- New Construction (i.e.: new building addition, shed, deck, garage, etc.)
- Painting or color change of any material replacement of windows, doors, siding, etc.
- Change in roof material
- Demolition or moving of all or any part of a structure
- New signage, or changes to existing signs
- Any other exterior change to a structure

A COA is NOT required for any project that is an exact, like-for-like repair or replacement.

Signage

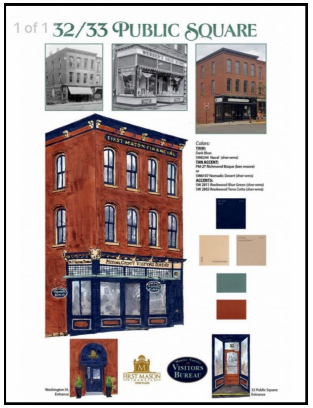
In addition to a COA, permanent and temporary signs within the district are subject to regulations related to size, height, placement, etc. Signs also require a separate Sign Permit application.

Permits

Exterior projects are subject to ALL rules and regulations governed by The City of Medina Building Department.



Before renovation



Renovation proposal



After renovation

Community Reinvestment Area

All properties in Medina's Historic District, and other designated local landmarks, are included in the City Community Reinvestment Area (CRA). The CRA is a zone within the City in which a property owner who rehabilitates or builds a building may receive property tax abatement for up to nine years on the increased property value assessment. The CRA program is administered by the City of Medina Economic Development Department. For more information, please contact Kimberly Marshall, Economic Development Director, 330-764-3319, or kmarshall@medinaoh.org.

Research Resources for Property Owners, Business Owners, & Residents

Local History Research

The Medina County District Library local history room offers a wealth of community history, photographs, and research materials. MCDL, 210 S. Broadway, Medina, OH 44256 www.mcdl.info

Online District History

Beyond The Storefronts is a comprehensive, on-line history of each building in the Medina Public Square Historic District, South Town. The website was created by local historian, Robert Hyde, and may be accessed at www.medinasquare.org

Medina County Historical Society

The MCHS has a wealth of research materials to help property owners learn more about their historic buildings. MCHS, 206 N. Elmwood, Medina, OH 44256 www.medinacountyhistoricalsociety.com

Sanborn Insurance Maps

Sanborn Insurance Maps are a valuable resource that offer details such as historic building materials, number of stories, previous ownership, and sometimes, previous uses. These are available at the Library, or online at https://www.loc.gov/rr/geogmap/sanborn/

Secretary of the Interior Standards for Rehabilitation:

https://www.nps.gov/subjects/historicpreservation/standards.htm



S. Court before, c.1965



S. Court after, c.2022

Useful Contacts

Certificate of Appropriateness
City of Medina Planning Department
Andrew Dutton, 330-722-9023
adutton@medinaoh.org

City of Medina Permits
City of Medina Building Department
Dan Gladish, 330-725-0521
dgladish@medinaoh.org

Historic Research and District Information
Medina Community Design Committee
Michele Nichols, 330-461-3894
medinacommunitydesigncommittee@gmail.com

Main Street Medina
George Sam, 330-722-6186
info@mainstreetmedina.com

Ohio Historic Preservation Resources
State Historic Preservation Office
Mariangela Pfister
mpfister@ohiohistory.org

Scan for City Website

Forms, Guidelines, & More Information

Please visit www.medinaoh.org, or scan the QR code here, then follow the steps below:

Certificate of Appropriateness (COA), Signage Application, & Submittal Requirements:
Select "Menu", then "City Hall", then "Planning and Zoning", then "Planning Applications & "Submittal Requirements"

City of Medina Historic Design Guidelines:
Select "Menu", then "City Hall", then "Planning & Zoning", then "Planning Documents"

Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) Info:
Select "Menu", then "Economic Development", then "Investment Incentives", then "Community Reinvestment Areas"

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