Dear Homeowner(s) of a Historic Property in Clark County,

Congratulations on the purchase of your new home!

Due to the age of the structure, your home may be eligible for listing on the Clark County Heritage Register. Historic buildings and properties are the cornerstone of Clark County’s heritage, but their continued protection relies on property owners to maintain and preserve them.

What are the benefits of listing on the Clark County Heritage Register?

Some of the many benefits may include:
- Protection of craftsmanship and integrity of historic building for future generations
- Eligibility for significant tax reductions through the County’s Open Space program
- Eligibility for Special Valuation tax incentive program
- Free consulting advice from the Clark County Historic Preservation Commission on maintenance and rehabilitation projects
- Enhanced property values and marketability of historic properties
- Eligibility for grants
- Display of a bronze plaque

Can I make changes to my property after it is listed?

Yes. Owners of historic properties on the Clark County Heritage Register must submit plans for a design review (Certificate of Appropriateness) for most types of major renovations, restorations, or rehabilitation of significant features of the property. These reviews are overseen by the Historic Preservation Commission and are conducted at no cost to the property owner. For minor work, an administrative review is available.

If my property is listed, do future owners have to protect it?

Yes. Once a property is listed on the Clark County Heritage Register, owners cannot remove it from the register unless it is no longer significant as determined by the Clark County Historic Preservation Commission. The Commission may remove a property if it no longer meets the criteria for listing.

The Clark County website (clark.wa.gov/community-planning/historic-preservation) provides resources and information to homeowners about the advantages of listing a property on the Clark County Heritage Register and how to research a historic property.

For more information, please contact Clark County Community Planning/Historic Preservation program staff: Jacqui Kamp at 564-397-4913 (Jacqueline.kamp@clark.wa.gov) or Sharon Lumbantobing at 554-397-4909 (sharon.lumbantobing@clark.wa.gov).