

Franklin's Historic District is one of Pennsylvania's architectural gems, with over 20 different styles of architecture; more than 200 significant buildings and the most intact Victorian Business District in the Commonwealth.

Franklin has examples of every major architectural style from 1830 - 1930. Franklin was established in 1795 under the seal of the Commonwealth. It became the County Seat of Venango County in 1800.

As a center for worldwide oil production in the 1860s, Franklin benefitted from oil wealth which resulted in the construction of large and stylish homes.

In 1906, the federal government passed the Antiquities Act to protect historic places. The National Preservation Act of 1966 authorized the Secretary of the Interior to keep a register of significant districts, sites and structures.

Recognizing our architectural heritage, Franklin City Council passed an ordinance on January 15, 1979 to form Franklin's Historic District. The District was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984. In 1988, Historic Franklin Preservation Association was chartered as a nonprofit corporation for the purpose of educating the public and maintaining and preserving the integrity of Historic Franklin with its significant buildings and structures.

www.franklinpreservation.org

Historic Franklin Preservation Association promotes and preserves our city with the following ongoing efforts.

A Plaque Program dating significant houses and structures.

Sale of pewter ornaments and other merchandise representing historic and architectural landmarks.

Sponsors presentations of preservation related programs.

Sponsors The Barbara Wohlstein Memorial Essay Competition for local high school students.

Observes National Preservation Month each May.

Participates in local festivals.

Restoration of Pioneer Cemetery.

Developing a booklet on the homes and history of the Miller Park area.

Specific Accomplishments

Produced bronze plaques at the base of the Civil War Monument in South Park. They contain the names of over 400 Venango County Civil War Veterans who died in the war.

Replaced the James Borland Memorial Bird Bath in South Park with a replica.

Saved the Saltbox House from demolition by moving the building to Justus Recreation Trail in Cranberry Township.

Placed "welcome" signs at 5 entrances to Franklin announcing the Historic District.

Contributed \$2,000 toward the restoration of Egbert Memorial Fountain.

Compiled a photographic documentation of all structures in the Historic District.

Nominated, researched and erected a PA Historical & Museum Commission marker for the Galena-Signal Oil Company.

Placed a historic mural in the HFFPA Alley.

Instituted a Community Preservation Project which assisted homeowners in aesthetic property improvements.

Placed benches in downtown Franklin.

Membership Application

___ Senior 65 + \$15 ___ Individual/Family \$25 ___ Preservation Advocate \$50
___ Preservation Benefactor \$75 ___ Preservation Champion \$100 ___ Corporate \$125

Additional Donation for Civil War Monument Restoration _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

HFFPA is a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization. Donations are tax deductible. The official registration and financial information of Historic Franklin Preservation Association may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

Make check made payable to Historic Franklin Preservation Association & send to P.O. Box 866, Franklin, PA 16323