

Terms & Definitions

Historic Area Work Permit: A HAWP is a permit issued by the Prince George's County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) for projects involving designated historic sites and their environmental settings, and properties located within County historic districts.

Historic Site: A property that has been evaluated and designated by Prince George's County for its significance and is protected by the County Historic Preservation Ordinance (Subtitle 29).

Historic Resource: A property that has yet to be fully evaluated by the HPC to be historically significant, but has been formally recognized for potential significance. A historic resource is automatically evaluated for Historic Site status when a County permit is filed.

Historic District: A geographically defined area with a collection of historically linked properties that has been designated by the County and is protected by the County Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Environmental Setting: An area of land that surrounds a historic site, usually defined by lot or parcel boundaries, that is protected by the local Historic Preservation Ordinance. Projects within the environmental setting may require a HAWP.

Additional Resources

Historic Preservation Section:

301-952-3680

HAWP Website/Application & Instructions:

www.pgplanning.org/469/Historic-Preservation-Commission

On-line County Mapping System:

www.pgatlas.com

Historic Preservation Ordinance

Subtitle 29:

<http://bit.ly/2s4ZTGt>

For the "Approved Historic Sites and District Plan" as well as information on the Historic Preservation Tax Credit and Grant programs visit the Historic Preservation Section website located at:

www.pgplanning.org/402/Historic-Preservation



The Maryland-National Capital Park
and Planning Commission
Prince George's County Planning Department
Historic Preservation Section
1616 McCormick Drive
Largo, MD 20774
pgplanning.org

A QUICK GUIDE TO HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMITS



Frequently Asked Questions

Does my property require a Historic Area Work Permit (HAWP)? In Prince George's County properties designated as a historic site, or those within a locally designated historic district, may require a HAWP in addition to other County and municipal permits.

How do I find out if my property is a historic site, historic resource, or located within a historic district? One place to check is the Historic Property layer on the County's on-line mapping system, PGAtlas.com. You may also call a staff member in the Planning Department's Historic Preservation Section at 301-952-3680.

Does my specific project require a HAWP? Some projects do not require a HAWP. These include:

- Interior projects
- Minor landscaping or gardening
- Farming operations
- Painting nonmasonry surfaces
- Minor repairs without alteration

Before beginning a project it is always best to check with Historic Preservation staff to determine if a project requires a HAWP.

Does a HAWP application include a fee? There is no fee associated with the HAWP application.

HAWP Required Projects

Here are examples of projects that always require a HAWP:

- Replacement, alteration, or the addition of roofs, gutters, fascia, dentils, siding, external doors, windows, lattices, trim, shutters, railings, porch flooring/steps, and/or external lighting (including security lighting) on any building or structure.
- New construction including prefabricated or constructed sheds, garages, porches, additions, swimming pools, solar panels, and koi ponds.
- Repointing, painting, or installing masonry.
- Installing or removing fencing.
- Installing paving, including brick, slate, cement, concrete, pea stone, or crushed stone. This includes paving for driveways, walkways, courts, and patios.



- Structural repairs, including repairs to a foundation.
- Enclosing or opening existing porches and/or additions.

Additional Information

Staff Sign-offs: Many HAWP applications can be processed without having to be reviewed by the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC), if the project involves an in-kind repair or replacement, or does not significantly change the exterior of a structure.

After-the-Fact HAWPs: If a project has been completed without a HAWP, it is possible to come into compliance by filing for an After-the-Fact HAWP. If the completed work is acceptable it can be documented and approved without monetary fine or penalty as authorized under Subtitle 29.

Historic Preservation Tax Credits: Prince George's County has a local property tax credit of 25 percent for approved work on historic sites, and 10 percent for new construction located within a local historic district. However, only properties without HAWP violations are eligible.

Historic Preservation Grant Program: Prince George's County also has a competitive grant program offering up to \$100,000 for eligible properties and approved work. Only properties without HAWP violations are eligible.

For additional information on programs and policies please contact the Historic Preservation Section. Contact information and additional resources listed on the back of this brochure.