

# THE PRESERVATION POST

BY ANGELA NEWMAN



## WHAT IS HISTORIC PRESERVATION?

President John F. Kennedy's speechwriter, Sidney Hyman said "A nation can be a victim of amnesia. It can lose the memories of what it was, and thereby lose the sense of what it is or wants to be."

Historic preservation is defined from the National Trust for Historic Preservation as identifying, protecting and enhancing buildings, places and objects of historical and cultural significance. It takes the effort of many people, organizations and government entities to ensure history is preserved. It's not just the grandiose mansions that deserve to be saved as one might think, it's the Craftsman, the Queen Victorian, the Four-Square right in our own neighborhood. After all, it's about saving our city's history and architecture.

It's not about taking an old building or home and making it look like a new one. It's about protecting and appreciating the old one's distinctive characteristics. But this is not just a concern of recent years. The concern for saving and preserving these structures date back to the 19th century.

In 1965, President Lyndon Johnson convened a special committee on historic preservation. In 1966 Congress passed the National Historic Preservation Act. *It was an expression of our nation's will to embrace the past and affirm its bearing on our present and our future.*

The Act also established the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for historic preservation with the following four treatments:

1. Preservation
2. Restoration
3. Rehabilitation
4. Reconstruction

## ARCHITECTURE ARCHIVES

### Porte-Cochère

Porte-Cochère (see yellow arrow in photo) is a covered entranceway to a building or home. It was originally designed large enough for carriages to stop and let passengers in and out without having to be exposed to weather and then continue through the passthrough.

The literal French translation is carriage (*cochère*) door (*porte*) and pronounced 'pôrt'kô shâr.



Angela Newman

Angela is a Realtor®passionate about historic preservation, communities and small business. She holds an MBA and is an avid and enthusiastic student of historic architecture and preservation.

Her desire to bring awareness to and advocate for old homes is what inspired her to create, 'Historic District Walking Tours' and social media platforms to promote her community.

“ There may have been a time when preservation was about saving an old building here and there. But those days are gone. Preservation is in the business of saving communities and the values they embody.

Richard Moe,  
National Trust for Historic Preservation

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