Washington Heritage Register

IMPLICATIONS OF LISTING IN THE WASHINGTON HERITAGE REGISTER

Listing in the Washington Heritage Register is an honorary designation and raises the public awareness about historic and cultural values. While there are presently no financial incentives available for the rehabilitation of listed properties, a designation to the State Register can be beneficial in securing state grants or other funding awards.

For owners of private properties, the effects of listing in or a determination of eligibility for listing in the Washington Heritage Register, are parallel to the effects of listing in the National Register of Historic Places. No restrictions by the State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation are imposed by a Washington Heritage Register designation when private funds are used to alter a significant property.

However, any subdivision of state government or recipient of state funds, shall comply with the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA, Washington Administrative Code 197-11-330). This process requires that significant properties, specifically those listed in or eligible for the Washington Heritage Register, be given consideration when state undertakings (permits, grants, construction, etc.) affect historic and cultural values. If significant resources are identified, the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation considers the effects of a proposed project on such resources, and makes a professional recommendation for appropriate treatments or actions. The Office does not regulate the treatment of properties that are found to be significant; a local governing authority may choose to uphold the Office's recommendation and may require mitigation of adverse effects to significant properties.