Cincinnati Preservation

Neighborhoods Initiative

People Powered Preservation

Est. 1964

Mission

Cincinnati Preservation empowers and educates people to value, preserve and save Greater Cincinnati’s historic buildings, communities, landscapes and stories.

Vision

Cincinnati Preservation envisions a Greater Cincinnati that champions historic preservation as the foundation of our cultural, political, economic, and environmental identity.



John Hauck House

Cincinnati Preservation



- Non-profit organization that serves Greater Cincinnati as the recognized resource and champion for the preservation, reuse and celebration of historic and cultural resources.
- We accomplish this through advocacy, education and community building.
- Most services occur within the 275 Belt-Loop, but we serve a 9 county region.

2023 Strategic Plan

The Neighborhoods Initiative was created out of the Cincinnati Preservation’s 2023 Strategic Plan when we saw that

- Preservation needed to be inclusive, accessible and diverse
- Neighborhoods lacked the resources, and time to implement preservation
- Disconnect between neighborhood goals/plans and development

Reactive Preservation

Most of our distinct neighborhoods are unprotected and suffering great losses.



The current trend is:

- developers propose demolition of a valued historic building
- neighborhood volunteers and stakeholders rally to voice opposition
- the neighborhood loses their valued structure — plus the communal history associated with it
- city officials respond, wanting preservation efforts to become *proactive*
- communities lack technical expertise, funds, and access to resources all needed to become proactive
- neighbors experience a decrease in community pride, connection, voice, and culture — affecting naturally occurring affordable housing, sustainability, tourism, and safety

Proactive Preservation

Neighborhoods Initiative

People Powered Preservation

We’re ready to create a catalyst that starts in Greater Cincinnati and it starts with you, our neighborhoods!

Putting Preservation in the Hands of Communities

Identifying what is important to their community

Learning to designate their resources proactively

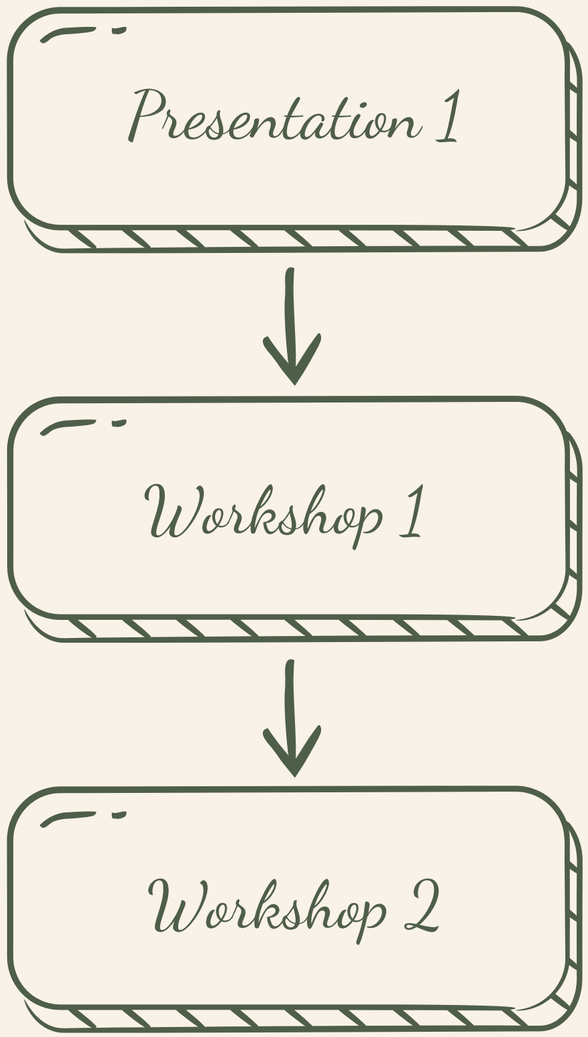
Provided completely FREE to neighborhoods!



Nuts & Bolts

- Start with historically underrepresented neighborhoods
- Partner with Neighborhood Associations, Community Council, residents, CDC’s, businesses and developers
- Educate them on their previously identified historic resources
- Help them identify additional historic sites THEY deem most important
- Provide training, expertise, and financial resources
- Guide them through the process to designate up to 3 sites, create a local historic district, update existing designations, create historic signs or other preservation interventions
- Continue connections and community building through ongoing education, events and technical support

Trainings & Workshops: Neighborhoods



What is Historic Preservation, Overview of National Register and Local Designation, and other preservation tools. What each neighborhood/community has. *Audience: Neighborhoods, Community Councils, CDCs*

Prioritization of resources: Discussing what is threatened, what is missing from the database, what is most important to save, selecting preservation strategies, i.e. district, landmarks, historic signs
Audience: Neighborhoods, Community Councils, CDCs

Nuts and Bolts of writing designations, nominations, interpretative copy
Audience: Small section of the neighborhood that will be involved with the designation process

Trainings & Workshops: Continuing Education

Property Due Process

Researching the historic nature of a property prior to development using mapping tools created through the project.

Audience: Developers and Neighborhoods

Property Research

In depth training on researching property and community history in the context of historic designations.

Audience: Community Preservationists

Topic Specific Training

Continuing education on topics from advocacy, bricks and mortar, funding mechanisms, etc.

Audience: Community Preservationists

Neighborhood Process

- **Connect** with Neighborhood
- Neighborhood **Research**, database and map creation
- **Workshop/Presentation 1**: What is preservation and overview of resources in Neighborhood (often at a Community Council meeting)
- **Workshop 2**: Prioritization Exercise
- **Workshop 3**: Training on Local and National Register Nominations and other preservation tools
- Individual meetings with neighborhoods to **prepare applications**
- **Hiring Consultants** as needed to assist in applications
- Taking applications through the **city/state** process

Non-Neighborhood Specific

- Advocate for reduced or waived application fees for historic designations
- Advocate for the creation of Neighborhood Conservation District legislation
- Additional in-depth trainings on writing designations and how to research properties
- Support the creation of a Multi-property Nomination forms for Brewery Tunnels and Schools
- Strategy proposals for Beacon of Light Church disposition
- Connected Communities Task Force on Look and Feel issues

Impact

- **Designate and protect** more buildings that make our neighborhoods unique.
- **Train** hundreds of new preservationists throughout the region
- Create more **equitable preservation** giving **free access** to preservation resources, knowledge, professional services for all our neighborhoods
- Foster **new collaborations** between neighborhoods
- **Give a voice** to our neighborhoods about the buildings and sites that are important to their story.
- **Open up incentives**, such as historic tax credits and rehabilitation CRA bonus

Our Ask to you

- Is this something your neighborhood or community wants to be a part of? If so, when do you want to start?
  - We aim at working with 12 communities/neighborhoods a year so we can’t guarantee we can get to every neighborhood right away
- Who in your neighborhood do we need to connect with?
- What other questions do you have?

Scan to share your neighborhood’s interest



Neighborhoods Initiative

Thank You