

The general purpose of the Commission is to promote historic preservation in North Tonawanda. Promoting historic preservation is a way to honor and preserve the legacy of generations past for present and future generations who may live in or visit our community. Historic preservation also promotes the regional goal of heritage tourism and our community as a destination for visitors to Western New York.

It is hereby declared to be the public policy and in the public interest of the City of North Tonawanda to protect, enhance, and perpetuate places, districts, sites, buildings, structures, and other objects having a special character or special historical interest or value.

The identity of a people is founded on its past, and as North Tonawanda has many significant historic, architectural, and cultural resources which constitute its heritage, this chapter is intended to:

A. Protect, enhance and perpetuate properties of special historical, archaeological, architectural or cultural interest or value which represent distinctive elements of North Tonawanda's historic, architectural, archaeological, and cultural heritage;

B. Foster civic pride in the accomplishments of the past;

C. Protect, enhance and perpetuate North Tonawanda's attractiveness to residents, prospective residents, and visitors and thereby promote and support the economic well-being of the people of the City;

D. Enhance the visual and aesthetic character, diversity and distinctiveness of the City;

E. Insure the harmonious, orderly, and efficient growth and development of the City;

F. Promote the use, reuse and conservation of places, districts, sites, buildings and structures having special character or special historical or aesthetic interest or value for the education, inspiration, welfare, recreation, prosperity and enrichment of the public;

G. Exercise aesthetic judgment and maintain the desirable character of the historic properties and present construction, reconstruction, alteration, or demolition, in harmony with existing properties insofar as style, materials, color, line, and detail are concerned, and thus prevent degeneration of property, safeguard public health, prevent fire, promote safety, and preserve the beauty and character of the historic properties.