

Washington Square Commercial Local Historic District

Preserving an Illinois Community's Historic Resources

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Project Purpose

This project worked to protect the City of Washington's historic downtown Square and celebrate its historic resources. By recording the City's historic resources, and collaborating with a variety of stakeholder groups, we achieved our goal through the designation of a local historic district and the adoption of design guidelines.

Process and Stakeholders

Partnerships and meetings with a variety of stakeholders including the Planning and Development Director, Historic Preservation Commission, Chamber of Commerce and City Council were all vital to securing the support of property owners prior to the April 4, 2016 historic district designation.

November
2014

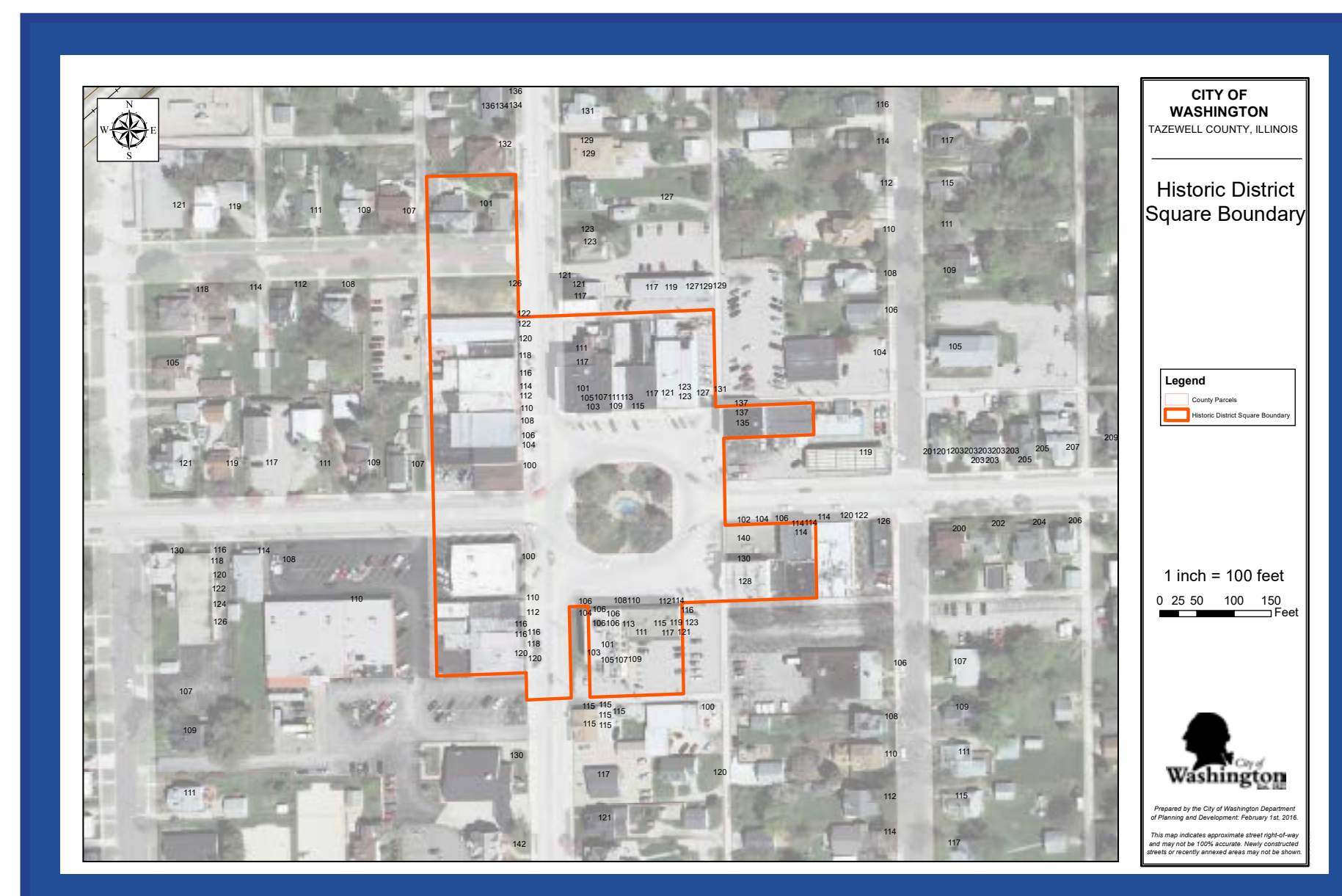
Preliminary Application for National Register Listing

This document presents the history of Washington, focusing on the Square, its significant buildings, and events that have taken occurred within it. It includes a map of the district with historic and modern photos of each side of the Square to illustrate the historic character that is still very evident throughout the Square.



Washington Historic Commercial Square
Preliminary Application for National Register Listing
February 27, 2015

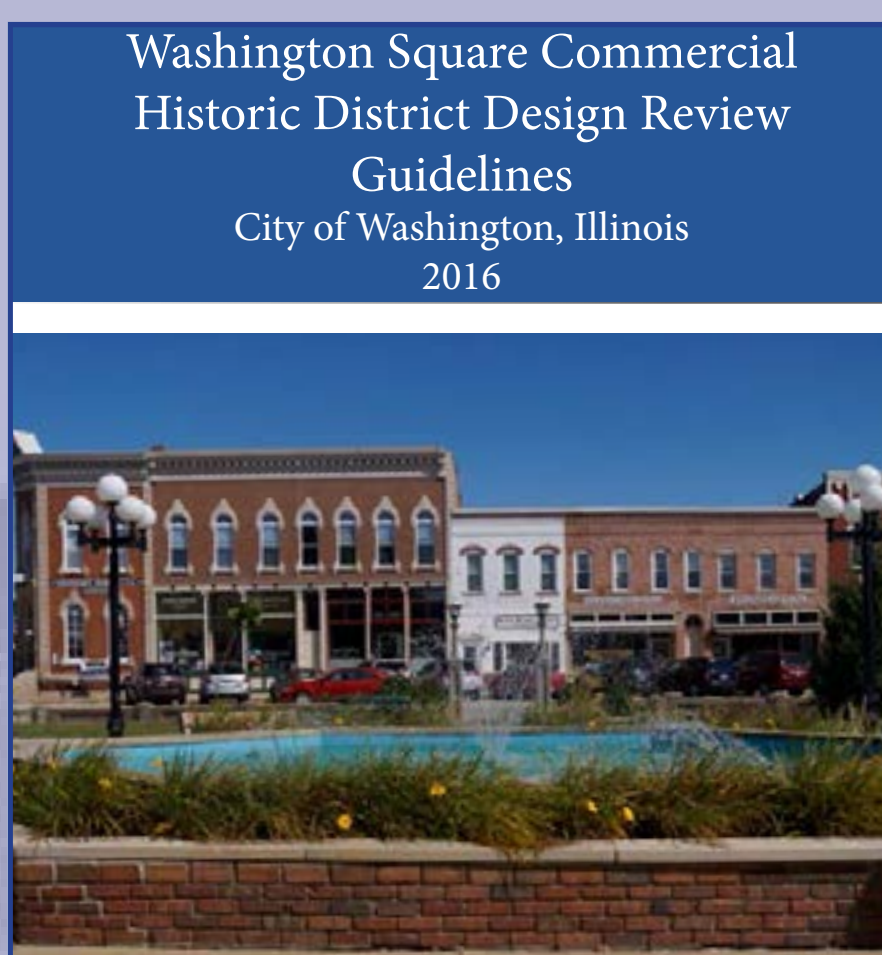
February
2015



June
2015

Washington Historic Commercial Design Review Guidelines

The design guidelines provide information about architectural features on historic buildings and recommendations to property owners in the Square and the Historic Preservation Commission regarding future changes to buildings and additional new development within the Square. Additional architectural features were added from the existing guidelines, all of which were described in more detail and accompanied by descriptive pictures.



Prepared by Marcia Klopf in Conjunction with Jon Oliphant, City of Washington Planning and Development Director, the Washington Historic Preservation Commission, Alice Novak, UIUC Department of Urban and Regional Planning, and Kathie Brown, University of Illinois Extension Program

February
2016

Washington Historic District Survey

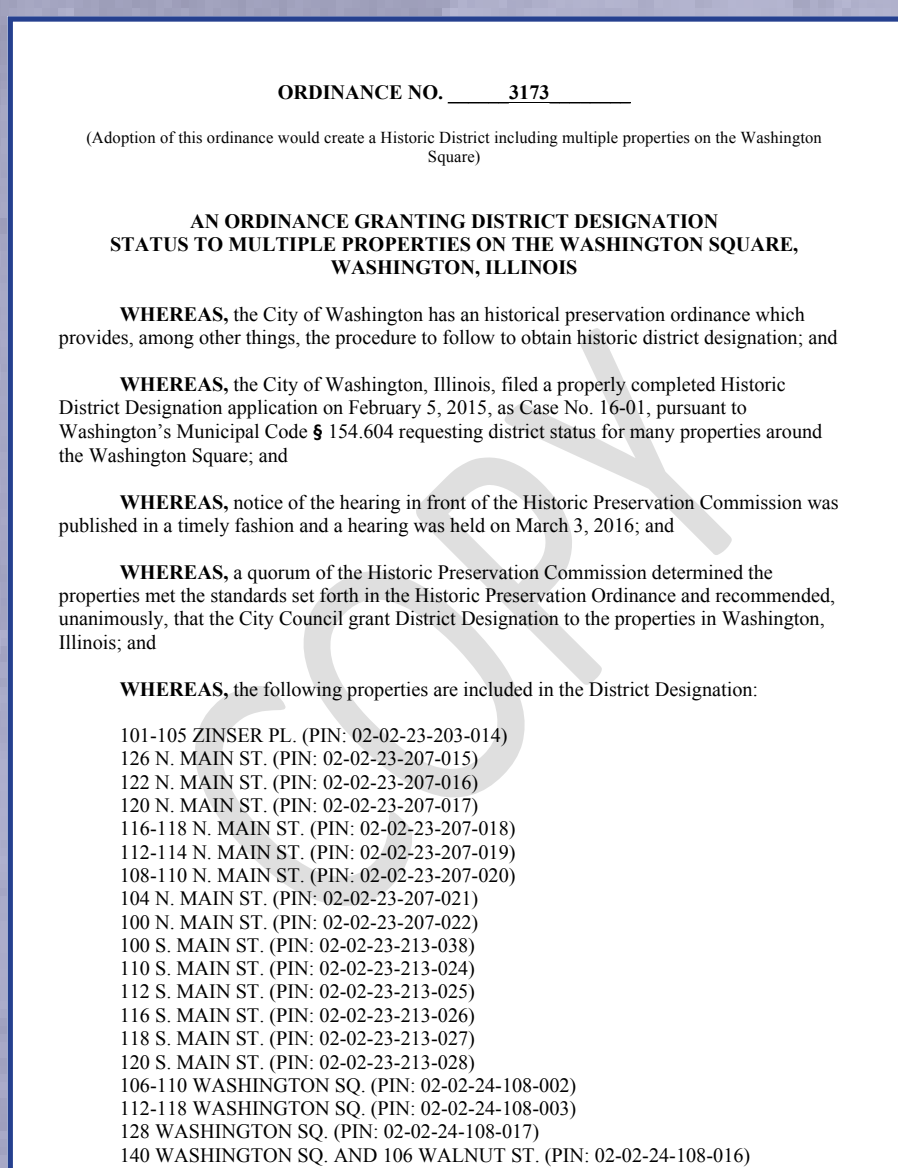
This survey was a series of 19 questions regarding the use of the Square, knowledge about the history of the Square, ideas for future events, and demographic questions about the participant, and received 158 responses from Washington residents and visitors. Survey results were accompanied by question analyses which were distributed to property owners in the Square, the City, and the Chamber of Commerce.



March
2016

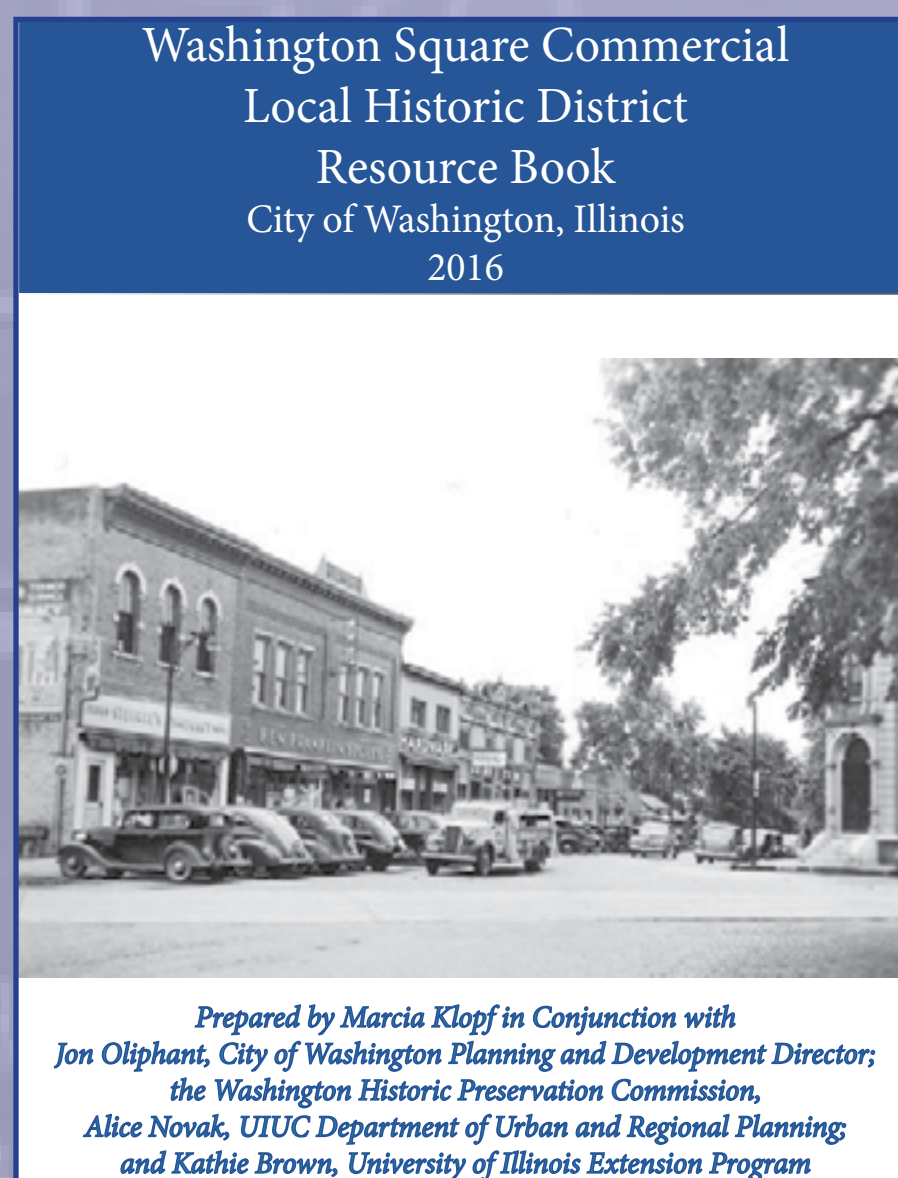
Adoption of City of Washington Ordinance 3173

This ordinance was adopted on April 4, 2016 at the Washington City Council meeting, which marked the official designation of the Washington Square Commercial Local Historic District. The ordinance itself contains a list of properties within the district as well as the text of the design guidelines.



Washington Square Commercial Historic District Resource Book

This document aims to assist property owners in Washington Square with projects they may do to update their building(s). It consists of two parts: a list of historic preservation experts in the area and a compilation of Preservation Briefs published by the National Parks Service on topics related to historic elements in Washington and maintenance.



April 4,
2016

