



PRESS RELEASE
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For Immediate Release

Downtown Mt. Pleasant Awarded National Historic District Status

MT. PLEASANT, MI. January 30, 2015 – The Downtown Mt. Pleasant Historic District, roughly bounded by Mosher, Franklin, Illinois and Washington Streets, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on Dec. 15, 2014 by the National Park Service.

"The Downtown Mt. Pleasant Historic District's wonderful architectural styles spanning more than 100 years represent the city's building evolution," said Michelle Sponseller, downtown development director and staff liaison to the Historic District Commission. "The work done by the Historic District Commission, city staff, Quinn Evans Architects, and local preservationists, results in an achievement that the community can be proud of as it joins our city in saving the real places that tell the stories of Michigan's history."

The Downtown Mt. Pleasant Historic District is the heart of the city's central business and civic district and contains the earliest part of Mt. Pleasant's growth. It retains a high concentration of properties that represent the commercial, cultural and governmental development of Mt. Pleasant from the late 19th-century to the present day. The buildings within the district includes 19th-and-20th-century brick commercial buildings with commercial storefronts composed of cast iron, brick, wood and glass, as well as notable examples of civic architecture. The district is composed of 46 buildings and other historic resources encompassing approximately eight blocks.

"I applaud the National Park Service on this this designation as a National Historic District as it highlights the wonderful architectural history of Downtown Mt. Pleasant and can assist additional historical reconstruction and investment," said Mayor Jim Holton.

"We congratulate Downtown Mt. Pleasant on the listing in the National Register of Historic Places. It's both an honor and a substantial contribution to the local economy through the state's continued heritage tourism efforts," said Mt. Pleasant Area Convention and Visitors Bureau Executive Director Chris Rowley.

The National Register of Historic Places is the nation's official list of cultural resources deemed worthy of preservation. Authorized under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Register is part of a federal program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate and protect the country's historic and archaeological resources. Listing on the National Register affords properties a measure of protection from the possible impact of federally funded projects, as well as access to technical expertise and grant funds to facilitate restoration and preservation. Properties may also be eligible for federal tax benefits for rehabilitation work. To learn more about the National Register of Historic Places please visit www.nps.gov/nr/

To learn more about the Downtown Mt. Pleasant Historic District, please visit www.mt-pleasant.org/boards_and_commissions/HDC.asp

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