Is Your San José Home Historic?

ASK THIS:	NO	YES
1. Is My Home 45 Years of Age or Older?	A home less than 45 years of age is unlikely to meet the eligibility requirements of a "historic resource."	Proceed to Question 2.
2. Is My Home on the San José Historic Resources Inventory? Check the online inventory! https://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments-offices/planning-building-code-enforcement/planning-division/historic-resources/historic-resources-inventory	If your home *has not* received a property classification on the Historic Resource Inventory, but it is 45 years or older, it may have never been surveyed or evaluated. It may therefore potentially have significance architecturally, or for its association with historic or cultural events or with important individuals. *Proposed major alterations or new construction projects related to residences 45 years of age or older may require the property be evaluated for eligibility on the Historic Resource Inventory.* Proceed to **Research Your Home**.	If your home *has* received a classification on the Historic Resource Inventory, proceed to ***Renovating Your Historic Home***.

RESEARCH YOUR HOME:
1. Check County Assessors Records and Permit Records
   a. https://www.sccassessor.org/, https://sjpermits.org/
2. Check Historic Maps, Historic Newspapers, Historic Images, Genealogical Sources
   a. Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps (at your local library); Newspapers.com; Historicaerials.com, Ancestry.com
3. Go to local repositories: San José Public Library / The California Room; History Park San José
4. Think it may be significant?! Contact the City: https://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments-offices/planning-building-code-enforcement/planning-division/historic-resources/city-landmarks **OR** Contact a Professional Historian: https://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments-offices/planning-building-code-enforcement/planning-division/historic-resources/consultants-historic-resources

PAC✱SJ   *03.2025 *this pamphlet is for general guidance only. It is not intended to confirm eligibility for historic designation of any residence, nor the promotion or accuracy of any listed source.*

Renovating Your Historic Home

- *Proposed major alterations or new construction projects related to a residence that is a determined historic resource on the San José Historic Resource Inventory require a City of San José Historic Preservation Permit.*

- *Proposed major alterations or new construction projects related to residences that are 45 years of age or older may require the property be evaluated for eligibility on the San José Historic Resource Inventory.*

1. Review Design Resources:
   a. *"Your Old House: Guide for Preserving San Jose Homes:* This booklet is a set of City-approved design guidelines that describes how to rehabilitate the exterior of San José's older homes in a way that is sensitive and thoughtful in order to maintain the character of individual homes as well as neighborhoods. https://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments-offices/planning-building-code-enforcement/planning-division/start-a-new-project-or-use/design-guidelines/your-old-house

2. Design Your Project / Determine Your Scope of Work

3. Talk with a City Planner: Call 408-535-3555 for a 15-minute consultation.

4. Determine Your Necessary Team of Professionals, if applicable:
   Architect? Historic Architect? Architectural Historian? Trade Specialist(s)?

5. Prepare and Submit a "Single-Family House Permit:" This application requires existing photos of your home and adjacent and nearby properties; existing conditions of your home; proposed design conditions and related scope of work. ***If your house or site is a landmark or in a landmark district listed on the Historic Resource Inventory, please talk with a City Planner. You will need a "Historic Preservation Permit" in lieu of a Single-Family House Permit.*