



Sandra Day O'Connor House, 1959/2009

THIS PLACE MATTERS

The **Tempe Historic Preservation Office** works with the community to preserve and enhance archaeological, prehistoric, cultural, and historic resources. This work includes a wide range of partnerships with local home owners, neighborhoods, developers, architects, city boards / commissions, state and national agencies, as well as non-profit preservation groups.

The Tempe HPO, in partnership with the Historic Preservation Commission, lists properties in the **Tempe Historic Property Register** and assists in efforts to list properties in the **National Register of Historic Places**. Preservation partnerships include the **Arizona State Historic Preservation Office [SHPO]**, the **Arizona State Museum [ASM]**, and the **Four Southern Tribes**.

Listing in the **National Register of Historic Places** honors an historic place by recognizing its importance to the community, state, and/or nation. However, under Federal law, owners of private property solely listed in the **National Register** are largely free to maintain, manage, or dispose of their property as they choose provided that there is no Federal involvement.



Historic Properties 'H'

The **Tempe Historic Property Register** is the official City list of historically, culturally, and visually significant buildings, structures, landmarks, districts, and archaeological sites in Tempe that have undergone the process of historic designation — providing for their protection by Tempe City Code. These parcels have a legal **Historic 'H'** zoning overlay.

HISTORIC ELIGIBLE 'HE'

Parcels which contain buildings, structures or sites meeting the criteria for designation as a Tempe Historic Property, but which have not been legally designated with an **Historic 'H'** zoning overlay, may be classified as **Historic Eligible 'HE'**.

The **Tempe Historic Preservation Officer** reviews all applications pertaining to **'HE'** properties for potential adverse effect to character or integrity. If a finding of no adverse effect is made, normal application processing may begin. If a determination of potential adverse effect is made, further processing may be delayed up to 30 days while alternatives are researched and recommended. When the application pertains to a project receiving State or Federal funds, the Tempe and/or State Historic Preservation Office may require additional information.

The applicant is urged to consider the impact of any proposed alterations or demolition upon the character and integrity of a building, structure, or site located on an **'HE'** property. Substantial alteration or demolition could be in conflict with adopted neighborhood plans and could adversely affect property values or the potential for future historic designation. Property owners interested in historic designation, or general information regarding historic significance and character should contact the **Tempe Historic Preservation Officer**.

ARCHAEOLOGICALLY SENSITIVE 'AS'

Parcels located within known or suspected archaeological sites are considered to be **Archaeologically Sensitive 'AS'**. In Arizona, federal and state laws apply to the discovery of features or artifacts during construction or demolition activities [typically in the case of discovery of human remains or associated funerary objects]. Although the **Tempe Historic Preservation Officer** is notified of any application pertaining to an **'AS'** property, no additional processing is necessary [except when projects are receiving State or Federal funds, or involve City-owned land and rights-of-way].

Typically, the disposition of any features or artifacts on a particular property is at the discretion of the property owner. Human remains and associated funerary objects [burials], however, are subject to State and Federal laws, even if the remains are located on private property. In the case of such a discovery, the **Arizona State Museum** must be notified immediately by the property owner. The **Tempe Historic Preservation Officer** should also be notified. If the presence of burials is suspected, the applicant is strongly urged to retain the services of a qualified archaeologist to perform testing on the property prior to construction or demolition. Such pre-emptive action could mitigate site impacts and may minimize future costs or delays.

Prior to commencing ground disturbing activities, applicants are urged to consider the impact of any proposed construction or demolition upon the presence of archaeological features or artifacts which may be located on an **'AS'** property. If archaeological features or artifacts of a non-burial nature are encountered, the property owner is urged to contact the **Tempe Historic Preservation Officer** or **Arizona State Museum** to assess the potential for documentation and/or curation.

HISTORIC RESOURCES

Tempe Historic Preservation Office

John Southard, Historic Preservation Officer john_southard@tempe.gov
480-350-8870 www.tempe.gov/historicpres

Arizona State Historic Preservation Office

602-542-4009 www.azstateparks.com/shpo

Arizona State Museum

520-621-6302 www.statemuseum.arizona.edu

National Trust for Historic Preservation

800-944-6847 www.savingplaces.org

