The Robbins Subdivision in southeast Hinsdale is one of our most historic and architecturally significant neighborhoods. The Village proposes that it become a National Register Historic District.

Boundary for Proposed National Register Historic District is the William Robbins Addition of 1866 and 1871. That includes east to County Line, south to Eighth Street, west to Garfield and north to the railroad tracks.
This neighborhood is eligible for National Register Designation because:

- It has architecturally significant homes designed by many famous architects, with a wide diversity of styles.
- This neighborhood was part of the original town plan designed by William Robbins who founded Hinsdale in 1873.
- The middle portion of the district was designed by Horace Cleveland, a famous landscape architect who was inspired by Frederick Law Olmsted. It is unique in that it followed the natural topography, creating a park like setting that varies from the rest of the town.
Important architects who designed homes in the proposed district

- George W. Ashby - 230 E. First
- Spencer Solon Beman - 405 E. First
  741 S. County Line 441 E. Eighth, 630 and 635 S. Oak
- William Gibson Barfield - 441 E. Third, 735 S. Garfield, 324 S. Elm, 506 S. Park, 136 S. Oak, 219 E. First, 443 E. Third
- Alfred Foster Pashley - 145 E. Fifth and 420 S. Park
- Eben Ezra Roberts - 231 E. Third
  Schmidt, Garden & Erickson - 425 E. Eighth and 632 S. Elm 735 S. Garfield
- Sheply, Rutan & Coolidge - 244 E. First and 120 S. Elm
- Spencer and Powers - 323 E. Fourth
- Philip Duke West - 731 and 740 S. Elm, 430 E. Seventh, 420 E. Third, 436 S. County Line, 730 S. County Line, 711 S. Elm, 418 S. Park, 414 E. Sixth, 424 Woodside
- White & Webert - 720 S. Elm, 720 S. County Line
- George Maher - 422 S. Oak

405 E. Seventh

Some of the area’s significant architectural styles include:

- Craftsman - 741 S. Garfield
- French Eclectic - 420 S. Park, 740 S. Elm
- Gothic Revival - 29 S. Park, 120 E. Fifth
- Italian Renaissance - 720 S. Elm
- Prairie 422 S. Oak, 306 E. Third
- Queen Anne - 202 E. Fourth
- Ranch 610 S. Oak
- Romanesque Revival - 306 E. First
- Shingle Style - 138 E. Fourth
- Tudor Revival - 46 S. County Line, 405 E. Fourth
- Colonial Revival - 134 S. Park,
Does Hinsdale have any existing Historic Designations?

- Yes, on May 30, 2006, the National Park Service announced that downtown Hinsdale was listed as a National Register Historic District, encompassing 75 properties.
- There are five individual properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places of which 2 are in the district
  - 142 E. 1st St and 329 E. 6th St
- Seventeen homes have received Hinsdale Historic Landmark Designation, 7 are in the proposed National Register District
  - 317 S. Park; 134 S. Park Avenue; 244 E. 1st Street, 27 Blaine; 741 S. Garfield Street; 120 S. Elm; 202 E. 4th St; and

735 S. Garfield Street

Having your neighborhood listed as a National Register Historic District shows great appreciation and admiration of your community’s roots, while simultaneously giving it a prestigious title very few neighborhoods hold. The designation of the William Robbins Additions of 1866 and 1871 as a National Register Historic District, will allow the homeowners an opportunity to share in our community’s rich history while yielding no property rights.

317 S. Park Avenue

244 E. First Street

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**What is the National Register of Historic Places?**

- The National Register of Historic Places is an official listing of neighborhoods, properties, sites, and buildings that reflect the historic development of our nation, states, and local communities. The list is maintained by the National Park Service under the Secretary of the Interior.

**Does National Register listing affect what I can do with my property?**

- No, Listing on the National Register is wrongly assumed to burden property owners with additional permit requirements for enclosing porches, repairing siding, changing windows, or building additions.
- There is nothing in the regulations for National Register listing that would prevent a private owner from applying any of the aforementioned changes, or even complete demolition.
- National Register listing should not be confused with Local Landmark Designation, whereby the village can impose requirements to property. In Hinsdale, only an owner can apply for landmark status.

**How do properties or neighborhoods get listed on the National Register of Historic Places?**

- Nominations are made to the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency that later puts forth an advisory staff opinion.
- If the property is within a Certified Local Government (as it is in the case of Hinsdale), the nomination is forwarded for review and comment on the local level.
- The Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Council conducts a hearing on the nomination and receives the recommendation from Hinsdale.
- If approved by the council, the nomination is sent to Washington DC, where the final determination of eligibility is made by the Keeper of the Register.

*All interested parties have an opportunity to comment on the proposed designation and the process generally takes 6-12 months.*
**Are there many residential National Register Historic Districts?**

- Yes, to date, there are 13,600 National Register Historic Districts across the country since the Department of the Interior (National Parks Service) began recognizing them in 1966.
- These historic districts include more than 1 million properties within their boundaries.
- Cook County alone has more than 50 National Register Historic Districts, including Chicago’s Gold Coast and Lincoln Park which has over 1,700 properties.
- There are also National Register Historic Districts in Lake Forest (5 districts), Barrington, Glen Ellyn, and Highland Park.

**Are there any benefits for owners of properties located within a National Register District?**

- Yes, Historic properties may be eligible for the Illinois Property Tax Assessment Freeze Program if rehabilitation is in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation and other criteria are met.
- Prestige of being within a National Register District.
- Nationwide, homes located in Historic Districts appreciate more than homes outside of Historic Districts.

**Important:**

Useful websites to learn more about the National Register preservation activities:

- [www.villageofhinsdale.org](http://www.villageofhinsdale.org)
- [www.nationaltrust.org](http://www.nationaltrust.org)
- [www.state.il.us/hpa/](http://www.state.il.us/hpa/)
- [www.landmarks.org](http://www.landmarks.org)

The Architectural survey by Granacki Historical Consultants on neighborhoods in Hinsdale can be found at the Hinsdale Library

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