



## City of Bismarck Historic Preservation Award

### General Award Guidelines

- Individuals and organizations can make nominations for any category. All buildings included in the nomination must be within Bismarck city limits and all projects/initiatives must be related to Bismarck. The nominator or nominee may reside elsewhere. A nominator can make a nomination in each of the categories. However, separate applications must be submitted for each nomination. Self-nominations are acceptable.
- All nominations must be submitted using the Historic Preservation Award nomination form.
- If additional space is needed for the project narrative, the nominator can attach this under the Document Upload section of the form.
- Nominators are strongly encouraged to provide photographs or projects or supplemental materials that further highlight the nominee's contribution to historic preservation in Bismarck. All attachments should be clear and easy to view. Items in a .pdf format are preferred.
- Permission of nominee and property owner is required for a nomination to be considered for this award.
- Questions for this award can be directed to Lauren Oster at 701-355-1846 or [laoster@bismarcknd.gov](mailto:laoster@bismarcknd.gov).

**Nominations will be accepted until March 30, 2026, at 5:00 PM.**

### Award Category Requirements

All categories must include the following:

- Name of nominee;
- Contact information of the nominee;
- Date of project/initiative completion;
- Description of the project/initiative;

- Indication of community benefit; and
- Acknowledgement of award application.

Additional application information for each of the categories is included below. The project/initiative must've been completed within the past 3 years (i.e., January 1, 2023, or later).

### *Historic Building*

This category is for preservation, rehabilitation, or restoration work that maintains a historic building's original use or restores it to a specific past period. This includes work conducted both externally and internally; however, projects in this category are mainly evaluated on the maintenance of the exterior historic character of the building. The following are requirements for this category.

- The building must be at least 50 years old.
- Address of the project location.
- Owner's acknowledgment of award nomination
  - If the nominator is not the property owner, written permission to apply for the award of the project must be provided. The written permission must be uploaded as part of the nomination.
- Explanation of how the project/initiative meets the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.
- Identification of unique or distinctive building features that were preserved or rehabilitated as part of the project.
  - These should be features that contribute to the type, period, or method of construction for the selected architectural style of the building.

### *Adaptive Reuse*

This category is for the adaptive reuse of a historic building that includes changing the building's use for a new purpose while still preserving the exterior. This could include altering the interior for modern needs while still preserving and rehabilitating the exterior portion of the building.

- The building must be at least 50 years old.
- Address of the project location.
- Owner's acknowledgment of award nomination
  - If the nominator is not the property owner, written permission to apply for the award of the project must be provided. The written permission must be uploaded as part of the nomination.

- Explanation of how the project meets the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties if any exterior work is conducted. If no exterior work was conducted, please indicate so.
- Identification of unique or distinctive building features that were preserved or rehabilitated as part of the project.
  - These should be features that contribute to the type, period, or method of construction for the selected architectural style of the building.
- Explanation of how the project is sensitive to the historic materials, character, and use of the building while still allowing it to be repurposed for a new use.
  - This could include information related to neighborhood revitalization, compliance with building codes and other regulations, creation of affordable living spaces, and supporting the unique needs of the community.

### *Historic Awareness and Education*

This category is for work conducted to educate or raise awareness of history and historic preservation within the Bismarck community. This may include organizing events or activities that increase public awareness, using innovative practices and preservation techniques, maintaining a site’s historical integrity through thoughtful care and programming, and/or broadening the ethnic and cultural diversity of historic preservation and heritage activities.

- Metrics (e.g., number of attendees for a lecture) of the project/initiative can be included in the narrative, if those are available.
- Identification of the project’s/initiative’s goals that were set prior to its execution.
- Explanation of how the project’s/initiative’s goals were met.
- Indication of the project’s/initiative’s target audience.

**The Nomination Form can be found [here](#).**