

Atlanta Urban Design Commission: *Fact Sheet & List of Designated Properties*

The Atlanta Urban Design Commission was established in 1975, by a City of Atlanta ordinance. City policy provides that the Commission identify, protect, enhance, and perpetuate the use of buildings, sites, and districts of special character, historic interest, or aesthetic value. It is in the interest of the health, prosperity, safety, education, and general welfare of the public that the City maintains this policy.

The Commission nominates and regulates designated buildings and districts which are identified as Historic Buildings or Sites, Landmark Buildings or Sites, Conservation Districts, Historic Districts, or Landmark Districts. Since the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance was passed in 1989, 54 individual buildings/sites and 14 districts have been brought under its protection.

Any time that work on the exterior of such a designated property is proposed, a Certificate of Appropriateness must be obtained from the Commission, as well as the normal building permit. It is the intent of the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance that any changes which occur to a designated property be in keeping with the historic character of the building or district.

The Urban Design Commission consists of a Staff of five, and a Board of 11 members who are all residents of the City of Atlanta. The members of the Commission are volunteers and are appointed to serve three-year terms by the Mayor, City Council, and Council President. According to City ordinance, the Commission membership includes two architects, as well as a landscape architect, lawyer, land developer, real estate professional, historic preservationist, artist, historian, neighborhood representative, and urban planner. Seven members of the board constitute a quorum for conducting its business.

The Commission meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 4:00 pm, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 68 Mitchell Street, SW. The public is welcome to attend and is given the opportunity to speak in support of or in opposition to items on the agenda. For information on submittals to the Urban Design Commission, contact the Commission's office at (404) 330-6200, Monday through Friday, 8:15 am to 5:00 pm. Further information regarding the Commission's agendas as well as individual buildings/sites and districts designated under the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance is available on the Internet at <http://www.atlantaga.gov>.