



GLENCOE  
HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION  
COMMISSION

June 16, 2005

Dear [Homeowner]:

You have received this letter because your home has been identified as architecturally and/or historically significant to Glencoe. If you have owned your home since the mid-1980's, you would have received a letter similar to this in the past. If you are a more recent purchaser of your home, the previous owner may not have informed you that your home is significant. You may be interested in learning more about the history of your home, when and why it was identified as significant, and what opportunities are available to owners of significant homes.

As you are aware, the Village of Glencoe is a community rich in historical, cultural, and architectural character. In order to maintain this heritage, the Village strives to cherish, celebrate, and protect homes that embody that richness of culture. In 1984 all homes in the Village were surveyed, and approximately 300 homes -- including yours -- were identified as architecturally and/or historically significant, a list of properties now called the Heritage List. The Village Board passed a Historic Preservation Ordinance, and established the Glencoe Historic Preservation Commission in 1991. In addition to better educating the public about preservation, the Commission is charged with protecting the identified homes and others from being destroyed or compromised.

What does it mean to have a home on the Heritage List?

1. First, be assured that the community and your Village government recognize that your home is an integral element of the rich heritage, which we all cherish here in Glencoe. Therefore, preservation of these homes is encouraged. The Village Board is working to create local incentives for people to renovate their homes rather than let them deteriorate or be razed.
2. The Village of Glencoe maintains a detailed history of each property in the Village (called a "house file") available in the Public Works Department at Village Hall. Properties on the Heritage List are highlighted through use of a special (red) file color in lieu of the standard manila folder. Please take an opportunity to visit Village Hall, and review that file if you choose. You may learn some interesting facts about the history of your home.
3. The Historic Preservation Commission encourages you to designate your home as a local landmark (applications and information are available at Village Hall). It is exciting to note that seventy homes, including many from the Heritage List, have already been designated as Glencoe Landmarks. This step, coupled with appropriate renovation/rehabilitation done in accordance with established rehabilitation standards for historic homes, can yield significant tax benefits to the homeowner. Benefits include:

- A. Reduction of the building permit fee for renovation or rehabilitation work on your property. This recent benefit enacted by the Village Board is intended to assist the homeowner financially in their efforts to maintain the significant character of their home.
  - B. Property tax freeze program through the State of Illinois. A brochure describing this program is available from the Village or the State Historic Preservation Office.
  - C. Federal income tax credit program for properties, which establish façade or conservation easements. Further information will be made available for those residents interested in these programs.
4. One of the protections, which have been established for Designated Landmark homes, is an extension of the waiting period for demolition to 180 days, during which time the Commission works to develop alternatives, which would save the home. Certified Landmarks, a level of preservation, which is a step above Designated Landmarks, enjoy in Glencoe an increased level of protection from demolition under the provisions of the Preservation Ordinance.

Due to interest from village residents, the Historic Preservation Commission will be scheduling workshop sessions to assist owners in searching for and identifying pertinent historical and architectural facts about their homes, as well as assistance in filling out applications for submission to the Commission. A portion of each workshop session will include time for resident's questions about the Heritage List or Glencoe's policies and intentions regarding historic homes. To learn more about future workshop dates, or to get more detailed information about the Heritage List, please contact Peter Scalera, Assistant to the Village Manager, at 847.835.4114.

The Preservation Commission is ready to assist you to the maximum extent possible to maintain the architectural and historic character of the Village. We appreciate your involvement in the heritage of Glencoe, and hope to help you in the future. Please contact us with any questions or concerns, which you may have.

Sincerely,

*The Glencoe Historic Preservation Commission*

Ed Goodale, Chair  
Karen Arenson  
R. Scott Javore  
Lesa Rizzolo  
Kathleen Wright

cc: Village of Glencoe Board of Trustees  
Paul Harlow, Village Manager  
Peter Scalera, Assistant to the Village Manager  
David Mau, Director of Public Works