

Chapter 9
HISTORIC PRESERVATION*

Sections:

9-20A	ARTICLE II. THOMASVILLE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
9-21	Created.
9-22	Operational responsibility; staff function.
9-23	Number; appointment; terms; compensation.
9-24	Powers.
9-25	Power to adopt rules and standards.
9-26	Conflict of interest.
9-27	Record.
9-28	9-28--9-45. Reserved.

***Cross references**--Buildings, construction and related activities, Ch. 5; trees and landscaping, Ch. 20; zoning, Ch. 22.

State law references--The Uniform Act for the Application of Building and Fire Related Codes to Existing Buildings, O.C.G.A. § 8-2-200 et seq.; buildings presenting special hazards to persons or property, O.C.G.A. § 25-2-13; grants to municipal corporations for repairs on facilities of historical value, O.C.G.A. § 36-40-1 et seq.; Facade and Conservation Easements Act of 1976, O.C.G.A. § 44-10-1 et seq.; Georgia Historic Preservation Act, O.C.G.A. § 44-10-20 et seq.

Section 9-20A ARTICLE II. THOMASVILLE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Section 9-21 Created.

There is hereby created a commission whose title shall be Thomasville Historic Preservation Commission, referred to throughout this chapter as the commission.
(Ord. of 1-12-87(5), § II)

Section 9-22 Operational responsibility; staff function.

The commission shall operate under the general government of the city, and the staff function shall be performed by the chief building official.
(Ord. of 1-12-87(5), § II)

Section 9-23 Number; appointment; terms; compensation.

(a) The commission shall consist of seven (7) members appointed by the city council. All members shall be residents of the city and shall be persons who have demonstrated special interest, experience or education in history, architecture or the preservation of historic resources.

(b) To the extent available in the city, at least four (4) members will be appointed from among professionals in the disciplines of architecture, construction, real estate or related disciplines, but not more than one (1) from a specific discipline.

(c) Members shall serve three-year terms. In order to achieve staggered terms, initial

appointments shall be: two (2) members for one (1) year; two (2) members for two (2) years; and three (3) members for three (3) years. Members shall not receive a salary, although they may be reimbursed for expenses. (Ord. of 1-12-87(5), § II)
(2005 (Sec.9-23c), Amended, 06/29/2005, term limits removed)

Section 9-24 Powers.

The commission shall be authorized to:

- (1) Prepare and maintain an inventory of all property within the city having the potential for designation as historic property. This inventory can be developed and maintained in conjunction with other interested organizations such as Thomasville Landmarks, Inc., Thomas County Historical Society, Inc., or the Thomasville Main Street Project or their successors;
- (2) Recommend to the city council specific places, districts, sites, buildings, structures, objects or works of art to be designated by ordinance as historic properties or historic districts;
- (3) Review applications for certificates of appropriateness, and grant or deny certificates of appropriateness in accordance with the provisions of this chapter;
- (4) Recommend to the city council that the designation of any place, district site building, structure, object, or work of art as a historic property or as a historic district be revoked or removed;
- (5) Restore or preserve any historic properties acquired by the city;
- (6) Promote the acquisition by the city of facade easements and conservation easements in accordance with the provisions of the Facade and Conservation Easements Act of 1976, O.C.G.A. § 44-10-1 et seq.;
- (7) Conduct educational programs on historic properties located within the city and on general historic preservation activities. This can be done in conjunction with other interested organizations such as Thomasville Landmarks, Inc., Thomas County Historical Society, Inc., or the Thomasville Main Street Project or their successors;
- (8) Make such investigations and studies of matters relating to historic preservation including consultation with historic preservation experts as the city council or the commission itself may, from time to time, deem necessary or appropriate for the purposes of preserving historic resources;
- (9) Seek out local, state, federal and private funds for historic preservation, and make recommendations to the city council concerning the most appropriate uses of any funds acquired;
- (10) Submit to the historic preservation section of the department of natural resources a list of historic properties or historic districts designated, and seek their comments and advice on said designation;
- (11) Perform historic preservation activities as the official agency of the city's historic preservation program;
- (12) Employ persons, if necessary, to carry out the responsibilities of the commission, upon approval and appropriation by the city council;
- (13) Receive donations, grants, funds, or gifts of historic property and acquire and sell historic properties. The commission shall not obligate the city without prior consent;
- (14) Review and make comments to the historic preservation section of the department of natural resources concerning the nomination of properties within its jurisdiction to the National Register of Historic Places; and
- (15) Participate in private, state and federal historic preservation programs and with the consent of the city council enter into agreements to do the same.

(Ord. of 1-12-87(5), § II)

Section 9-25 Power to adopt rules and standards.

The commission shall adopt rules and standards for the transaction of its business and for consideration of applications for designations and certificates of appropriateness, such as bylaws, removal of membership provisions and design guidelines and criteria. The commission shall have the flexibility to adopt rules and standards without amendment to this chapter. The commission shall provide for the time and place of regular meetings and a method for the calling of special meetings. The commission shall select such officers as it deems appropriate from among its members. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the members.

(Ord. of 1-12-87(5), § II)

Section 9-26 Conflict of interest.

At any time the commission reviews a project in which a member of the commission has ownership or other vested interest, that member will be forbidden from presenting, voting or discussing the project, other than answering a direct question.

(Ord. of 1-12-87(5), § II)

Section 9-27 Record.

A public record shall be kept of the commission's resolutions, proceedings and actions. (Ord. of 1-12-87(5), § II)

Section 9-28 9-28--9-45. Reserved.