



About Us

The Sarasota Alliance for Historic Preservation (SAHP) is a county-wide nonprofit dedicated to preserving our historic architectural legacy. SAHP was incorporated as a 501(c)(3) in 1985 as part of the community's grassroots efforts to save the El Vernona Hotel (aka John Ringling Towers). The Sarasota Preservation Program launched in 2022 to empower the community with the financial and strategic tools to protect our historic architecture.

SAHP's mission is to preserve and enhance our historic spaces through advocacy, education, technical and financial support, and celebration.



SARASOTA ALLIANCE FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION SARASOTA PRESERVATION PROGRAM



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Visit our website for easement donation applications and additional program information.



The images used in this brochure are intended to reflect the historic character of Sarasota, and do not imply participation in an easement program.



SARASOTA ALLIANCE FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION SARASOTA PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Historic Preservation EASEMENTS

CUSTOMIZED PROTECTION
FOR YOUR
HISTORIC PROPERTY

[preservesrq.org/easements](https://www.preservesrq.org/easements)



How can an easement benefit you?

- The property remains in the ownership of the easement donor, to use, sell or pass on to heirs.
- The easement provides assurance that the property's significant architectural features will be preserved through subsequent ownership.

In addition to the security of knowing that their historic properties will benefit from responsible stewardship for generations to come, many donors of Preservation Easements benefit from significant tax savings:

- certain costs associated with granting an Easement are tax deductible;
- property taxes may be reduced;
- estate tax savings, increasing the ability for children to hold on to a family property;
- potential income tax deduction.

What is a preservation easement?

A Preservation Easement is a voluntary legal agreement that protects the significant architectural features of a historic property, while allowing the owner to occupy and use the building. Easements also limit future owners from demolishing or inappropriately altering the building. Similar to the way a conservation easement protects open space and natural resources, a Preservation Easement ensures that your historic property will enrich the lives of future generations.

How does it work?

The terms of each Preservation Easement are specifically crafted in collaboration with the property owner, to address the unique characteristics of a property, the property owner's interests and the mission of the organization. The easement is then recorded with the City or County Clerk to ensure that the values of the historic resource are protected in perpetuity. The holding organization (SAHP) has a responsibility to protect the visual and structural integrity of a historic property, and takes an active role in its stewardship, through annual monitoring, review of planned alterations, and education of future owners about the property's historic significance.

www.preservesrq.org/easements

Architectural Legacy

The world renowned architectural legacy of Sarasota, from the romance of the Ringling Estate to the charm of the midcentury Sarasota School, should be preserved and celebrated. Whether you own an elaborate Mediterranean Revival on the Bay, a human-scale commercial building downtown, or a small vernacular cottage nestled among grand oaks, each is vulnerable to up-zoning and increased development pressures.

Listing in the National Register of Historic Properties does not prevent the demolition of historic structures. Local preservation laws can slow down the demolition process, but fall short of protecting the unique character of Sarasota. A Preservation Easement permanently ensures the survival of our historic architecture.

