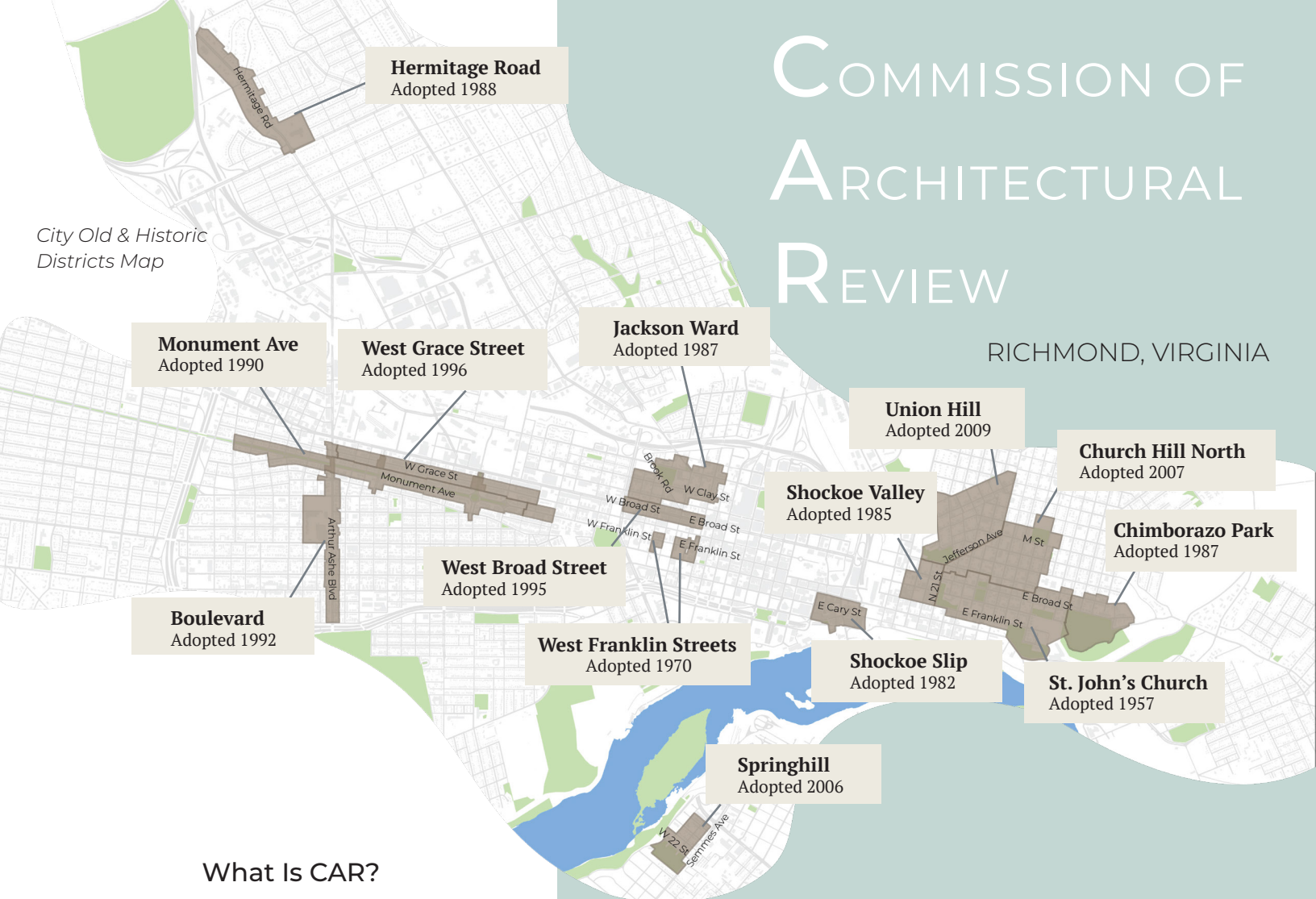


# COMMISSION OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

City Old & Historic Districts Map



## What Is CAR?

The Richmond Commission of Architectural Review (CAR) was established by City Council in 1957.

**CAR is the city's official historic preservation body and is charged with reviewing all exterior changes to structures within the city's Old and Historic Districts.** CAR meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month, except in December when it meets on the third Tuesday.

The CAR bases all decisions generally on the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and New Construction; and specifically on the Richmond Old & Historic Districts Handbook and Design Review Guidelines, revised in 2016.

A City Old and Historic designation can be requested by the neighborhood. When a neighborhood organization submits a nomination request, CAR oversees the process for designating an Old and Historic District, and makes a final recommendation for designation to City Council. CAR also assists and advises City Council, all city boards and departments, and property owners in matters involving historic resources relating to appropriate land use, zoning, and other issues.

## Living in a City Old and Historic District

Property owners within a historic district have a responsibility to follow the additional zoning laws for their property. This includes businesses as well as private residences. Any exterior changes to the buildings on the property, including certain landscape material, must come to the Commission of Architectural Review for approval. The Commission issues Certificates of Appropriateness (COA's) for approved work. This needs to be obtained before any other permits. Some of the most common items that come before the Commission are:

- *Removal or installation of windows*
- *a change in siding*
- *roof repairs and replacement*
- *changes to porches, doors, and creating new entrances*
- *changes to shutters, awnings, and other ornamentation*
- *exterior painting*
- *new construction, building additions, and demolitions*
- *fences and walls*

The above is not a comprehensive list of what requires CAR approval. For a full list please use the Guidelines document or contact the Commission Secretary, Alex Dandridge at alex.dandridge@rva.gov or 804-646-6569.



Guidelines



Website



DEPARTMENT OF  
**PLANNING AND  
DEVELOPMENT  
REVIEW**