What Building Permits Do for You

If you are an owner:

Quality Assurance:
The permit and inspection process helps to protect your investment of time and resources. Inspections help verify that work meets required standards. Work that has not been permitted or inspected could be unlawful. That could cause your investment to be re-worked, moved, or even demolished.

Property Value:
Unpermitted work can scare away potential buyers by complicating the sale or financing of your property. Financial institutions usually request a report from building departments before they agree to make a loan. They may not finance the sale of your property if the building department's report does not match what is at the property.

Liability:
The permitting process helps to protect you from personal financial catastrophe caused by a worker's injury; (by requiring appropriate proof of insurance).

DIY resource center:
Do-It-Yourself home owners too often try to build without really knowing how to do it in accordance with building codes. The permitting process helps you to better plan your project and complete it correctly.

If you are a buyer:

Property Value:
Required construction documents and permit inspections show that at least minimal quality standards for construction have been met. That documentation also helps you plan renovations thus helping to keep future costs down. (By the way: Someone who has bothered to get building permits and timely inspections for their work probably did not "cut corners" or make amateur mistakes during construction.)

If you are a Builder/Contractor:

Independent Testimony:
Your good work gets officially documented. (You can also 'show-off' to someone who can appreciate your efforts.)

When you are the General Public:

Peace of Mind:
You and your children can enter compliant buildings with confidence.

U.S Census:
The United States' Census Bureau uses permit data to allocate funding for planning purposes.

Best Regards,
Bryant Arms
Chief Code Enforcement Officer
Village of New Paltz