

2017

THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND ANNUAL REPORT

>> ORIGINS OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND

In 1966, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, through its Special Committee on Historic Preservation, addressed the need to establish a national historic preservation program. The result was the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) which authorized a State Historic Preservation Officer for each State and created the National Register of Historic Places, a mechanism for better Federal agency planning. The Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) was established in 1977 as source of preservation grants, authorized at \$150 million per year, and funded by Outer Continental Shelf oil lease revenues, not tax dollars. The basis being the exploitation of one resource should benefit another, even though the HPF has never been fully funded at its authorized level. Subsequent amendments to the Act in 1980 created the Certified Local Government Program and in 1992 established Tribal Historic Preservation Officers.

>> HOW DOES THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND WORK?

The National Park Service (NPS) administers the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior, and uses the majority of appropriated funds to provide grants to State and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPO) to assist in their efforts to protect and preserve their historic resources. Each State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), appointed by the Governor for each state, manages this annual appropriation to perform the Federal preservation responsibilities required by the NHPA. Preservation activities may be carried out directly by States, who are required provide 40% match to their HPF funds. HPF grants to THPOs help them undertake preservation activities and assume SHPO responsibilities on Tribal land if desired.

HPF funding is used by States, Tribes, local governments, and nonprofits to fund eligible preservation projects including: survey and inventory, National Register nominations, preservation education, architectural planning, historic structure reports, community preservation planning, and physical preservation to historic buildings. The HPF allows each State the flexibility to shape a program according to its needs, as long as they are meeting the overall responsibilities outlined by the NHPA. Ten percent of each SHPO's allocation must be awarded to Certified Local Governments (CLG), local communities certified by NPS and States as having made a local commitment to historic preservation, thus becoming a local partner in the Federal preservation program. CLG funds are spent on local preservation needs, with selection decisions made at the State level. All HPF assisted projects must follow the Secretary Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation.

>> HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND IN 2017

In fiscal year 2017, the U.S. Congress appropriated \$80 million from the Historic Preservation Fund for historic preservation. HPF grants to States, Tribes, local governments and nonprofits serve as catalysts for preserving and protecting our Nation's irreplaceable heritage without expending tax dollars. HPF funded grants and programs leverage private and nonfederal investment, while creating jobs that expand local economies and accelerate historic preservation activities. This report outlines the large economic, educational, and cultural effect that the HPF has on America as whole.

Project grants from the HPF can be apportioned by Congress for specific competitive grant programs. In 2017, four of those programs were funded at over \$22 million: African American Civil Rights, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Save America's Treasures, and Underrepresented Communities. These programs address different types of preservation needs across the country and fund a variety of work including: physical preservation work, survey and inventory, National Register nominations, education, documentation, and preservation planning.

COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAMS

- Underrepresented Communities grant program awarded \$500,000 to 13 projects for survey and nominations to the National Register of Historic Places. 30 applications requested over \$1.2 million.
- In its second year, the African American Civil Rights grant program awarded \$13 million in HPF funding to 51 grants in 24 states for history and preservation projects. 141 applications requested almost \$30 million.
- Indian Tribes, Alaska Native Groups, and Native Hawaiian Organizations received \$517,471 as part of the Tribal Heritage Grant Program with \$341,806 coming from re-purposed funding. Sixty applications requested over \$2 million.
- Save America's Treasures grant program, not funded since 2010, has \$5 million available. 140 applications requested over \$37 million. Applications are under review.
- Historically Black Colleges and Universities grant program, not funded since 2008, and has \$4 million available.

CLG PROGRAM & PLANNING

- 22 new communities became Certified Local Governments (CLGs), bringing the total number of participating communities in the federal preservation program to 1,976.
- 12 state-wide historic preservation plans were reviewed and approved in 2017. Required under the NHPA, these plans identify social, economic, and environmental trends that influence preservation practice, with public participation to set statewide goals and objectives for historic preservation.

NATIONAL REGISTER & SECTION 106 REVIEWS

- 968 new listings were added to the National Register of Historic Places, bringing the cumulative total to 93,374 listings with 1.8 million total contributing resources.
- Approximately 5.63 million acres were surveyed for cultural resources, with over 137,000 properties evaluated for their historical significance and added to State inventories.
- SHPOs reviewed 101,500 Federal undertakings and provided 81,900 National Register eligibility opinions.

FEDERAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION TAX PROGRAM

- Over \$9.07 billion of private investment occurred through the rehabilitation of commercial historic properties under the Federal Historic Preservation Tax program, for a total of \$89 billion since 1977.
- 6,803 low- and moderate-income housing units were created through the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit program, for a total of 160,058 units since 1977.
- An estimated 106,846 jobs created by Federal Historic Preservation Tax program projects in 2016, 2.54 million since 1977.

DISTRIBUTION OF HPF FOR FY 2017

State Historic Preservation Offices	\$47,925,000
Tribal Historic Preservation Offices	\$10,309,335
Tribal Heritage Grants	
Underrepresented Community Grants	\$ 500,000
African American Civil Rights	\$175,665,000,000
Save America's Treasures	\$ 5,000,000
Historically Black Colleges and Universities	\$ 4,000,000
Total	\$80,910,000
Supplemental Japanese-American Confinement Sites funding from NPS National Recreation & Preservation Account	\$2,869,500



Statewide Water Tower Survey in Kansas

For several years, SHPO staff in Kansas have wanted to know more about historic water tower and other water-related municipal

resources in the state. In 2017, HPF funding allowed staff to conduct a study of water towers as the first step in developing a full historic context.

Cynthia Ammerman, Special Projects Historian for the Kansas Historical Society, was the survey coordinator and conducted site visits across the state. She worked with the Kansas Rural Water Association (KRWA) to develop a questionnaire that was given to the residents of the approximately 600 water districts in Kansas. KRWA provided a GIS dataset for the location of 576 water storage tanks across the state.

Katrina Ringler, Grants Coordinator, and Amanda Loughlin, National Register Coordinator, provided guidance throughout the survey process. The intent of the survey was to provide data for the possibility of developing a statewide historic context for water-related resources in order to evaluate historical significance of water storage tank sites.

Photo courtesy of Katrina Ringler, Kansas SHPO

HPF AFRICAN AMERICAN CIVIL RIGHTS GRANTS



Historic Brown Chapel AME Church
Selma, AL

In 2016 and 2017, Congress appropriated funding for a new HPF African American Civil Rights Grant Program. States, Tribes, local governments, and non-profit organizations were eligible to apply for a broad range of planning, preservation, and documentation projects for historic sites associated with the Civil Rights Movement and the African-American experience. The competitive grant program funded 39 projects in 21 states with \$8 million in FY 2016 funds. In 2017, the program awarded \$13 million for 51 grants in 24 states for history and preservation projects.

Projects receiving grants include those that will educate about and preserve resources like Rosenwald Schools, major civil rights struggles at Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Alabama and Central High School in Arkansas, female civil rights leaders like Modjeska Simkins in South Carolina, and prominent figures like Oscar DePriest, Emmett Till, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Statewide surveys to find little known stories and sites were funded in Michigan, Rhode Island, Ohio, Maryland, Idaho, District of Columbia, California, and New York.



Modjeska Simkins House
Columbia, SC



Clayborne Temple
Memphis, TN



Oscar DePriest House
Chicago, IL



Williams Community Resource Center
Danville, VA



St. Marks AME Church
Topeka, KS



Pauli Murray House
Durham, NC



West Hunter Street Baptist Church
Atlanta, GA

CLG Success Stories

Local Partnerships in Alaska

The City and Borough of Sitka, an active CLG in Alaska since 1994, worked with community partners to make a lasting impact on local preservation. Partnering with nonprofits, the city helped rehabilitate several historic buildings, including Fraser Hall at the Sheldon Jackson School National Historic Landmark. The school closed in 2007 and was purchased by the Sitka Fine Arts Camp. Every summer the camp recruits college-age students to get hands-on experience in rehabilitating historic buildings and applying the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

In 2017, eleven students worked on rehabilitation of Fraser Hall, including the facade, the south wall, corbels, doors and the porch. The project was funded by a 2016 \$24,000 Federal CLG grant with \$16,000 in matching funds. When the project was completed, the camp hosted an open house with tours of the building and student presentations about the project. The City of Sitka is also partnered with nonprofits in projects rehabilitating a historic sawmill and a World War II boathouse. These partnerships demonstrate how successful historic preservation can be by providing opportunities for students and residents to be actively involved in local projects.



Perspective view across quad from left to right; North Pacific Hall, Allen Auditorium, and Whitmore Hall
Photo courtesy of the NPS Historic American Buildings Survey

Preserve Iowa Summit 2017

The State Historic Preservation Office of Iowa partnered with a local CLG, Fort Dodge, to host the annual statewide conference for professionals in Historic Preservation. The Preserve Iowa Summit met in June 2017 and was attended by 324 individuals involved and interested in local historic preservation. The theme of the 2017 summit was "Mining the Past," in reference to the region's history of gypsum mining and supply.

Over the course of three days, the conference hosted many sessions. Topics included American agricultural history, archeology, requirements of historic tax credit rehabilitation, the use of technology for historic preservation, and others. The keynote address was delivered by Thompson Mayes, the Vice President and Senior Counsel of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, who spoke on "Why Old Places Matter." Attendees were able to visit the Iowa Agricultural History

Workshop, where Iowa's Secretary of Agriculture, Bill Northey, was a featured speaker. Preserve Iowa also sponsored an exhibition hall for vendors to provide products and services for the preservation community.



The Blanden Art Museum in Fort Dodge, IA
Photo courtesy of the City of Fort Dodge



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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