



# Potential Funding Sources for Heritage Preservation Projects

*Below is a list of public and private entities that have previously funded heritage preservation projects. This list is not exhaustive, and organizations may change their programs, so be sure to review the materials on the websites indicated below for more information.*

## **FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SOURCES**

**Grants.gov** ([www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)) is a website that allows organizations to electronically find and apply for competitive grant opportunities from all federal grant-making agencies. The site is a single access point for more than 900 grant programs offered by 26 Federal grant-making agencies. It is a very good starting point for research on federal grants.

The **Department of Agriculture's** Rural Development Program, [www.rurdev.usda.gov](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov), offers a range of nationally competitive grant programs, including Rural Business Opportunity Grants which provide planning or technical assistance funding to public bodies, nonprofit corporations, and rural cooperatives to promote sustainable economic development in rural communities, and various community development grants which support housing, community facilities, and economic development projects.

The **Department of Education**, [www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov), offers an abundance of programs that are of interest to heritage preservation groups. The website can be accessed by organization type (nonprofit, local or state government).

The **Department of the Environment**, <http://www.epa.gov/epahome/grants.htm> offers assistance for the assessment and cleanup of contaminated industrial sites through programs like the Brownfields Assessment Grants Program.

The **Department of Housing and Urban Development** (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program can fund historic preservation and heritage tourism projects. Their brochure, *Historic Preservation and Heritage Tourism in Housing and Community Development: A Guide to Using Community Development Block Grant Funds for Historic Preservation and Heritage Tourism in Your Communities*, can be accessed at: [https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=DOC\\_14212.doc](https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=DOC_14212.doc). Information on the CDBG Program can be accessed here: [https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_offices/comm\\_planning/communitydevelopment/programs](https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/comm_planning/communitydevelopment/programs).

The **National Archives and Records Administration** operates the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), [www.archives.gov/nhprc/](http://www.archives.gov/nhprc/), which supports a wide range of activities to preserve, publish, and encourage the use of documentary sources relating to the history of the United States. Through

its grant program, training programs, research services and special projects, the Commission offers advice and assistance to individuals, institutions and non-federal agencies committed to the preservation and use of America's documentary resources.

The **National Park Service** (NPS), [www.cr.nps.gov](http://www.cr.nps.gov), offers grant programs for heritage preservation projects. They include:

- The **American Battlefield Protection Program**, <https://www.nps.gov/abpp/index.htm>, which offers grants to federal agencies, tribal, state, and local governments, educational institutions, and nonprofit historic preservation and other private sector organizations for projects that lead directly to the identification, preservation, and interpretation of battlefield land and/or historic sites associated with battlefields;
- The **Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Water Trails Initiative**, <https://www.nps.gov/chba/index.htm> provides assistance to projects that enhance education and interpretation of the Chesapeake Bay, increase public access, and conserve natural and cultural resource sites;
- The **National Center for Preservation Training and Technology**, <https://www.ncptt.nps.gov/>, which supports research, training, meetings, conferences and publications related to archeology, historic architecture, historic landscapes and materials conservation;
- **Historic Preservation Fund Grants**, <https://www.nps.gov/preservation-grants/>, are generally focused on special initiatives such as disaster recovery, Civil Rights heritage, etc.

The **Institute of Museum and Library Services** (IMLS), <https://www.imls.gov/grants>, offers several grants of interest including:

- **Museums for America**, <https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/museums-america>, offers grants to strengthen a museum's ability to serve the public more effectively by supporting high-priority activities that advance the institution's mission and strategic goals;
- The **National Leadership Grants for Museums**, <https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/national-leadership-grants-museums>, supports three funding categories for museums: learning experiences, community anchors, and collections stewardship. The museum priorities encourage: leadership in the education of lifelong learners in the 21st century; innovation in providing public service and meeting community needs; widespread and creative use of new technologies; model projects to be replicated throughout the field; greater public access to museum collections; and an extended impact of federal dollars through collaborative projects;
- **Collections Assessment for Preservation Program (CAP)**, <https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/collections-assessment-preservation-program-cap>, support small and mid-sized museums by providing recommendations for improving the care of collections;
- **Museum Assessment Program (MAP)**, <https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/museum-assessment-program-map>, is a partnership between IMLS and the American Alliance of Museums. It supports museums in helping them to assess their strengths and weaknesses, as well as helping them plan for future developments.

The **National Endowment for the Arts** (NEA), <https://www.arts.gov/grants>, offers several types of grants that can benefit heritage preservation projects, including:

- **Challenge America**, <https://www.arts.gov/grants-organizations/challenge-america/grant-program-description>, which support small and mid-sized organizations for projects that extend the reach of the arts to underserved populations.
- **Our Town**, <https://www.arts.gov/grants-organizations/our-town/introduction>, offers support in the areas of arts engagement, cultural planning, design projects, and projects that build knowledge about

creative place-making. These projects contribute to the livability of communities with a concentration on the arts.

The **National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)**, [www.neh.gov/grants/index.html](http://www.neh.gov/grants/index.html), offers several programs that can fund heritage preservation projects, including:

- **Public Humanities Projects**, <https://www.neh.gov/grants/public/public-humanities-projects>, which support the realization of interpretive exhibitions (both long-term and traveling), the interpretation of historic sites, associated interpretive project components (such as publications and public symposia), public programming, and websites;
- **Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions**, <https://www.neh.gov/grants/preservation/preservation-assistance-grants-smaller-institutions>, which helps assist both small and mid-sized institutions such as libraries, museums, historical societies, archival repositories, etc. This grant helps improve the ability to preserve and care for significant humanities collections;
- **Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections**, <https://www.neh.gov/grants/preservation/sustaining-cultural-heritage-collections>, which assists institutions in preserving large and/or diverse humanities collections; and supports institutional resilience to preserve collections for future generations.

The **Naval History and Heritage Command**, a part of the Department of the Navy, offers:

- **The Vice Admiral Edwin B. Hooper Research Grant**, <https://www.history.navy.mil/get-involved/grants-and-fellowships/hooper-research-grants.html>, to assist scholars in the research or writing of books or articles by helping to defray the costs of travel, living expenses, and document duplication, related to the research process.

## **STATE GOVERNMENT RESOURCES**

The **Governor's Grants Office**, <http://www.grants.maryland.gov/>, assists state and local governments and community-based organizations in identifying federal grant opportunities while ensuring these groups are aware of assistance that may be available through state or private foundation grants.

The **Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)**,

<http://dhcd.maryland.gov/Pages/default.aspx>,

<http://projectportal.dhcd.state.md.us/Login2.aspx?APPTHEME=MDDHCD>, provides an array of funding

programs for community revitalization and heritage preservation. These include:

- **Community Legacy**, <http://dhcd.maryland.gov/Communities/Pages/programs/CL.aspx>, which provides flexible capital and operating resources to assist local governments and their nonprofit partners in planning and realizing comprehensive community revitalization and heritage preservation initiatives;
- **The Community Investment Tax Credit**, <http://dhcd.maryland.gov/Communities/Pages/programs/CITC.aspx>, which supports nonprofit projects by awarding allocations of state tax credits to projects such as redevelopment assistance, supporting physical improvements to upgrade areas, and education and literacy training.
- **The Technical Assistance Grants Program**, <http://dhcd.maryland.gov/Communities/Pages/tag/default.aspx>, provides funding to nonprofit organizations, local governments, local development agencies and local development corporations to obtain or provide advisory, consultative, training, information, and other services which will assist or carry out community development activities (which can include preservation activities).

- The **Nonprofit Assistance Fund (Operating Assistance Grants)** combines the Main Street Improvement Program; the Nonprofit Assistance Fund; and the Technical Assistance Grant program. Eligible applicants can apply to any of the three funds for operating and technical assistance funding, which can include preservation activities.

The **Maryland Department of Planning (MDP)**, <http://planning.maryland.gov>, does not provide direct grant funding, but it manages the **Maryland InfoPortal** (formerly Redbook Online), <http://planning.maryland.gov/OurWork/MarylandInfoPortal.shtml>, which is a database of financial and non-financial assistance offered by Maryland state government agencies and contains information on more than 700 programs providing financial assistance and technical services to governmental entities, civic and private organizations, and individuals.

The **Maryland Historical Trust (MHT)**, <http://mht.maryland.gov/>, an agency of the Maryland Department of Planning, provides funding for heritage preservation projects through several grant and loan programs. These include:

- **African American Heritage Preservation Grant Program**, [https://mht.maryland.gov/grants\\_africanamerican.shtml](https://mht.maryland.gov/grants_africanamerican.shtml), administered as a partnership between MHT and the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture (MCAAHC), the grant provides support for the acquisition, construction, and capital improvement of buildings, sites, or communities of historical and cultural importance to the African American experience in Maryland;
- **Capital Historic Preservation** grants are available to eligible applicants for projects including acquisition, rehabilitation, or restoration of historic property. A historic property is defined as any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in the Maryland Register of Historic Properties;
- **Non-Capital Historic Preservation** grants are available to non-profit organizations and local governments for research, survey, planning and educational activities involving architectural, archeological or cultural resources. Eligible activities include, but are not limited to, the development of preservation plans, architectural, archeological, or cultural surveys, educational outreach programs and National Register nominations;
- The **Certified Local Government (CLG) Program**, [http://mht.maryland.gov/grants\\_clg.shtml](http://mht.maryland.gov/grants_clg.shtml), supports a variety of projects such as historic site research and survey work, National Register nomination development, archeological investigations, community planning, and public education. This federal pass-through matching grant is available only to local jurisdictions that have achieved CLG status;
- The **Historic Preservation Loan Program**, <http://mht.maryland.gov/loans.shtml>, provides loans to nonprofit organizations, local jurisdictions, business entities, and individuals to assist in the protection of historic property. Loan funds can be used to acquire, rehabilitate, or restore historic property listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places. They may also be used for short-term financing for studies, surveys, plans and specifications, and architectural, engineering, or other special services directly related to pre-construction work;
- The **Heritage Structure Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program**, <http://mht.maryland.gov/taxCredits.shtml>, provides Maryland income tax credits equal to 20% of the qualified capital costs expended in the rehabilitation of a "certified heritage structure," which can include structures: listed in the National Register of Historic Places; designated as a historic property under local law; located in a historic district listed in the National Register or in a local historic district and certified as contributing to the district's significance; or located in a certified heritage area and certified as contributing to the area's significance. The credit is available for owner-occupied residential properties as well as income-

producing properties. The rehabilitation must conform with the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for Rehabilitation*; and

- The **Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentive Program**, <https://www.nps.gov/TPS/tax-incentives.htm>, is administered by MHT and enables the owners or long-term lease holders of income-producing certified historic structures (those listed in the National Register of Historic Places, or a contributing element within the boundaries of a historic district listed in the National Register), to receive a federal tax credit amounting to 20 percent of the cost of a rehabilitation that meets the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for Rehabilitation*.

The **Maryland Heritage Areas Authority (MHAA)**, <http://mht.maryland.gov/grants.shtml>, provides support for historic preservation, cultural traditions and special natural landscapes in order to stimulate economic development through tourism. Nonprofits and government entities with heritage tourism projects located within the boundaries Certified Heritage Areas are eligible to receive grants and loan assistance for acquisition, development, public interpretation, and programming, as well as tax incentives for the rehabilitation of non-designated historic buildings and non-historic buildings in active tourism use.

In addition, most Maryland **Certified Heritage Areas** have mini-grant programs. A list of certified heritage areas and their contacts can be found on the MHT website – <http://mht.maryland.gov/heritageareas.shtml>. Check with your local heritage area for more information on their mini-grant program.

The **Governor's Commission on Maryland Military Monuments**, <http://mht.maryland.gov/monuments.shtml>, administered by the Maryland Historical Trust, obtains the services of professional conservators and historic preservation professionals to determine and carry out appropriate treatments to care for the monuments. The **Maryland State Arts Council (MSAC)**, [www.msac.org](http://www.msac.org), offers several funding programs that can benefit folklife projects and art and performance related projects at history museums and other heritage organizations. These include:

- **Maryland Traditions**, <https://www.msac.org/grants/maryland-traditions-project-grant>, with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, seeks to develop statewide infrastructure for folk arts and folk life. Maryland Traditions partners with organizations to develop folk arts and folklife programs and projects. It offers a Folk Arts and Culture Apprenticeship grant to support master-apprentice teams that practice folk and traditional arts and traditional occupational skills. It also offers Project Grants that support projects that help to preserve and sustain Maryland Traditions;
- The **Grants for Organizations**, <https://www.msac.org/programs/grants-organizations>, is a program which awards funding to non-profit organizations that produce or present arts in Maryland for the public in any of the following disciplines: children's events, dance, folk arts/heritage, literature, media, multi-discipline, music, theater, and visual arts. Organizations that do not present or produce the arts but serve artists and organizations may apply for service grants.

The **Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA)**, [www.marylandroads.com](http://www.marylandroads.com), offers several funding programs that can benefit historic preservation projects. These include:

- The **Transportation Enhancement Program**, <http://www.sha.state.md.us/Index.aspx?PageId=144>, is administered by the State Highway Administration and provides funding for transportation-related community amenities. Eligible categories include: acquisition of scenic easements and scenic or historic sites; scenic or historic highway programs (including the provision of tourist and welcome center facilities); historic preservation; rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation buildings, structures or facilities (including historic railroad facilities and canals); archeological planning and research; and the establishment of transportation museums;

- The **Maryland Scenic Byways Program**, <http://www.sha.state.md.us/index.aspx?Pageid=97>, funds the development of community-based corridor management plans (CMP), which make scenic byways eligible for additional grants as well as National Scenic Byway designation. A CMP is a guide for the promotion, preservation and development of a scenic byway that addresses issues that can be as diverse as tourism development, roadway safety, highway signs or the preservation of natural features and historic structures;
- The **National Recreational Trails Program**, <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/rectrails/>, funds the development of community-based, motorized and non-motorized recreational trail projects. The program provides funds for all kinds of recreational trail uses, such as pedestrian uses (hiking, running, and wheelchair use), bicycling, in-line skating, equestrian use, cross-country skiing, off-road motorcycling, all-terrain vehicles, and four-wheel drive vehicles.

The **Rural Maryland Council**, [www.rural.state.md.us](http://www.rural.state.md.us), administers the Maryland Agricultural Education and Rural Development Assistance Fund (MAERDAF) which offers financial support to rural-serving nonprofit organizations that promote statewide and regional planning, economic and community development, and agricultural and forestry education efforts.

## **NATIONAL NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS**

The **1772 Foundation**, [www.1772foundation.org](http://www.1772foundation.org), seeks to preserve and enhance American historical entities for future generations to enjoy with particular interest in farming, industrial development, transportation and unusual historical buildings.

The **Getty Foundation**, [www.getty.edu/grants](http://www.getty.edu/grants), provides support to institutions and individuals, funding a diverse range of projects that promote the understanding and conservation of the visual arts. Click on “Current Initiatives” for current grant and partnership opportunities.

The **National Trust for Historic Preservation**, <http://www.preservationnation.org/resources/find-funding/grants/>, has several grant funds that have assisted innovative preservation projects that protect the continuity, diversity, and beauty of communities. These include:

- The **Bartus Trew Providence Preservation Fund** which awards grants for the acquisition, maintenance and preservation of historic landmarks and memorials on the Eastern Shore of Maryland;
- The **Henry A. Jordan, M.D. Preservation Excellence Fund** which provides funding to organizations demonstrating commitment to the protection of natural and cultural resources in the Mid-Atlantic region;
- The **Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation** for projects that contribute to the preservation or the recapture of an authentic sense of place;
- The **Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors** which assists in the preservation, restoration, and interpretation of historic interiors;
- The **Richard E. Deutsch Memorial Fund for Rosenwald Schools** grants are designed to advance ongoing Rosenwald School preservation planning activities. Preference is given to projects related to Rosenwald Schools located in Tennessee. The fund supports, but is not limited to, projects such as preservation planning, engineering studies, architectural plans, archeology, and research that advance the preservation of Rosenwald School buildings.

- The **Battlefield Preservation Fund** assists with legal and research fees to mitigate development threats, fund-raising and media plans, feasibility studies for endangered buildings and sites, archeological studies, landscape research and planning, viewshed protection, easement planning, and interpretation and heritage education activities;
- **Emergency/Intervention Funding**, which is awarded in emergency situations when immediate and unanticipated work is needed to save a historic structure, such as when a fire or other natural disaster strikes. Funding is restricted to nonprofit organizations and public agencies. Emergency grants typically range from \$1,000 to \$5,000, but a cash match is not required;
- **The National Fund for Sacred Spaces**, <http://www.fundforsacredplaces.org/>, provides training, planning grants, and capital grants from \$50,000 to \$250,000 for congregations of all faiths.
- The **National Trust Community Investment Corporation (NTCIC)**, <http://ntcic.webfactional.com/>, enables tax credit equity investments that support sustainable communities nationwide. NTCIC places qualified tax credits for federal and state historic (HTC), new markets (NMTC), solar (ITC) and low-income housing (LIHTC). NTCIC is a for-profit, wholly-owned subsidiary of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Since its inception in 2000, NTCIC has raised over \$1 billion in capital for HTC, NMTC, ITC, and LIHTC investments for 134 transactions with over \$4 billion in total development costs.

## **STATEWIDE NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS**

**Maryland Humanities**, <http://www.mdhumanities.org/>, offers a grant program that supports public humanities programs that engage Maryland's residents in exploring the rich and varied aspects of the human experience. Public humanities programs can take many forms, including lectures, seminars, symposia, interpretive exhibitions, films, media projects, reading/discussion programs, teacher institutes, local histories, living histories, public archaeology, distance learning, or any other format that effectively engages residents of Maryland in the humanities. There are two types of grants:

- The **Mini Grants program**, (formerly the Opportunity Grant program) provides small grants (up to \$1,200) that give priority to the programming needs of small and underserved audiences. The program also supports new and innovative programs in the humanities. Applications are accepted on a six week rolling deadline; and
- The **Major Grant** program provides grants (up to \$10,000) to support high quality public humanities programs through two competitive grant rounds per year.

**Preservation Maryland**, [www.PreservationMaryland.org](http://www.PreservationMaryland.org), founded in 1931, is dedicated to preserving Maryland's rich and diverse heritage of buildings, landscapes, and archeological sites. Funding from Preservation Maryland grants and loans assists individuals and communities with efforts to protect and utilize their historic resources. Funding programs include:

- The **Heritage Fund** which provides grants up to \$5,000 for the stabilization of endangered historic properties; feasibility studies, architectural plans, structural assessments and historic structure reports; "bricks and mortar" repairs and restoration; and, educational and planning efforts related to resource preservation. Preservation Maryland grants are "user-friendly," characterized by brief response time and minimal paperwork.

## **LOCAL RESOURCES**

The **Dundalk Renaissance Corporation** <http://www.dundalkusa.org/renovation-incentives>, offers several renovation incentives and tax credits for homes located within the Historic Dundalk area in Baltimore County.

The **Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)** <http://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/historic/historic-preservation-commission/>, offers grants and tax credits for non-profit organizations with a range of projects consistent with the County preservation plan.

The **Prince George's County Planning Department** <http://www.pgplanning.org/Page655.aspx>, offers a Historic Property Grant Program offers funds for the preservation, rehabilitation or restoration of historic properties located in Prince George's County.

**Baltimore City's Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP)**, <http://chap.baltimorecity.gov/tax-credits>, offers a ten-year tax credit for residential and commercial structures to help offset the increased property value resulting from qualifying rehabilitation work.

**Preservation Howard County** <http://www.preservationhowardcounty.org/preservation-resources.html>, has funds available for small grants that will help organizations to preserve or maintain historic structures located in the Howard County area of Maryland.

The **Baltimore County Government** [http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/planning/historic\\_preservation/taxcreditfaq.html](http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/planning/historic_preservation/taxcreditfaq.html), has historic tax credits available for historic structures located within Baltimore County.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

Many foundations, both local and nationwide, offer support for heritage preservation projects. **The Foundation Center**, [www.foundationcenter.org](http://www.foundationcenter.org) offers advice on funding from private foundations. In addition to information on foundations across the U.S., the center offers training programs for grant-writers and developers and publishes a directory available at public libraries. The **Enoch Pratt Free Library** in Baltimore, [www.pratt.lib.md.us](http://www.pratt.lib.md.us), is a "cooperating collection" with The Center and maintain a core collection of Foundation Center materials and occasionally offer free fundraising and grant writing workshops. The Foundation Center also has a branch at 1627 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006-1708, that has a substantial library.

The **Kodak American Greenways Awards Program**, [www.conservationfund.org/?article=2106](http://www.conservationfund.org/?article=2106), a partnership between Eastman Kodak, The Conservation Fund, and the National Geographic Society, provides small grants to stimulate the planning and design of greenways in communities throughout America.

Members of **Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations (MANO)**, [www.marylandnonprofits.org](http://www.marylandnonprofits.org), have access to the organization's libraries and databases of funding sources in the Baltimore and Silver Spring offices.

The **Wisconsin Historical Society**, [www.wisconsinhistory.org/hp/funding](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/hp/funding), maintains a database of private and public sources of funding assistance for projects related to the documentation and preservation of historic places. While many resources are Wisconsin specific, others are universally applicable.



Each Maryland County and Baltimore City has a **County Arts Council** which receives support from the Maryland State Arts Council through the Community Arts Development program. Some councils regrant a portion of these funds to local arts organizations. To find your local arts council, visit <http://www.msac.org/>

**Community foundations** pool donations into a coordinated investment and grant making facility dedicated primarily to the social improvement of a given place. Many of Maryland's community foundations offer support for historic preservation projects. You can find your local community foundation through an online search for your county + "community foundation".

Some jurisdictions offer a **local property tax credit** for the rehabilitation of homes as well as income-producing designated historic buildings. The credits are typically provided either as an offset of property taxes owed by a percentage of the rehabilitation expenditure (up to ten percent), or an amount equal to the increase in property taxes resulting from the rehabilitation improvements for a period of up to ten years.

The **American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works** <http://www.conservation-us.org/grants#.WK8JUvkrldV>, provides several grants and scholarships that promote development, outreach and conservation projects.