

The Historic Preservation Fund

ANNUAL REPORT FY 2004

The preservation
of cultural heritage
is the responsibility
of great nations.

Why Is The Historic Preservation Fund Important To America?

In 2004, America continued to face fiscal challenges and declining State budgets. Budget crises forced many States to reduce agency staffs and cut back on important activities. In these times of financial belt-tightening, it is important to recognize the role of historic preservation in economic revitalization.

Since 1970, the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF), administered by the National Park Service in partnership with State, Tribal, and local governments, has acted as the catalyst for America's efforts to preserve its past for future generations.

- During 2004, the HPF supported State staff who assisted hundreds of private property owners with \$3.9 billion of private investment in the rehabilitation of commercial historic properties under the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives Program.
- HPF also supported the preparation, nomination, and addition of 1,516 listings in the National Register of Historic Places.
- HPF provided grants to local governments and American Indian Tribes to preserve community heritage.
- It facilitated State staffs in working with Federal agencies to ensure that Federal granting and licensing activities minimized negative impacts on historic properties, and carried out the Federal mandate to provide the public with educational and training programs to assist in preserving the past.

- HPF funds supported the restoration of nationally significant properties through the Save America's Treasures program.

With HPF support, the Nation's historic places are identified, recognized, and protected. Increased private sector investment is attracted to preserve historic places. All of the nation's citizens benefit from revitalized and stronger communities. The accomplishments generated through HPF activities are vital to the continued strength of our Nation, for they remind all Americans of our heritage and provide us with a cultural foundation in the 21st Century.

If we wish to have a future
with greater meaning, we must...
be concerned with the total
heritage of the nation and all
that is worth preserving from
our past as a living part of
the present.

— Findings, Special Committee on Historic Preservation,
U.S. Conference of Mayors, as published in *With
Heritage so Rich*

Origins Of The Historic Preservation Fund

In 1966, the Special Committee on Historic Preservation of the U.S. Conference of Mayors developed far-reaching recommendations regarding the need for a national historic preservation program. Among the committee's recommendations was the need for legislation "to authorize grants to State and local governments to carry out...inventory and survey programs in coordination with the National Park Service." The National Historic Preservation Act accomplished this recommendation with the establishment of the HPF as a matching grant program, with funds derived from Outer Continental Shelf oil lease revenues; as well as the National Register of Historic Places, a mechanism for better Federal agency planning; and other programs directed at all levels of government and the private sector. Through subsequent amendments to the 1966 Act, the HPF benefited Tribal governments and other cultural groups as well.

Without the HPF, the speed and nature of the physical change sweeping over the American landscape would have destroyed much of the Nation's precious heritage. As the members of the Special Committee on Historic Preservation noted in 1966—

The pace of urbanization is accelerating and the threat to our environmental heritage is mounting; it will take more than the sounding of periodic alarms to stem the tide. The United States is a nation and a people on the move. It is an era of mobility and change... The result is a feeling of rootlessness combined with a longing for those landmarks of the past which give us a sense of stability and belonging.



The Historic Preservation Fund provides critical support for our efforts to blend historic preservation with economic

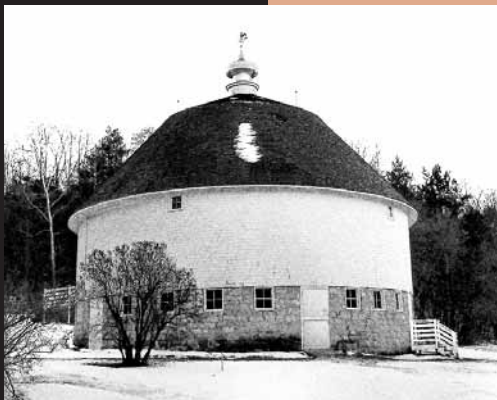
development. The Fund allows us, among other things, to adequately staff our Louisiana program that helps property owners qualify for the Federal historic preservation tax credit. We have leveraged our support from the Fund into private sector projects that, during the last five years, have averaged \$125 million annually.

— Gov. Mitch Landrieu
Louisiana

The Historic Preservation Fund In FY 2004

In fiscal year 2004, the U.S. Congress appropriated \$73,582,119 from the HPF for grants. The HPF provides matching grants to encourage private and nonfederal investment in historic preservation efforts nationwide, and assists State, local governments, and Indian Tribes with expanding and accelerating their historic preservation activities nationwide. HPF grants serve as catalysts and "seed money" for preserving and protecting our Nation's irreplaceable heritage for this and future generations.

Included in the 2004 appropriation was \$32.5 million from the HPF to finance the sixth year of the Save America's Treasures grant program, aimed at the nation's most significant historic sites and collections with the most urgent preservation needs. A total of 157 projects in 41 States and the District of Columbia were awarded grants in 2004. These grants reflect the diverse cultures and the many stories that comprise America's heritage.



The Dammon Round Barn Goodhue County, Minnesota

The Dammon Round Barn project in Goodhue County is a truly stellar example of sensitive and creative adaptive use. It is the pivotal structure in a restored farmstead open to the public as a bed and breakfast establishment. The barn itself is rented for weddings, receptions, and other large gatherings. This project is especially noteworthy as Minnesota has lost a great number of barns over recent years. The Dammon Round Barn has been recognized by the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota and Friends of Minnesota Barns as one of the most successful rehabilitation projects of the year.

Who Administers The Historic Preservation Fund?



By achieving Certified Local Government (CLG) status, the City of Suffolk has received the CLG grant funding needed to revitalize

an important aspect of the downtown—its historic buildings. With this funding, the city was able to survey historic properties and, subsequently, have the area listed as a National Register Historic District, an important consideration for securing investment from the private sector. We leveraged the public dollars to secure commitments from private investors. The funds provided through the CLG grant process allowed the city to take the first steps revitalizing the downtown.

—Mayor E. Dana Dickens, III
Suffolk, VA

The National Park Service administers the Historic Preservation Fund on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior. An apportionment is made to the State and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers to assist in their efforts to protect and preserve properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places. In each State, the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), appointed by the Governor, nominates properties to the National Register of Historic Places and selects properties for financial assistance. States carry out preservation activities directly as well as through subgrants and contracts with public and private agencies, nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and individuals. HPF grants also assist Indian Tribes in assuming SHPO responsibilities on Indian land and in undertaking cultural preservation projects.

What Are Eligible Activities For The Historic Preservation Fund?

Funding is used by States, Indian Tribes, and local governments to pay part of the costs of surveys, comprehensive historic preservation drawings, National Register nominations, educational materials, as well as the architectural plans, historic structure reports, and engineering studies necessary to repair historic properties. Bricks and mortar projects also are eligible within the limited funds available. All HPF-assisted activities must meet standards set by the Secretary of the Interior, and at least 10 percent of the State allocation must be subgranted to assist Certified Local Governments with participating in the national historic preservation program. Project selection decisions are made by the State, not the National Park Service.



In a state of over 77,000 square miles and only 750,000 people, the Historic Preservation Fund enables South Dakota to reach from

corner-to-corner in identifying, preserving, and protecting our historic properties as valuable assets of our heritage and history.

—Gov. M. Michael Rounds
South Dakota

The Montana Heritage Project Montana State Historic Preservation Office

The Montana Heritage Project brought twenty-three seniors from Harlowton High School together with State archeologists to learn about trace leavings of ancient nomads. Called tipi rings, these archeological sites are distributed among area ranches and are not easily recognizable until entered into GIS software. The students also used GPS and GIS to create documentation of an early wickiup (dwelling) and a prehistoric buffalo jump. Later in the summer, State staff returned to provide in-service training for teachers from 29 schools who will continue to teach about these resources in their classrooms. HPF funds covered personnel, travel expenses, and some of the equipment used in the research.



Historic Preservation Fund Vital Statistics

Out of a 2004 appropriation of \$34.6 million for HPF grants to the States, the average State allocation is about \$640,000, which typically is matched by \$427,000 in nonfederal matching share contributions. A 40 percent match is required for HPF grants to States.

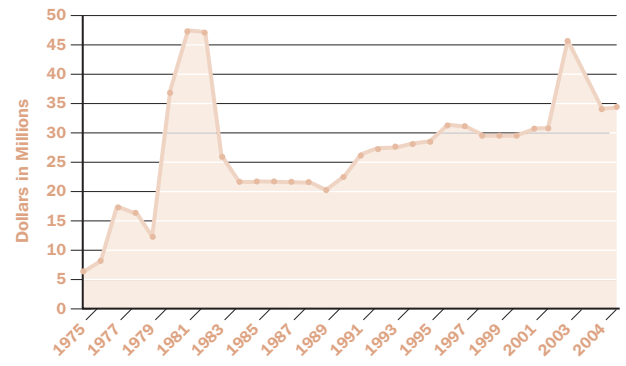
Distribution of HPF for FY 2004

State Historic Preservation Offices	\$34,568,834
Tribal Historic Preservation Offices	2,963,034
Save America's Treasures	32,593,378
Historic Black Colleges and Universities	2,963,034
National Trust Historic Sites Fund	493,839
Total: \$73,582,119	

Fiscal Year 2004 at a Glance

- **1,516** new listings to the National Register of Historic Places, bringing the cumulative total to 78,318 listings in the National Register
- **1,200** Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit projects approved
- **5,357** low and moderate income housing units created through the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit program
- **47** new communities became Certified Local Governments, bringing the cumulative total to 1,448 Certified Local Governments throughout the Nation
- Approximately **9.5 million** acres surveyed through the activities of State Historic Preservation Offices
- Approximately **159,000** properties were evaluated for their historical significance and added to State Historic Preservation Office inventories

HPF Annual (Fiscal Year) Appropriations to State Historic Preservation Offices



Grants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities in FY 2004

Alabama A&M University	\$425,000
Alcorn State University	\$500,000
Arkansas Baptist College	\$311,080
Bennett College	\$500,000
Fisk University	\$426,954
South Carolina State University	\$700,000

Grants to Indian Tribes in FY 2004

\$2,346,287 to 46 American Indian Tribes to support their Tribal Historic Preservation Offices in carrying out national historic preservation program responsibilities on Tribal lands

\$616,747 to 17 American Indian Tribes, Alaska Native Groups, and Native Hawaiian Organizations to preserve America's native cultures



U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, National Center for Cultural Resources, Heritage Preservation Services, Washington, DC, March 2005

NCSHPO National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers



Maryland Aviation History Centennial of Flight Project The Maryland Historical Trust

To mark the 100th anniversary of flight on December 17, 2003, the Maryland Historical Trust initiated a research and public outreach project known as the Maryland Aviation History Centennial of Flight Project. The two-part project involved compiling an inventory of historic aviation-related sites and a series of oral history interviews with individuals who were there on the ground (or in the air) making the history happen. The project came to fruition with the publication of the book *Maryland Aloft: A Celebration of Aviators, Airfields, and Aerospace*, which weaves together Maryland's aviation history, historic sites inventory, and oral history interviews. The richly-illustrated book was released with great fanfare at a special event at the College Park Aviation Museum to mark the centennial.