

2013

THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND ANNUAL REPORT

>> **The Historic Preservation Fund (HPF)** supports the National Register of Historic Places and Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives programs, two of the most widely recognized preservation partnership programs of the National Park Service (NPS) and the State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPO). But what else does the HPF make possible across the country? The HPF supports a wide variety of programs that include the survey and nomination of historic properties to the National Register, historic preservation planning, rehabilitation of historic properties, education, disaster relief, and grant and technical assistance to local governments, States, and Tribes.

The survey and identification of resources is the backbone of the Federal Preservation Program, helping communities, States, Tribes, and Federal agencies understand which resources need to be protected and saved. In Georgia, the SHPO provided matching HPF funds to survey mid-twentieth century structures in Atlanta's downtown core. Having boomed in 1985, this Certified Local Government (CLG), wanted to understand the story their high-rises told of the city's major growth. Among the 508 acres and 266 sites surveyed, several fine examples of Art Deco, Stripped Classical, International, Brutalism, and Late Modern styles were identified. Over 70 buildings were found to be eligible for inclusion in the National Register, which will guide Atlanta's future development. *(pictured top right)*

Often the next step for a community after survey is preservation planning for the future, and that is just what New Mexico did in the Latino community of Chimayo. When their National Historic Landmark church, the Santuario de Chimayo, was threatened by growth, the community rallied, teamed with partners, and used HPF funding to conduct community forums, document oral histories, and inventory cultural resources. The result was a preservation plan for the community's unique cultural lands, adobe architecture, and acequia water ways, which will also be adopted into Santa Fe County's Master Plan. *(pictured middle right)*

Funding to rehabilitate historic structures is often hard to find. In Nome, Alaska, the owners of the historic Discovery Saloon, the oldest surviving building from the Alaska Gold Rush, have invested time, talent, and money into rehabilitating this historic property. The SHPO rewarded their efforts by assisting with each phase of the rehabilitation. HPF grants were awarded to repair the walls, porch, windows, doors, and roof, bringing the oldest continuously occupied building in Nome back to its original glory, a big accomplishment for a small town. *(pictured bottom right)*



Assisting with the identification, listing, and rehabilitation of historic structures are common uses for HPF funds. But what if a property is no longer in use and threatened with demolition? One of North Carolina's CLGs, Morgantown, used HPF grant funds on a feasibility study for a historic silo barn on the campus of the local community college and located within a National Register historic district. The study helped match the college's need for more space for its professional crafts program with the vacant barn. Plans for the barn to house the local traditions of pottery, metal, and woodworking are now being developed and have become a priority of the college's facility plan. *(pictured top left)*

How is the HPF able to assist so many different types of projects? The answer is because of expert staff working in the SHPOs. In Mississippi, historical architects from the SHPO have been investigating the types of limewash used to coat the historic columns at Windsor Ruins, which once stood as the largest Antebellum Greek Revival mansion in the State. SHPO staff hope to use the knowledge gleaned from these studies to prepare traditional limewash coatings that will prevent moisture infiltration from continuing to damage the columns, and help protect this state owned resource. *(pictured bottom left)*

All of these examples provide a glimpse at the important work the HPF enables throughout the country. The Federal Preservation Program and the funding provided by the HPF, foster important partnerships between States, Tribes, and local governments, allowing the story of America's history to be preserved for future generations.



>> 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 matching 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, or in the form of subgrants and contracts to public and private agencies, nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and individuals. 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 brick and mortar repairs to 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 governments 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 locally on preservation projects, with selection decisions made at the State level. All HPF assisted projects must follow the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for Archeology and Historic Preservation*.

>> THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND IN 2013

In **fiscal year 2013**, the U.S. Congress appropriated \$52,734,336 from the Historic Preservation Fund for historic preservation projects. Only slightly more than one-third of the \$150 million authorized for the fund, this amount represents a decrease of \$3.23 million from 2012, and a reduction of \$22 million from 2010. HPF matching grants to States, Tribes, and local governments 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 and accelerate historic preservation activities.



PRESERVING MICHIGAN'S MODERN

Michigan is known as the home of the automobile, but the State also lays significant claim to the Modernist movement that changed America's architecture. Using a Preserve America grant, the Michigan SHPO began

an intensive survey in 2008 of the 100 finest modern buildings in the state. They included works by Nelson, Eames, Girard, Saarinen, and Yamaskai. That intensive survey led to the listing of eight modern resources in the National Register in 2013, with three sites being nominated as National Historic Landmarks: Eero Saarinen's General Motors Technical Center in Warren; Minoru Yamasaki's McGregor Memorial Center in Detroit; and Ludwig Mies van der Rohe's urban residential project, Lafayette Park, also in Detroit.

To extend the educational outreach of this work, the SHPO partnered with Cranbrook Art Museum to host *Michigan Modern: Design that Shaped America*, a combination exhibit and symposium. Seen by over 11,000 people, the exhibit spurred the restoration of the Yamasaki pools at the McGregor Center (*below*); led to a feasibility study for Gunnar Birkerts buildings at Bald Mountain State Recreation Area (*above*) that were threatened with demolition; and resulted in the creation of local preservation groups in Ann Arbor and Grand Rapids which are documenting and promoting local modern resources. A website www.michiganmodern.org also features the success of the project.



>> FISCAL YEAR 2013 AT A GLANCE

- Over \$ 3.39 billion of private investment occurred through the rehabilitation of commercial historic properties under the Federal Historic Preservation Tax program; a total of \$69.49 billion since 1977.
- 7,079 low- and moderate-income housing units created through the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit program, for a total of 131,438 units since 1977.
- An estimated 62,923 jobs created by Federal Historic Preservation Tax program rehabilitation projects in 2013.
- Approximately 16.3 million acres surveyed for cultural resources, with over 135,300 properties evaluated for their historical significance and added to State inventories. Approximately 196,000 acres surveyed by Tribes, adding 1,300 properties and 7,000 archeological sites to Tribal inventories.
- 1,175 new listings added to the National Register of Historic Places, including 43,986 contributing properties and 317 historic districts, bringing the cumulative total to 89,510 listings. Approximately 11,900 new listings added to Tribal registers.
- SHPOs reviewed 102,800 Federal undertakings, providing 82,100 National Register eligibility opinions. THPOs reviewed 37,900 undertakings and made 4,600 eligibility opinions.
- 29 new communities became Certified Local Governments (CLGs), bringing the cumulative total to 1,866 throughout the nation.
- Under local law, CLGs newly designated 54,500 properties and 93,900 properties took part in local preservation review, programs, and incentives.
- Indian Tribes, Alaska Native Groups, and Native Hawaiian Organizations received \$645,351 for 17 projects as part of the Tribal Heritage Grant program; over \$1.55 million was requested (\$387,658 in 2013 funds and \$257,693 from previous years).
- 4 states, including New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, and Rhode Island, received \$38 million in disaster recovery grants for historic properties damaged by Hurricane Sandy. Grants in the amount of \$9 million will be awarded to 8 additional states and 4 tribes in the disaster area in 2014.
- Supplemental funding for the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program provided \$2.7 million to 24 projects; over \$5.5 million was requested.
- NPS staff reviewed 45 Save America's Treasures (SAT), 6 Preserve America (PA), and 3 Tribal projects to ensure compliance with the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*.
- For SAT over 50 projects were completed in 2013 and over 175 remain active. For PA, over 40 projects were completed and over 100 remain active.
- The Historic Preservation Planning Program reviewed 9 and approved 7 statewide historic preservation plans in 2013. Required under the NHPA, these plans identify social, economic, and environmental trends that influence preservation practice, and reflect broad-based public participation in the planning process.

RAGING COLORADO FIRE LEADS TO PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Colorado's worst forest fire ever occurred in 2010 when the Fourmile Canyon Fire ravaged 6,200 acres and 168 homes in the mountains just west of the City of Boulder. As a result of the fire, and the loss of numerous historic buildings in the various historic mining communities, the SHPO worked with Boulder County CLG to fund a historical and architectural survey. This survey identified the buildings that were spared, but was too late to document the unsurveyed resources that did not survive.

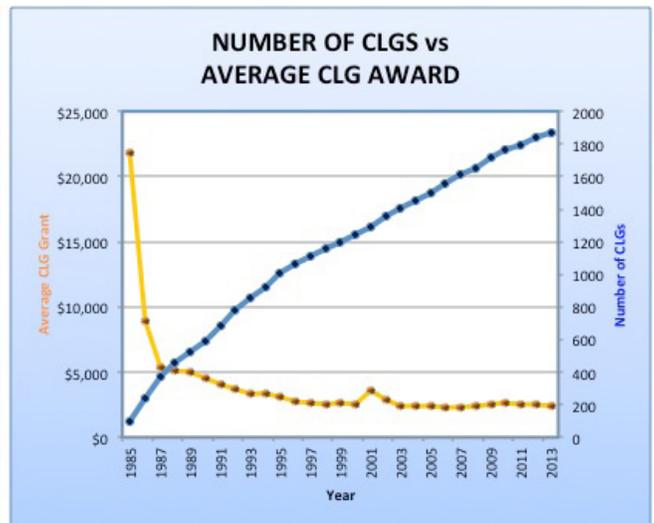
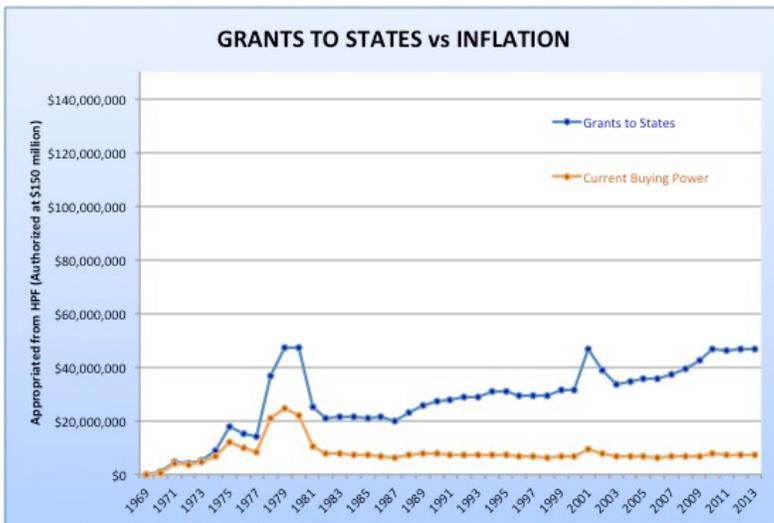
Developed as hazard mitigation, the State and county will use this documentation to ensure that the historic character of surviving areas is preserved for the future, especially as rebuilding begins. The survey will also serve as a primary resource to determine where to direct future wildfire mitigation and slope stabilization efforts. At the time the county did not realize how quickly the information would be needed. In 2013, the same area was hit with "biblical flooding", and because of the information gathered from this intensive survey, they were able to quickly direct resources to protect historic buildings like the church featured in these photos. Boulder County has become a leader in including cultural resource protection as part of its disaster planning and stands as a model of how other communities can also prepare.



DISTRIBUTION OF HPF 2013

State Historic Preservation Offices	\$ 44,479,355
Tribal Historic Preservation Offices	\$ 7,867,323
* For more detail see the 2013 Tribal Preservation Program Annual Report	
Tribal Heritage Grants	\$ 387,658
Total	\$ 52,734,336

- *Supplemental Japanese-American Confinement Sites preservation funding \$ 2,838,000
- *Emergency Supplemental HPF funding for Hurricane Sandy relief \$47,500,000
- *Funding for Save America's Treasures and Preserve America was not appropriated in 2013 though both programs remain authorized and NPS continues to manage active grants.



Picture taken by Chris L. Zeller, Division of Conservation Archaeology

ANASAZI CLIFF DWELLING: STABILIZATION AND TOURISM

Utah's Certified Local Governments (CLG) often submit proposals to rehabilitate buildings that make up the idyllic main streets of pioneer towns. In 2013, San Juan County, in Southeastern Utah, sought CLG funding for a different kind of architectural stabilization. Working with the Division of Conservation Archaeology, they stabilized elements of a 13th Century A.D. Ancestral Pueblo (Anasazi) cliff dwelling, listed in the National Register and located two miles southwest of downtown Blanding. Stabilization and eventual interpretation of this ruin is a big step forward for a community working to enhance their heritage tourism. This project also shows how CLG dollars can be creatively used to assist local economies in bringing tourist dollars to their communities, while also saving an incredibly important historic site.



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 STATE, TRIBAL, AND LOCAL PLANS & GRANTS DIVISION
 Washington, DC, www.nps.gov/history/hps/hpg
 (202) 354-2020, Preservation_Grants_Info@nps.gov

facebook.com/HHPreservItNPS
 @HHPreservItNPS

