

FY20 Annual Report to the Governor and General Assembly
on the
Financial Assistance Programs of the Division of Historical & Cultural Programs
Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Department of Planning

Includes required annual reports for the
Historic Preservation Grant Program
Museum Assistance Program
Historic Preservation Loan Fund

Submitted in accordance with the requirements of State Finance and Procurement Article §§ 5A-327(m),
5A-328(l), and 5A-353(c)

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Introduction

The Maryland Department of Planning (Planning) and Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) are pleased to submit the 2020 Annual Report on the Financial Assistance Programs of the Division of Historical and Cultural Programs, including the Historical and Cultural Museum Assistance Program, Historic Preservation Grant Program, and Capital Loan Program (Historic Preservation Loan Program). Managed by MHT, these programs promote the preservation and interpretation of historic resources and cultural traditions throughout the state, in support of the MHT's mission to "assist the people of Maryland in understanding their historical and cultural heritage."

Historical and Cultural Museum Assistance Program (State Finance and Procurement Article §5A-353(c))

Maryland is home to more than 300 museums and heritage sites, which are open to the public. In an effort to encourage continued important contributions to education, research, conservation and heritage tourism, the Historical and Cultural Museum Assistance Program provides technical assistance, services and financial aid in the form of grants. Before October 1996, this program was funded by an annual appropriation through the General Fund. Since October 1996, the program has been funded through the MHT Historic Preservation and Historical and Cultural Museum Assistance Grant Fund, which is a combination of General and GO bond funds. In FY20, the program did not receive general or capital fund appropriations.

Historic Preservation Grant Program (State Finance and Procurement Article §5A-328(I))

The Historic Preservation Grant Program is a state-appropriated source of funding to assist and encourage efforts to study, acquire and preserve historic properties. The program provides grants for many types of preservation activities and is administered as two grant programs for different audiences: the Historic Preservation Capital Grant Program, which received an FY20 appropriation of \$600,000; and Historic Preservation Non-Capital Grant Program, which received \$300,000 via the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Fund.

Historic Preservation Capital Grant Program

MHT's Historic Preservation Capital Grant Program promotes the acquisition, restoration, and rehabilitation of historic properties in Maryland. Nonprofit organizations, government entities, business organizations, and individuals may apply for funds to rehabilitate, restore, or acquire historic buildings. Nonprofit organizations and government entities are also eligible to apply for pre-development costs that will lead to a construction project. To be eligible, properties must be listed in or eligible for the Maryland Register of Historic Properties, either individually or as contributing structures within a district. A preservation easement is required for all assisted properties.

FY20 Grant Cycle

Application materials, including instructions and program guidelines for FY20 funding were made available in November 2019. A series of four grant workshops were held throughout the state in November 2019:

- November 6, 2019 – North Carroll County Public Library, Hampstead
- November 8, 2019 – Greenbelt Community Center, Prince George’s County
- November 20, 2019 – Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum, St. Leonard, Calvert County
- November 21, 2019 – Caroline County Public Library, Denton

Applications were initially due March 23, 2020, with the deadline extended to April 6, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. There were 41 eligible, complete applications received by the deadline, requesting \$2.765 million in grant funds. Upon the MHT Board of Trustee’s recommendation, the Secretary of Planning approved funding for 10 projects in six counties and Baltimore City.

FY20 Grant Awards

B&O WB Tower, Brunswick, Frederick County

Current location: Parcel #12-296568

Relocating to: Parcel #25-463846

Sponsor(s): Mayor and Council of Brunswick

Grant: \$15,000 (Grantee’s Contribution: \$75,000)

Constructed circa 1910, the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad (B&O) Westbound Tower is the westbound tower for the Brunswick rail stop, a vernacular structure exemplifying a typical building type for the B&O Railroad at that time. The last in operation on the line when it closed in 2011, the tower links to Brunswick’s strong association with the railroad and interpreting local railroad heritage. CSX recently donated the tower to the City of Brunswick, and grant funds will help save the tower from demolition by moving it to a nearby parcel.

Bostwick House, Bladensburg, Prince George’s County

Address: 3901 48th Street

Sponsor: George A. and Carmel D. Aman Memorial Trust

Grant: \$76,000 (Grantee’s Contribution: \$47,378)

Bostwick House is one of four pre-Revolutionary War structures in Bladensburg. Built in 1746 for a prominent merchant, the two-and-a-half-story brick house dominates the property that overlooks the Anacostia River at the former Port of Bladensburg. Grant funds will support a structural analysis and repairs on the unusual buttress at the south elevation. A microburst weather event damaged the buttress in 2012, permitting it to be partially deconstructed and studied.

Calvin B. Taylor House, Berlin, Worcester County

Address: 208 N. Main Street

Sponsor: Berlin Heritage Foundation, Inc.

Grant: \$45,000 (Grantee’s Contribution: \$2,000)

The Calvin B. Taylor House is an 1832 front-gable dwelling with Federal and Greek revival architectural features, a house type and style distinct to Berlin and Worcester County. Today the property houses a museum and has been meticulously restored and furnished to reflect domestic life in the 1830s. The wood shingle roof of the building has reached the end of its useful life, so the capital grant funds will be used to replace the roof in-kind.

Christ Rock Methodist Episcopal Church, Cambridge, Dorchester County

Address: 2403 Rock Drive

Sponsor: The Friends of Stanley Institute, Inc.

Grant: \$13,000

Constructed in 1875, Christ Rock Church served the Black settlement that arose at Christ Rock, outside of Cambridge, just after the Civil War. The church no longer operates for religious purposes, but rather as a community center. As part of an ongoing capital project, the church has completed repairs to the building as well as interior work, including faux wood grain restoration. Funding will help repaint the exterior to protect the wood siding.

Ebenezer African Methodist Episcopal Church, Baltimore City

Address: 20 West Montgomery St

Sponsor: Ebenezer Kingdom Builders, Inc.

Grant: \$100,000 (Grantee Contribution: \$46,072)

Built in 1865 for a congregation organized in 1836, Ebenezer African Methodist Episcopal Church is thought to be the oldest standing church in Baltimore City that was erected by African Americans and continuously occupied by the descendants of the same congregation. This brick Gothic Revival church has a prominent bell tower, with the parish house located in an adjoining rowhouse. Funding will complete replacement of the slate roof, which has reached the end of its useful life.

His Lordship's Kindness, Clinton, Prince George's County

Address: 7606 Woodyard Rd

Sponsor: John M. and Sara R. Walton Foundation, Inc.

Grant: \$100,000 (Grantee's Contribution: \$22,000)

His Lordship's Kindness, a National Historic Landmark, includes a terraced boxwood garden and a variety of original outbuildings, as well as the main house, Poplar Hill. The two-story brick, five-part house is an exemplary specimen of Georgian architecture. Capital grant funds will assist urgent work on both the main house and outbuildings, where priorities include woodwork and roof repairs.

Lovely Lane United Methodist Church, Baltimore City

Address: 2200 St Paul Street

Sponsor: The Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the City and Precincts of Baltimore

Grant: \$100,000 (Grantee's Contribution: \$114,060)

Lovely Lane United Methodist Church, the Mother Church of American Methodism, was designed by noted architect Stanford White, of McKim, Mead and White, and constructed in 1882-1887 in the Romanesque Revival style. Gray ashlar rock-face Port Deposit granite comprises the entire exterior. Grant funds will help restore and repair some of the 27 original stained glass windows made by Louis C. Tiffany and Company, which depict beautiful abstract shapes and colors.

Mount Clare Museum, Baltimore City

Address: 1500 Washington Blvd

Sponsor: The National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of Maryland, Inc.

Grant: \$11,000 (Grantee's Contribution: \$6,700)

The 18th century Mount Clare Mansion is a five-part Georgian house with reconstructed wings and hyphens. The National Historic Landmark house originally belonged to the Carroll Family and now serves as a public museum with meeting space, while the grounds form part of Carroll Park. Capital grant funds will help repair the exterior doors of the house, badly damaged during an attempted break-in.

National Park Seminary, Silver Spring, Montgomery Count

Address: 9615 Dewitt Drive

Sponsor: Save Our Seminary at Forest Glen Inc.

Grant: \$100,000 (Grantee's Contribution: \$140,000)

Originally constructed as a resort hotel in 1887, National Park Seminary spent most of its existence as an educational facility or under the ownership of the U.S. Army. In 1927, the grand ballroom was added with Gothic features, rather than the Beaux-Arts style characteristic of the rest of the campus. Capital grant funds will be used to restore all 14 stained glass windows in the grand ballroom. The comprehensive window repair addresses the last major component of the building's revitalization.

Schifferstadt Architectural Museum, Frederick, Frederick County

Address: 1110 Rosemont Ave

Sponsor: Frederick County Landmarks Foundation, Inc.

Grant: \$40,000

Schifferstadt is one of America's finest examples of German colonial architecture. A National Historic Landmark, Schifferstadt is comprised of two sections - a mid-18th century main block of fieldstone construction and an early 19th century brick addition. The highly intact interior retains numerous ethnically German features that speak to the heritage of immigrant Josef Brunner, who was responsible for the house's construction. Grant funds will help prevent further water intrusion into the house by repairing windows and doors, installing a gutter system, and repointing.

FY21 Grant Cycle

Applications, instructions, and program guidelines for FY21 funding were made available in November 2020. Grant workshops were held virtually in November, will again be held virtually in January 2021, and applications will be due in March 2021.

Grant Project Highlights

FY18 Hammond-Harwood House, Annapolis, Anne Arundel County

Sponsor: Hammond-Harwood House Association, Incorporated

Constructed in 1774 by William Buckland, a British architect active in Maryland and Virginia, the Hammond-Harwood House is a five-part Anglo-Palladian mansion considered among the most significant Georgian residences of colonial America. Aside from a small addition from 1875, the house has essentially remained unaltered. Since FY08, Hammond-Harwood, now used as a museum of fine and decorative arts, has received four capital grants from MHT totaling more than \$212,950. Recently, as part of the second stage of a multi-year plan, one capital project addressed the deterioration of the window sashes, sills, and surrounds on 56 windows.

FY19 Iron Hill Cut Jasper Quarry Archaeological Preserve, Elkton, Cecil County

Sponsor: The Archaeological Conservancy

The Iron Hill Cut Jasper Quarry is an archaeological site and likely the only remaining Native American quarry in Maryland for sourcing jasper, a material prized for use in flint knapping, or the making of flaked stone tools such as arrowheads, spear points, and knives. The National Register-listed quarry is undisturbed and has great research potential for examining models of the procurement of the high-quality stone in the yearly rounds of ancient Native American inhabitants. A capital grant of \$50,000 assisted in the acquisition of the property as an archaeological research preserve.

Historic Preservation Non-Capital Grant Program

MHT's Historic Preservation Non-Capital Grant Program supports a wide variety of research, survey, planning, and educational activities involving architectural, archeological, or cultural resources. Eligible activities may include preservation plans, historic and cultural resource surveys, educational outreach programs and National Register nominations. Nonprofit organizations, including state agencies and local jurisdictions are eligible to apply.

FY20 Grant Cycle

Applications, instructions, and program guidelines for FY20 funding were made available in May 2019. Workshops were held on June 11 and June 26, 2019 in Crownsville.

Intent to apply forms were due July 12, 2019, and full applications were due September 3, 2019. MHT received 29 eligible, complete applications by the deadline, requesting \$1,092,558.64 in grant funds. Upon the recommendation of the MHT Board of Trustees, the Secretary of Planning approved funding for nine projects in eight counties and Baltimore City.

FY20 Grant Awards

Documenting Dairy Farms in Northern Maryland: Carroll, Cecil, and Frederick Counties

Sponsor: University of Delaware

Grant: \$48,800

Funding will support a cultural resource survey to document dairy farms and their associated farm structures in Carroll, Cecil, and Frederick counties, as well as the preparation of three brief historic contexts. The work is designed to be the first of a multi-year, statewide project to survey these threatened historic resources.

Preservation Plan for Poplar Hill on His Lordship's Kindness, Prince George's County

Sponsor: John M. & Sara R. Walton Foundation, Inc.

Grant: \$55,000

The project will create a preservation plan for the main house at Poplar Hill and some of its most important outbuildings, including the smokehouse, dairy, slave infirmary, privy, pigeon cote, corn crib, garage/chauffeur's apartment, and granary.

Update of National Register Nomination for Frederick Historic District, Frederick County

Sponsor: City of Frederick

Grant: \$22,000

The City of Frederick will revise its 1988 Historic District National Register Nomination and update it with a detailed and inclusive historic context addressing the local histories of African Americans, women, workers, immigrants, and LGBTQ communities. The project also involves re-evaluating the existing boundaries with justifications, establishing a period of significance, preparing a map of contributing and non-contributing properties, and updating photographs.

Historic Sites Survey in Somerset and Dorchester Counties

Sponsor: Somerset County Historical Trust, Inc.

Grant: \$55,000

Somerset County Historical Trust, Inc. received funds to complete the third phase of a historic sites survey in Somerset and Dorchester counties, documenting a variety of properties related to village and city landscapes as well as rural agrarian farmsteads. Many of the target properties are threatened by demolition by neglect, absentee landowners, coastal erosion, and the effects of sea level rise.

Historic Site Survey in Old West Baltimore, Baltimore City

Sponsor: Baltimore Heritage, Inc.

Grant: \$21,200

Grant funds to Baltimore Heritage will support a new survey of African American heritage sites in the Old West Baltimore National Register District. The original nomination included some of the area's important history, such as the Civil Rights movement, but this project will provide more detail, resulting in new or expanded Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties forms for individual buildings.

Rodgers Tavern Museum and Lower Ferry Park Non-Invasive Archaeological Survey, Cecil County

Sponsor: Town of Perryville

Grant: \$43,000

The Town of Perryville will oversee a remote sensing survey of the Rodgers Tavern Museum and Lower Ferry Park properties, with the goal of identifying archaeological resources that may represent outbuildings associated with the operation of the tavern and Susquehanna Lower Ferry from as early as 1695 until the late 19th century. The resulting data will provide updated Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties site files, documentation for any newly identified sites, and a comprehensive Geographic Information System (GIS) database for managing previously collected archaeological information related to these resources.

2021 Tyler Bastian Field Session in Maryland Archaeology, Prince George's County

Sponsor: Archeological Society of Maryland

Grant: \$15,000

The Archeological Society of Maryland (ASM) received a grant in support of the 2020 Tyler Bastian Field Session in Maryland Archaeology, to be held at the Billingsley site near Upper Marlboro. Staff previously identified Billingsley as an area of interest while carrying out survey work using MHT's remote sensing equipment, and a Field Session in 2019 focused on the site's Native American occupation. Unfortunately, due to the impacts of COVID-19, ASM cancelled the 2020 Field Session, so these funds will instead be used for the 2021 Field Session.

Parson's Island Survey and Threatened Site Evaluations, Queen Anne's County

Sponsor: Chesapeake Bay Watershed Archaeological Research Foundation

Grant: \$30,000

The Chesapeake Bay Watershed Archaeological Research Foundation received funds in FY20 to conduct pedestrian shoreline and plowed field archaeological surveys, excavations, and remote sensing investigations on Parson's Island. Parson's Island -- a roughly 73-acre, privately owned island off the shore of Kent Island in Queen Anne's County -- has approximately 1.65 linear miles of coastline constantly under threat from the erosive forces of the Chesapeake Bay. Preliminary data suggest that a site on the island represents one of the earliest human occupations identified in the state.

Enhancing the Ogle Archaeological Collection from Central and Southern Maryland

Sponsor: Anne Arundel County

Grant: \$37,000

In 2009, Robert Ogle, a professional roads surveyor and avocational archaeologist, donated his entire artifact collection to the Anne Arundel County Cultural Resources Division. The Ogle collection, amassed over 50 years of systematic collecting in central and southern Maryland, consists of not just artifacts, but also detailed notebooks, photographs, and annotated maps, which link the collections to known archaeological sites. Many of these sites no longer survive and, thus, the record collected by Mr. Ogle is invaluable for researchers. This grant will fund the processing and cataloging of the Ogle artifacts and notes, new and updated site survey documentation, and a summary manuscript and GIS report.

FY21 Grant Cycle

Intent to Apply forms for Historic Preservation Non-Capital grants were due on July 17, 2020. The deadline for completed applications was August 28, 2020. Grant awards will be announced in early 2021.

Grant Project Highlight

FY18 Documenting Maryland's Women's Suffrage History

Sponsor: Preservation Maryland

With support from the Historic Preservation Non-Capital Grant Program and other sources, Preservation Maryland created an accurate, significant, and accessible series of educational materials related to the history of the Women's Suffrage Movement in Maryland, while marking the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment. Products included a five-part public lecture series; a tangible four-part traveling pop-up exhibit; and nine audio essays about Maryland's suffragists released as part of Preservation Maryland's podcast *PreserveCast*, as well as the project's own podcast and website, called *Ballot and Beyond*.

FY18 Locating the 1634 Fort at St. Mary's City, Saint Mary's County, Maryland

Sponsor: Historic Saint Mary's City

In the summer and fall 2019, Historic Saint Mary's City (HSMC), with assistance from the MHT Historic Preservation Non-Capital Grant Program, undertook a geophysical prospection survey in search of the palisaded fort established by the English colonists that arrived in 1634, and founded the Colony of Maryland. HSMC hired Horsley Archaeological Prospection to survey approximately 15 acres known as the Mill Field and five acres south of the historic Town Center. A combination of archaeological techniques, including magnetic susceptibility, fluxgate gradiometry, and ground-penetrating radar, ultimately indicated a large military fortification in the Mill Field location. Subsequent ground-truthing by students with the annual HSMC archaeological field school verified that the structure dates to the early 17th century and is almost certainly the location of the 1634 fort, a discovery critical to understanding the earliest period of colonial life in the state.

Historic Preservation Loan Fund

State Finance and Procurement Article §5A-327(m) provides for the Historic Preservation Loan Fund, which offers low-interest loans to nonprofit organizations, business and government entities, and individuals. Borrowers may use loan funds to refinance, acquire, or rehabilitate a property that is listed on or eligible for listing on the Maryland Register of Historic Places. MHT can also expend up to 50% of available funds to rehabilitate historic property owned by MHT. Both repayments of existing loans and appropriations from the Maryland General Assembly replenish the loan fund for future projects.

Activity of the Loan Program in FY20

Capital loan funds (\$300,000) assisted in the \$465,000 acquisition of the Pythian Castle in Hagerstown (Washington County). Originally known as the Knights of Pythias Building, this former fraternal building is a contributing structure in the Hagerstown National Register District. The owner plans to retain the first floor as retail space, convert the basement to retail space, and install a food hall on the second floor. The third floor, graced by a deeply coffered metal ceiling that was hidden from sight behind a dropped ceiling for decades, will undergo restoration for use as event space.