

FY 2023 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 (MDP) and Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) are pleased to submit the FY 2023 Annual Report on the Financial Assistance Programs of the Division of Historical and Cultural Programs, including the Historical and Cultural Museum Assistance Program, the Historic Preservation Grant Program, and the 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. 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. In FY 2023, 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 FY 2023 appropriation of \$600,000; and the 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 receive funds, properties must be listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, either individually or as contributing structures within a district. A preservation easement is required for all assisted properties.

FY 2023 Grant Cycle

Application materials, including instructions and program guidelines for FY 2023 funding, were made available in December 2022. A series of six grant workshops were held virtually via the Google Meet platform or in person:

- December 1, 2022 – General Overview Webinar
- December 13, 2022 – In-Person Workshop (Crownsville)

- January 5, 2023 – In-Person Workshop (LaVale)
- January 17, 2023 – General Overview Webinar
- February 9, 2023 – Q&A Session
- February 22, 2023 – Q&A Session

Applications were due May 1, 2023. Of the 56 applications requesting approximately \$4.1 million, MHT’s Board and the Secretary of Planning approved seven projects for funding in July totalling \$604,000, which includes \$4,000 in prior year funds.

FY 2023 Grant Awards

Lloyd Street Synagogue, Lloyd St., Baltimore City

Sponsor: Jewish Museum of Maryland, Inc.

Grant: \$100,000

Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, Lloyd Street Synagogue is a Greek Revival-style building constructed in 1845. Designed by Robert Cary Long, Jr., the first architect native to Maryland, this is the first synagogue erected in Maryland and the third oldest in the country, and is one of only four architectural works by Long still extant today. In 1963, it became the Jewish Historical Society of Maryland and now needs urgent structural and ceiling repairs.

First and Franklin Presbyterian Church, W Madison St., Baltimore City

Sponsor: First & Franklin Presbyterian Church

Grant: \$100,000

The First and Franklin Presbyterian Church (1854-1859) is listed in the National Register of Historic Places for its high-style Gothic Revival architecture. Beyond its architectural significance, the church and congregation have also played a significant role in LGBTQ+ history, hosting the first AIDS support group outside of a clinical environment and the first public forum on the burgeoning AIDS crisis that drew more than 300 people. The grant project’s priority is restoring the tallest brown stone spire, including an engineering assessment.

Cambridge Municipal Building, Academy St., Cambridge, Dorchester County

Sponsor: City of Cambridge

Grant: \$100,000

The Cambridge Municipal Building is a 1926 Colonial Revival government building designed by Henry Powell Hopkins and is noted for its role in the summer of 1963 civil unrest in Cambridge. City officials based in the building sought the National Guard’s assistance during ongoing protests, leading to the longest peacetime occupation of a community in U.S. history. The grant project will restore exterior elements, enabling the building to be used once again as government offices, while adding a first-floor public gathering space and museum.

Third Haven Meeting House, S Washington St., Easton, Talbot County

Sponsor: Trustees of Third Haven Monthly Meeting of the Society of Friends, Inc.

Grant: \$100,000

One of the Atlantic seaboard's three oldest surviving religious facilities, Third Haven Meeting House (c.1684) represents the origins and values associated with religious freedom. Despite some Quaker members being slaveholders, Third Haven is known for its influence on Maryland Quakers' emancipation efforts. The grant project aims to restore wood elements of the meeting house (e.g., siding and window sills) and to improve moisture issues in the crawl space and interior through non-invasive ventilation.

Pikesville Armory – Edwards Building, Reisterstown Rd., Pikesville, Baltimore County

Sponsor: Pikesville Armory Foundation

Grant: \$100,000

The Edwards Building sits on the 14-acre campus of the Pikesville Armory, the second oldest Armory in Maryland. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, it was a training base for US soldiers during World War I and World War II. Built in the 1920s as the Officers' Headquarters, the Tudor-style Edwards Building sits prominently on the campus. The grant project will focus on waterproofing needs and masonry repairs on the foundation.

Cottage City + Colmar Manor Fire Dept., 38th Ave., Brentwood, Prince George's County

Sponsor: Town of Cottage City

Grant: \$100,000

In 1924, the Prince George's Volunteer Firemen's Association commenced the construction of the towns' first firehouse. The Cottage City and Colmar Manor Fire Department building served as the firehouse for the port towns of Cottage City and Colmar Manor until 1940, when it was replaced by a larger firehouse. Recently, the town of Cottage City purchased the building to serve as a Community Outreach Center. The grant project will focus on rehabbing original material, such as interior wood floors, molding, paneling, masonry, and a terra cotta seal.

Wye Mill, Wye Mills Rd, Wye Mills, Queen Anne's County

Sponsor: Friends of Wye Mill, Inc.

Grant: \$4,000

Dating to 1862, the National Register-listed Wye Mill is the oldest water-powered overshoot grist mill in continuous operation in the country. The mill is an excellent example of 17th-20th century milling technology. In 1952, the opening of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge threatened its existence, but the Friends of Wye Mill, Inc. purchased the property to ensure the mill continued operating as part of a museum. The grant will focus on repairs to the mill race box and sluice gate.

FY 2024 Grant Cycle

Applications, instructions, and program guidelines for FY 2024 funding will be made available in December 2023. Grant workshops will be held virtually and in-person in December 2023 and continue in January and February 2023. Applications are due March 2023.

Grant Project Highlights

Schifferstadt Architectural Museum, Rosemont Ave., Frederick, Frederick County

Sponsor: Frederick County Landmarks Foundation, Inc.

The Schifferstadt Architectural Museum is one of America's finest examples of German colonial architecture. As a National Historic Landmark, it is one of the earliest known houses in Frederick and serves as an outstanding example of a Georgian-period house influenced by German-American culture and building traditions. In FY 2020, MHT awarded the Schifferstadt Architectural Museum a \$100,000 grant to prevent further water intrusion by repairing or replacing windows and doors, improving roof drainage, and masonry work. The project completed the rehabilitation of all the windows and both doors on the fieldstone main block, as well as repointing the chimney and resetting the front steps.

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, archaeological, or cultural resources. Eligible activities may include preservation plans, historic and cultural resource surveys, educational outreach programs, and National Register of Historic Places nominations. Nonprofit organizations (including state agencies) and local jurisdictions are eligible to apply.

FY 2023 Grant Cycle

Applications, instructions, and program guidelines for FY 2023 funding were made available in May 2022. A virtual workshop recording was released via MHT's YouTube channel on May 13, 2022, and promoted via Facebook and MHT's web page. Intent to Apply forms were due June 27, 2022, and full applications were due August 1, 2022. In FY 2023, MHT received 23 applications for archaeological and architectural non-capital projects, totaling more than \$990,000 in requests. Upon the recommendation of the MHT Board of Trustees, the Secretary of Planning approved funding for ten projects throughout the state.

FY 2023 Grant Awards

Women in Maryland Architecture, Statewide

Sponsor: Baltimore Architecture Foundation, Inc.

Grant: \$45,700

The Baltimore Architecture Foundation, Inc. will nominate properties designed by early women architects to the National Register. This work constitutes the second phase of the project; the first phase involved the creation of a Multiple Property Documentation Form *Women in Maryland Architecture, 1920-1970*, and one supporting nomination for the Hirsch Residence.

Recovering Identity: African American Historic Context Study in Frederick County, Frederick County

Sponsor: Frederick County

Grant: \$35,000

Frederick County and the African American Resources Cultural and Heritage Society, known as AARCH, will collaborate on an expanded African American Historic Context Study. Building on the initial context statement and survey in northern Frederick County, this project will delve deeper into historic and cultural themes, offering a comprehensive insight into the county's African American heritage.

Growing a County: A Study of Anne Arundel's Agricultural Heritage, Anne Arundel County

Sponsor: Anne Arundel County

Grant: \$46,000

This project will produce a thematic report entitled "Growing a County: Agricultural Heritage in Anne Arundel", which will provide a detailed examination of the history and evolution of agricultural practices from prehistoric times into the 20th century and specify resource types for documentation and

preservation. The document will highlight the contributions of enslaved workers and immigrant labor to the county's agricultural heritage.

Historic Preservation of Cedar Haven & Eagle Harbor, Prince George's County

Sponsor: Cedar Haven Civic Association on the Patuxent River, Inc.

Grant: \$30,600

This project, managed by the Cedar Haven Civic Association on the Patuxent River, Inc., includes the preparation of one National Register district nomination for the Town of Eagle Harbor and one MIHP form for Cedar Haven. Founded in the late 1920s, Eagle Harbor and Cedar Haven were African American waterfront neighborhoods that provided an escape from the summer heat and city life during the segregation era.

Applegarth Tubman Medicine Hill Historic Preservation Project, Hoopers Island Rd., Church Creek, Dorchester County

Sponsor: Applegarth Tubman Medicine Hill Preservation and Education Foundation, Inc.

Grant: \$16,200

This project, managed by the Cedar Haven Civic Association on the Patuxent River, Inc., includes the preparation of one National Register district nomination for the Town of Eagle Harbor and one MIHP form for Cedar Haven. Eagle Harbor and Cedar Haven were founded in the late 1920s as African American waterfront neighborhoods that provided an escape from the summer heat and city life during the segregation era.

St. John's College Campus History, Annapolis, Anne Arundel County

Sponsor: St. John's College

Grant: \$22,500

This project will involve research and documentation at St. John's College, including an examination of the history of enslaved people in relation to the St. John's College campus. The work will also include updating existing architectural survey data in MIHP.

The 2023 Tyler Bastian Field Session, Chapel Branch West Site, Caroline County

Sponsor: Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc.

Grant: \$17,000

This annual event hosted by MHT and the Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc. provides a hands-on opportunity for laypersons to learn archaeological methods under the direction of professional archaeologists. The funds will cover field session expenses as well as the hiring of a contractor to produce a final report and prepare artifacts for permanent curation, all according to state standards.

Modeling Wooden Shipwreck Deterioration in the Potomac River: Interdisciplinary Approaches, Wilson Landing Rd., Nanjemoy, Charles County

Sponsor: East Carolina University

Grant: \$30,000

This project funds important archaeological-biological baseline research on the hull of the wooden shipwreck Aowa in Mallow's Bay-Potomac River National Marine Sanctuary. East Carolina University's Maritime Studies Program will regularly revisit Aowa in 2023-2024, collecting environmental data to study natural impacts on Aowa's hull. Findings will inform a report for MHT and contribute to an ongoing dissertation. Both will aid in safeguarding Maryland's maritime heritage amid global environmental change.

Herring Run Park Comprehensive Archaeological Investigations, Baltimore City

Sponsor: Towson University

Grant: \$30,000

This project will conduct an archaeological survey of Herring Run Park in Baltimore City. The project will include a shovel test pit survey and ground-penetrating radar (GPR) survey of areas with high potential for intact cultural resources at Herring Run Park. Towson University staff will use the collective archaeological survey results to update Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties data, write a summary report, and plan Towson University's 2024 Summer Archaeological Field School.

The Search for Lord Dunmore's Floating City, St. Mary's County

Sponsor: Institute of Maritime History

Grant: \$20,000

The Institute of Maritime History will perform historical research and underwater archaeological survey in Maryland waters to locate and identify any cultural resources related to the Revolutionary War-era occupation of St. George's Island and scuttling of numerous vessels there in 1776. Project staff will teach volunteers with the Institute of Maritime History proper archaeological survey techniques, non-disturbance site recording, research, and report preparation. The Institute of Maritime History will submit a report detailing the results of fieldwork to MHT.

FY 2024 Grant Cycle

Applications, instructions, and program guidelines for FY 2024 funding were made available in May, 2023. A workshop recording was released via MHT's YouTube channel on May 15, 2023, and promoted via Facebook and MHT's web page. In-person workshops were held on June 12, 2023 in Kent County and on June 20, 2023 in Allegany County. Intent to Apply forms for Historic Preservation Non-Capital grants were due on June 30, 2023. The deadline for completed applications was August 1, 2022. Grant awards were announced in November 2023.

Grant Project Highlights

Study of Maryland Schools, Statewide

Sponsor: Preservation Maryland

With support from a Historic Preservation Non-Capital grant, Preservation Maryland produced a context study detailing the history of Maryland school construction from early efforts to the 1970s. The report additionally identified major styles and architectural features and developed a framework for evaluating architectural and historical significance. This work comes at a critical time, as it is expected that the state will start many educational facility upgrades in the future.

2022 Tyler Bastian Field Session in Maryland Archaeology, Barwick's Ordinary, Caroline County

Sponsor: Archeology Society of Maryland

The Tyler Bastian Field Session in Maryland Archaeology is an annual event hosted by the Archeology Society of Maryland and MHT, supported with funds from the Historic Preservation Non-Capital Grant Program. At the 2022 field session, surface finds of stone bifaces, flakes, and pre-contact pottery led MHT archaeologists and ASM volunteers to investigate a neighboring property through shovel testing. In this shovel test pit survey, evidence was documented of a presumed living surface yielding 3,000-1,000-year-old artifacts intact below the plow zone. Many archaeological sites are confined to the near-surface and thus have been impacted by deep plowing during widespread agriculture in the past. This pre-colonial Indigenous site (called Chapel Branch West) was further excavated in the 2023 field session, yielding evidence of a settlement with pottery sherds, projectile points, part of a Late Woodland tobacco pipe bowl, and more.

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 non-profit organizations, business and government entities, and individuals. Borrowers may use loan funds to refinance, acquire, or rehabilitate a property that is listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. MHT can also expend funds to rehabilitate historic property owned by MHT. In addition, pursuant to SB425 of the 2023 General Assembly session, certain nonprofits are now eligible to apply for a non-repayable transfer of funds from the program.

This component of the program is only available to a “qualified cooperating nonprofit organization,” meaning a nonprofit organization that is based in the state, operates statewide, and has demonstrated experience rehabilitating historic structures, managing preservation funds, and holding preservation easements.

Eligible costs under the transfer program are limited to the acquisition of historic properties or interests in historic properties for resale or lease, the rehabilitation or restoration of historic properties for resale or lease, providing loans to other nonprofit organizations, political subdivisions, and business entities to acquire, rehabilitate, restore, or refinance historic properties, providing loans to individuals to rehabilitate or restore National Historic Landmarks, and certain administrative costs and programmatic expenses.

In FY 2023, MHT encumbered funds for one loan.

Montrose Schoolhouse, Randolph Rd., Rockville, Montgomery County

Sponsor: Peerless Rockville Historic Preservation, Ltd.

Loan: Up to \$240,000

Montrose Schoolhouse (c.1909), designed by architect Thomas C. Groomes, is the last remaining structure of Montrose’s early-20th-century community. The loan for Peerless Rockville Historic Preservation, Ltd. will finance the purchase of the land from SHA and the schoolhouse’s rehabilitation, including the renovation of two bathrooms and a kitchen, plumbing and HVAC system updates, painting, roof maintenance, accessibility improvements, and the repaving of the parking lot.

Information regarding applications for FY 2024 funds for loans or transfers is available on MHT’s website. Applications are due by January 15, 2024.