

*Report to the Governor and the General
Assembly*

2018 Annual Report
on the
**African American Heritage
Preservation Program**



Asbury United Methodist Church, Easton, Talbot County

**Maryland Commission on
African American History and Culture**
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Annapolis, MD 21401
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Maryland Historical Trust
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
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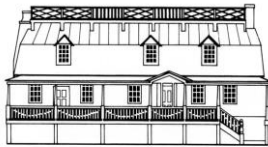
Larry Hogan, Governor
Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor



THE MARYLAND COMMISSION ON AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture is: to interpret, document, preserve, and promote Maryland's African American heritage; to provide technical assistance to institutions and groups with similar objectives; and to educate Maryland's citizens and visitors about the significance of the African American experience in Maryland and the nation.

The Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture is housed within the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives.



Maryland Historical Trust
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032
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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST MISSION STATEMENT

The Maryland Historical Trust is dedicated to preserving and interpreting the legacy of Maryland's past. Through research, conservation and education, the Maryland Historical Trust assists the people of Maryland in understanding their historical and cultural heritage.

The Maryland Historical Trust is a division of the Maryland Department of Planning.

Background

The African American Heritage Preservation Grant Program (AAHPP) was created during the 2010 session of the Maryland General Assembly and reauthorized, with modifications, as a permanent program during the 2015 session. The AAHPP is administered as a partnership of the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture (Commission), a unit of the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives, and the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT or Trust), a division of the Maryland Department of Planning (Planning). The purpose of this program is to encourage the identification and preservation of buildings, sites, and communities of historical and cultural importance to the African American experience in Maryland.

Eligible applicants for AAHPP funding include nonprofit organizations and local jurisdictions. Federal and state agencies may apply as nonprofits. Business entities and individuals may also apply for AAHPP grants when seeking funds for preservation or development projects that serve a high public purpose. Eligible activities include acquisition, construction and capital improvement of buildings, sites, or communities of historical or cultural importance to the African American experience in Maryland, as well as predevelopment costs directly associated with an acquisition or construction project. Such predevelopment costs may cover historic structures reports and studies, the preparation of plans and specifications, necessary archeological investigations, and reasonable fees for architectural, design, engineering and other special services.

This report is submitted in accordance with the requirements of State Finance and Procurement Article § 5A-330(i), SB 601/Chapter 371, 2015.

Activity of the African American Heritage Preservation Program in FY 2018

Fiscal Year 2018 Grant Awards

Applications, instructions and program guidelines for FY18 funding were made available in February 2017 via the Trust's website. A series of workshops across the state for potential applicants was held in March and April 2017. Forty eligible applications were received by the July 15, 2017 deadline, representing a total request of \$3.339 million. Applications were represented by 15 counties and Baltimore City.

Twelve projects were recommended for funding by the Commission and the Trust's Board of Trustees before final approval by the Secretary of Planning. A press release detailing the grant awards was distributed in October 2017, immediately after the following grantees were notified of their awards:

County	Project and Sponsor	Description	Grant Award	Total Costs
Baltimore City	<p>Project Name: Bethel Community Empowerment and Wellness Center</p> <p>Project Address: 1429 McCulloh Street, Baltimore, MD 21217</p> <p>Project Sponsor: Bethel Outreach Center, Inc. (DBA Community Empowerment and Wellness Center)</p>	<p>The Bethel Community Empowerment and Wellness Center is a 1920 contributing structure in the Old West Baltimore National Register Historic District (B-1373). The building will be rehabilitated and run by the Bethel A.M.E. church as a resource center for the local African American community, protecting the neighborhood's heritage by supporting local nonprofits and organizations in revitalizing this once-thriving African American neighborhood. If funded, the Trust will not require an easement.</p> <p><i>Project work includes interior and exterior rehabilitation including HVAC replacement, plumbing work, accessibility improvements, painting, concrete work, selective demolition, and engineering services.</i></p>	\$100,000	\$100,000
Wicomico	<p>Project Name: Charles H. Chipman Cultural Center</p> <p>Project Address: 325 Broad Street, Salisbury, MD 21801</p> <p>Project Sponsor: The Chipman Foundation, Inc.</p>	<p>MIHP WI-141: The Charles H. Chipman Center is the oldest African American congregation site in the region and the first site for religious services in the region during and after slavery, the first school for children of freed slaves in the region, and the first Delmarva high school for African American children after the Civil War. The building is currently used as a cultural center and small museum focusing on African American heritage in Delmarva. The Trust holds an easement on this property.</p> <p><i>Project work includes interior and exterior rehabilitation including repair / replacement of carpentry, roof, plaster, finishes, fire escape, security system, and fire alarm and protection systems; painting; and architectural, engineering, consulting, and project management services.</i></p>	\$100,000	\$100,000

County	Project and Sponsor	Description	Grant Award	Total Costs
Caroline	<p>Project Name: Community Civic League of Federalsburg / Laurel Grove Road School</p> <p>Project Address: 3439 Laurel Grove Road, Federalsburg, MD 21632</p> <p>Project Sponsor: Community Civic League of Federalsburg, Inc.</p>	<p>Community Civic League of Federalsburg (MIHP CAR-320): Constructed as a school for African Americans in 1918 as part of the Rosenwald School initiative, this building was in use until desegregation in 1964. Additions were constructed in the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s; fires in 1968 and 1993 compromised the historic integrity of the structure, but it is still used today as a multipurpose community resource center. If funded, an easement will not be required.</p> <p><i>Project work includes interior and exterior rehabilitation, including repair / replacement / installation of flooring, windows, doors, cabinetry, gutters and downspouts, interior and exterior finishes, and mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems; upgrade of HVAC; sitework and fencing; and associated architectural, engineering, and consulting services.</i></p>	\$96,000	\$96,000
Baltimore City	<p>Project Name: Ebenezer A.M.E. Church and Parish House (Baltimore)</p> <p>Project Address: 18 & 20 West Montgomery Street, Baltimore, MD 21230</p> <p>Project Sponsor: Ebenezer Kingdom Builders, Inc.</p>	<p>Built in 1865 for a congregation organized in 1836, Ebenezer A.M.E. Church (MIHP B-3003; B-3713, Federal Hill NRHD) is thought to be the oldest standing church in Baltimore 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; the parish house is located in an adjoining rowhouse. The Trust holds an easement on this property.</p> <p><i>Project work includes exterior rehabilitation of church and parish house including repair / replacement of roof; and architectural, engineering, and consulting services.</i></p>	\$100,000	\$100,000
Dorchester	<p>Project Name: Stanley Institute</p> <p>Project Address: 2400 Cambridge Beltway, Cambridge, MD 21613</p> <p>Project Sponsor: The Friends of Stanley Institute, Inc.</p>	<p>The Stanley Institute School (also Rock School, D-43 individually National Register listed) is a one-story, gable-front building constructed c. 1865 and moved to its current site in 1867. The school is believed to be one of the oldest still-extant one-room schools for African American education in Dorchester County. The school is one of Maryland's oldest organized and maintained by a black community, and is significant for its role in the development of African American social history in Maryland. The Trust holds an easement on this property.</p> <p><i>Project work includes exterior and interior rehabilitation including repair / replacement of windows, siding, and railings; waterproofing; painting; and site work.</i></p>	\$24,000	\$24,000

County	Project and Sponsor	Description	Grant Award	Total Costs
Talbot	<p>Project Name: Asbury M.E. Church (Easton)</p> <p>Project Address: 18 South Higgins Street, Easton, MD 21601</p> <p>Project Sponsor: Historic Easton, Incorporated</p>	<p>Asbury M.E. Church (MIHP T-421; T-410 Easton NRHD) is the oldest African American church structure in Easton, and the second oldest African American church structure in Talbot County. The church was dedicated by Frederick Douglass in 1878. Asbury was a temporary high school for colored students in the 1930's and is now a community center for a historically African American enclave known as the "Hill." The lower-level "fellowship hall" will become an education and research center for the public. The upper-level sanctuary is still used for worship. The Trust holds an easement on this property.</p> <p><i>Project work includes exterior rehabilitation including foundation repair, masonry repair, and associated architectural, engineering, and consulting services.</i></p>	\$100,000	\$100,000
Allegany	<p>Project Name: Jane Gates Heritage House</p> <p>Project Address: 515 Greene Street, Cumberland, MD 21532</p> <p>Project Sponsor: Jane Gates Heritage House, Inc.</p>	<p>The Jane Gates Heritage House (MIHP AL-IV-A-145 Westside Historic District) derives its name from Jane Gates, a former slave, who was able to purchase the property in 1871. She lived here with her five children, including Edward Gates, the great-grandfather of Dr. Henry Louis Gates Jr., a prominent scholar of African American culture at Harvard University. Dr. Gates showcased this property, 515 Greene Street, on his TV program "Finding your Roots" as a significant landmark for the Gates family. The property is still in Gates family ownership; it will be rehabilitated as a community center. If funded, the Trust will not require an easement.</p> <p><i>Project work includes interior and exterior rehabilitation including repair / replacement of walls, flooring, siding, lighting, roofing; carpentry work; painting; installation of HVAC, shutters, gutters and downspouts; and replacement of kitchen and bathrooms.</i></p>	\$100,000	\$100,000

County	Project and Sponsor	Description	Grant Award	Total Costs
Anne Arundel	<p>Project Name: Magothy Elementary Rosenwald School</p> <p>Project Address: 8178 Artic Drive, Pasadena, MD, 21122</p> <p>Project Sponsor: Mount Zion United Methodist Church - Magothy</p>	<p>The Magothy Elementary Rosenwald School is adjacent to the Mt. Zion United Methodist Church (MIHP AA-1044) and was built in the 1920s. The proximity of the church and school represent the close traditional relationship between African American churches and African American education, particularly during the era of segregation when African Americans were denied equal access to public education. The church building and associated school played an important role in the social and cultural development of the area's African American community. If funded, the Trust will not require an easement.</p> <p><i>Project work includes interior and exterior rehabilitation, including repair / replacement of roof, siding, awning, plumbing system, interior finishes, and flooring; painting; removal of oil tanks; installation of gutters and downspouts, HVAC system, and insulation; architectural, engineering, consulting and project management services.</i></p>	\$100,000	\$100,000
Baltimore County	<p>Project Name: Mt. Gilboa AME Church</p> <p>Project Address: 2312 Westchester Ave, Catonsville, MD 21228</p> <p>Project Sponsor: Mt. Gilboa African Methodist Episcopal Church</p>	<p>Mt. Gilboa AME Church (formerly Mt. Gilboa Chapel; BA-637 NR individually listed; MIHP BA-3093 Oella African American Survey District) was built in 1859 by the free black community of Oella. The chapel is significant as an achievement on the part of free black people who built a substantial stone church of about the same size and quality as the places of worship used by other small congregations of the dominant majority. The present church replaces an earlier log chapel, where Benjamin Banneker, whose farm was nearby, may have worshipped. Banneker is buried nearby, and a modern monument to him is located on the site. The Trust holds an easement on this property.</p> <p><i>Project work includes exterior rehabilitation, including carpentry repairs, masonry repair and repointing, painting, roof replacement, foundation repairs, repair / replacement of rain leaders and downspouts; site work; and architectural, engineering, project management, and consulting services.</i></p>	\$72,000	\$72,000

County	Project and Sponsor	Description	Grant Award	Total Costs
Caroline	<p>Project Name: St. Paul Church (Denton)</p> <p>Project Address: 26086 Beauchamp Branch Road, Denton, MD 21629</p> <p>Project Sponsor: St. Paul Church Historical, Revitalization, and Maintenance, Inc.</p>	<p>The St. Paul Church is one of the earliest African American churches in Caroline County. The associated cemetery has burials dating back to at least the 1840s. The church will be used to promote community education and awareness of African American culture in the 19th and 20th centuries. If funded, the Trust will not require an easement.</p> <p><i>Project work includes exterior rehabilitation including repair / replacement of roofing, foundation, framing, siding, and windows; painting; and architectural, engineering, and consulting services.</i></p>	\$8,000	\$8,000
Montgomery	<p>Project Name: Pleasant View M.E. Church</p> <p>Project Address: 11810 Darnestown Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20878</p> <p>Project Sponsor: Pleasant View United Methodist Church</p>	<p>Pleasant View M.E. Church (MIHP M:20-27) was constructed in 1888 on a site purchased in trust by three African American residents of the Quince Orchard community in 1868. The church was extensively renovated in 1914 and again in the 1950s. Today, the Pleasant View Historic Site is a three-acre property comprised of the church, the Quince Orchard Colored School, and the Pleasant View Cemetery. In 2015 Preservation Maryland selected Pleasant View as a Six-to-Fix site. If funded, the Trust will require an easement.</p> <p><i>Project work includes exterior rehabilitation of the church and bell tower, including structural stabilization, foundation work, repointing, painting, carpentry work; repair / replacement of roofing, sheathing, gutters and downspouts; repair / rebuilding of tower; site work; and architectural, engineering, and consulting services.</i></p>	\$100,000	\$100,000

Talbot	<p>Project Name: St. Stephens AME Church (Easton)</p> <p>Project Address: 9473 Unionville Road, Easton, MD 21601</p> <p>Project Sponsor: St. Stephens African Methodist Episcopal Church</p>	<p>Located in the center of Unionville, St. Stephens African Methodist Episcopal Church (MIHP T-789; MIHP Unionville District) is one of the oldest structures in the village, and the building has served this black community since 1892. Dated by a cornerstone, the extant frame church is detailed with Gothic Revival features including pointed arch door and window openings and a three-story pyramidal roofed tower. The interior has survived with a large degree of original late 19th century finishes. Behind the church is a 19th and 20th century cemetery. Oral tradition of local residents relates that a black community known as Cowgilltown was started in this location before the Civil War; "Cowgilltown" was renamed "Unionville" once the African American soldiers (U.S. Colored Troops) returned from the Civil War. The building is still used for worship. If funded, the Trust will require an easement.</p> <p><i>Project work includes exterior rehabilitation to church building, including repair / replacement of siding, insulation, foundation; and selective demolition; site work to the cemetery including ground penetrating radar and installation of headstones; and architectural, engineering, and consulting services.</i></p>	\$100,000	\$100,000
		TOTAL GRANTS	\$1 Million	

Fiscal Year 2019 Grant Applications

Applications, instructions and program guidelines for FY19 funding were made available in March 2018 via the Trust's website. A press release on March 9, 2018 announced the availability of the applications and gave details on a series of workshops for potential applicants. The schedule for 2018 included workshops in the following counties and locations listed below.

Prince George's County Tuesday, March 13, 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm Fairmount Heights Public Library 5904 Kolb Street Fairmount Heights, MD 20743 (18 attendees)	Caroline County Thursday, April 19, 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm Federalsburg Historical Society & Museum 100 Covey Street Federalsburg, MD 21632 (24 attendees)
Baltimore County Thursday, April 12, 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm Historical Society of Baltimore County 9811 Van Buren Lane Cockeysville, MD 21030 (24 attendees)	Frederick County (rescheduled from March 19 due to snow) Thursday, May 3, 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm Thurmont Regional Library 76 E Moser Road Thurmont, MD 21788 (10 attendees)

Grant applications are accepted through the Trust's online application. The application deadline was July 1, 2018. After a threshold review of the applications by the Trust's staff, the Commission evaluates eligible applications and forwards recommendations to the MHT Board of Trustees. Once the Board reviews the Commission's recommendations, it makes a final recommendation to the Secretary of Planning for approval.

Notable Accomplishments & Project Updates:

Loving and Charity Hall, Dickerson, Montgomery County



Above: Loving and Charity Hall in August 2015.

Below: Loving and Charity Hall in November 2018.



Martinsburg is one of several black landowning communities established in Montgomery County by free and freed blacks; it is the only such community in the state with the three principal institutions for a rural black community – the church, the school, and the community lodge – still in existence. These three buildings comprise the Warren Historic Site, which is covered by an MHT easement.

The lodge was in extremely deteriorated condition. Grant funds were used to thoroughly document and dismantle the building for reconstruction, salvaging original components where possible. The grant-funded portion of this project was recently completed, and bond bill funds are being used to finish the lodge interior.

Mt. Gilboa AME Church, Catonsville, Baltimore County

Mt. Gilboa AME Church (formerly Mt. Gilboa Chapel) was built in 1859 by the free black community of Oella. The chapel is significant as an achievement on the part of free black people who built a substantial stone church of about the same size and quality as the places of worship used by other small congregations of the dominant majority. The present church replaces an earlier log chapel, where Benjamin Banneker, whose farm was nearby, may have worshipped. Banneker is buried nearby, and a modern monument to him is located on the site. The chapel is listed on the National Register of Historic Places; MHT holds an exterior preservation easement on this property, as it is still an active church.



Grant funds awarded in FY2012, FY2013, and FY2018 are being used to restore the exterior of the church. Work is currently underway to repair the windows, repoint the stone masonry walls, and repair the foundation. Additional grant-funded work will be undertaken for roof and drainage system repairs when the masonry and window repairs are complete.



*Top: Masonry repairs underway at Mt. Gilboa.
Bottom Left: Removal of window sashes for restoration.
Bottom Right: A test patch where excess and failing mortar were carefully removed from original stones and replaced with historically appropriate mortar.*



Catoctin Furnace Iron Master's House

The Catoctin Furnace National Register Historic District is significant to American industrial history and industrial archeology; the industrial site and its related living quarters illustrate the growth and development of the iron industry between 1774 and 1904. Enslaved people labored in the village in various capacities including iron production, charcoal making, and domestic services. There are documented cases of enslaved persons escaping this site to seek freedom, and the site is included in National Park Service's National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Gateway program. While the 1781 Iron Master's House is in ruins, it is open for public viewing year-round. The Iron Master owned house slaves, who may have resided in the basement under the kitchen. The Iron Master's House is owned by the State of Maryland and is managed by the Department of Natural Resources. This project, which was completed in FY2018, involved masonry repointing to stabilize the ruins, and was the second phase in a larger stabilization project. Future phases will stabilize the two-story sections of wall.



Christ Rock M.E. Church

Christ Rock Church, along with the Stanley Institute school, is the focus of the African-American community that arose at Christ Rock, outside of Cambridge, just after the Civil War. The church was constructed in 1875 and altered in 1889 and 1911; the present structure is gable-ended with a square entrance tower. The church will be rehabilitated as a cultural center and museum focusing on the African American experience in Dorchester County. Since the church is currently owned by a nonprofit and not used for worship, the Maryland Historical Trust holds an easement on both the interior and the exterior of this property.

Grant funds awarded through the AAHPP in FYs2012-2016 are assisting the restoration of the church to its ca. 1911 appearance and the construction of outbuildings to support use of the site as a museum and community event space. Archaeological investigations at the site revealed the location of a fellowship hall, which was the basis for the construction of a new fellowship hall on the site to provide additional event space for the community and restrooms for the site. Construction is nearly complete.





CHANGING
Maryland
for the Better

State of Maryland

Larry Hogan, Governor

Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor



Maryland Department of Planning

Robert S. McCord, Secretary

Sandy Schrader, Deputy Secretary

