



State Historic Preservation Office

South Carolina Department of Archives and History
8501 Parklane Road | Columbia, SC | 29225
scdah.sc.gov

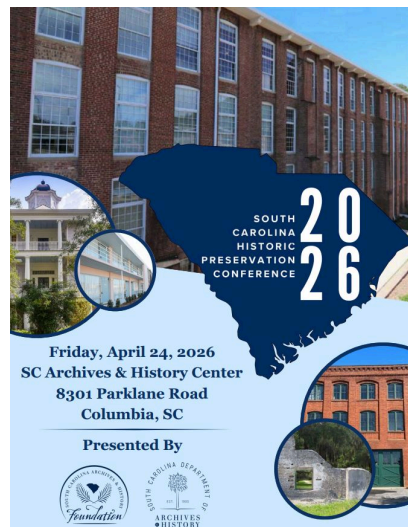
Historic Preservation News and Notes

March 2026

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Historic Preservation Conference: Early Registration Ends March 31



Registration is now open for the 2026 South Carolina Historic Preservation Conference to be held Friday, April 24, 2026 at the SC Archives & History Center in Columbia.

The conference features 10 educational sessions, an optional tour of the archives, lunch, and networking opportunities.

Information about the conference sessions and registration is available at [this link](#). Please register early as space is limited. The early registration discount ends March 31, 2026.

SC Historic Preservation Awards: Nominations Due May 1

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2026 South Carolina Historic Preservation Awards. Sponsored by Preservation South Carolina, the SC Department of Archives and History, and the Office of the Governor, the Historic Preservation Awards recognize exceptional accomplishments in the preservation, rehabilitation, and interpretation of South Carolina's architectural and cultural heritage. The award categories are: Honor Awards, Stewardship Awards, Preservation Service Awards, Heritage Tourism Award, Organizational Excellence (new this year), Elected Official Honor Award, and the Governor's Award. [Click here](#) for 2026 nomination form and here for a [list of previous recipients](#). Questions? Contact Joanna Rothell, 803-944-9425 or joanna@preservesc.org.



The nomination deadline is May 1, 2026.

FY 2026 Historic Preservation Fund Grants: Applications Due May 7

Applications will be accepted until 5:00 PM, May 7, 2026

Please contact Brad Sauls at 803-896-6172 or bsauls@scdah.sc.gov to discuss your project before you apply.

FY 2026 HPF Grant

Applications and instructions for the FY 2026 federal Historic Preservation Fund subgrants are now available at [this link](#). Administered by the SHPO, these matching grants assist two types of projects:

- **Survey and Planning Projects:** eligible projects include surveys of historic properties, National Register nominations, preservation education, and preservation planning.
- **Stabilization Projects:** eligible projects include stabilizing historic buildings or protecting historic buildings from the adverse effects of the weather, and are limited to projects located in South Carolina's Certified Local Government (CLG) communities.

Any local government, non-profit, or institution in South Carolina may apply for a Survey and Planning Project. Local governments, non-profits and institutions located in a CLG community may also apply for a Stabilization Project. At least ten percent of the state's annual allocation from the National Park Service must be awarded to CLGs. Grant awards generally range from \$2,500 to \$35,000.

State Board of Review Meets March 20

The State Board of Review for the National Register of Historic Places will meet Friday, March 20, 2026 at 10:30 AM at the SC Archives & History Center in Columbia. The Board will consider the following eight nominations:

- J.S. Wright High School, Abbeville, Abbeville County
- St. Paul Baptist Church, Anderson, Anderson County
- Angel Oak, Johns Island, Charleston County
- River Road, Johns Island, Charleston County
- Chicora Graded School, North Charleston, Charleston County
- Winnsboro Historic District (Additional Documentation), Winnsboro, Fairfield County
- Greenwood Mill Village Historic District, Greenwood, Greenwood County
- Hampshire Mill, Clover, York County

The public is welcome to attend the meeting. Draft nominations are available at [this link](#). Questions? Contact Virginia Harness at vharness@scdah.sc.gov, 803-896-6179 or Edwin Breeden at ebreeden@scdah.sc.gov, 803-896-6182.

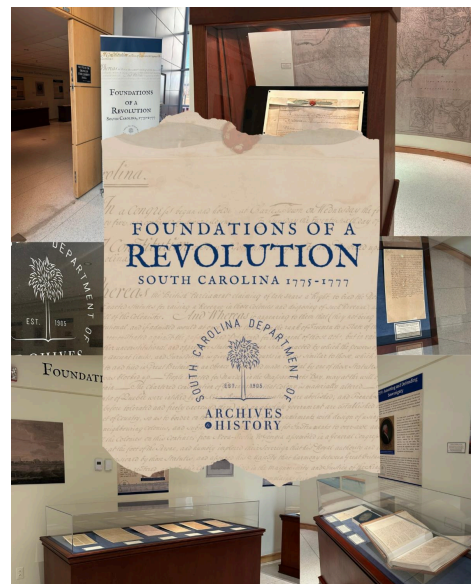


New Archives Exhibit Now Open

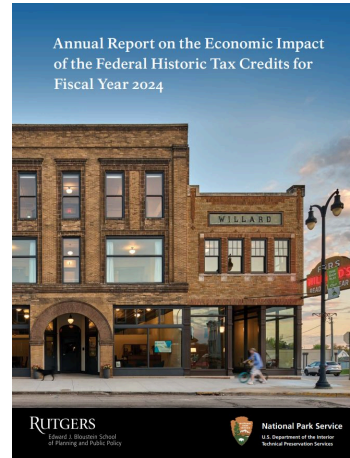
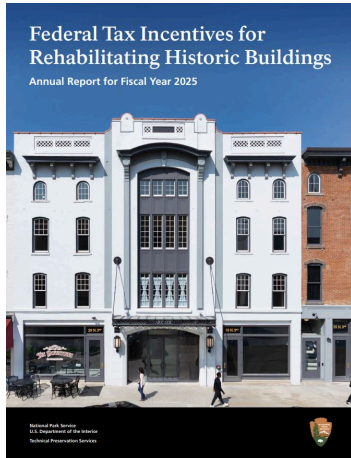
The South Carolina Department of Archives and History invites visitors to step back in time with its [latest exhibit](#), "Foundations of a Revolution: South Carolina 1775-1777."

As the colonies stood on the precipice of a new era, South Carolina played a pivotal role in the struggle for independence. This curated collection offers a rare glimpse into the formative years of our state, showcasing some of South Carolina's most important documents from the early years of the American Revolution.

SC Archives and History Center
8301 Parklane Rd
Columbia SC, 29223
Monday - Saturday
8:30 am - 5:00 pm



Billions Invested Using Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit



The National Park Service recently published two reports highlighting the federal historic preservation tax incentives program.

The [Annual Report on the Economic Impact of the Federal Historic Tax Credits for Fiscal Year 2024](#), prepared in collaboration with the Rutgers University Center for Urban Policy Research, analyzed the economic impacts of the historic tax credits on the national economy.

The second report, [Federal Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2025](#), focuses on the program's accomplishments in the last fiscal year. Nationally, estimated rehabilitation costs totaled \$13.1 billion for proposed projects and \$8.64 billion for completed projects. In South Carolina, over \$650 million in qualified rehabilitation expenditures has been invested in 109 projects from FY2021 to FY2025 (October 1, 2020 - September 30, 2025).

National Preservation Awards Accepting Nominations

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is currently accepting nominations for the National Preservation Awards. Awards are given to individuals, nonprofit organizations, public agencies, and corporations to recognize excellence in the field of historic preservation.

More information about previous recipients and the 2026 awards nomination process is at [this link](#). The deadline is March 20, 2026.



Upcoming Conferences/Workshops/Training/Events

Native American Studies Center Lunch and Learn Series, monthly. The Native American Studies Center of USC-Lancaster offers a lecture series on a range of topics both in person and virtually. Check out their [Upcoming Events page](#) for more information.

Preserve the Past, Build for the Future Webinar Series, online. The Advisory Council on Historic Preserving is offering four free webinars this spring.

- March 24, 2026 at 2 PM - Preserving America's Historic Main Streets

- April 21, 2026 at 2 PM - Preserving America's Revolutionary-Era Sites
- May 27, 2026 at 2 PM - Preserving America for the Next Generation: Involving Younger People in Preservation

To register visit [this webpage](#).

National Preservation Institute Seminars and Webinars:

- *Conservation Strategies for Archaeologists*, April 7–8, 2026, Newport News, VA.
- *Archaeological Curation and Collections Management*, April 9–11, Newport News, VA.
- *Conflict Management: Skill Development for Cultural and Natural Resource Managers*, April 14–16, 2026, online.
- *Tribal Cultural Monitors: An Introduction*, April 21, 2026, online.
- *Technology and Cultural Resources: Roundtable Conversation*, April 23, 2026, online.
- *Historic Property Management*, May 11–12, 2026, Atlanta, GA.
- *Traditional Cultural Places*, May 19–20, 2026, Richmond, VA.

For more information about these and other training opportunities in 2026 visit the [NPI website](#).

Landmark Conference 2026, March 19–21, 2026, York County. View the schedule and registration information at [this link](#). To receive more information about the Conference and other South Carolina history events send an email to sclocalhistory@gmail.com to be added to their e-group.

Southern Garden History Society Annual Meeting, April 10–12, 2026, Williamsburg, VA. More information is available on the [conference webpage](#).

Main Street Now, April 13–15, 2026, Tulsa, OK. Sponsored by Main Street America, the conference offers education sessions, special events, mobile workshops, and networking. More information is available on the [conference webpage](#).

SC Historic Preservation Conference, April 24, 2026, SC Archives & History Center, Columbia. The annual conference features ten educational sessions on a wide range of historic preservation-related topics. The conference brochure and registration information is available at [this link](#).

NEW ARMAste Records & Information Governance Annual Conference, May 13–15, 2026, Greenville. The Palmetto Chapter of ARMA is holding its first ever conference. For more information about the agenda, speakers, and registration visit [this link](#) or contact Shante Ellis at shante.ellis@ccprc.com.

Vernacular Architecture Forum, May 27–30, 2026, Walla Walla, WA. The Vernacular Architecture Forum invites paper and poster proposals for its 47th Annual Meeting, "Columbia River Plateau: Atomic Space. Native Soil. Geologic Time." More information will be on the [VAF Conference webpage](#).

FORUM 2026: Preservation Currents, July 22–26, 2026 Minneapolis, MN. FORUM is sponsored by the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions and is the only national conference focused on local historic preservation district boards and commissions. Visit the [conference webpage](#) for more information. Registration will open March 25, 2026.

National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers 26th Annual Conference and Sacred Places Summit, August 24–26, 2026, Albuquerque, NM. This year's theme is "Living Cultures, Living Landscapes." Visit the [conference webpage](#) for more information.

Historic Cemetery Workshop, September 9, 2026, SC Archives & History Center, Columbia. Save the date for the Historic Cemetery Workshop sponsored by the SC Archives & History Foundation. More information will be posted on the Foundation's [Events webpage](#) and announced in this newsletter.

Joint Conference of the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) and National Council on Public History (NCPH), September 16–19, 2026, Providence,

RI. For the first time these organizations are coming together for a joint conference of sessions, workshops, tours, and discussions focused on the theme "The Work of Revolution." More information is available on the [conference webpage](#).

9th Annual Slave Dwelling Project Conference, October 1–3, 2026, North Charleston. The conference theme is "250 Years and Counting: Reckoning, Resilience, and Remembrance." For more information visit [this link](#).

Keeping History Above Water Symposium, October 21–23, 2026, Newport, RI. This year's theme is "Looking Back, Moving Forward". [Click here](#) for more information.

NEW Preservation North Carolina's Annual Conference, October 25–27, 2026, High Point, NC. Proposals for conference sessions are due by March 31, 2026. Visit [this link](#) for more information about submitting a proposal.

NEW Georgia's Statewide Historic Preservation Conference, November 4–6, 2026, Decatur, GA. Proposals for speaker sessions and speaker nominations are being accepted through May 1, 2026. More details about the call for proposals are at [this link](#).

Association for Preservation Technology (APT) Annual Conference, October 26–30, 2026, Indianapolis, IN. The conference theme is "The Crossroads of Preservation: Where Industry and Craft Come Together." For more information visit the [conference webpage](#).

Upcoming Grant Application Deadlines

Monthly, The **SC American Revolution Sestercentennial Commission (SC250)** is accepting applications for FY26 Monthly Grants (up to \$15,000). Information about specific grant programs and requirements can be found at <https://southcarolina250.com/sc250grants/> or email: info@southcarolina250.com.

Quarterly, SC250 also offers Major Grants (\$15,001 to \$125,000) and Premier Project Grants (\$125,001) with quarterly deadlines. Deadlines are posted on the [Grant Details](#) webpage. **The next deadline is March 26, 2026.**

The Commission is also offering grant opportunities through May 2026 to support community engagement around [Carolina Days](#) from June 27 - July 5, 2026. Projects do not have to be limited to the traditional Revolutionary War era of 1770-1783 to be eligible, but must connect meaningfully to one of the established Carolina Days themes and help local communities celebrate the state's American Revolution history. Use the existing grant applications to apply, questions: email info@southcarolina250.com.

February 2 – May 1, 2026 SC State Historical Records Advisory Board (SC SHRAB) Microgrant and Scholarship Program. The SC SHRAB is accepting applications for grants (up to \$1,000). Please see the [program webpage](#) for more details about eligible applicants and projects and applications. Contact Erin Lowry with questions at SCSHRAB@scdah.sc.gov or 803-896-6128.

May 7, 2026 Historic Preservation Fund Grants. The application and instructions for the FY26 Historic Preservation Grants are available at [this link](#). Administered by the SHPO, the matching grants can assist two types of projects: Survey and Planning, and Stabilization. Any local government, non-profit or institution in South Carolina may apply for a Survey and Planning Project. Eligible applicants located in a Certified Local Government (CLG) community may also apply for a Stabilization Project. (At least 10% of the state's annual allocation from the National Park Service must be awarded to CLGs.) Grant awards generally range from \$2,500 to \$35,000 and must be matched. For more information, contact Brad Sauls at 803-896-6172, or bsauls@scdah.sc.gov.

Partners for Sacred Places Intervention Fund, is an emergency grant under the umbrella of the [National Fund for Sacred Places](#) that supports historic sacred places with building repair and recovery funds after an unanticipated emergency from extreme

weather, property destruction, or urgent health and safety hazards. To learn more about the program and its grantees, please refer to the [Intervention Fund information flyer](#) or contact the Fund Director, Rachel Galton at rgalton@sacredplaces.org.

Online sources of grant information:

[Historicfunding database](#)

[National Park Service State, Tribal, Local, Plans & Grants Division](#)

[National Trust for Historic Preservation Grant Funds](#)

[State Library](#) Grants Research Assistance including online webinars

[SC Grantmakers Network](#)

[Federal grants](#) Grants.gov

Subscription Information

Thank you for reading our newsletter. Please forward to others who may be interested in reading. Past issues of News and Notes are [available on the SHPO website](#).

Please send any comments or suggestions to Elizabeth Johnson at ejohnson@scdah.sc.gov.

Click below to subscribe.

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The South Carolina Department of Archives and History is an independent state agency whose mission is to preserve and promote the documentary and cultural heritage of the Palmetto State. The department houses one of the most comprehensive state archival collections in the nation, spanning more than 325 years of South Carolina history. The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), a program of the SCDAH, encourages and facilitates the responsible stewardship of South Carolina's irreplaceable historic and prehistoric places.

The activity that is the subject of this publication has been financed in part with federal funds from the National Park Service (NPS), U.S. Department of the Interior, and administered by the SCDAH. However, the contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of NPS or SCDAH. This program receives federal financial assistance for identification and protection of historic properties. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, the U. S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability or age in its federally assisted programs. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information please write to: Office of Equal Opportunity, National Park Service, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington DC 20240.

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