State Historic Preservation Office
South Carolina Department of Archives and History
8301 Parklane Road | Columbia, SC | 29223
scdah.sc.gov

Historic Preservation News and Notes

October 2026

In this issue:

- Call for Proposals: 2027 South Carolina Historic Preservation Conference
- Recent Listings in the National Register of Historic Places
- State Board of Review Meeting: November 20, 2026
- National Historic Preservation Act Turns 60
- SC Projects Awarded NPS Grants
- NPS Issues Report on Economic Impact of Federal Historic Tax Credits
- New Preservation Brief on Historic Buildings and Wildfire Adaptation
- Upcoming Conferences / Workshops / Training / Events
- Upcoming Grant Application Deadlines
- Subscription Information

Call for Proposals: 2027 South Carolina Historic Preservation Conference

SC Historic Preservation Conference 2027

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

We are accepting proposals for Educational Sessions for the 2027 South Carolina Historic Preservation Conference to be held on April 23, 2027 at the SC Archives & History Center in Columbia. Educational Sessions can cover a variety of historic preservation topics and range in difficulty from “Preservation 101” to discussions of emerging issues. Click on **this link** to the Call for Proposals for instructions on how to submit a proposal. The deadline is December 15, 2026. Please email Donna Foster at **dfoster@scdah.sc.gov** to be added to a list to receive information about future conferences.

Recent Listings in the National Register of Historic Places

The following two properties have been listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Click on the links to access the South Carolina Historic Properties Record entry, which includes a brief summary, photographs, and and a link to the full nomination.

- Scanlonville Cemetery (image on left below)
  https://schpr.sc.gov/index.php/Detail/properties/S10817710217
- Columbia Country Club (image on right below)
  https://schpr.sc.gov/index.php/Detail/properties/S10817740192

The National Park Service also accepted additional documentation for the Old Cokesbury and Masonic Female College and Conference School which was originally listed in the National Register in 1970. The additional documentation provides an inventory of resources within the district and identifies properties which are considered contributing to the historic district. **https://schpr.sc.gov/index.php/Detail/properties/S10817724002**





State Board of Review Meeting: November 20, 2026

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

- Adath Yeshurun Synagogue, Aiken, Aiken County
- Cherry Hill School (Move), Hilton Head Island, Beaufort County
- McLeod Plantation (Additional Documentation, Boundary Increase, and Boundary Decrease), Charleston, Charleston County
- Liberty Hill Historic District, North Charleston, Charleston County
- Katherine Hall, Ware Shoals, Greenwood County
- St. Simon’s Episcopal Church and Missionary House, Peak, Newberry County
- Coplan Residence, Columbia, Richland County

The public is welcome to attend the meeting. Draft nominations will be available at **this link** two weeks prior to the meeting. Questions? Contact Virginia Harness at **vharness@scdah.sc.gov**, 803-896-6179 or Edwin Breeden at **ebreeden@scdah.sc.gov**, 803-896-6182.

National Historic Preservation Act Turns 60

On October 15, 1966, the **National Historic Preservation Act** was signed into law. This federal law created a framework for protecting the historic places and cultural resources that tell America's story. The Act established or strengthened key preservation programs and processes including:

- National Register of Historic Places
- Section 106 Review Process of Federal Undertakings
- State Historic Preservation Offices
- Tribal Historic Preservation Offices
- Certified Local Government Program
- Historic Preservation Fund

Impact of the Act in South Carolina:

- Over 1,650 nominations listed in the National Register documenting historic places in every county in the state
- Over $1.7 billion invested in historic buildings through the federal tax incentive program
- Thousands of federal undertakings reviewed through Section 106
- Nearly 600 local grant projects funded through the Historic Preservation Fund
- 36 local governments participating in the Certified Local Government program

Check out the National Trust for Historic Preservation's **recent post** about the 60th anniversary and current status of the Act.

SC Projects Awarded NPS Grants

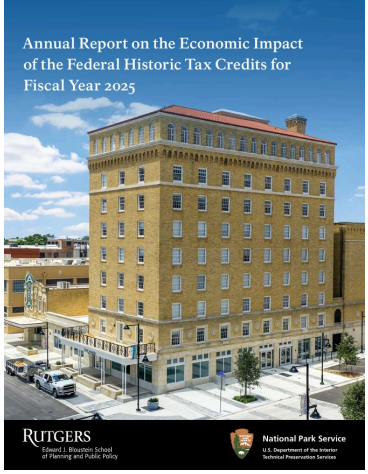
The National Park Service recently announced $21.8 million in African American Civil Rights Preservation and History Grants to fund 54 projects in 18 states that will preserve sites and stories related to the struggle of African Americans for equality. The grants fund physical preservation projects and history projects by States, Tribes, local governments, and nonprofit organizations, and comes from FY2025 appropriations from the Historic Preservation Fund. The following projects in South Carolina were awarded funds. Click **this link** for the complete announcement.

- National Register Nomination for the Taveau Church, Cordesville: Preservation South Carolina
- Drayton Hall African American Research and Exhibit Planning, Charleston: Drayton Hall Preservation Trust
- Brookland Center Rehabilitation (Phase 3), West Columbia: Brookland Center for Community Economic Change
- Interactive Guide to Gullah Geechee African American Civil Rights Sites: The Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor
- Penn Center Butler Building Stabilization and Rehabilitation, St. Helena Island: Penn Center, Inc.

The National Park Service awarded Middleton Place Foundation a Save America's Treasures grant to support the preservation of the historic Chapel and Spring House at Middleton Place. Click **this link** to read the complete announcement and list of 49 grant projects in 31 states receiving grants.

NPS Issues Report on Economic Impact of Federal Historic Tax Credits

The National Park Service recently released a report on the economic impact of the federal historic tax incentive program for FY 2025. The **Annual Report on the Economic Impact of the Federal Historic Tax Credits for Fiscal Year 2025** was prepared in collaboration with the Rutgers University Center for Urban Policy Research. The Center analyzed the economic impacts of the historic tax credits on the national economy. The economic impacts resulting from the credits are quite significant -- supporting approximately 163,000 jobs and contributing $18.1 billion in total economic output and $9.2 billion in gross domestic product to the U.S. economy. Read the full press release **here**.



New Preservation Brief on Historic Buildings and Wildfire Adaptation

Historic buildings in at-risk areas are in danger of damage or loss from wildfires. The National Park Service has issued new guidance on how to proactively assess wildfire vulnerabilities of a historic building and its site and how to develop a property-specific protection plan and adaptations that can help reduce those risks and preserve the property's historic character.

Preservation Brief 52: Wildfire Adaptation and Historic Buildings


52 PRESERVATION BRIEFS

Wildfire Adaptation and Historic Buildings

Tina Roach, AIA, and David Trayte

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Technical Preservation Services

Wildfires damage and destroy thousands of buildings each year, and when wildfire spreads from building to building, entire neighborhoods can be lost in the ensuing conflagration. Because the effects can be so catastrophic, owners of historic buildings in areas at risk for wildfire should take preemptive action to adapt them to be more resilient well before one occurs. Resilience, as used in this Preservation Brief, refers to a historic property's ability to withstand and recover from a wildfire event.

The complexity of wildfire necessitates a comprehensive approach that responds to the specific fire hazards presented by a building's geographic location and surroundings. Wildfire resilience requires adaptive treatments to both the site and the building—to the site to provide **defensible space** around the building and help protect it against high-intensity fire, and to the building itself (**building hardening**) to help prevent it from catching fire. It also relies on continuous maintenance of the building and site and periodic reevaluations of the wildfire risks to ensure that the adaptive treatments remain sufficient.

Adopted wildfire code requirements and checklists produced by government entities, trade, and industry groups can be helpful, but they can also conflict with preserving the historic character and features of a historic building if applied without careful planning. Some adaptive treatments can result in unnecessary loss of character-defining features and materials or changes to the historic site and setting or, even more importantly, may not sufficiently address the historic property's specific wildfire vulnerabilities. Effective planning should result in a **wildfire protection plan** that balances preservation objectives with wildfire resilience and is tailored to both the historic significance and the vulnerabilities of the specific building, site, and setting.

This Brief provides a framework for property owners of historic buildings and others to help plan and implement a wildfire risk-mitigation strategy while preserving the character of the historic property consistent with the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*.

The Brief delineates a methodical and iterative four-part planning and implementation process to develop a comprehensive wildfire protection plan:

- **Identify** priorities for preserving the property's historic character, including its distinctive features and attributes;
- **Assess and rank** wildfire vulnerabilities specific to the historic building, site, and setting;
- **Develop** a wildfire protection plan tailored to reducing the property's wildfire risks while preserving its historic character; and
- **Implement** the wildfire protection plan, periodically reevaluating it as necessary to ensure it remains adequate.

Developing appropriate adaptive treatments requires a good understanding of wildfire behavior and the objectives of typical treatments. Therefore, the Brief begins with background information on wildfire behavior and the benchmark "wildfire defense system" layered approach to creating a more wildfire-resilient site and building.

This information provides the technical foundation for the **assessment and planning framework** that follows to develop a property-specific wildfire protection plan, which forms the core of the Brief. Three detailed tables on defensible space, building hardening, and property maintenance identify feature-specific risks of the site and building, common adaptive site and building treatments, and preservation considerations for each. The final section discusses other wildfire risk-mitigation measures that are generally outside regular code-accepted practices but may be useful in special circumstances.

As wildfires often result in total loss, at-risk historic buildings and their sites and settings may require greater adaptive treatments than would normally

Upcoming Conferences/Workshops/Training/Events

NEW NAPC Webinar, October 22, 2026, online. The National Alliance of Preservation Commission's is offering a webinar "Zoning Reform Isn't Coming--It's Here: What Preservationists Need to Know." The webinar is free for NAPC members and available to the general public for a fee of $15. To register visit **this link**.

National Preservation Partners Network Webinar, October 28, 2026, online. The network will offer a webinar titled *Preservation for All Roundtable: Working with African American Preservation Organizations and Places*. For more information and to register click **here**.

The **Advisory Council on Historic Preservation** offers a variety of Section 106 training opportunities, both in-person and online via Zoom, as well as on-demand webinars. Check out the **Classroom Training Courses** and **Section 106 Webinars Curriculum** webpages for more details.

National Preservation Institute Seminars and Webinars. For more information about both in-person and online training opportunities, visit the **NPI website**.

Preservation North Carolina's Annual Conference, October 25–27, 2026, High Point, NC. Registration is now open; visit **this link** for more information.

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**.

Georgia's Statewide Historic Preservation Conference, November 4–6, 2026, Decatur, GA. Visit the **conference webpage** for more information.

8th Annual American Revolution Symposium: State of Rebellion, November 14, 2026, Columbia. This day-long program will feature informative and entertaining speakers on the American Revolution in South Carolina. The symposium schedule and registration is available at the **Foundation's Events webpage**.

3rd Biennial American Historic Trades Summit, February 10-13, 2027, Denver, CO. Hosted by the Campaign for Historic Trades, in partnership with Colorado Preservation Inc.'s annual Saving Places conference, the Summit will bring together tradespeople, educators, preservationists, and advocates. More information will be available at **this link**.

SC African American Heritage Commission Annual Conference, February 27, 2027. Join the South Carolina African American Heritage Commission for their 4th annual conference "Uplifting Voices". The schedule and registration will be available on the **Commission's website** in early November.

Landmark Conference, April 15-17, 2027, Aiken. The South Carolina History Network (formerly the Confederation of South Carolina Historical Societies) will be sharing more information about this event on their new **website**.

South Carolina Historic Preservation Conference, April 23, 2027, Columbia. Please save the date for the 2027 South Carolina Historic Preservation Conference, co-sponsored by the State Historic Preservation Office and the South Carolina Archives & History Foundation. The one day event at the SC Archives & History Center features educational sessions and opportunities for networking. The **Call for Proposals** for session speakers is currently open, with submissions due December 15, 2026. Watch this newsletter for more information about the schedule and registration information.

Upcoming Grant Application Deadlines

FY 2027 SC 250 Grants

- Monthly Grants are now called Community Impact Grants (up to $15,000) and are reviewed Quarterly (no match required). Upcoming deadlines are: December 1, 2026, March 1, 2027, and June 1, 2027.
- The range for Major & Premier Project Grants has changed. Major Projects are now $15,001 through $50,000. (Requires 20% of total budget match.) Premier Projects now $50,001 through $125,000. (Requires 25% of total budget match.)

Check out the updated grants website **SC250 Grants | South Carolina American Revolution Funding** for information on the 7 project types, funding priorities, funding levels, and how to apply. Questions? Email **grants@southcarolina250.com**.

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.

Subscribe

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.

SCDAH.SC.GOV

SC Department of Archives & History | 8301 Parklane Road | Columbia, SC 29223 US

Unsubscribe | Update Profile | Constant Contact Data Notice

Constant Contact

Try email marketing for free today!