

**FY 2024
Historic Preservation State Grant Fund Awardees**

The purpose of the State Grant Fund is to support historic preservation projects that benefit local communities through the physical repair and rehabilitation of South Carolina’s historic buildings. **\$1,085,000** in state funding was awarded for the 2024 grant application cycle. Eligible applicants are nonprofit organization and institutions, local governments, and federal or state recognized Native American tribes. Grants up to \$200,000 were awarded for the stabilization and weatherization of historic buildings. A minimum 20% cash match of the Total Project Cost is required. Buildings must be listed as a contributing resource in a National Register of Historic Places historic district or individually listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Project work must meet the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation.

The projects listed below were selected to receive funding.

Cedar Cottage at Historic Penn Center **\$200,000**

(St. Helena Island, Beaufort County)

Grant Recipient: Penn Center

The ca. 1907 Cedar Cottage is a contributing building to the Penn Center National Historic Landmark Historic District. The campus as a whole is part of the 160-year history that has witnessed Penn Center’s development from a rural school to a contemporary black community center. Over the course of its history Cedar Cottage has been utilized for various purposes. It housed the single female teachers, the nurse’s office, and dispensary and later served as the first children’s nursery/day care project in Beaufort County. State grant funds will be used to stabilize and weatherproof the building’s exterior envelope and repair the building’s foundation.

Cape Romain Lighthouses Stabilization and Weatherization **\$67,280**

(McClellanville, Charleston County)

Grant Recipient: The Village Museum

Lighthouse Island in the Cape Romain Wildlife Refuge is the site of two National Register of Historic Places-listed lighthouses. The 1827 lighthouse and the 1857 lighthouse were constructed to warn shipping traffic of the Cape Romain shoals nine miles southeast of the island. The beacons provided constant protection from 1827-1947, apart from the Civil War period. They are significant for their role in navigation and transportation in Charleston County and for their unique designs. While the lighthouses have not been lit since 1947, they continue to provide daytime navigational aid to boats in the area. State grant funds will be used to repair the masonry, restore window sash and casings, and repair entry doors thus stabilizing and weatherizing the historic structures.

Window Restoration for the Fairfield County Museum **\$127,370**

(Winnsboro, Fairfield County)

Grant Recipient: Fairfield County

The National Register of Historic Places-listed ca. 1830 Ketchin Building is a highly unusual example of Federal architecture in central South Carolina. Set almost immediately adjacent to the

sidewalk, the house is imposing with a three-story symmetrical exterior and hip roof. Unlike other historic residential buildings in the town of Winnsboro, the Ketchin Building lacks a front porch and has a formal, urban appearance with its brick walls and granite foundation. For much of its history, the building was a private home except for a brief period of use as a school for girls in the 1850s. The building has housed the Fairfield County Museum since the 1970s. State grant funds will be used to provide improved weatherization of the building through the restoration and repair of the building's historic wood sash windows and installation of storm windows.

Gifford Rosenwald School Phase 2

\$200,000

(Gifford, Hampton County)

Grant Recipient: Town of Gifford

Historically significant due to its use in educating African American children in Hampton County during segregation, the Gifford Rosenwald School is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The ca. 1920 school was one of 500 rural educational facilities built for African American students in South Carolina and was funded in part by the Julius Rosenwald Foundation. Gifford Rosenwald School had two to five teachers for an average of almost 200 students a year in grades 1-9 until it closed in 1958. State grant funds will be utilized to continue on-going efforts to stabilize and weatherize the envelope of the building and restore the character-defining windows.

Lawton House Stabilization Project – Phase 1

\$100,000

(Orangeburg, Orangeburg County)

Grant Recipient: The Lawton House and Treadwell Street Historical Association

The ca. 1901 Lawton House at 148 Treadwell Street is a contributing resource to the National Register of Historic Places-listed Treadwell Street Historic District. The historic district contains the intact sections of an early-twentieth century African American neighborhood and provides significant information about the African American community in Orangeburg during that time. The residents were laborers, tradesmen, businessmen, and professionals who had close ties to the nearby churches and universities. The land on which the Lawton house is located was deeded to Charles H. "Saul" Lawton by his father Charles Lawton, Sr. Saul Lawton, a carpenter, built the house for his wife and six children. The Lawton House is the longest continuously family-owned property in the historic district. State grant funds will be used to stabilize and weatherize the envelope of the building.

Goodwill Parochial School Preservation Project

\$132,600

(Mayesville, Sumter County)

Grant Recipient: Goodwill Educational and Historical Society

The National Register of Historic Places-listed Goodwill Parochial School is an example of a late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century parochial school for African Americans in Sumter County. The school was sponsored and supported by the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. for over sixty years and then by Goodwill Presbyterian Church, which is located nearby. The school was utilized to educate local children until it was consolidated in 1960 with Eastern School, a black public school in Sumter County School District 2. The ca. 1890 Goodwill Parochial School is significant as a scarce example of late nineteenth-century vernacular architecture associated with the African American community and for its association with the development of African American education in South Carolina. State grant funds will be used to stabilize and weatherize the building.

Epps McGill Farmhouse Preservation and Restoration**\$176,000**

(Kingstree, Williamsburg County)

Grant Recipient: McGill and Associates

The ca. 1905 Epps McGill Farmhouse, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is a large two-story dwelling situated on two acres on the remnants of the original fifty-one-acre farmstead. The house is an example of Late Victorian Folk architecture with a wing and front gable plan and retains a high degree of historic integrity. By the 1930s, the farmhouse and surrounding land was rented out to tenant farmers who sharecropped the land. Ultimately the property came into the legal possession of an African American family who first lived there as sharecroppers. State grant funds will be used to stabilize and weatherize the building focusing on the foundation and framing.

Rush Museum Historical Building Stabilization and Roof Replacement**\$81,750**

(Kingstree, Williamsburg County)

Grant Recipient: C. Williams Rush Museum of African-American Arts & Culture

The C. Williams Rush Museum of African-American Arts & Culture is located at 200 Hampton Avenue in Kingstree, SC. The historic commercial building previously housed Royal Dry Cleaners and is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing resource within a boundary increase to the Kingstree Historic District. State grant funds will be utilized to stabilize the building and replace the roof.