

**Maryland Historical Trust Capital Historical Preservation Grant Program**  
**FY2007 Capital Budget appropriation request: \$700,000**

- **The Capital Historic Preservation Grant Program is necessary to preserve historical and archeological resources by providing financial incentives and technical assistance.** The grants are used to acquire or rehabilitate historic structures that are listed or eligible for listing in the Maryland (National) Register of Historic Properties. Significantly, the state protects its investment in properties that benefit from capital grants by requiring property owners to give to the Trust an historic preservation easement on the subject property.
- **The most important goals for this program include:**
  - **protecting historic properties** eligible for listing on the Maryland Register of Historic Properties by assisting non profit organizations, local governments, for profit businesses and private individuals to acquire or rehabilitate those properties that offer some form of public benefit;
  - **enhancing and developing historic properties** in order to assist with heritage tourism development and community revitalization efforts across the state;
  - **providing technical assistance** to the general public and to local governments relating to proper maintenance and alteration of historic buildings.
- **The effectiveness of this program is demonstrated through the many hundreds of historical, archaeological and cultural resources that have been appropriately preserved** for continued use and/or for furthering education and tourism opportunities in the State, while promoting additional preservation activities by local governments, organizations and private individuals.
- **The Non Capital Grant Fund leverages significant private and local funds that assist in carrying out historic preservation activities statewide.** Since FY2001, the program has provided \$4,848,638 for 131 projects throughout Maryland. This money has leveraged \$7,533,635 in matching funds. The fund has made awards to 28% of applications received. Capital grant recipients generally need to provide matching funds toward the project, either as cash or in-kind support. Local governments are required to provide a dollar-for-dollar match.
- **The Capital Grant Program is the only significant source of funding for such projects in Maryland.** Because there are no other entities in Maryland that provide the level of financial assistance that MHT may provide to non profits and local governments engaged in rehabilitation activities, such projects will not be completed without DHCP assistance.
- **Without appropriate funding for this program, fewer communities will receive the funds necessary to rehabilitate and restore their historic resources.** These historic sites and structures will further deteriorate and cause public safety concerns, will detract from the communities' desirability for new business and homeownership, and potentially suffer demolition. Loss in funding for this program will result in the loss of the state's irreplaceable historic sites and structures.