Preservation Maryland

By the Numbers

Preservation Maryland is working with a new coalition of preservationists and affordable housing advocates to increase support for the state’s Historic Tax Credit program. The following statistics on the need for affordable housing were provided by the National Low Income Housing Coalition.

101

Number of hours per week a Marylander would have to work at minimum wage in order to afford a modest, market-rate one-bedroom apartment.

119,000

Units of affordable housing required to address current need in Maryland.

5%

The additional percentage historic rehab projects resulting in affordable housing would receive under our new legislation.

$6M

The increased funding the state large commercial tax credit program would receive as a result of Preservation Maryland drafted legislation.

For more about historic preservation and affordable housing, go to: presmd.org/affordable

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Statewide Gathering of Preservationists Advances Ambitious Legislative Agenda

On the first day of February, over 100 preservationists, architects, planners, history and museum professionals, and grassroots activists gathered under the banner of Preservation Maryland to help advocate for the organization’s 2018 legislative agenda during Maryland History Advocacy Day.

“Those who are happiest are those who do the most for others.”

Our job as preservationists isn’t just to save historic places. We are equally tasked with the job of giving these historic places a purpose, a new life to serve their communities once again.

It is in helping fellow Marylanders make their communities and neighborhoods vibrant once more that we often find our greatest joy. It was with this concept of preservation in mind when we drafted and submitted our latest legislation which would update and expand Maryland’s Historic Tax Credit program. As a part of this package of legislation, we worked hard to identify meaningful ways to bring more affordable housing to historic communities—a pressing need for this state and a role we know that historic buildings can easily handle. Through the process of researching, drafting and introducing this legislation, we’re even more convinced that historic communities can help address this critical need—and in the process save stunning historic resources. As this newsletter goes to print, the fate of this legislation and others are working hard to make our efforts relevant, meaningful, and a part of the solution rather than an obstacle to overcome. That was the message carried to the statehouse when preservationists from around the state gathered for our largest-ever History Advocacy Day this February, and it’s the same message that continues to resonate as we walk the halls of Annapolis; historic places matter and can play a starring role in shaping Maryland’s future.

With pride in our past and faith in our future,
Advocates visited dozens of legislators representing every region of the state and every major committee.

This year advocates were asking for their legislators to support two ambitious proposals impacting the state Historic Tax Credit:

- The first piece of legislation [HB954/SB481] would guarantee $15 million in funding for the state historic tax credit's large commercial program—a $6 million increase over current funding.
- The second piece of legislation [HB1454/SB967] is comprised of a series of policy changes to make the state Historic Tax Credit program work more effectively, cost less, and make more dramatic impacts across the state. In addition, the legislation would provide an additional 5% credit for Historic Tax Credit projects resulting in affordable housing.

Both pieces of legislation were introduced in the Senate by Senator Bill Ferguson of Baltimore City and cross-filed in the House of Delegates by Delegate Alonzo Washington from Prince George’s County.

As this issue of The Phoenix is headed to print, the fate of both bills is still uncertain, but the impact of advocates’ meetings is already being felt with numerous co-sponsors willing to sign-on to the bills—an example of the role advocates can play in the legislative process.

To stay up to date on the latest advocacy news visit preserved.org/advocacy.

**Preservation at Work**

Continued Progress at Civil War-era Shafer Farm

The activity and action at the Shafer Farm, Preservation Maryland’s Frederick County Six-to-Fix site, continues and the progress being made at the Civil War-era headquarters has been impressive.

In the early fall, the National Park Service’s Historic Preservation Training Center completed a day of service at the site. Nearly 60 craftspeople including carpenters, masons, roofers, and all their apprentices worked at the historic farm as a way of giving back to the local community in recognition of the Center’s 40th anniversary.

The staff of the Center focused on several important projects over the course of the day including rebuilding and stabilizing the front porch of the historic home, repointing and repairing failing brickwork above a second story window on the home, stabilizing a historic meat shed with exterior framing, restacking failing stonewalls on the ramp of the historic bank barn, constructing nearly a dozen custom window ventilators to mothball the historic home, as well as documenting and creating scaled drawings of the historic outbuildings and barn.

Following the flurry of activity in October, the Burkittsville Preservation Association, which owns the farm, utilized a Heritage Fund grant from Preservation Maryland and the Maryland Historical Trust to install temporary stabilization framing to support a sagging west wall. The stabilization technique, which was designed by a professional engineer, should hold the building in place long enough for the organization to complete the necessary fundraising to pay for a more permanent fix.

Looking ahead, Preservation Maryland is excited to begin a comprehensive planning effort to assist with protecting and interpreting the broader South Mountain Battlefield within site of the farmhouse. Funding for this effort, which will engage landowners across a 10,000-acre area was generously provided by the National Park Service’s American Battlefield Protection Program, as well as the Frederick Tourism Council and the Delaplaine Foundation. The planning effort will begin this month with public meetings slated soon after. To learn more about this project and the rest of our Six-to-Fix efforts, visit sixtofix.org.
Maryland Women’s Suffrage Documentation and Public Outreach Effort

With the support of the Maryland Historical Trust, the National Park Service, and countless Giving Tuesday donors, Preservation Maryland is moving forward with ambitious plans to support an aggressive documentation and outreach effort in the run-up to the 100th anniversary of women gaining the right to vote.

Preservation Maryland supported its colleagues at the Maryland Historical Trust by assisting with the preparation and writing of a successful $30,000 grant application to the National Park Service’s Underrepresented Communities program which will fund the Trust’s documentation efforts to catalog and list significant women’s suffrage sites in Maryland. To learn more visit at: sixtofix.org

COURIERS TO CONGRESS

In June 1913, a swath of men and women in support of women’s suffrage converged on a ballfield in Hyattsville, Maryland. After holding a rally, the suffragists from across the country caravanned to DC in a parade of sixty decorated cars to deliver a petition signed by over 75,000 Americans in support of women’s suffrage. This month the Maryland Commission on the Commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the Passage of the 19th Amendment to the US Constitution and the City of Hyattsville unveiled a new highway marker to recognize these “Couriers to Congress.”

PreserveCast Receives Statewide Award

This February, Preservation Maryland’s podcast, PreserveCast, was honored with a statewide award for excellence by the Maryland Historical Trust.

You Are Invited to the Star-Spangled Banner Flag House!

Let’s celebrate! From legislative champions and municipal stewards to grassroots groups and fine craftspersons, Preservation Maryland’s annual Best of Maryland awards celebration honors the very best of Maryland on Thursday, May 17 at the Flag House in Baltimore City.

More Ways to Listen

PreserveCast is now available for streaming online at: preservecast.org This new website offers up great photos and additional information for each episode and makes it easy to listen on any browser with no additional software or accounts. This is in addition to finding PreserveCast on your favorite podcast app.

PreserveCast is supported in part by Maryland Milestones, National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, National Park Service, National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the Historic Preservation Education Foundation.

Baltimore City’s Flag House dates to 1793 and was the home and place of business of Mary Young Pickersgill, starting in 1807 when she, her mother Rebecca, and her family and assistants, sewed the massive 42’ X 30’ American flag that inspired Francis Scott Key’s famous poem! Pictured below, the Flag House in 1945.

ON MARCH 25, 1634, the ships The Ark and The Dove delivered 150 European settlers to the shores of Maryland on St. Clement’s Island in the Potomac River. Maryland Day as a holiday was enacted in 1903—and it’s a great annual reminder to explore and uncover Maryland history and heritage! For Maryland Day events, go to: marylandday.org
Make a Statement

When you support the work of Preservation Maryland, you are making an affirmative commitment to Maryland’s past and future.

For over 80 years we’ve worked tirelessly to find new and innovative ways to save our history and enrich our state’s future with the places, stories and communities that make Maryland unique. A gift today to Preservation Maryland will help continue this critical work and provide the necessary resources to expand our work. In the coming years, Preservation Maryland intends on launching a robust property redevelopment program, expanding our advocacy efforts, and establishing a preservation trades apprenticeship initiative—addition to the many programs and initiatives it currently supports. The work of the organization touches every region of the state, and donors can give with the confidence that 90 cents of every donor dollar goes directly into programming—one of the highest programmatic investment rates of any preservation or history non-profit.

Give today and make a difference in the state you love.

Make a statement now! Visit presmd.org/support or use the enclosed envelope.

WAYS TO GIVE

YOUR MEMBERSHIP

When you join Preservation Maryland, you are joining your fellow Marylanders in supporting a mission-driven organization that makes real impacts.

CORPORATE GIVING

Marylanders who understand the importance of preservation are a market niche for your business; reach them through a corporate partnership with Preservation Maryland.

LEAVE A LEGACY

Legacy giving is a way for you to contribute money to Preservation Maryland while simultaneously realizing some of your estate and financial planning goals. To start a conversation about giving, please contact: Doug Harbit Director of Development 410-685-2886, x307 dharbit@presmd.org

SPECIAL REPORT TO MEMBERSHIP:

2017 Annual Impact and Donor Report enclosed in this issue

Our Upcoming Events

Preservation Maryland invites you to get involved in our work, learn something new, and have fun supporting Maryland heritage at one of our upcoming events. For more, go to: presmd.org/events.

APR 22


MAY 17

BEST OF MARYLAND AWARDS Mingle with the best of Maryland at this celebratory event at The Star-Spangled Banner Flag House in Baltimore City: bestofmaryland.org.

JUN 15-16

OLD LINES STATE SUMMIT Maryland’s statewide historic preservation conference held in conjunction with the Maryland Association of Historic District Commission at the University of Maryland: oldlinestate.org.

OCT 25

SIX-TO-FIX BENEFIT Save the date for our biggest event, reveal party, and fundraiser to support proactive preservation efforts across the state, this year hosted at the Baltimore Museum of Industry: sixtofix.org.

Your Support Matters

Special Report to Membership:

2017 Annual Impact and Donor Report enclosed in this issue