2020 will be a year we’ll never forget. The events which have unfolded over the past several months have been described as a reckoning, a revolution, and a rebellion—and there is some truth in each word.

In this environment of high passion and debate, preservation remains a critical priority—saving places which speak to the rich and diverse history of our nation. Good, bad, and ugly—preservation deepens our ability to connect and reflect. Central to the act of preserving is hope. Hope for a better tomorrow: a tomorrow where the future can learn from the past. Hope that the actions we take today will help tomorrow.

Preservation deepens our ability to connect and reflect.

In moments of great upheaval and loss, despair would be wise. But, we intend on taking a different path—focusing on what we can do, with what we have, to make our world a better place. For Preservation Maryland, that means focusing on our dynamic new project in Hagerstown’s African American neighborhood of Jonathan Street; providing support to Main Street communities; distributing grants to offset the impacts, especially on historic resources associated with underrepresented communities.

Relaunching Preservation Maryland’s dormant Revolving Fund has been made possible by a diverse array of funders from across the region and nation—including numerous individuals, the State of Maryland, the Middendorf Foundation, The 1772 Foundation, the Rural Maryland Council, and many corporate partners and sponsors.

This rehabilitation project on Jonathan Street is expected to be the first of many property redevelopment projects for Preservation Maryland’s revived program. The goal is to use small amounts of funding and investments to make our sized, catalytic impacts, especially on historic resources associated with underrepresented communities.

Preservation Maryland Executive Director Nicholas Redding explained, “We are in a unique position to make dramatic impacts and not just talk about why this work matters. Jonathan Street is the first of many projects we hope to support—and we have a host of financial and real estate tools at our disposal to support communities around the state. This comes at a critical moment—when the state needs us most and we’re eager to roll up our sleeves and get to work.”

Learn more and donate at: presmd.org/revolvingfund

Executive Director Nicholas Redding officially acquired the N. Jonathan Street property at a socially distant closing in June 2020.
Full and Permanent Funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund

The Great American Outdoors Act has passed in the Senate and House, and will be the single largest investment in the preservation of historic, cultural, and natural resources on public lands in a generation.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund was created by Congress in 1964 funded through off-shore drilling leases—and has been used to support conservation and recreation programs, funding projects from National Parks to local ball fields.

Since its inception, the LWCF has provided more than $231 million in grant funding to projects in Maryland, with more than $85 million going to state and local parks. The Fund’s impact can be seen across the Maryland landscape—from Assateague Island to Monocacy Battlefield to George Washington’s view from Mount Vernon across the Potomac.

Support for Hard-Hit Cultural Sites and Museums

In the face of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, Preservation Maryland created and convened the Maryland Heritage Recovery Task Force to focus on identifying and advocating for public policy necessary to support the recovery of Maryland’s cultural institutions and the communities they serve.

The Maryland Heritage Recovery Task Force is comprised of public and private organizations that characterize all aspects of the broad and diverse historic preservation community—from Main Street organizations to history museums, architectural firms, and preservation rehabilitation developers.

Together, the Task Force is identifying what local, state, and federal policy actions could be implemented to help with recovery of this critical sector of Maryland’s economy from the impacts of Covid-19.

Many members of the Task Force signed on in support of the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s call for emergency funding to the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The Task Force will take a leading role in future recovery bills at the state and federal level.

More immediately, to provide financial support quickly, the long-established Heritage Fund grant program awarded in the midst of a global pandemic and civic unrest nearly $50,000 for needed repairs, research, and project planning in communities large and small—all stewards of authentic Maryland history.

The next round of Heritage Fund grant applications are due September 18, 2020—and the next grant deadline of the Baltimore City Historic Preservation Fund is October 16, 2020. Learn more and apply at: smartgrowthmaryland.org

RECENT HERITAGE FUND GRANTS

[1] Survey & Evaluation on Parson’s Island
   CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED ARCHAEOLOGICAL FOUNDATION
   QUEEN ANNE’S COUNTY

[2] Relocating the WB Railroad Tower
   CITY OF BRUNSWICK
   FREDERICK COUNTY

   FEDERATED CHARITIES CORPORATION OF FREDERICK
   FREDERICK COUNTY

[4] Spinning Cottage Roof Replacement
   HISTORIC SOTTERLEY
   HOLLYWOOD, ST. MARY’S COUNTY

[5] Suffragist Audio Biographies
   MARYLAND WOMEN’S HERITAGE CENTER
   STATEWIDE

[6] Interpretation at Old Shrewsbury Cemetery
   SHREWSBURY PARISH AND CEMETERY
   KENNEDYSVILLE, KENT COUNTY

[7] Condition Assessment & Reuse Feasibility Study
   HISTORIC ST. LUKE’S CHURCH AND CEMETERY
   BALTIMORE CITY

[8] Repair & Restoration of Customs House
   TOWN OF VIENNA
   DORCHESTER COUNTY

[9] Porch Restoration at Saylor House
   WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL TRUST
   KIWiANS PARK, HAGERSTOWN

Right to left: Parsonage at St. Luke’s in Baltimore City, MD. (ca. 1800)
Saylor House in Hagerstown, MD; photo from the Washington County Historical Trust.
Photo of “Charity’s” railroad carriage statue, Frederick, MD.
WB Tower in Brunswick, Maryland, just after construction, ca. 1910.
Katie Parks Joins Preservation Maryland as Director of Development

Preservation Maryland is pleased to introduce The Phoenix readers to Katie Parks, a formidable development and real estate professional, as the organization’s new Director of Development.

Katie will bring expertise in organizational fundraising, program efficiency, and property redevelopment. With a commitment to strategic growth of Preservation Maryland’s major programs, including our newly revised Revolving Fund, Katie was previously Vice President of Conservation at the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy, leading their programming across land conservation, community revitalization, and climate adaptation. Katie was instrumental in crafting the foundational partnership that led to ESLC’s critical role in developing the Phillips Packing House in Cambridge, Maryland with Cross Street Partners, and other players. Additionally, Parks has governmental experience on the real estate management team of the Office of the Secretary for the Maryland Department of Transportation—valuable experience that will be put to immediate use as part of our preservation and smart growth policy efforts.

In accepting the Director of Development position, Katie stated, “I have a passion for preserving and enhancing the natural and built environments of Maryland—and I’m ready to put my real estate skills and entrepreneurial drive into practice for Preservation Maryland to create new investment opportunities for the organization while also supporting the backbone of the organization—our loyal and generous donors.”

Raised on Kent Island, Katie attended Loyola University and received her bachelor’s degree in business administration and her master’s degree in business administration from the University of Baltimore. She now lives in Easton, Maryland and works remotely with the rest of the Preservation Maryland team.

To reach Katie Parks, Director of Development to discuss a range of ways that you can support Preservation Maryland’s work during these challenging times, please visit: prevmd.org/team

Preservation Maryland Executive Director Nicholas Redding was selected by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation to serve as vice chairman of the Council’s recently formed Traditional Trades Training Task Force.

The Task Force is led by Aimee Jojani, Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, with the goal of building a preservation ethic in construction trades and to highlight the worth of the skilled craft worker. Redding joins the Traditional Trades Training Task Force as a co-vice chair with Moss Rudley, Superintendent of the Historic Preservation Training Center, a National Park Service program based in Frederick, Maryland. As Vice Chair, Redding will guide the Task Force in considering key issues regarding preservation.

In an exciting new project, Preservation Maryland was awarded funding from the American Battlefield Protection Program to conduct much-needed professional study and documentation of Maryland’s largest Revolutionary War battlefield, St. George’s Island in Southern Maryland.

Both Requests for Proposals will close in August and consultant selection announcements made shortly thereafter.

To be notified, please go to: prevmd.org/signup

Aerial view of St. George’s Island, Maryland’s largest Revolutionary War battle, photo from RGB. Historic marker on St. George’s Island Maryland, Image from Maryland Historical Trust.
Upcoming Events

With so many organizations offering virtual events, our statewide calendar is as busy as ever—even our Old Line State Summit will be solely online and presented for free thanks to our sponsors. Learn more at: oldlinestate.org

**SUMMIT SESSION** Intentionally Increasing Public Participation in the Planning Process. Free webinar! Register at: oldlinestate.org

**SEP 10**
**SUMMIT SESSION** Researching and Sharing Authentic History along the Underground Railroad. Free! Register at: oldlinestate.org

**SEP 18**
**DEADLINE** Applications are due for the statewide Heritage Fund grant program. Apply online at: presmd.org/hf

**SEP 22**
**SUMMIT SESSION** What’s in a Name? Creating a Conservation District: Case Study from Brunswick, MD. Free webinar! Register at: oldlinestate.org

**OCT 1**
**PHOENIX RISING … AT THE DRIVE-IN!**
Meet us at Bengies for a special, one-night-only screening of *The Money Pit*. Early bird tickets available now! Buy at: presmd.org/drivein

**OCT 16**
**DEADLINE** Applications are due for the Baltimore City Historic Preservation Fund. Apply at: presmd.org/baltfund

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**A Special Event at Bengies Drive-In!**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2020**

**AND SCREENING OF “THE MONEY PIT”**

Preservation Maryland invites you to a very special evening event at Bengies Drive-In — the safe and celebratory event will combine two of our favorite events of the year — Phoenix Rising and the Best of Maryland Awards!

**AFTER A VERY IMPORTANT UPDATE about Preservation Maryland, our major programs and projects and this year's Best of Maryland Awards, please enjoy “The Money Pit” and complimentary popcorn and soda.**

So that the organization can stay as agile as possible, we will not be seeking applications for new Six-to-Fix projects. Our leadership and resources are needed across the state and will be on full display through the Maryland Heritage Recovery Task Force and our grant and support programs.

We continue to support our ongoing Six-to-Fix projects, Heritage Fund grantees, and offering technical service across the state.

Tickets are on sale now! Purchase at: presmd.org/drivein