

2014

THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND ANNUAL REPORT

>> **Historic Preservation Fund (HPF)** activities in 2014 did their usual good work to preserve and protect the cultural heritage of our country. Much of that work focused on teaching younger generations why preservation of our culture, history, and heritage is important. Our State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO), and Certified Local Government (CLG) partners in the Federal Preservation Program, actively worked as part of their daily HPF funded activities, to bring the next generation of preservationists into the fold, and many are creating amazing models to share with the rest of the country.

"My favorite part was when I got to learn what Louisville was like hundreds of years ago."

"I learned about how much that the citizens can do in our city."

"I'm so thankful for all the people in our community for keeping this town alive!"

These are quotes from the 4th graders that took a preservation focused field trip to the City of Louisville, Colorado, a CLG since 2005. The students began by viewing the newest addition to the Louisville Historical Museum, a model of their early 20th century downtown, and maps showing how Louisville had evolved. Then students walked their historic main street, visited an adaptive use project, and using historic photos, discussed how the materials and use of the building had changed over time. Finally, armed with new knowledge of development and preservation practices, the students shared their ideas for the future of Downtown Louisville, all while incorporating Colorado's academic teaching standards.

"Thank you for helping make Louisville a fun and historic town."

"It is interesting how the City is planned."

"It was really interesting to see what houses were like and how restaurants and buildings were 100 years ago."

"I learned tons of things about Louisville, like when we went to the Museum, we learned about when there were dirt roads."

"I liked the pictures of the old house and it turning into many different things".



The Wyoming SHPO used recognition to keep multi-generational families involved with their historic farm or ranch. Since 2006, the SHPO has honored 197 Centennial families, with 22 being honored in 2014. The Wyoming Centennial Farm & Ranch program recognizes families that have lived on the same ranch or farm for 100 years or longer. This program has provided SHPO with an entrée into Wyoming's agricultural realm, and has resulted in a successful working relationship with the Wyoming Stock Growers Association to consult on various public grazing issues. It has also served to highlight the positive aspects of the Wyoming SHPO to national, state, and county officials, as well as the agricultural community, many who know only the regulatory function of the Federal Preservation program.

>> ORIGINS OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND

In 1966, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, through its Special Committee on Historic Preservation, addressed the need to establish a national historic preservation program. The result was the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) which authorized a State Historic Preservation Officer for each State and created the National Register of Historic Places, a mechanism for better Federal agency planning. The Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) was established in 1977 as source of preservation grants, authorized at \$150 million per year, and funded by Outer Continental Shelf oil lease revenues, not tax dollars. The basis being the exploitation of one resource should benefit another, even though the HPF has never been fully funded at its authorized level. Subsequent amendments to the Act in 1980 created the Certified Local Government Program and in 1992 established Tribal Historic Preservation Officers. As the NHPA approaches its 50th anniversary in 2016, this report celebrates just a few of the past 48 years of success stories.

>> HOW DOES THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND WORK?

The **National Park Service** (NPS) administers the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior, and uses the majority of appropriated funds to provide matching grants to State and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPO) to assist in their efforts to protect and preserve their historic resources. Each State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), appointed by the Governor for each state, manages this annual appropriation to perform the Federal preservation responsibilities required by the NHPA. Preservation activities may be carried out directly by States, or in the form of subgrants and contracts to public and private agencies, nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and individuals. HPF grants to THPOs help them undertake preservation activities and assume SHPO responsibilities on Tribal land if desired.

HPF funding is used by States, Tribes, local governments, and nonprofits to fund eligible preservation projects including: survey and inventory, National Register nominations, preservation education, architectural planning, historic structure reports, community preservation planning, and brick and mortar repairs to buildings. The HPF allows each State the flexibility to shape a program according to its needs, as long as they are meeting the overall responsibilities outlined by the NHPA. Ten percent of each SHPO's allocation must be awarded to Certified Local Governments (CLG), local governments certified by NPS and States as having made a local commitment to historic preservation, thus becoming a local partner in the Federal preservation program. CLG funds are spent locally on preservation projects, with selection decisions made at the State level. All HPF assisted projects must follow the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for Archeology and Historic Preservation*.

>> HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND IN 2014

In **fiscal year 2014**, the U.S. Congress appropriated \$56,410,000 from the Historic Preservation Fund for historic preservation projects. Only slightly more than one-third of the \$150 million authorized for the fund, this amount represents a reduction of \$19 million since 2010. HPF matching grants to States, Tribes, and local governments serve as catalysts for preserving and protecting our Nation's irreplaceable heritage without expending tax dollars. HPF funded grants and programs leverage private and nonfederal investment, while creating jobs that expand local economies and accelerate historic preservation activities.



NEW MEXICO SITEWATCH: TEACHING YOUTH JOB SKILLS AND RESOURCE PROTECTION

The SiteWatch Program has enabled the New Mexico SHPO to train 280 volunteers to monitor 460 archaeological sites state-wide. Partnering with Federal agencies,

SiteWatch volunteers monitor important archeological sites, observe illegal activity from a safe distance, and report it, resulting in the arrest of looters and protection of the sites. Collaboration between Aldo Leopold High School and the Youth Conservation Corps, expanded the SiteWatch program to local students in Silver City, a CLG since 2000. Participating students gained hands on education by joining an archaeology crew, and appreciation for cultural resources while earning school credit and getting paid.

Silver City teacher Harolene Pitts coordinated with SHPO archaeologist Norm Nelson, the Town of Silver City, and the national forest to create the first Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) archaeology crew in 2009. The group continues to monitor the Dragonfly and Ursa Major sites, documenting them and filing reports with SiteWatch, while studying New Mexico prehistory and culture. Supported by SHPO staff, the program benefits are best described below by student Adam Snider, now starting an internship with the Archaeologist in the Gila Forest, and planning to pursue a career in archaeology.

"A teacher of mine approached me about a YCC Archaeology SiteWatch Crew and I signed up as I've always been interested in people, and interpreting the past through a place that still exists now. Gradually, I picked up the ability to put historical, and pre-historical, artifacts into a context I could imagine, and in my senior year, I began to emerge as a leader in my crew, the specialist, the one who really gets what's going on. More importantly, I began developing a type of respectful affection for the people whose sites I was preserving. 'Sites' now seems too impersonal a word, as these were real people, and their property and legacy deserves to be respected and learned about—a belief I am committed to as a SiteWatch steward."

>> FISCAL YEAR 2014 AT A GLANCE

- Over \$4.32 billion of private investment occurred through the rehabilitation of commercial historic properties under the Federal Historic Preservation Tax program; a total of \$73.8 billion since 1977.
- 6,540 low- and moderate-income housing units created through the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit program, for a total of 137,978 units since 1977.
- An estimated 77,762 jobs created by Federal Historic Preservation Tax program rehabilitation projects in 2014, 2,492,811 jobs since 1978.
- Approximately 16.5 million acres surveyed for cultural resources, with over 137,000 properties evaluated for their historical significance and added to State inventories. Approximately 389,800 acres surveyed by Tribes, adding 18,800 properties and 4,700 archeological sites to Tribal inventories.
- 1,030 new listings added to the National Register of Historic Places, including 31,237 contributing properties, bringing the cumulative total to 90,540 listings with 1,752,995 total contributing resources (buildings, sites, structures, objects). Approximately 3,300 new listings added to Tribal registers.
- SHPOs reviewed 102,900 Federal undertakings, providing 82,200 National Register eligibility opinions. THPOs reviewed 50,600 undertakings and made 4,400 eligibility opinions.
- 39 new communities became Certified Local Governments (CLGs), bringing the cumulative total to 1,895 throughout the nation.
- Under local law, CLGs newly designated 41,200 properties and 81,500 properties took part in local preservation review, programs, and incentives.
- Indian Tribes, Alaska Native Groups, and Native Hawaiian Organizations received \$712,916 for 18 projects as part of the Tribal Heritage Grant program. (\$508,124 came from 2013 HPF funding)
- Newly established in 2014, the Underrepresented Communities Grant Program provided \$500,000 to 13 SHPO projects to fund surveys and National Register nominations; over \$12 million was requested.
- Grants in the amount of \$9 million were awarded in 2014 to eight SHPOs and two THPOs in Hurricane Sandy impacted areas. New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, and Rhode Island, continued to manage \$38 million in disaster recovery grants awarded in 2013.

- Supplemental funding for the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program provided \$2.9 million to 29 projects; over \$5.5 million was requested.
- Over 60 Save America's Treasures projects were completed in 2014 and over 110 remain active. Over 70 Preserve America projects were completed and over 25 remain active.
- The Historic Preservation Planning Program reviewed and approved 6 statewide historic preservation plans in 2014. Required under the NHPA, these plans identify social, economic, and environmental trends that influence preservation practice, and reflect broad-based public participation in the planning process.



Sergei Khrushchev with University of Alaska Anchorage Students at the Cold War History Conference



LEARNING IN ALASKA: COLD WAR VETERANS TEACH COLLEGE STUDENTS

The Alaska Historical Commission (SHPO) was a major sponsor of the Alaska Cold War Conference and National Nike Veterans Reunion held at the University of Alaska - Anchorage, in September 2014 to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the end of the Cold War. The conference featured Sergei Khrushchev, son of former Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev, and former Nike commanders of the U.S. Army and National Guard in Alaska. Khrushchev spoke to a standing-room-only crowd at the University of Alaska-Anchorage about the late 1950s-early 1960s and the leadership displayed by his father, President Dwight Eisenhower, and his successor, President John F. Kennedy. Khrushchev, an engineer and scientist, accompanied his father to several summits where the leaders met, and described all three leaders as needing to appear strong internationally, but having no intention of going to war.

Conference attendees, students, and a number of Anchorage residents visited the former Nike Site Point, where two interpretive panels and a plaque were unveiled to tell the story of the post and recognize the work of the soldiers stationed there to protect the site. Attendees also toured Nike Site Summit in Arctic Valley, where another interpretive sign was unveiled and several men who had been stationed there volunteered as tour guides.

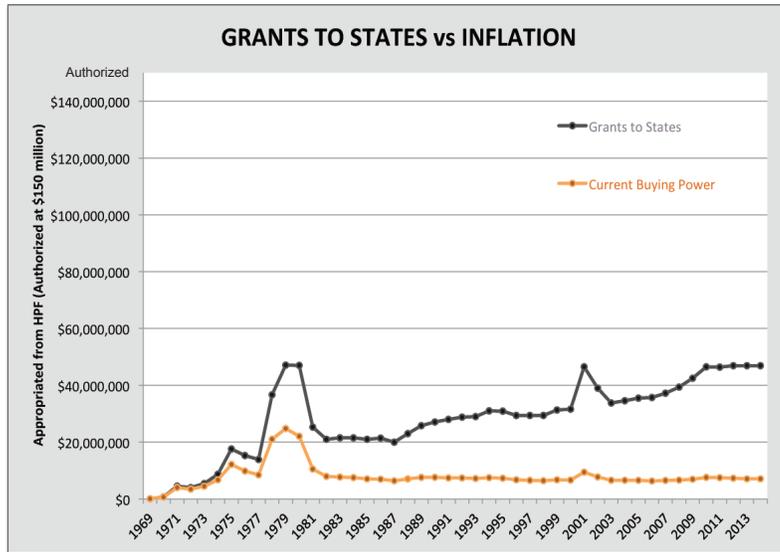
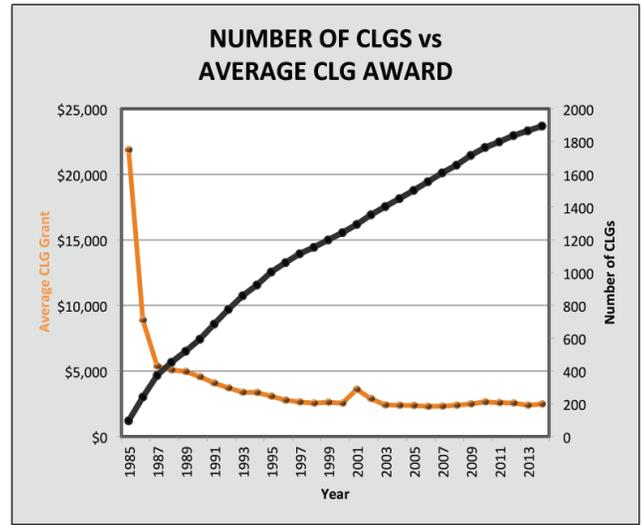
This event, funded by a \$5000 HPF grant, allowed college students to learn first-hand from more than 60 Nike veterans from all corners of the United States and the sites where they were stationed. They explained the operations of the radars and missile launch sites and reminisced on this pivotal time during the Cold War. The Oral History Program of the University of Alaska Fairbanks also interviewed some of the veterans so their stories would be documented and shared with the public later in 2015.

DISTRIBUTION OF HPF FOR FY 2014

State Historic Preservation Offices	\$ 46,925,000
Tribal Historic Preservation Offices	\$ 8,780,208
Tribal Project Grants	\$ 204,792
Underrepresented Community Grants	\$ 500,000
Total	\$ 56,410,000

*Supplemental Japanese-American Confinement Sites funding from NPS National Recreation & Preservation Account \$ 2,995,000

*Funding for Save America's Treasures and Preserve America was not appropriated in 2014 though both programs remain authorized and NPS continues to manage active grants.



RECOVERY FROM HURRICANE SANDY CONTINUED IN 2014 with help

from the Historic Preservation Fund. In 2013 and 2014, the NPS awarded \$47 million to 12 States and two Tribes in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic to assist in recovery from the storm. More than \$21.5 million was committed to 111 recovery projects through strong partnerships with State, Tribal, and local governments. These grants will fund the restoration and repair of historic sites integral to our nation's history, such as the Rose Island Lighthouse in Newport, Rhode Island, pictured here. A grant of \$103,000 will repair and replace stones damaged by hurricane waves and also repoint the southwest bastion on which the Lighthouse was constructed in 1869. Additional concrete repairs will be made to the Fog Signal Building foundation and faced with more than 100 granite slabs, brought to the island and put in place by hand. Even more of the allocated HPF funding will be committed to projects in early 2015.



"Some of New York's most treasured historic properties that have withstood the tests of time were battered by Superstorm Sandy and are now more vulnerable to extreme weather. This funding will enable not-for-profit organizations and municipalities to better protect these important places so that they can continue to serve as educational and tourism assets for New York's communities." Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, New York



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

STATE, TRIBAL, LOCAL PLANS & GRANTS DIVISION

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