



2008 SAVE AMERICA'S TREASURES GRANTS



Save America's Treasures Awards \$10.52 Million in Federal Grants

Grants are being awarded to 42 projects in 29 states and the District of Columbia. By law, each award requires a dollar-for-dollar non-Federal match. States, localities, corporations, foundations, and individuals who value America's heritage have pledged support for these important projects through financial contributions and in-kind services.

In addition to these awards, Congress also designates projects as earmarks for SAT funds at the beginning of the federal fiscal year, October 2005, and for fiscal year 2006, \$16.9 million was awarded to 89 projects. Together the competitive grants and congressional earmarks for Save America's Treasures amount to a \$24.5 million investment in our nation's most precious cultural and historical treasures.

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Alaska

Holy Assumption Orthodox Church, Kenai

The Holy Assumption Orthodox Church and Saint Nicholas Chapel have been the principal and most enduring representatives of Russian culture in south central Alaska from 1841 to the present. The church was constructed of hand-hewn white spruce logs in 1896, and a bell tower and wood siding were added before 1910. Grant funding will address structural problems, as well as provide seismic retrofit and accessibility. (\$125,492)

California

San Francisco Examiner Photograph Archive, San Francisco

The San Francisco Examiner Photograph Archive, ca.1920-1990, is the photographic morgue of the Examiner newspaper, the flagship of the Hearst publishing empire. The archive is estimated to consist of 3.6 million negatives and 1 million photoprints, and constitutes one of the largest holdings of photojournalism in the American West and visual record of life in Northern California. The vast majority of the images taken were never published, thus the negative collection is an untapped reservoir of visual documentation. The grant funds will be used to move the negatives to a cold vault, sleeve the most historically important film negatives, and reformat the most important and threatened negatives. (\$158,278)

District of Columbia

Howard Theatre

The theatre, designed by architect J. Edward Storck, was opened in 1910, and has hosted every major icon of the African American music experience. It remains a cultural landmark for the African American community, housing the soul of what was known as "Black

Broadway." One of the original birthplaces to the legends of jazz, this project will restore the theater's illustrious history, making it once again an important music venue for the world. Grant funding for the extremely deteriorated theater will provide an historic structure report, replace the failed roof, and stabilize the structure. (\$350,000)

St. John's Church

Founded in 1815, St. John's Episcopal Church's proximity to the White House in Lafayette Square has earned it the appellation "the Church of the Presidents," as every President since James Madison has attended regular or occasional services at St. John's. This early example of 19th-century federal architecture is planning to use its SAT grant to address various structural issues in order to maintain the architectural integrity of this National Historic Landmark. (\$200,000)

Florida

Annie Pfeiffer Chapel, Lakeland

Florida Southern College in Lakeland, Florida, home to the largest single-site collection of Frank Lloyd Wright architecture in the world, will restore Wright's Annie Merner Pfeiffer Chapel, a tour-de-force of architectural innovation and considered an exemplar of Wright's work. The grant funds will repair the roof and decorative steel, and replace the deteriorated and destroyed textile blocks within the walls. (\$350,000)

Georgia

Green-Meldrim House, Savannah

Architect John Norris designed the 12,500 square feet two-story masonry and cast-iron Gothic Revival mansion in Savannah for Charles Green in 1850. Perhaps most significant in the history of the home is that it served as General Sherman's headquarter in 1864 after he had completed his march to the sea. The saving of this house by the community of Savannah in 1943 was also at the forefront of the historic preservation movement in this country. Over time, damage to the roofing system led to a significant threat to the building. Grant funding will repair the roof and parapet systems of the Green-Meldrim House, a National Historic Landmark. (\$400,000)

Hawaii

Project Ola 'Ai'opio, Kailua-Kona

The Aiopio Fishtrap was built by Hawaiians to capture fish and is located in the Kaloko-Honokohau National Historical Park. This nationally significant site is severely threatened by ocean waves and erosion if no immediate action is taken. Grant funding will allow the National Park Service in a 12-month project, to methodically stabilize the kuapa or fishpond walls of this unique Hawaiian structure. (\$350,000)

Illinois

Rosenthal Archives Collections, Chicago

The Samuel R. & Marie Louis Rosenthal Archives includes the Fine Arts Network Live Concert Series, the George Stone Collection's Conversations Series, and the Oral History Project. These three collections contain one-of-a-kind live interviews and concerts that document the history of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and its role in American music and culture. All three of the endangered collections are currently stored on deteriorating reels and cassette tapes. Grant funding will transfer these historical audio recordings to digital format before the information is completely destroyed and ensure sustainable public access. (\$65,105)

Unity Temple, Oak Park

Frank Lloyd Wright's Unity Temple masterpiece is deteriorating at a rapid rate as it nears its centennial in 2009. Of particular urgency is the need to determine the most effective and appropriate methods and techniques to restore and conserve Unity Temple's original concrete structure. The SAT funds will focus on the chimney and exterior wall on the south façade, which will help the Unity Temple Restoration Foundation create a technical roadmap for a comprehensive, lasting restoration of this National Historic Landmark. (\$200,000)

Kentucky

Pine Mountain Settlement School Repair, Bledsoe

From 1913 to 1949, Pine Mountain operated a boarding school for mountain children. The school may be the best example of a rural settlement institution of the early 20th century, as well as having educational programs that were, and continue to be, innovative. The campus plan and many of its buildings were also designed by one of the first women architects in the country, which contributes to the school's National Historic Landmark status. With its grant award, the Pine Mountain Settlement School will address immediate threats from water and deterioration to five historic buildings. (\$138,575)

Massachusetts

Public Radio Broadcast of the March on Washington, Boston

On August 28, 1963, over 200,000 people converged on the National Mall, the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial, for the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. Public radio produced 15 hours of live coverage from the streets, from the stages, and from the midst of the crowds. Forty years later, WGBH Radio discovered that it had the only existing recordings of the broadcast. The collection contains hours of interviews and commentary captured nowhere else, and provides an important alternative to the commercial broadcast coverage of the March. The SAT award will support documentation, restoration, and archival preservation of these threatened recordings, which will then be accessible to scholars and the public. (\$72,120)

Maryland

B & O's Railroad Locomotives, Baltimore

The B&O Railroad Museum showcases the evolution of American steam locomotives from their beginning in 1827 to the end of the steam era in the 1950s. Grant funding will focus on saving four historically significant 19th century B&O locomotives that were severely

damaged by the collapse of the museum's roundhouse in 2003. In-house restoration efforts will address the immediate threat to the locomotives, as well as serve as a model that will benefit future preservation and conservation efforts. (\$500,000)

Steam Tug Baltimore, Baltimore

The Steam Tug Baltimore is the last of its kind, a hand-fired, coal-burning, steam-powered tugboat, and a National Historic Landmark. The Baltimore Museum of Industry (BMI) seeks to repair and/or replace major portions of the deck and hull of the Steam Tug Baltimore. This will remedy incorrect preservation methods that exacerbated deterioration and limited effective restoration. The ultimate goal of this project is to restore the Baltimore to her pre-World War I deck condition by stripping the concrete from the deck, replacing the longitudinal steel supports, applying a waterproof epoxy, and then laying new Georgia pine wood decking. This project will solve many of the vessel's structural problems, but most importantly it will address the constant leakage and condensation problems that threaten the vessel. (\$250,000)

Maine

Maine Maritime Museum, Bath

Maine Maritime Museum's nationally and internationally significant collections of art, ships models, tools, artifacts, manuscripts and photographs are housed in the Maritime History Building, which has severe water penetration problems that threaten the collections. Using its SAT funds, the first phase of the project will repair the building's structural problems to ensure the integrity of the collections. (\$460,000)

Michigan

U.S. Weather Bureau Building, Sault Sainte Marie

On July 1, 1891, Congress established the U.S. Weather Bureau by transferring meteorological functions from the Army Signal Corps to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). In 1899, USDA decided that one of the most strategic locations for a weather reporting station and forecasting center would be directly at the Soo Lock. Radio and electronic reporting eventually made the building's manually-based function obsolete and the Weather Bureau abandoned the building in 1939. Fewer than five of these historic buildings still stand in the U.S. today. This project will fund exterior restoration of the 1899 U.S. Weather Bureau Building, a contributing element of the St. Mary's Falls Canal National Historic Landmark district. (\$125,640)

Minnesota

Battle Flag Restoration, St. Paul

The Minnesota Historical Society preserves and makes available a wide range of artifacts and materials chronicling Minnesota history, including 48 battle flags associated with the Civil, Spanish, and U.S. Dakota Wars. These flags are in serious states of deterioration, improperly stored, and poorly displayed. The grant funds will conserve 23 of the Civil War flags, provide appropriate environmental storage for all 48 flags at the Minnesota History Center, and

retrofit original exhibit cases for a rotating display of the flags in the Cass Gilbert designed Minnesota State Capitol. The remaining 25 flags will be treated as part of an on-going conservation effort, as funds allow. (\$181,119)

Missouri

New Letters on the Air, Kansas City

Since 1977, "New Letters on the Air" has brought public radio audiences throughout the United States a weekly airing of some of the most important literary voices of our time, such as Robert Creeley, Muriel Rukeyser, and Joseph Brodsky. In over 30 years, giants of poetry, fiction, essays and drama have appeared on the program, reading and talking about their creative process. The SAT award will be used to improve storage, stabilize the tapes and make the collection of accessible. (\$68,505)

Mississippi

Dockery Farms, Cleveland

The migration of whites and blacks to the Mississippi Delta in the late 19th and early 20th centuries to cultivate cotton created a culture that in turn gave birth to the music known as the Blues. Dockery Farms, an integral part of the Delta tradition, was home to a number of Blues pioneers, including Henry Sloan, Willie Brown, Tommy Johnson, Roebuck "Pop" Staples and, most importantly, Charley Patton who is widely acknowledged as the father of the Blues. The project will preserve the heart of the community where these pioneering musicians worked, lived, and played together, making it safe and accessible to the public. Grant funds will address preservation of the historic fabric and mitigation of threats to six historic structures. (\$177,244)

Montana

Bannack Building Stabilization, Bannack

Bannack is a National Historic Landmark that encompasses a completely intact, 19th century mining town nestled in the Rocky Mountains of southwestern Montana. More than 50 buildings comprise the town, which is the site of Montana's first gold discovery and its first territorial capital. Several buildings show signs of serious deterioration and stabilization efforts are needed to preserve their structural integrity. The grant funds will stabilize two log cabins and a church parsonage, and repair the structural foundation of the Meade Hotel, a site used for many public events and education. (\$194,593)

New York

Thomas Moran Studio House and Garden, East Hampton

Thomas Moran was one of the most ambitious painters of his time, and was best known for his panoramic views of the American West. Many of his major works were painted here in the house and studio built in 1884 and now a National Historic Landmark. The grounds, main house and four out buildings are all in dilapidated condition, and in dire need of repair and rejuvenation. The grant funds will help restore and stabilize the main house and studio structure. (\$550,000)

Mordecai Sheftall Papers: Conservation, Preservation, and Digitization, New York

This project will preserve and make available a major Revolutionary War era collection, the papers of Mordecai Sheftall, who was Commissary General for Georgia's Continental troops in 1777 and 1778. The Mordecai Sheftall Papers comprise some 3,300 documents that are a rich chronicle of his service and an invaluable record on the makeup of the Continental militia, the presence of women among the military units, the trafficking in and treatment of slaves, the treatment of the sick and injured, and the diet and clothing of both soldiers and civilians. The collection is currently in such poor physical condition that it cannot be used for research, exhibition or any other purposes. The SAT grant will support the preservation and digitization of these papers and ensure their future use. (\$48,946)

New York Academy of Medicine Library Stabilization Project, New York

The New York Academy of Medicine (NYAM) includes more than 750,000 volumes, 400,000 pamphlets, 275,000 portraits and illustrations, and a collection of about 35,000 rare books dating from ca. 1650 B.C. to 1820 A.D. To stabilize the collection, grant funds will be used to improve the environmental conditions. (\$500,000)

McKim, Mead & White Collection, New York

The McKim, Mead & White Collection is a nationally significant resource representing the history of both American architecture and some of the nation's most notable buildings. As the leading American architectural firm of the latter 19th and early 20th centuries, McKim, Mead & White's commissions included the original Madison Square Garden, the Morgan Library, the original Pennsylvania Station in New York, the Boston Public Library, the Rhode Island State Capitol, the Vanderbilt town house, and the restoration of the University of Virginia's Rotunda. The grant funds will be used to re-house and stabilize the thousands of drawings, blueprints and documents. (\$180,693)

Poughkeepsie-Highland Railroad Bridge, Poughkeepsie

When completed in 1888, the 6,767-foot long Poughkeepsie-Highland Railroad Bridge stood alone as the longest bridge in the world. It represented an engineering feat unrivalled in its day, its steel trusses carrying more weight over longer spans than any previous structure. The overall project, which is part of a larger \$30 million endeavor, seeks to transform the former railroad bridge into an elevated pedestrian/cycling park, while preserving the structural legacy of the historic landmark. Grant funding will address the repair of steel elements on the 19th Century structure that have received virtually no maintenance or repairs since a fire in 1974 ended the span's use as a railroad bridge. (\$450,000)

Old Fort Niagara— Youngstown

The French, the British, the United States, and the powerful Iroquois Confederacy devoted lives and treasures for control of the Old Fort Niagara site during the French & Indian War, the Revolutionary War, and the War of 1812. Old Fort Niagara has a number of serious threats to the structures throughout its historic complex, which includes six original 18th

Century military structures. Grant funding will address structural repairs to this National Historic Landmark. (\$150,000)

North Carolina

Cupola House, Edenton

The Cupola House is a 250-year old National Historic Landmark and its Jacobean design is the finest example of the style south of New England. The colonial-era building stands as a reminder of cultural and economic growth during the latter years of British rule and our nation's early history. Grant funds will repair the roof, brick chimneys, fireboxes, and foundation. (\$115,000)

Oklahoma

Tulsa Foundation for Architecture Archives, Tulsa

The Tulsa Foundation for Architecture (TFA) holds architectural drawings, renderings, specifications, tracings, photographs/slides, periodicals, and books that document the history of architecture, particularly the Art Deco period that is evident in many of the city's buildings designed by leading architects of the period. Grant funds will be used to preserve and conserve these "at risk" collections and provide greater public access via technology to scholars, architects, historians, and researchers. (\$150,000)

Pennsylvania

Valley Forge National Historical Park: Documents, King of Prussia

The Valley Forge National Historical Park's holdings include 1,000 documents and manuscripts from the American Revolution. These documents detail various aspects of the American Revolution, and for the most part relate directly to the Valley Forge Encampment of 1777-1778. Of special note are two orderly books that provide a closer look at the day-to-day lives of officers and soldiers during our fight for independence. With this SAT grant, these documents will be stabilized and digitized, ensuring their preservation and making them more accessible to researchers. (\$61,299)

Henry Melchior Muhlenberg Journal Collection, Philadelphia, PA

Known as the father of American Lutheranism, Henry Melchior Muhlenberg's journals record descriptions of his travels and work that offer an unparalleled glimpse into 18th- century colonial America. Many of the journals are in poor condition and some can no longer be handled. The grant funds will be used to repair and rebind the texts, and digitize them to allow for increased access to their invaluable information. (\$93,191)

Eastern State Penitentiary, Philadelphia, PA

Eastern State Penitentiary, a National Historic Landmark, brought about a revolution in the design and management of prisons when it was opened in 1829. The roofs of two of its original cellblocks have severely deteriorated, threatening their survival as well as the safety of visitors. The grants will restore roofs, which will allow the cellblocks to be interpreted and added to the penitentiary tour. (\$550,000)

USS Becuna– Philadelphia

Submarine USS Becuna, commissioned in 1944, is the only remaining World War II fleet submarine of its class in existence with 90 percent of her historic fabric still intact. The stability of this National Historic Landmark is threatened by the corrosion of her hull. Funds will be used to repair her ballast tanks, moorings, and fendering to prevent a breach. (\$125,000)

Rhode Island

Slater Mill, Pawtucket

Slater Mill, a National Historic Landmark, was the first water-powered cotton-spinning mill in the country, and the birthplace of the American Industrial Revolution. Slater Mill and the surrounding site face severe and imminent threats from flood, fire, and deterioration. Grants funds will be used to mitigate these threats by repairing and restoring the mill's headrace and waterworks. (\$300,000)

Channing Memorial Church– Newport

The Channing Memorial Church is dedicated to one of America's most influential philosophers, William Ellery Channing, whose writings influenced a generation of thinkers, poets, abolitionists, and civic leaders such as Emerson, Thoreau and William Lloyd Garrison. The 130-foot American Gothic Revival style stone steeple constructed in 1880 is home to a rare nine-bell chime. Years of exposure to the elements and the loss of mortar has caused the steeple to be in danger of collapse. Grant funds will be used to repair and strengthen the steeple. (\$450,000)

South Carolina

Woodrow Wilson Family Home, Columbia

The Woodrow Wilson Family Home in Columbia is a Reconstruction-era Italianate villa-inspired property that interprets a highly pivotal time in President Wilson's childhood. It suffers from extensive structural instability due to decades of stopgap remedies and deferred maintenance. Funds will assist with the second of three phases in its restoration, stabilizing the building and restoring its exterior elements. (\$335,000)

South Dakota

Clowser Collection, Deadwood

The Clowser Collection comprises art and artifacts that are rare and significant to the history and culture of American Indians, particularly Northern Plains tribes. The conditions in which the collection is housed at the Days of '76 Museum are poor and the items are not protected from water, temperature fluctuations, or animals and insects. With this Save America's Treasures grant, at-risk artifacts will be conserved in accordance with a previously conducted assessment and the collection will be stabilized. (\$272,700)

Texas

Bishop's Palace, or Walter Gresham House, Galveston

Architectural historians recognize the Gresham House as one of the finest Victorian residences in the United States and the most important work of Texas architect Nicholas Clayton. The Gresham House now faces serious threats including water infiltration through a deteriorated roofing system and damage resulting from Hurricane Ike in September 2008. The clay roof tiles and copper flashing are beyond their effective life spans. Grant funds will go toward the rehabilitation of the significant, character defining roof. (\$300,000)

Utah

Anthropology Collections, Salt Lake City

The Utah Museum of Natural History cares for anthropological collections that are of national significance. The origins of these collections date to the late 19th century, and today the museum is the steward of nearly one million archaeological and 3,000 ethnographic objects. Presently, the collections are dispersed among six rooms in two buildings and one off-site warehouse, all of which lack seismic upgrades and have antiquated HVAC systems. Grant funds will be used to clean, stabilize, and prepare the anthropology collections for the move to a new facility and for purchase of museum-quality metal cabinets to house the significant holdings in the anthropology collections at the Utah Museum of Natural History. (\$500,000)

Enola Gay Hangar, Wendover

The Historic Wendover Airfield is working to save the building used during World War II as the focal point for development of the project code-named "Silverplate", which prepared the United States for deployment of the atomic weapons that ended the war with Japan. This B-29 hangar in Wendover, Utah, called the 'Enola Gay' hangar, is the only location in the U.S. that maintained and developed/modified the B-29 aircraft used for training and dropping test bombs. The grant funds will be used to re-roof the metal hangar portion of the building, re-roof the north and south operations offices and shops, and provide siding and windows for the building. (\$450,000)

Virginia

Historic Jamestowne Archaeological Collection, Jamestown, VA

Since 1994, thousands of ceramic, glass, metal and other artifacts have been excavated in the James Fort and its surrounding area. The conservation of these fragments will provide a catalyst to historians, scientists, other researchers and the public to engage in a new examination of America's beginnings. Grant funds will be used to purchase a digital X-ray unit that will enable the curatorial staff to identify objects concreted in iron oxide, and to make informed decisions about prioritizing iron artifacts for treatment. (\$137,500)

Wyoming

Paul Dyck Plains Indian Buffalo Culture Collection, Cody

The Paul Dyck Plains Indian Buffalo Culture Collection is widely regarded as the most comprehensive privately held collection of pre-reservation materials in existence today. The collection consists of more than 2,000 irreplaceable objects including clothing, eagle feather

bonnets, buffalo hide tipis, bear claw necklaces, shields, peace medals, and firearms. Many of the objects are associated with individuals of national significance in Native American cultural history, including leaders such as Chief Joseph, Sitting Bull, Crazy Horse, and Plenty Coups. Suffering from serious overcrowding, inadequate storage methods and extremes in temperature, the grant funds will be used to re-house the materials and made accessible to on-site researchers, tribal members, and scholars through exhibition at Buffalo Bill Historical Center. (\$350,000)