

# Funding Sources for Historic Places

Do you have historic home, church, cemetery, or other place that is need of repair, renovation, or maintenance? If so, you may have been directed to Thomasville Landmarks, Inc. In 1964, our organization made it a mission to preserve the architecture and heritage of Thomasville and the Thomas County area. One of the ways we can do this is to link people and organizations with sources of assistance.

We receive many requests for financial assistance. **Unfortunately, we are not able to provide grants or loans to anyone.** We are able to suggest sources of assistance and often to help guide people in grant-writing, proper repair or renovation, and sources of materials or labor.

Be aware:

- We do not have experience with all of these funding sources.
- Your project may qualify for one, several, or none of the programs.
- There may be other sources of funding not listed in this document.
- We are available to provide free advice and limited research services. More extensive professional services are available on a fee basis. These fees may or may not be paid for by the funding sources listed.

**You may also look for funding sources that may support your specific type of place or program needs by using the Foundation Center database that is available on a computer at the public library in Thomasville.**

The following is a list of potential sources of assistance for historic places. All of them will not apply to your project.

## Private Foundations

**Jocelyn Botterell Staton Foundation:** This independent foundation was established in 1995 in Georgia and primarily gives in Georgia for projects involved with botanical gardens, the Boy Scouts, education, historic preservation/historical societies and museums. Please send a letter of initial approach to SunTrust Bank, Atlanta, P.O. Box 4655, Atlanta, GA 30303.

**Schultz Foundation, Inc.:** Established in 1964 in Florida, this foundation's fields of interest include education, historic preservation/historical societies, history/archaeology, museums, and urban/community development. Giving is primarily in the Jacksonville, Florida, area and Georgia. For more information call 904-354-3603.

**The Telford Family Foundation, Inc.:** This family foundation was established in 1993 in Georgia and gives grants primarily within the state. The foundation's fields of interest include historic preservation/historical societies; human services; protestant agencies & churches. For more information, please contact 706-886-9761.

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**Williams Family Foundation of Georgia, Inc.:** Established in 1980 in Georgia. Giving is primarily in Georgia, with emphasis on Thomasville and Thomas County. Included in the foundation's fields of interest are: animals/wildlife, preservation/protection; arts; community development; education; environment; natural resources; family services; government/public administration; higher education; historic preservation/historical societies; libraries/library science; museums; performing arts; secondary school/education; visual arts. Please send an initial letter of approach to the Executive Secretary at P.O. Box 378, Thomasville, GA 31799; FAX: 229-228-7780.

**Watkins Christian Foundation, Inc. (Christian Grant):** The Watkins Christian Foundation seeks to provide support for organizations with focus on evangelism, churches, ministries, and other religious organizations. The foundation also supports for projects concerning human welfare and hunger. Primary Contact: John F. Watkins, President and Trustee. Please contact the Foundation for more details. Location: 1958 Monroe Dr NE Atlanta, GA, 30324

**Robert W. Woodruff Foundation, Inc.:** The Woodruff Foundation is an independent private foundation with a broad charter to support charitable, scientific and educational activities. Grants generally are limited to tax-exempt public charities located and operating in Georgia. Principal giving interests are focused on the following program areas: elementary, secondary and higher education; health care and education; human services, particularly for children and youth; economic development and civic affairs; art and cultural activities; conservation of natural resources and environmental education. Traditionally, preference has been given to one-time capital projects and to other extraordinary needs of well-established public charities. Awards to individuals and for basic operating support are avoided. For more information, call 404-522-6755 or visit <http://www.woodruff.org/>

**The 1772 Foundation:** The mission of this program is to preserve and enhance American historic properties for future generations to enjoy, with particular interest in farming, industrial development, transportation and unusual historic buildings. Past projects in Georgia have included the Juliette Gordon Low house and the Tybee Island lighthouse keepers cottage. Applicants must first submit a letter of inquiry available at the foundations website at [www.1772foundation.org](http://www.1772foundation.org).

**American Heritage Home Trust:** This program offers a matching grant of \$5,000 for the rehabilitation of a historic home. Eligible applicants must be a 501 (C) 3. For an application or more information, contact 360-754-1455 or 706-868-5444.

**Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation:** This program provides grants for obtaining the services of consultants with expertise in planning, architecture, economics, archaeology, fund raising, education, graphic design, management, or designing, producing and marketing print and video communications material; sponsoring preservation conferences and workshops; designing and implementing innovative preservation education programs. Nonprofit organizations and government agencies are eligible to apply. Individuals and businesses may only apply if the project for which funding is requested involves a National Historic Landmark. Grants range from \$2,500 to \$10,000.

**Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors:** This program provides grants for obtaining the services of consultants with expertise in architecture, planning, paint analysis, archaeology, fund raising, media relations, education, graphic design and management, or designing, producing and marketing print and video communications material; sponsoring preservation conferences and workshops; designing and

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implementing innovative preservation education programs. Nonprofit organizations and government agencies are eligible to apply. Individuals and businesses may only apply if the project for which funding is requested involves a National Historic Landmark. Grants range from \$2,500 to \$10,000.

## State and Federal Tax Grants

Grants are sums of money awarded to finance a particular activity or facility. Generally, these grant awards do not need to be paid back.

**Historic Preservation Division Grants:** Located within the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, the Historic Preservation Office, which is the Georgia state preservation office, offers two grant programs, one federally-funded and one state funded, for historic preservation projects. A survey program is also available each year to document Georgia's historic resources. For more information about the three programs, visit <http://www.gashpo.org/>.

**Georgia Heritage Grants:** Initiated during the 1994 Session of the Georgia General Assembly, these grants provide funding for the preservation of historic properties and archaeological sites in Georgia. The program offers matching funds on a statewide competitive basis to local governments and nonprofit organizations for the preservation of Georgia Register-eligible historic properties. For further information or to be put on a list to receive an application, contact: Carole Moore, grants coordinator, at 404-463-8434 or [carole\\_moore@dnr.state.ga.us](mailto:carole_moore@dnr.state.ga.us).

**Historic Preservation Fund Grants:** The Historic Preservation Fund grant program is appropriated annually by the U.S. Congress through the National Park Service to the state historic preservation offices. The 60/40 matching grants enable Certified Local Governments to undertake projects that aid in the preservation of historic properties, such as historic resource or archaeological surveys, National Register nominations, planning projects, or information and education projects. For more information, contact Carole Moore, grants coordinator, at 404-463-8434 or [carole\\_moore@dnr.state.ga.us](mailto:carole_moore@dnr.state.ga.us).

**U.S.D.A. Rural Development Funds:** The Community Facilities Loans and Grants program will fund improvements to and rehabilitation of community facilities. Eligible applicants include public entities, nonprofits (including churches), and federally-recognized Indian tribes. Cities, towns and unincorporated areas must have a population of 20,000 or less. For more information and to find out the closest area office (six in Georgia) contact the Georgia statewide office at 706-546-2171 or visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ga/>, <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ga/nofa.htm>

## State and Federal Tax Programs

**Historic Preservation Division Programs:** Located within the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, the Historic Preservation Office, which is the Georgia state preservation office, administers three tax incentive programs, one federal and two state, for historic preservation rehabilitation projects. For more information about the three programs, contact Tax Incentives Coordinator Martha Marcille at 404-651-5566 [martha\\_marcille@dnr.state.ga.us](mailto:martha_marcille@dnr.state.ga.us) or visit <http://www.gashpo.org>

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**Rehabilitation Investment Tax Credit Program:** The RITC program provides an opportunity to owners of certified historic structure, who undertake a certified rehabilitation, a federal income tax credit equal to 20% of the qualified rehabilitation expenses. Only properties utilized for income-producing purposes can take advantage of the credit.

**Georgia State Income Tax Credit Program for Rehabilitated Historic Property:** This incentive program, administered by both HPD and the Georgia Department of Revenue, provides property owners of historic homes who complete a DNR-approved rehabilitation, the opportunity to take 25% of the rehabilitation expenditures as a state income tax credit up to \$100,000. Properties must be eligible for or listed in the Georgia Register of Historic Places and rehabilitation work must be in accordance with the Department of Natural Resources' Standards for Rehabilitation.

**State Preferential Property Tax Assessment Program for Rehabilitated Historic Property:** This incentive program is designed to encourage the rehabilitation of both residential and commercial historic buildings by freezing property tax assessments for eight and one-half years at the pre-rehabilitation assessment value. Properties must be listed or eligible for listing in the Georgia Register of Historic Places and rehabilitation work must be in accordance with the Department of Natural Resources' Standards for Rehabilitation.

### Other Sources of Information:

**The Foundation Center:** Founded in 1956, the Center is the nation's leading authority on institutional philanthropy and is dedicated to serving grant-seekers, grant-makers, researchers, policymakers, the media, and the general public. Some private foundations include historic preservation projects among the activities eligible for funding. Search their Web site for grants at [www.fdncenter.org](http://www.fdncenter.org).

**Preservation Services Fund (PSF):** Administered by the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP), this program provides matching grants to hire consultants for rehabilitation projects to produce plans, specs, historic structures reports (HSR), and feasibility studies; heritage education; and conferences. Nonprofit organizations and public agencies are eligible to apply. Grant awards range from \$5,000 to \$500. Most grants average \$1,000 to \$2,000. National Trust Southern Office: 456 King Street, Charleston, SC 29403 Phone: 843.722.8552 Fax: 843.722.8652 Email: [soro@nthp.org](mailto:soro@nthp.org).

**Preserve America:** Federal agencies that are partners in the Preserve America initiative offer a variety of information, technical assistance, and resources that can help further the initiative's goals. The links below are to programs and materials relevant to historic and cultural preservation, heritage tourism, and heritage education. Grants are available to Preserve America communities, such as Thomasville. See <http://www.preserveamerica.gov> for more information.