

Endangered Historic Properties Fund Program Description

Purpose

To provide emergency funding through a grant for the preservation of threatened and endangered historic and prehistoric structures and sites.

Funding Source

As HPF funding levels allow, WV SHPO may institute this program

Guidelines and Regulations

All projects must comply with:

- 1) All applicable Secretary of the Interior's Standards
- 2) Labor standards

Allowable Activities

Stabilization. Applying measures designed to reestablish the weather resistant enclosure and the structural stability of an unsafe or deteriorated property while maintaining the essential form as it exists at present.

Protection. Applying measures designed to affect the physical condition by defending or guarding it from deterioration, loss of attack, or to cover or shield the property from danger or injury. This is usually of a temporary nature, and anticipates future preservation treatment.

Historic Structure Reports. Description of existing conditions required prior to development of a historic resource.

Feasibility Study. A detailed physical investigation and analysis of a historic property conducted to determine the financial, technical, or economic advisability of a proposed project and/or alternate courses of action.

Data Recovery. Excavating the site to study the information it contains and translating that information from the form it takes in the ground into books, maps, notes, and other forms that can be consulted by scholars in the future before the site is destroyed.

Documentation. A detailed record, in the form of a report or other written document, of the historic context(s) and significance of a property for purposes of research and interpretive purposes and for conservation of information in cases of impending destruction.

Other. Any other project where emergency funding will assist with the preservation of a historic site.

Eligibility Criteria

Sponsor Eligibility

1. Sponsor must own the property; or must be leasing or renting the property and have written permission from the owner to conduct the work; or must have a commitment with the owner to purchase the property.
2. Sponsor must demonstrate the ability to successfully implement the project.
3. Sponsor must be an organization, property owner or public agency.

Property Eligibility. The property must be individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places or be a contributing structure in a National Register Historic District.

Project Eligibility

- 1) The site must demonstrate an immediate threat or recent catastrophic event that has impacted the resource.
- 2) The funds must be likely to adequately address the situation.

Selection Criteria

If the project is an Allowable Activity; the property, sponsor and project meet Eligibility Criteria; the sponsor is willing to abide by Grant Conditions; and funds are available, it will be selected for funding.

Application Procedures

Letters of requests must be sent to the Endangered Historic Properties Fund, State Historic Preservation Office, Department of Arts, Culture and History, The Culture Center, 1900 Kanawha Blvd. E., Charleston, WV 25305.

Selection Process. Letters must include:

- 1) A complete description of the project.
- 2) The nature of the emergency and evidence that the property will face destruction or irreversible damage without assistance.
- 3) Proof of ownership.
- 4) A letter of support from the property owner, if the owner is not the project sponsor.
- 5) Evidence that this project would provide a solution to the situation.
- 6) A request for funds (a specific amount).