2008 Highlights from the South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office

$22.1 Million Invested in Historic Buildings

Using the 20% federal income tax credit, owners rehabilitated eleven historic buildings for new uses. SHPO staff advise applicants and review project plans for this program.

For example, in Phase I of the Darlington Downtown Revitalization project, $4.5 million has been invested in five buildings creating 29 loft apartments and five retail/office spaces. Mayor Tony Watkins reports that, “Since December 2007, completion date of Phase I, the City of Darlington has attracted 18 new businesses to downtown Darlington. We believe DeWayne Anderson’s [property owner] willingness to work on these rundown buildings has saved downtown Darlington.”

In downtown Sumter, Thompson Industrial utilized the 20% federal income tax credit to rehab 100 and 106 North Main Street. According to Mayor Joe McElveen, “The Thompson project has had a dynamic effect on our Downtown and City tax base. The project represents an investment of approximately $7,000,000, an amount that is rarely, if ever, seen in a market our size in the development of professional office space. The project brings jobs and people into our historic district, and it sends the message that downtown revitalization is here to stay in Sumter. Historic preservation and adaptive re-use make good business sense.”
$110,270 in Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) Matching Subgrants Awarded in 2008

- Footlight Players Facility Study, Charleston $4,520
- City of Charleston Area Character Appraisals $20,000
- Winnsboro Town Clock Preservation Plan $10,000
- Ebenezer ARP Church Conditions Assessment, Fairfield County $5,000
- Conway National Register Nominations $4,250
- Jennings-Brown House Roof Replacement, Bennettsville $22,500
- Bishop’s Memorial AME Church Preservation Plan, Columbia $8,000
- City of Spartanburg Historic Resources Survey $30,000
- Cross Keys House Preservation Plan, Union County $6,000

TOP LEFT: Roofers at work on the Jennings-Brown house (1826) in Bennettsville, a project funded in part by a 2008 HPF grant. The house, one of the oldest in the county, is open to the public as a museum.

TOP RIGHT: The HPF grant is helping fund a conditions assessment for Ebenezer ARP Church (1788) in Fairfield County, one of the few eighteenth-century meetinghouses remaining in the state.

MIDDLE: The HPF grant is helping fund a preservation plan for Cross Keys House (1812-1814) in Union County.

BOTTOM: The HPF grant is helping fund a preservation plan for the Bishop’s Memorial AME Church (1908) in Columbia.

Preserve America Program

Interest in this program is growing, and the number of communities participating doubled in 2008. There are now 18 Preserve America communities in South Carolina. The SHPO, through our S.C. Preserve America Initiative, held workshops for communities and provided $65,000 in matching grant support.

Abbeville    Conway    Horry County    Lancaster County
Aiken        Charleston Pacolet        Rock Hill
Anderson     Chesterfield        Walterboro
Bluffton      Dillon        York County
Blythewood   Fountain Inn
Camden        Gray Court

(bold = designated in 2008-2009)
A S.C. Preserve America Initiative grant is funding a preservation plan for the historic Chester City Hall.

**S.C. Preserve America Initiative Grants**
- Abbeville Design Guidelines $10,000
- Garvin House Preservation and Interpretive Plan, Town of Bluffton $20,000
- Chester City Hall Preservation Planning $5,000
- Conway Design Guidelines $7,500
- Darlington Memorial Cemetery Master Plan $10,000
- Hampton County Museum Building Preservation Plan $10,000
- Pacolet Mill Village Design Guidelines $2,500

**Landmark and Preservation Conference in Greenville**

168 participants from across the state enjoyed two days of tours, educational sessions, awards, and workshops in vibrant downtown Greenville. We offered AIA continuing education credits to architects who attended the conference.
Historic Preservation Awards
The awards program recognizes exemplary preservation projects and commitment to historic preservation. It is a joint program of the Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation, the Office of the Governor, and the S.C. Department of Archives and History.

Other 2008 award recipients:
◆ 10 Storehouse Row, North Charleston/Honor Award to The Noisette Company, LLC
◆ Charleston City Hall/Honor Awards to City of Charleston, Evans and Schmidt Architects, and NBM Construction Co. Inc.
◆ Belton Train Depot/Heritage Tourism Awards to Anderson County, Belton Area Partnership and Belton Area Museum Association
◆ Westinghouse Electric Company, Columbia/Corporate Stewardship Award
◆ John Douglas, Mayor of Chesterfield/Elected Official Honor Award
◆ Louise Matheson Bell of Seneca/Governor's Award

New National Register of Historic Places Listings

Top: The North Anderson Historic District (portions of East and West North Avenue, Edgewood Drive, Blair Street, and Central Avenue) in Anderson was listed in the National Register July 31, 2008.

Bottom: Tabernacle Cemetery located near Greenwood, listed in the National Register on August 1, 2008.
Also listed in the National Register in 2008:
- Seacoast Packing Company, Beaufort
- Kings Mountain State Park Historic District, Blackburg vicinity
- Florence Downtown Historic District (portions of West Evans and North and South Dargan Streets)
- Good Samaritan-Waverly Hospital, Columbia
- Bleachery Water Treatment Plant, Rock Hill
- Rock Hill Body Company, Rock Hill
- Laurelwood Cemetery, Rock Hill

A Teacher’s Guide to African American Historic Places in South Carolina

This new publication includes the places in South Carolina recognized with a state historical marker or listed in the National Register. It includes lesson plans and matches each grade’s social studies curriculum standards with appropriate sites. The publication was made possible through grants from the S.C. Department of Education, S.C. Humanities Council, National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the Teaching American History program. It was just named one of the Ten Notable State Documents for 2008 by the South Carolina State Library.

ArchSite Launched

Our new online GIS program allows users to access data on thousands of historic sites all across South Carolina, including archaeological sites, National Register sites, and areas surveyed for historic properties. The State Historic Preservation Office and the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology maintain the system, which was developed with grant support from the S.C. Department of Transportation.

LEFT: ArchSite image (2/20/09) of downtown Rock Hill showing National Register listed properties (blue), archaeological sites (yellow) and properties included in historic surveys (purple and red).

RIGHT: ArchSite image (2/20/09) of greater Rock Hill showing National Register listed properties (blue), archaeological sites (yellow), and properties included in historic surveys (purple and red).
Certified Local Governments

Two South Carolina communities received Certified Local Government (CLG) status — the City of Seneca and the Town of Blythewood. The CLG program recognizes local governments that have established a preservation program, including identification and protection of historic sites, and creates partnerships between CLGs, the SHPO and the National Park Service for funding, training, and technical assistance.

Buildings in downtown Seneca, which became a CLG in 2008 in recognition of the city's efforts to recognize and protect historic properties.

Section 106

On May 1, 2008 we launched a reoriented and streamlined review process for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the state Coastal Zone Management Act. It includes new forms, instructions, letter templates, and website guidance to assist applicants and agencies with their responsibilities under federal and state laws: http://shpo.sc.gov/revcomp/.

The Lindler House, a historic farmhouse in Ballentine (northern Richland County), was saved from demolition and relocated just a few yards from its original site as the result of a commercial development that needed an Army Corps of Engineers permit. The statewide non-profit preservation organization, The Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation, worked directly with the developer to move and take ownership of the house.

The James E. Clyburn Intermodal Transportation Center in Sumter opened in a historic telephone manufacturing building near downtown Sumter in 2008. Through Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the SHPO worked closely with the architect and the Santee Wateree Regional Transportation Authority to review the project because it received federal funds.

In early 2008, our staff worked closely with archaeologists, the Office of Coastal Resource Management, SC Department of Commerce, and DuPont to expedite review of a $500 million project in Berkeley County, facilitating construction of the new Kevlar fiber production facility.

*TOP: The Lindler House in Ballentine preparing for a move. Photo courtesy of the Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation*

*MIDDLE: The James E. Clyburn Intermodal Transportation Center. Photo by Watson Tate Savory Architects*

*BOTTOM: Archaeologists at work at the DuPont site in Berkeley County.*
In the last state fiscal year (07-08), our staff helped local organizations around the state recognize local history through the state's historical marker program. Staff approved texts for 81 markers, far exceeding the previous record of 50.

The historical marker for the Loris Training School at a recent dedication ceremony. Photo courtesy of Jannie Harriot.

New website launched
http://shpo.sc.gov

The website provides easy access to information about thousands of historic properties and historic preservation programs in South Carolina, and highlights preservation success stories.
Communities Impacted
The programs and staff of the State Historic Preservation Office reached all parts of the state in 2008.

Staff buying produce at the local farmers' market in Pacolet, held at the historic mill office building now used as Town Hall.