



# STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

RECENT  
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**MARCH, 2016**

DELAWARE DIVISION OF  
HISTORICAL & CULTURAL AFFAIRS





## Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs' State Historic Preservation Office

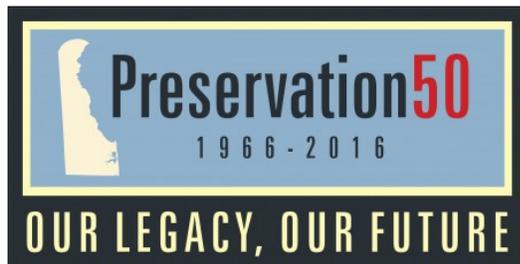
### Recent Accomplishments March 2016

As part of the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, the mission of the [State Historic Preservation Office](#) is to locate, study and record Delaware's historic buildings, structures, objects, districts, landscapes and archaeological sites. The preservation office consults with federal and state agencies on projects subject to preservation laws and regulations, oversees tax-credit programs that promote rehabilitation of historic properties, assists local governments with preservation programs, works with individuals and organizations to nominate eligible properties to the National Register of Historic Places and maintains the Historic Properties Research Center, a repository of information on historic properties within the state.

The following represents a sample of the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office's recent significant accomplishments.

### Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act

In 2015, the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office and partners from across the state kicked off efforts to recognize and celebrate historic preservation in honor of the 50th anniversary of the passage of the [National Historic Preservation Act of 1966](#), joining the nation-wide coalition known as [Preservation50](#).



The passage of the act marks the moment when the country officially recognized the value of preserving and protecting the places that reflect its historical heritage. The act established programs and funding to assist states, Indian tribes and local communities in identifying and preserving their significant historic properties. **The accomplishments noted throughout this report are a direct result of the National Historic Preservation Act.**

The anniversary offers an opportunity to raise public awareness and heighten interest about historic preservation. The goals of the Preservation50 campaign include building the coalition needed for a more effective preservation movement, learning from the first 50 years of the preservation act in order to plan a stronger future, telling the story of heritage preservation's value to a broad range of Americans, educating policymakers about improving heritage policy and funding, and preparing the heritage-preservation movement's future leaders.

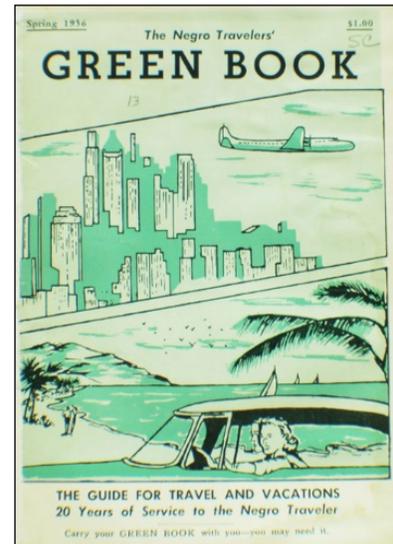
Activities that will be taking place in Delaware throughout 2016 include lectures, demonstrations, workshops and other activities that share ideas and offer expertise, connecting neighborhoods and citizens with tools that can help preserve their heritage, culture and community. For information on upcoming Preservation50 activities, go to the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs' [website](#).

## Preservation success stories

### ◆ New research project highlights difficulties of segregation-era travel for African Americans

In 2015, the State Historic Preservation Office embarked on a research project to identify Delaware properties that were advertised in “The Negro Travelers’ Green Book,” a travel and vacation guidebook for people of color during the segregation era. Initially published by Victor Green for the New York area, the guide eventually had listings across the nation and in other countries. It included listings for hotels, restaurants, gas stations, barber- and beauty-shops, and tourist homes.

Thus far, research has focused on locations in Wilmington, the Townsend area, Dover and Laurel. Staff examined historical maps, photographs, deeds and tax records, and conducted site visits and oral history interviews. Public presentations about the research began in February 2016 generating significant interest on the topic. Most people had not heard of The Green Book before. As a result of this outreach, people are sharing information about other African-American-owned businesses of the last century as well as the challenges of living with the Jim Crow laws in Delaware from the 1920s to the 1960s



### ◆ Local citizens make a difference—Mt. Salem Church and the Laurel Middle School

In responding to requests for technical assistance, the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office staff engaged local citizens to encourage preservation of historic properties. Two examples are notable. First, in the city of New Castle, Ms. Josie Roy mobilized efforts to clean up and repair the building and grounds of the **Mt. Salem United Methodist Church**. The building has been vacant for several years and was facing potential demolition. Roy’s efforts led to the formation of a support group that is working with the Peninsula-Delaware Conference of the United Methodist Church and others to continue to preserve the property.



Mt. Salem United Methodist Church

In September 2015, the Delaware Public Archives and local legislators dedicated a historic marker at the church. These efforts have led to a new interest in researching the African-American history of this part of the city, which, although included in the [New Castle Historic District](#), is not well-documented as such in the National Register of Historic Places (or National Historic Landmark) nomination. It is hoped that the additional research will result in an amendment to the nomination. Roy was honored at the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs’ annual [end-of-the-year event](#) which recognized the successes of the agency and its partners.

In the second example, citizens, town officials and school district leaders are credited with opening a dialogue that resulted in the preservation of the original 1921 section of the **Laurel Middle School**. For several years, the school district has been engaged in a major, and at times controversial, campaign to construct new school buildings. The fate of the middle school, a contributing element of the [Laurel Historic District](#), had gone back and forth several times. At one point the school district considered requesting that state-funding appropriated to rehabilitate the building be diverted to other aspects of the project.

The original section of the Colonial-Revival brick building was designed by nationally known architect James Oscar Betelle who specialized in schools. The Laurel example is one of many new schools constructed in the early 20th century throughout the state that were funded, in part, by the industrialist Pierre Samuel du Pont. Its ornate brickwork is a key architectural feature that is rarely found on other “du Pont” schools in the area.

Delaware State Historic Preservation Office staff participated in several meetings as local officials and citizens, including members of the [Laurel Historical Society](#), sought detailed information on the historical significance of the property. As a result of the consultation, state funding was re-established to retain and secure the historic core of the school including stabilization that will be necessitated by the removal of several additions. The preservation office will continue to assist the school district as it works to define a new purpose for the building



Laurel Middle School

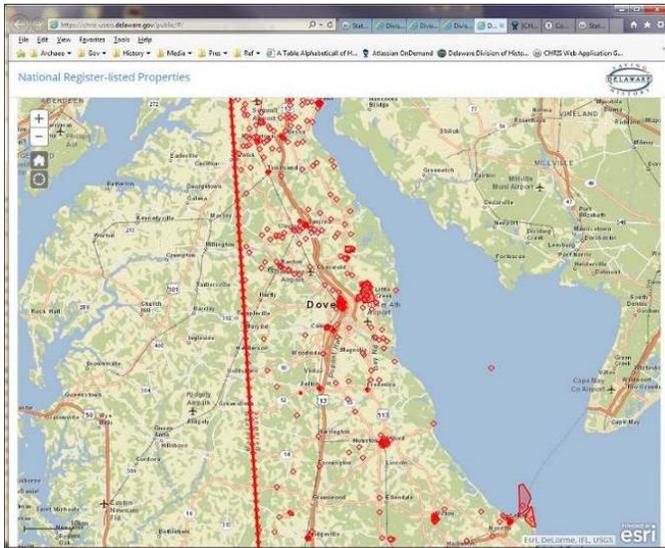
◆ **Delaware State University and partners hold traditional cultural properties conference**

In April 2015, [Delaware State University](#) hosted a unique public conference, "Learning from the Reservation: Using the Traditional Cultural Place Perspective for Better Decision Making in a Diverse Cultural Landscape." The conference was co-sponsored by the National Council for Preservation Education, Delaware State University, the University of Delaware, Roger Williams University, the State Historic Preservation Office and the Historic Preservation Education Foundation. The conference brought together nationally-recognized experts, preservation practitioners and local students to exchange ideas and examples of “traditional cultural properties”—those properties that are eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places based on their associations with the cultural practices, traditions, beliefs, lifeways, arts, crafts or social institutions of a living community.

Presentations addressed diversity and intangible heritage-values associated with landscapes and the continuity of cultural practices among many different cultural groups in the United States, and participants engaged in lively discussion on issues that impact preservation on the national level. Scholarship funding for the conference was provided by a grant from the [Delaware Humanities Forum](#), a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities

## What's new with the CHRIS geographic information system

For the past two years, the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office has focused staff and resources on a major redevelopment of its [Cultural and Historical Resource Information System](#) (CHRIS), a Web-based [geographic information system](#) on historic properties that are located in the state. Available to the public at no charge, the new edition of CHRIS, launched in February 2015, is more comprehensive, interactive and faster than the original version that was developed in 2009.



National Register locations in Delaware as displayed in CHRIS.

The revamped CHRIS has received many positive comments from users. Major benefits of the new system are the ability for consultants and agencies to map and submit survey forms online, the ability for in-house management and updating of data, improved management of user accounts to protect confidential information, a tool for creating public-oriented, thematic “story maps” and the ability to deliver more extensive survey and National Register of Historic Places information. In the upcoming year, several new enhancements will be made to CHRIS including easier ways to search for a property, to create a quick map and to find historical resources in an agency’s project area.

Another new tool of the system will allow staff to upload, in bulk, newly scanned files to link to the historic property points mapped in CHRIS, vastly cutting down on the time needed to accomplish this task. This new tool relates to ongoing efforts to digitize the large quantity of printed files, photographs, microfilm and microfiche that the office has accumulated since it was created in 1970.

In 2015, the preservation office joined several other state agencies participating in a new scanning project conducted by Computer Aid, Inc., a global information-technology consulting and services firm whose employees include several people on the [autism spectrum](#) whose skills include focused concentration, attention to detail, an ability to recognize patterns and deviations in data, and thinking outside the box. Computer Aid, Inc. employees are currently in the process of [scanning thousands of inventory forms and photographs for CHRIS](#).

Updating CHRIS is a collaborative project involving preservation office staff, the Delaware Department of State and [GeoDecisions](#), an information-technology company that specializes in geospatial solutions. Additional assistance was provided by the Delaware Department of Technology and Information. Funding was provided primarily by the Delaware Department of State, supplemented by a portion of the [Historic Preservation Fund](#) grant that the preservation office receives from the National Park Service.

With its ongoing updating of CHRIS, the State Historic Preservation Office is well on its way to providing around-the-clock access to comprehensive information on Delaware’s historic properties.

## Historic properties repaired with help from Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief Assistance Grants

Two historic Delaware properties damaged during Hurricane Sandy—the Milford New Century Club and the Phillips Potato House in Laurel—were repaired during 2015 thanks to funding from Delaware’s Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief Assistance Grants for Historic Properties program. A third property, the Harbor of Refuge Lighthouse in Lewes, also received funding under the program and is still in the process of completing repairs.

Funding for the grant program was provided as part of the [Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013](#), passed by Congress and signed into law by President Obama in response to the effects of the destructive hurricane that struck the East Coast of the United States in late October 2012. As part of the act, \$50 million was appropriated to the [National Park Service](#) to cover the costs of preserving and/or rehabilitating historic properties damaged by the storm. Subsequently, the Park Service allocated \$1 million for Delaware’s component of the program which is administered by the State Historic Preservation Office. The purpose of the program is to help return damaged historic properties to useful condition, preserving the state’s cultural heritage for future generations.

Following are profiles of the two completed projects:

- ◆ Built in 1885, the **Milford New Century Club** was individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1982 as part of a multiple-property nomination for the city of Milford. The non-profit-owned building is significant for its architectural features and for its long-standing use as a community center. As a result of damages caused by Hurricane Sandy’s high wind, wind-driven rain and rising water, the club received \$49,079 in funding for the replacement of its heating-ventilation-air-conditioning system; replacement of the building’s roof; exterior painting; and associated interior and exterior repairs. With the assistance of the grant, the club is once again available year-round for civic projects and as rental space for local events



Milford New Century Club after damages caused by Hurricane Sandy (left), and after repairs and painting (right).

- ◆ The **Phillips Potato House** was built circa 1900 and individually listed in the National Register in 1990 as part of a multiple-property nomination for sweet potato houses, a specialized agricultural outbuilding in Sussex County. The potato houses reflect the modernization of agricultural practices in southern Delaware during the first half of the 20th century including the emergence of truck farming.

Located outside the town of Laurel, the privately owned structure was damaged during Hurricane Sandy by high wind, wind-driven rain and water run-off. As a result, the property owner was awarded a \$73,058 grant for the removal of damaged asphalt siding and repair of wood siding and trim, window repair, foundation repairs and the removal of metal roofing and restoration of wood shingles. The grant-funded work has provided an opportunity for returning the building to agricultural use and/or for an adaptive reuse to include public interpretation of agricultural practices



**Phillips Potato House after damages caused by Hurricane Sandy (left), and after repairs and painting (right).**

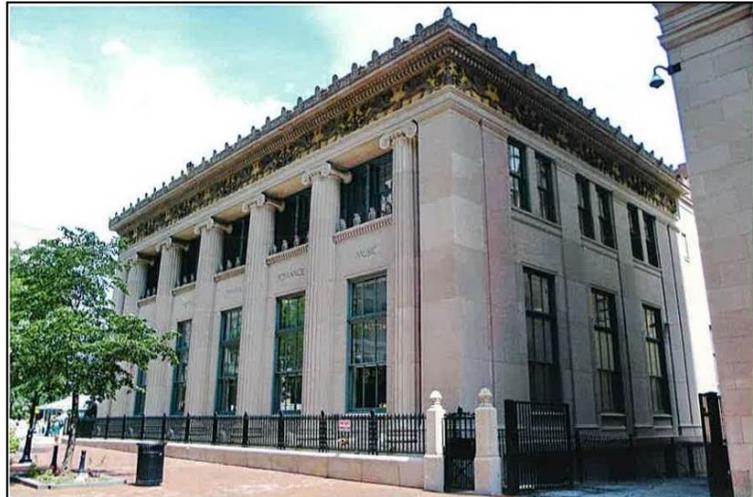
## Federal and state preservation tax incentive programs revitalize communities

Each year, historic preservation tax credits not only assist with the rehabilitation of significant buildings and revitalization of communities, they also generate enormous amounts of private investment and create jobs. In Delaware, there has been an increasing interest in the benefits of both the federal and the state historic preservation tax credit programs.

During fiscal year 2015, proposals for three [Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentive](#) projects in Wilmington were approved. These projects will rehabilitate a historic building that had been converted into a parking garage, a vacant early-20th-century bank and the vacant upper-floor of a commercial building. All of these properties will be reused as apartments, some of which will be rented at below market rates.

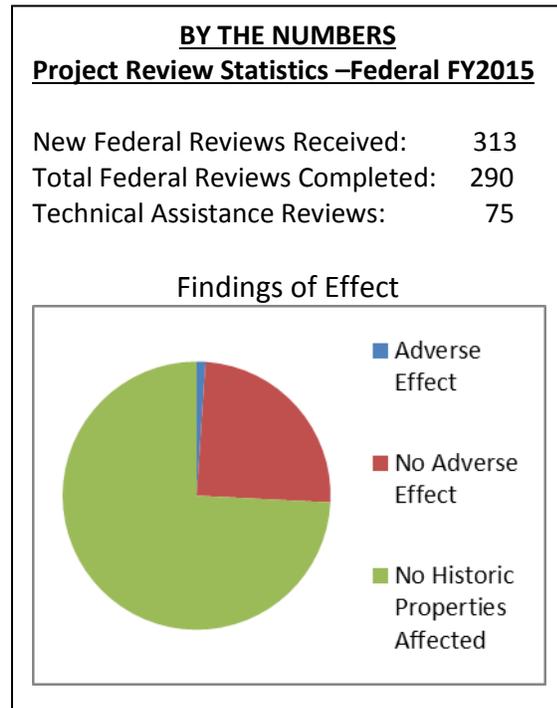
In Delaware's program, \$5 million in [Historic Preservation Tax Credits](#) provided assistance for the rehabilitation of historic buildings in all three of Delaware's counties during fiscal year 2015. These state tax credits were awarded to owner-occupied, non-profit-owned and income-producing properties for eligible expenses incurred during rehabilitation. Twenty-two historic buildings in communities across the state including Dover, Lewes, Milford, Montchanin, New Castle, Ocean View and Wilmington benefited from the program.

As part of the state program, \$3,170,416 in tax credits assisted in the rehabilitation of historic properties in the central area of Wilmington as part of the state's [Downtown Development Districts Grant Program](#). Created in 2014, this program leverages state resources in a limited number of designated areas in Delaware's cities and towns to spur private capital investment in commercial business districts, stimulate job growth and commercial vitality, and help build a stable community of long-term residents in downtown areas and adjacent neighborhoods.



**The Wilmington Institute Library utilized 2015 State Historic Preservation Tax Credits for interior rehabilitation and for improved accessibility for people with disabilities.**

## Project reviews keep federal projects moving AND preserve Delaware’s heritage for the benefit of researchers and the public



For the past 50 years, [Section 106](#) of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 has required that federal agencies take into account the effects of their undertakings on buildings, districts and archaeological sites that are historically significant. Across the country, state historic preservation offices are responsible for advising federal agencies on how to find historic properties in a project area, and on how to avoid or mitigate their impact upon them. They also conduct similar reviews for non-federal projects, providing technical assistance to state agencies and local governments for land-use planning.

Through consultation, the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office helps identify different approaches to a proposed project. The agency’s goal is to minimize harm to historic properties and these efforts are often successful. In most cases, projects move forward with little or no adverse effects.

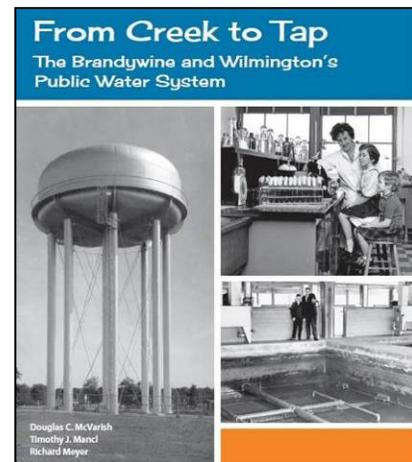
The **Prime Hook Beach Restoration Project** is an example. Recent storms have re-sculpted the landscape, creating a breach that threatens homes and affects the freshwater marsh in the [Prime Hook National Wildlife Refuge](#). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and state agencies were under pressure to act quickly to stabilize this environment. The Delaware State Historic Preservation Office consulted with the team and discovered that the restoration plans could destroy or damage two historic causeways that may be centuries old. A compromise was found that avoided adverse effects to the structures and the beach restoration moved ahead.

However, for a small percentage of projects, such an outcome is not possible. In such cases, state historic preservation offices work with agencies to find creative solutions that benefit future research as well as the public.



**Storm-damaged causeway on Fowler Beach Road in the Prime Hook National Wildlife Refuge.**

In recent years, water-infrastructure projects in the **city of Wilmington** have resulted in adverse effects to a number of unique historic structures. A significant amount of research was collected during the review of these projects. To address the effects, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Delaware Division of Public Health, the city of Wilmington and the State Historic Preservation Office wanted the public to benefit from this research. As a result, a new booklet, "[From Creek to Tap: The Brandywine and Wilmington's Public Water System](#)," was produced that has just recently been made available. The booklet illustrates the accomplishments of this vital public-works program over the centuries.



Additionally, the ongoing consultation for the [U.S. Route 301 construction project](#), which will create 17 miles of new limited-access highway, has resulted in a unique collaboration among the Federal Highway Administration, the Delaware Department of Transportation, the State Historic Preservation Office, cultural resource consulting firms and academic researchers. During the past year, the fruits of these labors began to be revealed as reports on archaeological excavations and specialized analyses came in, producing sweeping new knowledge of the heritage of New Castle County. This body of work will inform and improve future studies. Public outreach materials are also in the works.

## Four new additions to the National Register of Historic Places

During the past year, four historic properties in Delaware were added to the [National Register of Historic Places](#), the U.S. government's official list of districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects deemed worthy of preservation. State Historic Preservation Office staff members provided vital assistance to the property owners in preparing and submitting their National Register nominations for review.

### ◆ **Adams Home Farm (Greenwood)—Listed Nov. 23, 2015**

The 211-acre Adams Home Farm possesses a unique concentration of agricultural resources which together illustrate the variety of farming practices associated with Northwest Fork Hundred and Sussex County from the 1850s to the 1950s. These cultural resources represent the evolution of agriculture from the planting of corn and grain, to the production of vegetables and fruits, to truck farming, to the poultry industry and to the development of a feed and fertilizer business. The farm includes 13 buildings and structures that contribute to the historical significance of the property. Five of the structures have been in use since circa 1850 while several of the structures erected between 1900 and 1953 include rare 20th-century building types in Sussex County such as the clerestory-roofed chicken brooder-house, the one-story migrant-farm-workers' housing and the metal water-tower with adjacent chemical shed



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### ◆ **Evans-West House (Ocean View)—Listed Dec. 1, 2015**

The Evans-West House is a significant vernacular-interpretation of the Gothic Revival style of architecture. Minimally altered since its construction in 1901, the house and associated barn, storage shed and star-shaped daffodil garden represent an early-20th-century domestic complex



that is not duplicated in Ocean View or the surrounding area. The interior of the home retains a high percentage of its original historic fabric including room configurations as well as an ornate front door with etched-glass, genre-scene panel; kitchen wainscoting; an early porcelain-kitchen-sink; random-width floor boards throughout the house; original two-over-two double-hung windows; reeded door and window surrounds with bulls-eye corner blocks; original hardware including porcelain and electroplated doorknobs; and turned front-porch columns. The property's current owners, strong advocates of historic

preservation, have given legal ownership of the site to the [Ocean View Historical Society](#) which plans to utilize it as a museum and exhibit facility

◆ **Grantham-Edwards-McComb House (near the city of New Castle)—Listed Jan. 19, 2016**

The Grantham-Edwards-McComb House is a two-and-one-half-story, Federal style, brick dwelling constructed between 1804 and 1817. Though originally built by Isaac Grantham, it served as a tenant farm throughout most of the 19th century. During the 1830s, a Pennsylvania farmer and Quaker abolitionist named Edward Edwards purchased the property and added a brick kitchen and dining room. After the American Civil War, Col. Henry S. McComb purchased the property and constructed an additional two-story brick section. McComb was primarily known as a manufacturer of leather goods who supplied tents, knapsacks and other leather products to the Union Army during the war. He later became one of the founders of the Union Pacific Railroad and, after relocating to Mississippi, became president of the Mississippi Central Railroad and took control of the New Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern Railroad



◆ **Hebron Methodist Protestant Church and Cemetery (near Georgetown)—Listed May 18, 2015**

Constructed in 1888 in the vernacular Greek Revival style, Hebron is one of nine Methodist Protestant churches constructed in rural Sussex County between 1870 and 1888. The church's



history parallels the development, evolution and popularity of Methodism in southern Delaware during the 19th century. Although Hebron ceased holding regular worship services in 1934, its trustees continue to develop special services and undertake initiatives ensuring the preservation and maintenance of the historic structure. Overall, the church retains a high level of historical integrity and is devoid of modern amenities such as heat, water and electricity. The building's interior

features original wainscoting which lines the walls and extends up to the windowsill level. Original diagonal and straight bead-board covers the remainder of the walls and ceiling, respectively. Hebron's unusual paneled interior is the only-known example of its kind in Sussex County

## **\$52,832 sub-granted to Certified Local Governments**

During fiscal year 2015, the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office re-granted \$52,832 in funds it had received from the federal Historic Preservation Fund to support preservation-related activities conducted by five [Certified Local Governments](#) in the state. The grants were as follows:

◆ **Delaware City**

A \$5,712 grant is being used for the first phase of updating the historic-property information for Delaware City's National-Register-of-Historic Places-listed historic district

◆ **Lewes**

A grant of \$5,712 is being used for the second phase of updating the historic-property information in Lewes' National-Register-listed historic district

◆ **Milton**

A grant of \$5,712 is being used for the third and final phase of updating the historic-property information in Milton's National-Register-listed historic district

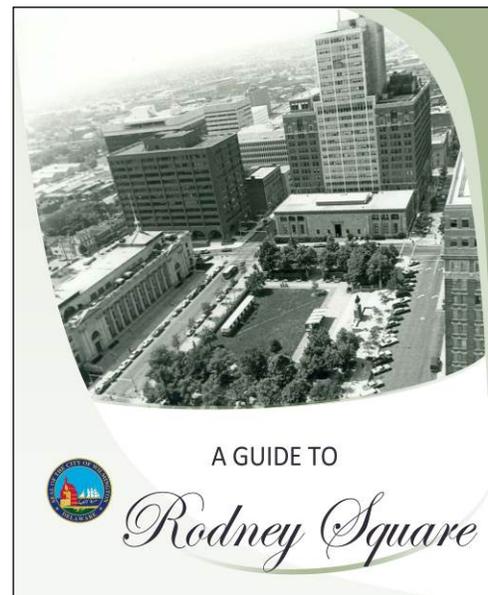
◆ **New Castle County**

A \$17,848 grant is funding a consultant to work with the county's acting preservation planner to document threatened historic properties within the county. In addition, the grant provided funding for the consultant to prepare nominations for eligible properties to be listed in the National Register

◆ **Wilmington**

A grant of \$17,848 is providing support for Wilmington's preservation planner who assists, among other tasks, the citizens of Wilmington and city-government personnel in identifying and evaluating historic properties, preservation planning, treatment options including tax incentives, review and compliance activities, heritage education and public-outreach activities on preservation issues. The grant also provided funding for developing a welcome package for corporate workers new to Wilmington to introduce them to the history and historical sites in the downtown area; and for the creation of a downtown walking tour and development of an Underground Railroad tour-itinerary

The city of Wilmington used part of its Certified Local Government grant to produce this [brochure](#) about the city's Rodney Square Historic District.



## **Dover receives Certified Local Government status**

On May 15, 2015, the [city of Dover](#) received notification it had been accorded the status of a Certified Local Government by the National Park Service. Part of a nationwide effort, Delaware's Certified Local Government Program is administered by the State Historic Preservation Office in partnership with the Park Service. The program strengthens preservation efforts at the local-level by providing technical and financial assistance while encouraging successful preservation programs and practices. Delaware now has six Certified Local Governments: Delaware City, Dover, Lewes, Milton, New Castle County and the city of Wilmington.

Founded by William Penn in 1683, Dover is one of the state's most historic cities. In 1777, Delaware's capital was moved there from New Castle because of the city's central location and relative safety from British warships operating in the Delaware River. The Dover Green, now a component of the [First State National Historical Park](#), functioned for nearly 200 years as the city's commercial and governmental center. It served as the site where the Declaration of Independence was read to the townspeople in 1776, and where a Continental regiment was mustered for service in the American Revolution. The Green was also home to a number of taverns and inns including the Golden Fleece Tavern where representatives from Delaware's three counties [ratified the U.S. Constitution](#) on Dec. 7, 1787, becoming the first state to do so. The Green remains the historical heart of Dover and is the location of the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs/State Historic Preservation Office, [The Old State House](#), Delaware Supreme Court and the Kent County Courthouse.

For information about the Dover Green Historic District and the Victorian Dover Historic District, as well as individual Dover properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places, go to [Delaware's Cultural and Historical Resources Information System](#) (CHRIS). Go to the following for Dover's [historic district guidelines](#).



**View of the Dover Green. The main office of the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs/State Historic Preservation Office is in the center. The Old State House Museum is on the right.**

## Looking forward

Celebration of the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act will continue to be a focus of the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office and its partners during 2016. Public outreach events will include additional presentations about The Green Book research, and the ninth annual [Early Colonial Delaware Valley Archaeological and Historical Symposium](#). Other upcoming activities include a hands-on workshop for historic-property owners sponsored by the Kent County Tourism office and Delaware State Parks. This spring, there will also be a series of Preservation Field Days for 4th-grade students, a joint effort of the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs' museums and historic-preservation staff, Delaware State Parks, the National Park Service and many others.

The State Historic Preservation Office will also continue working with its partners in implementing the [2013–2017 Statewide Historic Preservation Plan](#), and in beginning the process of writing a new plan for 2018–2022. As the lead in producing, monitoring and guiding activities that meet the goals and objectives of the current plan, the preservation office is working to increase access to information on historic properties and improving communication about historic-preservation strategies. Another priority noted in the current plan is the need for funding surveys of archaeological sites and 20th-century buildings, particularly in areas threatened by sea-level rise and climate change. The preservation office is holding regular meetings with preservation activists, state and local government agency staff, local historical society staff and other interested parties to discuss the office's achievements thus far and to plan for future priorities.

## About the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office

The widespread demolition of older buildings and neighborhoods in America's cities in the early 1960s helped spur the federal government to enact the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. This legislation provided for the designation of a state historic preservation officer and a qualified staff within each state to help promote the preservation of historic properties of local, state and national significance.



**The Kirk/Short Building, a contributing property to the Dover Green Historic District and office of the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office.**

Delaware's State Historic Preservation Office resides within the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, with the division director serving as the state historic preservation officer. Working in concert with academic and professional communities, preservation organizations, concerned citizens and all levels of government, the preservation office coordinates preservation efforts throughout Delaware and serves as an advocate for the preservation of Delaware's historic places and unique cultural identity.

The Delaware State Historic Preservation Office is supported with federal Historic Preservation Fund formula grants on a 60 percent share/40 percent matching basis. In general, the preservation office performs the following services, fulfilling federal and state mandates:

- ◆ Administers the annual federal Historic Preservation Fund appropriation
- ◆ Administers federal and state historic preservation tax incentive programs for the rehabilitation of properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places

- ◆ Reviews federally-funded, permitted or licensed undertakings/projects, and advises the agencies and applicants about the projects' effects on historic properties including buildings, structures, districts, archaeological sites, objects and landscapes
- ◆ Reviews and comments on land use and development proposals under the state [Preliminary Land Use Service](#)
- ◆ Leads efforts in securing and accepting nominations of significant properties and sites to the National Register of Historic Places in conjunction with the [Delaware State Review Board for Historic Preservation](#)
- ◆ Encourages and assists local governments in securing Certified Local Government designation which makes them eligible to receive a portion of the Historic Preservation Fund grant for local historic preservation activities. Delaware has six Certified Local Governments: Delaware City, Dover, Lewes, Milton, New Castle County and the city of Wilmington
- ◆ Monitors the terms of preservation covenants and easements that are administered by the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs
- ◆ Provides guidance upon the discovery of [unmarked human burials](#) and/or skeletal remains, and advises on appropriate treatment and disposition, in accordance with state law. Works with developers and landowners on efforts to avoid such discoveries
- ◆ Conducts, or supports others in conducting, statewide [cultural resource surveys](#) of historic properties
- ◆ Maintains a central [research repository](#) of historical and cultural resource information related to historic properties and sites in Delaware
- ◆ Provides technical assistance to the public on historic preservation topics
- ◆ Provides and participates in educational programs about Delaware history, archaeology and historic architecture
- ◆ Drafts Delaware's statewide historic preservation plan every five years and maintains a commitment to implement its goals



## ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF SUPPORT

This report has been financed, in part, with federal funds from the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. However, the contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Department of the Interior.

## NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs receives federal financial assistance for identification and protection of historic properties. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability or age in its federally assisted programs. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information, please write to: Office of Equal Opportunity, National Park Service, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20240.

Document control # 20-06-16-03-01