



## Preserve America Summit Implementation Progress Report

***Increase synergy between the development community and public sector partners by implementing the recommendations of the National Park System Advisory Board Committee on the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit and by seeking to expand use of Federal financial assistance programs for historic preservation.***

**Lead Agency/Agencies:** National Park Service (NPS) and the ACHP

**Summit Recommendation Progress:** The National Park Service has completed implementation of the National Park System Advisory Board recommendations on the federal historic preservation tax credit. In December 2007, National Park Service Director Mary Bomar approved a report, *Making a Good Program Better: Final Guidance and Implementation of National Park System Advisory Board Recommendations for the Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program*, and the accompanying materials. The report presented guidance papers that highlighted and clarified the flexibility of the tax credit program regarding four rehabilitation treatments, windows, interior treatments, additions and related new construction, and modern-day requirements and new technology, and the review of large functionally-related complexes.

The report also described steps the NPS took to make information on the tax credit program and the rehabilitation of historic buildings more accessible to the public, including: 1) publication of *Technical Preservation Services' Publications and Online Materials*, a 50-page index to printed and web information about the Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program and technical information about the treatment of historic materials and buildings; 2) creation of a search-by-topic web site map to lead users to all materials on the Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits and technical information about the treatment of historic materials and buildings material on the NPS web site; and, 3) publication of *Introduction to Federal Tax Credits for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings – Rowhouses*, a guide to the tax credits and the application process for first-time program users and small-project owners, using rowhouses as sample projects.

In 2008, NPS published and distributed a second edition of the *Technical Preservation Services' Publications and Online Materials* index and three additional *Introduction to Federal Tax Credits for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings* guides: on Main Street commercial buildings, wood frame houses, and barns. NPS also posted additional guidance materials on its web site, made presentations about the tax credits at state and national meetings, trained new SHPO tax incentives program staff, and conducted intensive, onsite training for SHPO staff through site visits to State Historic Preservation Offices and project sites.

In addition to the federal preservation tax credit, there are many other federal programs that can provide financial assistance for preservation projects. To help inform the public regarding the broad scope of such programs, the ACHP updated its Web publication, *Sources of Financial Assistance for Historic Preservation Projects*, in May 2008.

**Next Actions:** The ACHP will continue to seek opportunities to expand the use of federal financial assistance programs for historic preservation, including promoting preservation funding in conjunction with federal economic stimulus spending.

**Important Links:**

Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program Home Page [www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/tax/](http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/tax/)

Tax Credit and Technical Information Site Map [www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/tax/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/tax/index.htm)

*Planning Successful Rehabilitation Projects* [www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/tax/guidance.htm](http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/tax/guidance.htm)

*Making a Good Program Better* [www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/tax/committee.htm](http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/tax/committee.htm)

*Sources of Financial Assistance for Historic Preservation Projects* [www.achp.gov/funding.html](http://www.achp.gov/funding.html)

**Comments or Questions?** Please send comments or questions to [preserveamerica@achp.gov](mailto:preserveamerica@achp.gov).

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