

## ILLINOIS STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

#### Key Preservation Themes

The community engagement program completed during Phase I of the planning process provided multiple opportunities for Illinois' preservation stakeholders to share their thoughts on the trends, issues, and opportunities for the statewide preservation program over the next ten years. Engagement opportunities included 11 stakeholder listening sessions, 7 in-person regional workshops, an online public workshop, and a statewide preservation survey. The consultant team also received additional public comment via email and through the project website ([www.IllinoisPreservationPlan.com](http://www.IllinoisPreservationPlan.com)). This document includes complete summaries of all engagement opportunities.

There were several major themes heard during the community engagement process, including:

- **National Register of Historic Places**  
The National Register is a valued preservation tool in Illinois. Improvements to the nomination process sought by stakeholders include consistency in reviews on eligibility, a streamlined nomination process, additional support for nominating archaeology sites, increased access to the Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Council (IHSAC) to expand the number of properties listed annually, and an up-to-date and easy to use HARGIS.
- **Certified Local Government Program**  
Stakeholders consistently noted the need for additional access to training and resources for local historic preservation commissions as well as consistent publicly accessible timelines for CLG grants. While the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions provides excellent commission training opportunities, local commissions feel the loss of IAHPK keenly. Consistent communication with existing and potential CLG communities is key. Monitoring communities to uphold existing CLG agreements is also a priority with stakeholders. The lack of skilled tradespeople is an issue in all communities, and providing a means of sharing information and training opportunities for local communities is vital.
- **Regulatory Reviews**  
Most stakeholders feel the regulatory review process is satisfactory despite staff shortages but suggest improvements such as updating the electronic submittal process to make it easier to submit large files and streamlining the response times and overall process.
- **Archaeology**  
Partnerships between the IL-SHPO, colleges, universities, non-profit archaeology groups, and local advocates to provide networking opportunities is a priority for Illinois' archaeology stakeholders. Sharing information, findings, and best practices would be beneficial to groups across the state. Increasing archaeology awareness and programming in the Chicago region is also a priority. Avocational archaeologists are doing important work, especially in smaller communities, and desire support from the IL-SHPO office.
- **Tax Incentives**  
Expanding the state tax credit and simplifying the application process are high priorities for Illinois stakeholders. While the existing program is a valuable economic development tool, project funding caps, location requirements, and other criteria limit the reach of the program, and stakeholders consider the application process to be lengthy and complicated. Broadening the program's eligibility requirements and allowing more communities to participate would significantly increase rehabilitation and adaptive use opportunities. Another priority is to consider creating a preservation tax credit for homeowners to increase revitalization efforts in residential neighborhoods, particularly in smaller towns and rural areas.
- **Staffing**  
Throughout the community engagement process stakeholders noted that additional IL-SHPO staff is necessary for a successful statewide preservation program. Staff needs are critical across the spectrum and particularly in archaeology and compliance review, education, and outreach. Current staffing levels in archaeology and compliance review result in project review backlogs. There are no dedicated staff for education and outreach programming, which current staff must accomplish in addition to their existing duties.

- **Engaging the Next Generation**

Engaging youth and young adults in the benefits of preservation is an important strategy to ensure continued preservation efforts in the future. Partnerships between local schools and historical societies, museums, historic sites, and other preservation organizations are vital to educate and inform children and pique their interest in local history and preservation. Internships and volunteer opportunities provide an outlet for young adults to consider historic preservation as a field of study as well as provide valuable community service.

- **Historic Resources**

The in-person regional workshops, virtual workshop, and statewide preservation survey provided opportunities for stakeholders to prioritize historic and cultural resources to protect and Illinois stakeholders agreed that Main Street commercial districts are a top priority. Other priorities include Illinois State Historic Sites, traditional housing, public buildings such as courthouses, schools, and museums, and archives, collections, and artifacts.

- **Education and Outreach**

Education and outreach are high priorities with preservation stakeholders in Illinois. It is clear from the feedback that stakeholders wish to see and hear from the IL-SHPO on matters related to site visits, programming, commission training, and promoting the benefits of preservation to local communities and elected officials. Consistent communication to the statewide preservation community through the IL-SHPO website, publications, newsletters, and social media would benefit local communities, advocates, and preservation partners including CLGs, archaeology groups, historical societies and museums, and property owners. Increased collaboration with other state and federal agencies would also help to streamline compliance reviews. Reviving the Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commissions (IAHPC) and the statewide preservation conference would help to create a vibrant and informed statewide preservation network.

## **ILLINOIS STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN**

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY**

#### **Stakeholder Listening Sessions**

- Preservation Chicago - November 17, 2022
- Illinois State Historic Preservation Office - December 16, 2022
- Landmarks Illinois - December 16, 2022
- Main Streets and Economic Development Groups - January 12, 2023
- State and Federal Agencies - January 12, 2023
- Archaeology Groups - January 24, 2023
- Certified Local Governments and Local Preservation Advocacy Groups - January 24, 2023
- Historical Societies and Museums - February 9, 2023
- State and Federal Agencies #2 - April 11, 2023

#### **In-Person Regional Workshops**

- Carbondale - January 17, 2023
- Alton - January 19, 2023
- Bloomington - February 14, 2023
- Marshall - February 16, 2023
- Rock Island - March 7, 2023
- Rockford - March 14, 2023
- Chicago (Pullman) - April 13, 2023

#### **Virtual Workshop**

- Virtual Workshop - February 23, 2023

#### **Illinois Statewide Preservation Survey**

- Illinois Statewide Preservation Survey - March 21 - April 21, 2023

## ILLINOIS STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

### ONLINE STAKEHOLDER LISTENING SESSION PRESERVATION CHICAGO

#### Meeting Summary

November 17, 2022, 10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m., CDT

Attendance at this session included Preservation Chicago staff and members of the consultant team.

#### Meeting Summary

##### Introduction

The Lakota Group introduced the Online Stakeholder Listening Session as part of the Illinois Statewide Historic Preservation Plan. The purpose of the meeting is to understand the trends and issues impacting Preservation Chicago's mission related to historic preservation.

Preservation Chicago is a Chicago-based advocacy group on the front lines of many advocacy issues including the Century and Consumer Buildings threatened with demolition by the federal government due to security issues with the neighboring Federal Center. They currently have a Change.org petition with over 23,000 signatures to save the buildings, and they conducted an interview with BIM, the world's largest online construction, architecture, and engineering platform, where the Century and Consumer Buildings have over 1M views. They have a vision for the buildings as an archive center that would allow sealing the windows to allow for security for the Federal Center. They are also working to preserve historic churches including those by the Chicago Catholic Archdiocese, such as St. Adelbert. They not only try to save and landmark buildings but also find new uses. They recently helped to designate the Emmett and Mamie Till House as a Chicago Landmark.

#### **Question: How does the IL-SHPO play a role in preserving historic, cultural, and archaeological resources in Chicago and around the state? What more could the IL-SHPO do?**

- The Humboldt Park Stables represents issues with the city and state preservation process. The building is a Chicago Landmark and listed in the National Register. The tenant of the building, owned by the Chicago Park District, recently began construction of a cinder block building without SHPO or City of Chicago approval and without building permits. The SHPO and Commission on Chicago Landmarks have confirmed that there is nothing they can do. It is up to the Chicago Park District to resolve the issue. The SHPO needs teeth to their regulatory authority. In this case the SHPO approved the plans as the tenant received an Illinois Public Museum grant. The plans submitted were a sketch and the SHPO requested additional documentation which they never received. However, two years later the tenant received approval. This was frustrating as getting a simple determination of eligibility requires more work than this. It is likely that politics was involved in the decision.
- The SHPO office is always very responsive when approached but they need additional regulatory authority. They recently had a preliminary meeting with the SHPO regarding the Century and Consumer Buildings, which will eventually require Section 106 review. Everyone who testified at the public meeting was in support of preserving the buildings.
- Preservation Chicago approached the SHPO about the eligibility of the Belmont National Bank Building, formerly at Clark and Belmont in Chicago, and the local Alderman intervened for a proposed new Amazon store. They submitted photos of the building but the SHPO required architectural drawings of the interior when that is not a requirement for a determination of eligibility. Preservation and/or reuse of the façade, building, or site was possible but the SHPO requirements and politics involved prevented them from getting a determination. The stakes are higher in a situation such as the Obama Presidential Library in Jackson Park, but even that process missed steps.
- The Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Council (IHSAC) is supposed to meet 3-4 times a year, but more recently they have had 1-2 meetings per year, or candidates for the National Register for IHSAC to review. Resources are slim at the SHPO and sometimes politics are involved. That may be due to the merger with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR).

- The SHPO appears more like a regulatory body rather than a preservation ally or partner. They don't speak up for preservation issues.
- The previous Statewide Historic Preservation Plan did not include an implementation strategy. The current plan should include an action plan for a ten-year period, with proposed commitments for each year going forward.
- The Thompson Center (State of Illinois Building) in Chicago went before the National Register, there was a partnership with Preservation Futures, Preservation Chicago, Landmarks Illinois, and the National Trust, and it is still under debate between the National Park Service and the SHPO with no follow-up. Preservation Futures continues to update the National Register nomination at the request of the SHPO. The State of Illinois opposed the nomination at the IHSAC meeting and it still received approval. After two years, there is still no resolution due to politics. Remove politics from the regulatory process. Following the sale of the building, the new owner does not consent to National Register listing. The SHPO should be able to do their job without political interference. There is respect for what the SHPO does.

**Question: Has the merger with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) had an impact on the SHPO's effectiveness?**

- Being part of IDNR has made the SHPO more beholden to the bureaucracy of the state government. The Commission on Chicago Landmarks merged with the Department of Planning and Development about 20 years ago and everyone thought it was a bad idea because they were an independent body who spoke their mind. However, having them within the department has been helpful as there is more discussion between departments. With a few exceptions, we're seeing more uniformity across departments at City Hall. Merging the SHPO with IDNR has been problematic for many.
- The impression is that politics hampers a lot of preservation efforts in Chicago. The Thompson Center National Register nomination is incredibly thorough, yet they still required to add more to it. It is disheartening. The SHPO has great people working there but there are larger forces hampering preservation.

**Question: What are some tools that are needed to help preserve places in Chicago?**

- The City of Chicago preservation ordinance is lacking teeth. Preservation-minded people will follow it but others won't and the city won't do anything about it. Owner consent is absurd as the owner is often the threat to the building. There is zoning for a reason.
- Conservation districts are a great idea in concept. It has been in the books for a few years but the City of Chicago has never instituted it. Bronzeville and Englewood were supposed to be the test neighborhoods, and they both wanted it, but it has gone nowhere. They changed the name to Neighborhood Character District, but there could be a separate conservation district law with more teeth than the Neighborhood Character District.
- There is good leadership at the City and SHPO, but there are capacity issues. The Commission on Chicago Landmarks needs additional staff. There used to be a mandate from Mayor Daley to landmark buildings, but they have dropped off more in recent years. There should be a similar mandate from the Governor's office and the Chicago Mayor's office. They should acknowledge they need additional staff, especially for landmark nominations.
- One idea is to create a Commission on Illinois Landmarks that can landmark buildings and monuments important to state history. This ordinance should have teeth to protect buildings and sites around the state and include funding to implement it. It would help to highlight buildings that don't get enough attention in Chicago and around Illinois. This program also needs staff to implement it. There used to be an Illinois Register of Historic Places.
- Also, owner consent for National Register listings should remain in effect when the process starts. The fact that the ownership of the Thompson Center changed during the process should not have a bearing on the designation. That is a factor in the delay of the nomination.

**Question: What is the need for additional education and bringing back a statewide preservation conference?**

- Having a statewide conference would be phenomenal. It would provide opportunities for bringing preservation practitioners together to brainstorm on current preservation issues. The SHPO could partner with Preservation Chicago and Landmarks Illinois. Other states do this well. The SHPO partnered with three other organizations to hold the last statewide conference in 2015.
- The National Trust should partner with local and statewide advocacy groups to help each state hold a statewide conference. It's more important than ever to hold conferences and bring attention to issues. It could be every other year.
- Most states don't know what is going on elsewhere. It would be great for states to share information and feedback. The National Trust holds an annual meeting of Midwest partners and the SHPO should consider participating in those meetings. The NCSHPO annual conference is for all state SHPOs, but regional SHPO meetings are not prevalent.

**Question: How do you feel the City of Chicago's Adopt-A-Landmark program is working?**

- The program is a great "carrot" that encourages buildings to landmark. The Adopt-A-Landmark ordinance is one of the few programs that brings people in. It provides competitive funding and will have \$8M next year due to all the demolition and development in the West Loop. The program has encouraged a lot of houses of worship to participate when they would not have provided owner consent due to the 1987 Religious Buildings Consent Ordinance. The designation of houses of worship usually occurs when they receive funding or when a building is vacant. The City of Chicago does not want to designate properties without the owner's consent, and this program, funded by 10 percent of the Neighborhood Opportunity Bonus fund, along with tax incentives, are what allows landmark designations. We need more aggressive designations even if there isn't a current reuse plan as designation can lead to good things. The program should have more than 10 percent of the funds since heritage tourism is important to Chicago's economy. Reinvestment in landmark buildings is also development.
- We should also expand Chicago's Adopt-A-Landmark program to the idea of a new Commission on Illinois Landmarks.
- The Certified Local Government grant program, funded through the Historic Preservation Fund, is a great way to fund preservation projects.
- Some states use the Historic Preservation Fund to fund their statewide historic preservation conference under the category of education. A local CLG would host the conference and would receive a CLG grant, in partnership with other organizations. It does not seem like the City of Chicago utilizes the CLG grant program very often as they do most projects in-house.
- How do we acknowledge that preservation is an economic driver and a source of tourism? The plan should acknowledge that. So much revolves around the built environment and this needs elevation in Illinois, such as the idea of a Commission on Illinois Landmarks. Many communities do not have a local landmark commission and this would be a way to preserve important historic resources when there is no local mechanism. There needs to be funding to assist this.
- Many communities don't have local landmark ordinances because they don't want to anger residents or get involved in major development skirmishes, such as the Harleigh-Clark Mansion in Evanston. That is a situation where the Commission on Illinois Landmarks could have stepped in to take the pressure off the local government. That would also give Landmarks Illinois more leverage to advocate for preservation. An example is the small town of Cabery, Illinois, where the Joliet Archdiocese wanted to demolish a catholic church and the town council was convinced to create an Adopt-A-Landmark ordinance to save the church.
- There are many examples of vacant churches that sit for many years resulting in demolition due to neglect. There should be an Illinois law that taxes church buildings once they are vacant to keep them open to positively impact communities or allow a sale. There needs to be proactive initiatives to hold owners of vacant buildings to be responsible to the community. If the Archdiocese has had a tax break for 100 years, then when they sell the building, some portion of the proceeds should go to the city or transferred to a community organization. The community built these buildings. This is not to penalize but to promote positive preservation outcomes. Landmark designation is often the only course of action.

**Question: Are there any other critical resources besides churches and workers cottages in Chicago that need special attention?**

- Large theaters and industrial properties, such as the Central Manufacturing District in McKinley Park, are challenging, but the Old Main Post Office and the Cook County Hospital are great examples to show that you can find a use for large buildings.
- The Workers Cottage Initiative and Chicago two-flats are also important.
- Cultural and heritage assets are also important, such as neighborhood grocery stores, and not everyone knows how to handle them. These property types need to be better documented and surveyed to tell the stories of underrepresented communities.
- The lack of Post-War landmark designations is concerning. The Chicago Resources Survey ends in the 1940s. We will see more of these resources threatened in the future. These resources need documentation.

It would be great if the plan includes all of the ideas heard during the discussion process, even if they do not end up being recommendations. Preservation Chicago will assist in spreading the word about the planning process.

The listening session wrapped up with a summary of additional public engagement, the next steps in the process, the project website, and appreciation for all who attended and participated today.

## **ILLINOIS STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN**

### **ONLINE STAKEHOLDER LISTENING SESSION ILLINOIS STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE**

#### **Meeting Summary**

**December 16, 2022, 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m., CDT**

Attendance at this session included Illinois State Historic Preservation Office staff, members of the Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Council, and members of the consultant team.

#### **Meeting Summary**

##### **Introduction**

Douglas Kaarre of The Lakota Group introduced the Online Stakeholder Listening Session as part of the Illinois Statewide Historic Preservation Plan. The purpose of the meeting is to understand the trends and issues impacting the mission of the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office.

##### **Question: What are some of the biggest challenges in the SHPO office to advancing preservation in Illinois?**

- The SHPO office has no outreach. They no longer have Historic Illinois magazine, the Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commissions (IAHPC), and the IAHPC newsletter.
- Preservation offices tend to focus more on the people with the power and money - regulatory - and less on those coming to the SHPO through other programs such as the National Register and local governments. In some states tax credit projects drive the National Register program, though that is not happening in Illinois. In those cases there is less emphasis on recognizing underrepresented communities.
- National Register nominations in Illinois do not represent archaeology adequately. This is due to funding issues and with people preparing nominations on their own. The National Park Service (NPS) requires a professional archaeologist. There has only been one in the last five years. IDNR used to fund more archaeology nominations.
- There will be shipwrecks listed in the National Register in the near future, pending receipt of a grant. The National Park Service is now offering no-match grants.
- The SHPO staff is half of what it used to be and it does not look like that will change.

##### **Question: What are some of the emerging or threatened historic resources in Illinois?**

- Agricultural resources are a huge concern. Illinois' history is incredible.
- The Illinois SHPO has no statewide survey program. The last was in the 1980s.
- The only surveys conducted now are through the Certified Local Government (CLG) program.
- The SHPO found an old Thematic District nomination for African American resources in Southern Illinois. They recently collaborated with Carbondale to apply for a grant to do a regional approach to identifying African American resources.
- There are threats to larger municipally-owned complexes, such as schools.
- Industrial buildings tend to sit vacant. These buildings are all over the state and are still an issue. Incentive programs help where they are available. These programs should be more widely available.
- The regulations can be daunting for smaller projects. The NPS tends to scrutinize smaller projects with a higher expectation. Tax incentives for smaller projects are less advantageous for owners. There is an effort underway to increase the incentives for smaller projects.
- Larger, more significant, National Register nominations take longer to review and approve.
- There used to be a bricks and mortar grant program to fund smaller projects for non-profits and local governments but statewide budget cuts removed funding for the program. Landmarks Illinois has stepped up with a smaller grant program to help with smaller projects such as house museums and historical societies. There is a need for funding in these categories.
- The SHPO no longer has the Main Street program, which provided significant outreach.

**Question: What is the path forward to bring back education and outreach programs?**

- While print publications are not likely to return, the calendar was easy to achieve and highlighted historic properties. IDNR has an online publication but SHPO is not involved. IDNR needs to help more with outreach of SHPO programs.
- The History Fair went to the State Museum.
- Public/private partnerships seem to work the best. We need to work together to produce these publications. The statewide conference is also gone.
- The SHPO should collaborate with other agencies and organizations on public outreach and education, such as the University of Illinois Springfield, Loyola University, the State Archives, the Conference on Illinois History, or the State Historical Society. Many of the top people are not knowledgeable about history.
- The government used to provide staff to the Illinois Association of Museums and the loss of staff can cripple an organization.
- The SHPO does not seem to be a good fit with IDNR.
- IDNR's mission statement says, "To manage, conserve, and protect Illinois' natural, recreational, and cultural resources, further the public's understanding and association of these resources, and promote education, science, and public safety, etc." It includes cultural resources similar to the National Park Service.
- The former head of IDNR added cultural resources to the mission statement and moved the SHPO to IDNR. People used to lack understanding of what the SHPO does but it is getting better now that they share offices.
- The website has improved content but there is not enough outreach for people to know about it.

**Question: What would it take to bring the conference back?**

- We need to bring back IAHP, which really organized the local government presence. There is funding for it, but someone needs to take charge of organizing it.
- The last conference was successful with the partnership of the SHPO, Main Street, IAHP, and Landmarks Illinois. The conference is a lower priority for Landmarks Illinois.
- With today's virtual capabilities the SHPO should be able to do something with greater attendance.
- The loss of IAHP was due to losing their IAHP staff liaison and CLG funding.

**Question: What are some of the top things to improve for a statewide preservation movement over the next ten years and what are some of the top things to improve at the SHPO?**

- Outreach and education and the staff to do it - an Outreach and Education Coordinator. Existing staff don't have the time. Working with college students is valuable.
- The History Conference for Children is now going to the State Museum. There is no longer a State Historian.

**Question: Is there a potential for IHSAC to have a larger role?**

- Yes, they used to have a larger role, like setting policy. Their meetings were more important and all of the staff would attend. They could be more involved in updating older nominations. They never really had more of a role than reviewing National Register nominations.
- It would be great if the Illinois Register was less regulatory. Originally anyone could nominate a property and the Illinois Register was so restrictive that it became owner consent only, which killed the program. There also is not enough staff to monitor the program.
- Focus more on education and understanding history, rather than just architecture. People like plaques and markers. People love interesting history.

**Question: Does the SHPO have a marker program or did it in the past?**

- The State Historical Society runs the marker program. These are local stories that get people interested in their own history.

**Question: What is the status of buildings listed in the Illinois Register?**

- There were 33 properties reviewed to make sure that they retained their character-defining features. Right now there is no Illinois Register and they are on their own. They included important buildings.
- Another stakeholder mentioned that reviving the program would give communities without local ordinances a preservation option and tie it to incentives.
- HARGIS brings positives and negatives. There is inaccurate information on it, and they lost photos and data between the first and second generation of the program. We need to show local communities what survey data is in HARGIS to get them interested in what they have and what buildings they lost and show the SHPO what should be there. That could build a relationship in outreach.
- Identification of historic resources and letting people know what exists is the SHPO's responsibility. HARGIS is a lot of work and it will always need attention, but they need a system that includes locally surveyed resources. There is an opportunity to streamline their review processes internally if everyone knows what changes occurred at a particular site over time. You could click on a building and know its designation and what 106 reviews it has gone through.
- Having local survey data on HARGIS would be great. It was supposed to tie all data to a building.



**Question: Who manages the HARGIS system?**

- When the first system crashed and they went to the second generation of HARGIS, they condensed the original intranet system. Now it's up to individuals to enter data as they no longer have staff to manage it. The system includes some National Register nominations, but not historic districts. No one at SHPO worked in GIS before they moved to IDNR. The system needs serious attention and investment as many outside the agency use it. There is only part-time help. It's much more complicated to enter data in the system now. This will not change without a dedicated staff person.

**Question: How are we supporting CLG's in the state?**

- Working with local and state governments to make sure they understand the regulations is necessary. There should be a process in place and it should not rely on who is currently in the position. There is still a lack of understanding on both sides regarding responsibilities.
- There used to be separate staff for 707 review and 106 review. Former staff Steve Thompson used to do outreach to other state agencies on what 707 review is.

**Question: Should we address Illinois Historic Sites in the plan?**

- All of the archaeology Historic Sites are moving management to the Illinois State Museum. IDNR will retain all of the remaining sites.
- The issue has come up of delayed maintenance of some of the Historic Sites.
- The Statewide Historic Preservation Plan should not focus on Historic Sites as the SHPO has never managed them. They are historic resources and the plan should mention them. The plan should also mention other historic properties managed and owned by the State of Illinois. For example, Pere Marquette State Park is not a Historic Site but it includes many historic buildings. There are many significant State Park lodges.
- State statutes require the SHPO to track all state-owned historic properties, though they don't do it due to staff levels and the number of properties. This also includes historic properties that the state leases and only a fraction of these are official Historic Sites. The plan should include this.
- Mark Johnson is the historian for Illinois Historic Sites.

The listening session wrapped up with a summary of additional public engagement, the next steps in the process, the project website, and appreciation for all who attended and participated.

## **ILLINOIS STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN**

### **ONLINE STAKEHOLDER LISTENING SESSION LANDMARKS ILLINOIS**

#### **Meeting Summary**

**December 16, 2022, 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., CDT**

Attendance at this session included Landmarks Illinois staff and members of the consultant team.

#### **Meeting Summary**

##### **Introduction**

The Lakota Group introduced the Online Stakeholder Listening Session as part of the Illinois Statewide Historic Preservation Plan. The purpose of the meeting is to understand the trends and issues impacting Landmarks Illinois's mission related to historic preservation.

- In 2021, the Landmarks Illinois Board of Directors created and approved a 50th Anniversary Task Force to evaluate their practices, look at the unintended consequences of preservation, identify a code of conduct. The Relevancy Project seeks to identify ways to make preservation more relevant to a broader audience.

##### **Question: What do you think are barriers to historic preservation in Illinois?**

- Relevancy. There has been a lot of internal discussion about the idea that preservation needs to have relevancy, at a state-wide level, to succeed.
- Small communities have numerous challenges. They lack capacity, they need preservation education, and a sense of agency. Communities do not understand what historic preservation is, they lack base knowledge about historic preservation, they lack preservation commissions and don't know where to start to develop a local program or develop their commissions.
- Some in Chicago have base knowledge but they reach limits of that knowledge very quickly.
- At SHPO, lack of appropriate budgets and reduction in travel has negatively impacted preservation in the state.

##### **Question: How can the IL-SHPO better assist local and statewide partners in preservation activities? What additional resources are needed?**

- Tools and messaging need to adapt to current demands.
- CLGs report there is not enough support from IL-SHPO and they want a statewide conference.
- Simplify and explain better, for example: explain the differences between cultural districts vs historic districts.

##### **Question: What programs and services should the SHPO have?**

- Training and education.
- Programs outside of, but that overlap with, historic preservation such as housing, energy efficiency, CMAP, AIA, Planning, transportation - where is the preservation message?
- We need a statewide historic preservation conference.
- Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commissions should be brought back (IAHPC)
- Education and training for commissions.
- Partner with CMAP land use committee; AIA-IL; APA-IL - all are potential partners.

**Question: How can the SHPO increase its relevancy?**

- Site visits; face to face conversations, share ideas and act as a sounding board for ideas.
- People value SHPO site visits, having one-on-one conversations and getting targeted advice.
- Create dedicated Historic Preservation grant programs- resources like this could improve relevancy.
- A State Landmarks Register is a great idea but could make things more confusing for people (another application; would it be combined with the existing NRHP review process; how would it function)

**Question: How can IL-SHPO take advantage of being embedded with IDNR?**

- Find out what resonates with the Governor's Office, legislature and IDNR.
- Take advantage of legal team at IDNR.
- Make an argument for funding as well as equity in underserved neighborhoods.
- Make an argument for more staff.
- Small grants are not needed for CLGs
- Elevate local history to inspire people to want to preserve it.
- Address what is happening with State Historic Sites. If the State cannot take care of their sites, how can they expect local communities to do the same? There is a \$300 million dollar backlog of repair and maintenance needs at State historic sites. Friends' groups help but cannot take on full responsibility.
- The Governor's office directly funds State historic sites through a "Capital Project" fund, annualized maintenance initiatives.

**Question: What trends are you seeing in historic preservation statewide?**

- Local ordinances are being stripped of "teeth" to enact and regulate historic preservation activities.
- The occurrence of teardowns is increasing.
- In local communities, preservation advocates seem insular and are not attracting younger people (those in their 30s and 40s).
- There is a messaging gap. New generations are challenging formal historic preservation tools and initiatives without recognizing that they were attracted to the community *because* of the positive effects of preservation and how preservation positively shaped the community.
- Historic preservation restrictions are not a compelling message to younger generations.
- Local leadership is often an impediment to enacting or supporting historic preservation. Municipal League and other local government organizations could benefit from preservation education.

**Question: What is your vision for the IL-SHPO over the next decade?**

- Communication between communities should be a core value in the new plan.
- Structural/systemic changes are needed.
- Advance the skills needed to rehabilitate historic properties. For example, train people in how to write and evaluate Request for Proposals. Educate them about historic preservation and affordable housing. People know how to demolish; they do not know how to rehabilitate.
- There needs to be creativity in creating incentives or disincentives. For example, a standard to "prove a vacant lot is needed" in a community before allowing demolition.
- Improve and increase communication with legislators about how historic preservation is benefitting their district.
- Would rather see investment in surveys and stories, and more positive attention on resources.
- Elevating stories could heighten interest in historic preservation: Illinois Green Book project; I & M Canal; Looking for Lincoln; Food Tourism.
- Historic Illinois magazine.
- Would need more staff for expanded programming while keeping same level of service for existing programs.
- Focus on how to capitalize on being part of IDNR (look to other states for examples such as Indiana).
- Cultural resource care is part of IDNR core mission.
- Reduce the \$300 million backlog on 86 state historic sites (deferred maintenance). Illinois State Museum is responsible for outreach, IDNR is responsible for maintenance.
- Regarding state historic sites, maintenance or repair could be addressed through public/private partnerships, or decommission with covenants.
- Galena has two sites, Galena Foundation has capacity but don't want to take on properties with funding needs.
- Currently the state funding for historic sites is only for capital projects, no maintenance or staff.
- Existing programs: state government has thousands of historic buildings in its portfolio, not just Historic Sites, in different departments.
- Increase collaboration between IDNR and other departments.
- Increase relevance of historic preservation for "regular" old buildings.
- Focus on suburban issues: teardowns, local ordinances losing their "teeth" such as requiring owner consent to landmark.
- Create Suburban Preservation Alliance.

- Cultivate pool of people to serve on HPCs.
- Insular groups are not thinking about historic preservation; leadership often an impediment to rural historic preservation (Municipal League, County Boards, Mayors, etc). Landmarks Illinois tries to connect communities -systemic activities.
- There is no planning staff in most communities.

**Question: Can you Share a Success story?**

- Bishop Hill friends group has most capacity and money for restoration, they could be a success story.

The listening session wrapped up with a summary of additional public engagement, the next steps in the project, the project website, and appreciation for all who attended and participated today.

## ILLINOIS STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

### ONLINE STAKEHOLDER LISTENING SESSION MAIN STREETS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GROUPS

#### Meeting Summary

January 12, 2023, 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Attendance at this session included representatives from the Illinois Main Street communities, local and regional economic development groups, representatives from the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office, and members of the consultant team.

#### Meeting Summary

##### Introduction

The Lakota Group introduced the Online Stakeholder Listening Session as part of the Illinois Statewide Historic Preservation Plan. The purpose of the meeting is to understand the trends and issues impacting the role of Main Street communities and local and regional economic development agencies related to historic preservation.

##### Question: What issues or trends in historic preservation are you seeing locally or regionally?

- Lack of funding is a big issue. There is not a lot of assistance and some of the requirements seem burdensome for smaller developers. Illinois Main Street had to partner with the National Main Street Center and there is less contact with the Illinois SHPO office than previously.
- The capacity is not there to hire building code officials. We want to make sure they are making appropriate changes to historic buildings and are looking for guidance.
- The Illinois SHPO used to have a close partnership with Main Street Illinois. Many communities used to take advantage of the 10 percent tax credit which is no longer available. Property owners find the 20 percent tax credit confusing and cumbersome. That relationship with the SHPO was very valuable. They also used to provide design assistance to Main Street communities which was a huge benefit. Smaller developers need guidance and property owners can't envision what to do on their own without hiring architectural services.

##### Question: Are any local communities providing their own design assistance or façade grant programs?

- Sterling has a generous local façade grant program using a local architect and contractor for limited guidance free of charge. They have done over \$500,000 in façade grants over the last 10 years. The application does require submittal of proposed plans.
- Jacksonville used to have a façade grant program but ran out of funding. They now primarily give advice through the Historic Preservation Commission's design guidelines.
- Libertyville offers a projecting sign grant for business owners. It's a small offset for sign costs but few take advantage of it.
- Randolph County has to rely completely on volunteers.

##### Question: Are any local communities or organizations providing incentives or other assistance for business development?

- Monticello offers a grant for start-up businesses to locate in their historic area and a marketing grant for existing businesses. They have had a good response since the program started 2-1/2 years ago.
- Northwest Illinois Economic Development has a gap financing grant for start-ups or expansions in Jo Daviess and Carroll County. They've awarded three grants to date between \$4,000-\$8,000.
- The City of Savanna offers local businesses annual micro grants to cover small things like sign replacements, rack card printing, etc., to promote tourism.

**Question: How has the level of service from the SHPO changed over the years?**

- There is less access to design assistance. Illinois Main Street was gone for several years until the National Main Street Center took it over. The new coordinator is very knowledgeable but has to provide many other services with less time for design assistance. You get additional service from the SHPO if you're a Certified Local Government (CLG).
- The SHPO used to travel around the state on site visits and provide assessments, feedback, and suggestions. Their relationship with Main Street Illinois has improved over the last four years. The service is not what it once was. There was no oversight for local communities once the state eliminated the program in 2015.
- Landmarks Illinois tried to assist with access to program information and grant funding but they have only one person. The Illinois Main Street coordinator can only provide so much for all Main Street communities.
- The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity provides two people for each region in the state. They work with local Chambers of Commerce and there is a connection with historic businesses and downtowns. Illinois Main Street has good communication with DCEO to take advantage of their programs. It also depends on who your Team RED (Regional Economic Development) members are and how much they understand what Main Street is.
- The SHPO moved to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Governor Rauner tried to eliminate preservation altogether but was unable to due to federal mandates.
- Simpler programs will see more utilization. Contractors in Quincy have no problem accessing local incentives because the Great River Economic Development Foundation (GREDF) works with them to help them through the process with little to no paperwork. To have meaningful programs you have to cut down on paperwork and red tape.

**Question: Are the issues with accessing these incentive programs due to the application process or the criteria for eligibility?**

- A local Quincy project had to hire a team to apply for the state tax credit. Quincy has local staff that can work with historic preservation but many smaller communities do not have staff to walk developers through incentive programs. They also have no access to state grants.
- Both the process and the criteria can be an issue. Sometimes it is not worth going through all of the paperwork when there is little chance that they will receive the incentive.
- When you have very little staff there is not time to go after some of these incentives unless you drop everything.
- The state is ignoring some of their smaller state historic sites that they own.
- Galena has two historic sites downtown that are having difficulty finding funding to fix their roofs.
- Illinois State Historic Sites is a completely different division than the SHPO. The Historic Sites division may be moving to Illinois State Museum.
- The 10 percent historic tax credit was one of the most vital tools that people used. The government eliminated the program because it could not get qualitative and quantitative information. It was successful because it was an easier application and didn't require oversight from multiple agencies. It was easier to access for property owners. There are ways the government could verify the information without making it cumbersome and intimidating.

**Question: What other training services would you like to see Illinois Main Street provide?**

- A centralized place for knowledge, training, tools, and technology. It's hard for local businesses to keep up with changing information.
- Elizabeth, Illinois, is creating a business hub to include co-work and meeting space. There is a group of organizations working together and it will be located downtown. They're working with the Rural Ideas Network.
- Some Main Streets have low vacancy rates and long-term businesses, and others are in a different place. Many communities dropped out of the program after the elimination of the program in 2015.
- Coordinate services to enhance and support existing services available through state and national programs to help fill gaps.
- Grant-writing and grant administration workshops would be helpful, especially for smaller communities without staff.
- This is the first historic preservation discussion relating to Main Streets in over two years.
- Graphic design, branding, and logo development for new businesses would improve local signage.
- Better communication between state agencies will help coordinate services.

**Question: What additional services would you like to see regarding heritage tourism activities?**

- In Galena, contact Rose Nobel at Visit Galena or Galena Country Tourism. Galena is the number four tourism destination in the state. They recently completed a tourism master plan for the county.
- The French Heritage Society is inviting people to share events to coordinate and inspire tourism around the state. Tourism contributes a lot to communities and should have greater recognition from business leaders.
- Monticello can't become a CVB and has to work with a larger visitor's bureau and has a hard time getting accurate information on Enjoy Illinois. It doesn't reflect their historic nature or up-to-date restaurants or retail establishments. Illinois' tourism bureau is set up in a way that makes it difficult for small communities to get accurate community information on the state's website.
- Sterling does not have any hotels or motels to fund tourism. They are part of a regional CVB that covers multiple counties but they are not on their radar.

- They need funding for marketing. There are great opportunities for digital marketing but it is cost prohibitive. The tourism grant application requires a minimum of \$10,000 in matching funds. It is hard to compete.
- The state gets a portion of tourism tax revenue but where does it go?
- If communities had the \$10,000 matching funds they would not be asking for help.
- Maybe a historic site-specific tourism micro grant with a percentage requirement for the match and not a set dollar amount would work.
- Jacksonville has a robust CVB but they cannot do everything that Main Street needs.
- Libertyville is a partner with the Lake County CVB which is the only reason they get assistance. It's about connections. It would be nice to have their own program and not rely on the connections of others.
- There should be more respect for smaller communities.
- The Greater Freeport Partnership serves the city and county. They are becoming a Main Street community which includes the Chamber of Commerce and CVB. They focus less on historic buildings and more on outdoor recreation. They connect with Wisconsin but not surrounding communities. The city is looking at recreational opportunities on their riverfront. Funding for trail systems and outdoor recreation would be beneficial as that is also tourism.
- Illinois Trails and Traces is a new publication highlighting Illinois rivers and their connection to history.
- Documenting historic resources through photography and videography would help with tourism. Assistance that is simpler than the CLG grant process and more affordable for smaller communities would be helpful.
- The Elizabeth Train Museum can't find assistance to help print their rack cards to help attract visitors.
- The Illinois South Tourism Bureau helps with graphic artists on staff. The state has bureaus for each region.

**Question: What trends are happening locally that are impacting your programs?**

- A Chicago developer is proposing a resort development named The Parker on the site of the former U. S. Marine Hospital site outside Galena. The City of Galena annexed it. It's a historic building (1858) that would be part of a larger resort that will include a hotel, cabins, a vineyard and winery, a restaurant, and a convention center. There is tension between tourism and economic development and historic preservation on the project, which has some public opposition and an opposition website. The project is slowly moving forward.
- Freeport has a number of white elephant buildings downtown. One is four blocks of buildings called the Rawleigh development next to the train tracks. They are vacant and owned by the city and prime for redevelopment. Some companies lost their workforce to remote work and are selling their office complexes. The city is looking at what to do with these types of large vacant buildings. Adaptive use works to a point but it is difficult in a city the size of Freeport.
- Marketing large or challenging properties available for redevelopment and to save and reuse them is daunting. Marketing nationally is cost prohibitive.
- Monticello is a smaller community without code officials and property owners must hire someone to inspect their building for code violations. Some larger buildings may not need the work that people think. If the issues were known, the city could help figure out funding opportunities.
- Sterling has problems with property owners who won't sell their vacant properties.
- The Libertyville Theater in downtown Libertyville is vacant and boarded up and won't let anyone use their vacant parking lot. It is the gateway to downtown and the owners won't sell or look at reinvestment. There is also a parcel of land with multiple owners who want to sell to a developer but the municipal plans for the property are in conflict. Assistance in ways to contribute positively to negotiations like that might be helpful.

**Question: Are there any success stories you would like to share?**

- Shimer College in Mount Carroll was vacant for many years. It includes 16 buildings and is near downtown. Growth Corporation from the Quad Cities purchased the campus for a mixed-use development, including housing, a microbrewery, a day care facility, and small businesses. It will eventually be a \$60M investment. The developer is looking at preserving most of the campus.

The listening session wrapped up with a summary of additional public engagement, the next steps in the process, the project website, and appreciation for all who attended and participated.

## **ILLINOIS STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN**

### **ONLINE STAKEHOLDER LISTENING SESSION STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES**

#### **Meeting Summary**

**January 12, 2023, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

Attendance at this session included representatives from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Illinois Department of Agriculture, the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office, and members of the consultant team.

#### **Meeting Summary**

##### **Introduction**

The Lakota Group introduced the Online Stakeholder Listening Session as part of the Illinois Statewide Historic Preservation Plan. The purpose of the meeting is to understand the trends and issues impacting the role of state and federal agencies related to historic preservation.

- The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) worked with the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) on the Lathrop Homes project. It was challenging in that the CHA was not properly aware of the compliance and review regulations.
- HUD has a good relationship with the IL-SHPO.
- There are some issues with Tribes requesting surveys for roof replacement.

##### **Question: How does your agency interact with the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office (IL-SHPO)?**

- When doing Part 50 reviews, we submit correspondence to the IL-SHPO through the state website like everyone else. We will contact their office directly with questions. Our office has participated in training and coordination on future training would be beneficial. Many agencies have a high turnover and the need for training is important to facilitate compliance.

##### **Question: Are there any processes that could use improvement?**

- The 30-day turnaround has been a challenge, especially due to COVID. HUD would prefer a letter as opposed to evidence of submittal or evidence that 30 days have passed with no comments. Some entitlement agencies have expressed some concern about the 30-day review.

##### **Question: What types of projects do you review and are you seeing any new trends?**

- The U. S. Congress in 2022 approved earmarks after a period of not approving them. They are seeing more earmarks, especially for non-profit organizations. HUD needs to do coaching on NEPA requirements. These grantees do not have background knowledge. They will be redeveloping buildings for affordable housing and HUD educates them on Section 106 regulations.

##### **Question: What types of projects do the earmarks fund?**

- Public infrastructure, roadway improvements, wastewater treatment plant, assisted housing, senior housing in a redeveloped hotel, social services for at-risk youth, a food bank. Whatever the elected official identifies as necessary for funding as it meets a need in their community. These are outside of the normal CDBG or HOME funding programs. Some entitlement agencies don't want to review these so they come to HUD for a Part 50 review. The City of Chicago and AIS have capacity issues, so these non-profit organizations come through HUD.



**Question: How does the Illinois Centennial Farm Program work?**

- The program was 50 years old in 2022. It started in 1972 to recognize farms in Illinois that have been in the same family for 100 years. They also recognize Sesquicentennial Farms (150) and Bicentennial Farms (200) and Centennial Agribusiness - in the same name and under the same ownership for 100 years. These programs are purely an honorary designation. Recipients receive a certificate and sign and have breakfast with the Governor. Proposed developments of a historic farm spur calls about preservation but the program does not offer support for that.
- The program is a great educational tool and it identifies historic farming and agricultural resources.
- Some farms don't always have the original buildings but do have older resources and want to know what resources are available to them.

**Question: What areas of the state are you hearing from about the program?**

- It is not clear if there are specific areas. A few people called about grant funding. In the old files people ask about preserving old farms. Farms with official recognition are all over the state, including Will County which is more developed. There are about 10,000 Centennial Farms, about 1,100 Sesquicentennial Farms in, and 16 Bicentennial Farms in Illinois. Some of these farms have passed out of the family after their 100-year recognition. She received an inquiry about historical information on these farms as one of them was started by a woman and someone wanted to write an article about it.
- Will County has conducted surveys of their rural areas.

**Question: Is the inventory of farms in the program available on your website?**

- There is a limited database on the website due to privacy concerns. You can search by family name or county. The list includes the family name, city, township, county, and original date of purchase. People can request a Freedom of Information Request for more information without personal data.

**Question: How are people aware of the program? Do you conduct outreach?**

- They do some outreach at the Illinois Specialty Growers conference in Springfield. There is no requirement for original buildings on the property. When a Sesquicentennial Farm becomes eligible for Bicentennial Farm status the owner receives notification. They do outreach at the Pork Expo and on Agriculture Day at the Illinois State Fair. They send press releases when farms are certified. Recipients receive a road-grade sign, certificate, and a press release. People also hear about the program from local articles.
- For those properties that do have historic buildings on their farms they should contact the National Register staff at the IL-SHPO to see if the farmstead is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register does provide some limited protection when impacted by federal projects. The IL-SHPO may have other programs or resources that could be beneficial.
- Landmarks Illinois is another organization to talk to. They often get involved in saving properties.
- Conservation easements are another avenue for preserving historic farmsteads. Landmarks Illinois could direct them to organizations that could hold the easement. Land Trusts are the main organizations that hold easements.
- Not all owners ask about preservation but it's great information to have when they do.
- There are definitely partnership opportunities with the IL-SHPO on education and outreach and National Register issues.
- Maybe the information on farms and their locations could be part of a survey. They have some great information to be shared and centralized.
- Farms intact in 1972 may no longer be, so a centralized survey database would identify what is remaining. Cultural landscapes are more of what we're talking about - the people, land use and buildings remaining.

**Question: Is the corporatization of farming still an on-going trend or issue in Illinois?**

- It's not necessarily a threat to smaller family-owned farms. Many are held in a family LLC to protect them.

**Question: Do you come across particular resource types that seem threatened with demolition?**

- There are federal regulations for farmland preservation but they are not relevant under 106 unless there are historic properties. There don't seem to be other resource categories threatened.

**Question: Has HUD been involved in any disaster-related reviews in Illinois?**

- HUD is part of a task force with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regarding the flooding in the Metro East region. There are no HUD funds committed there so there haven't been any reviews. A lot of funding has been put forth from various agencies and environmental reviews will take place. It is unclear if there is any impact on historic resources.
- There is one fairly large city in Illinois that claimed to have an MOU with the IL-SHPO that was older. Does the IL-SHPO have a list of MOU's they have with Illinois communities? Is there any follow-up with communities that do not complete their reviews under an MOU? HUD does monitoring to see whether communities are complying with their reporting responsibilities but wondered if the IL-SHPO also monitors communities.
- The Cultural Resource Program at the IL-SHPO delegates the authority for MOU's so they would know who has them. HUD can reach out to them directly.

The listening session wrapped up with a summary of additional public engagement, the next steps in the process, the project website, and appreciation for all who attended and participated.

## ILLINOIS STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

### ONLINE STAKEHOLDER LISTENING SESSION ARCHAEOLOGY GROUPS

#### Meeting Summary

January 24, 2023, 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Attendance at this session included representatives from archaeology groups, representatives from the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office, and members of the consultant team.

#### Meeting Summary

##### Introduction

The Lakota Group introduced the Online Stakeholder Listening Session as part of the Illinois Statewide Historic Preservation Plan. The purpose of the meeting is to understand the trends and issues impacting archaeology and historic preservation in Illinois. The Lakota Group provided an overview of the planning process and additional community engagement opportunities.

#### **Question: How can the IL-SHPO assist in promoting and advancing your group's mission related to archaeology and historic preservation?**

- Compared to five years ago, the SHPO office and the Principal Archaeologist specifically, are functioning much better in terms of the review of state and federal projects. The SHPO office has been more proactive in explaining compliance and providing more efficient reviews. There used to be four reviewers at the SHPO office. Funding is a key component to provide additional staff for reviews, which is a necessity moving forward. It is difficult working on archaeology in Chicago.
- Why isn't there more archaeology done in Chicago? It would be great to have more data on urban archaeology in the Chicago area. Archaeology work in Chicago is not as common as in other areas in the state.
- Part of the reason is a learning curve for the Principal Archaeologist at the SHPO, who previously worked on projects in southern Illinois. The preservation plan could include a goal to highlight or promote urban archaeology in Chicago, including submerged resources in Lake Michigan. The Illinois State Archaeological Survey (ISAS) offered to assist the SHPO in dealing with archaeology in Chicago.
- The purpose of the plan is to identify issues and provide goals and implementation actions.
- There is compliance archaeology and research archaeology. Compliance can be difficult as it requires money and time. The SHPO may avoid additional compliance requirements in Chicago based on the assumption of presumed outcomes. It would be helpful to narrow down areas within Chicago that should see additional archaeological compliance.
- Acknowledgement of Illinois' traditional owners, both past and present, allows today's archaeological work.
- It would be helpful if the SHPO could provide educational training such as lectures or seminars for archaeology students.
- Can the Illinois SHPO create and maintain a separate list of architectural historians for clients to access? The SHPO does have a list of architectural historians. There used to be multiple lists of different fields but due to the reduction of SHPO staff they are less complete. Landmarks Illinois also keeps a list of architectural historians.
- There should be a better link to lists of architectural historians and archaeologists as they often work together. The SHPO can discuss this issue internally going forward.

#### **Question: What are some of your organization's most critical preservation challenges or barriers to preservation?**

- The Illinois Association for the Advancement of Archaeology (IAAA) is concerned about the lack of education and outreach from the SHPO regarding archaeology. It's difficult to find information on archaeology in Illinois, especially for those who aren't archaeologists. There should also be an easier way to report archaeological artifacts on a site form. They also need better funding.
- The IAAA hosts a booth at the Illinois State Fair and provides education to approximately 8,000 people. They would be happy to coordinate information with the SHPO to provide at the fair.

- Section 106 and the concept of archaeological significance and integrity make it hard to do inclusive work in archaeology, such as 20th century African American sites.
- ISAS works with Tribal Nations and descendent communities. Being able to consult and collaborate with them is one of the biggest issues facing Illinois archaeology - both compliance and research.
- Having a Principal Archaeologist on staff at the SHPO is a step in the right direction. The federal preservation system will be a barrier to some things due to official language and the law is not always what is best for some interpretation of sites. They should push further for some sites recognized as important to further explore through compliance or research. Archaeologists should be talking to each other about the types of current collaborative projects as well as best practices statewide. Communication is key, such as this conversation which includes such a variety of archaeologists in Illinois. Previous SHPO staff did not understand why archaeology was necessary because there is already a historical record.
- When looking at ethnic or racial groups, they discovered Camp Douglas in Chicago by looking at maps and identified back yards, parks, and other green space where they found great archaeological integrity. Prehistoric artifacts would still be there. They also collected a huge amount of information on African Americans who moved to Chicago during the Great Migration, which is one of the most understudied aspects of American history. The evidence is there in Chicago's back yards.
- There is a need to integrate identification, management, and care of archaeological resources with natural resource preservation efforts and funding. Climate change impacts archaeological sites through erosion, flooding, etc.
- Changing farming practices, such as not using a till, also has an impact.

**Question: Where are the next generation of archaeologists in Illinois coming from?**

- Illinois has a rich 13,000-year archaeology record. North Central College has lower enrollments in cultural anthropology. Working with Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts is helpful, but it would be nice to have a multi-faceted plan for outreach in archaeology to different age groups. How can the SHPO add to their educational component.
- SIU-Edwardsville has an affordable and hands-on program for undergraduate students and a master's degree program in Cultural Heritage and Resource Management. For CRM students they require a year of experience. Enrollments are down over the last few years. Typically they have 10-20 seniors but this year it is under 10.
- Other methods of outreach include speaking to high school students, providing tours of archaeological sites, attending farmer's markets, etc. These are bottom-up approaches to outreach and can the SHPO help provide a top-down approach?
- There seems to be a lot more consultants and CRM firms now. There should be some monitoring and enforcement of the qualifications for Section 106.
- If the SHPO had more staff and more time, they would be able to develop relationships with Tribal Nations and descendent communities. Consider those Tribal Nations removed outside the boundaries of Illinois. Strengthening those relationships will attract the next generation of archaeologists and preservationists.

**Question: Does anyone schedule events during National Archaeology Month?**

- IAAA holds group events that month. ISAS used to post a calendar where people could post events.
- The Chicago Archaeological Society is planning to do more outreach for National Archaeology Month.
- The Archaeological Institute of America - Chicago Society usually schedules 1-2 events. It would be helpful to have a list of all the events happening that month to promote to students and others.
- The Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts have a Nova Patch which includes a module called "Digging the Past" where they can receive recognition. Send articles to North Central College to share content for publication.

**Question: Does the SHPO website or somewhere similar have a page to bring together this list of events?**

- The SHPO website does not currently have a location but there is a proposal to redesign it. The SHPO website is hard to find within the IDNR website. The SHPO can promote things through the IDNR press office, though there is no outreach staff.
- The IAAA hosts a booth at the Illinois State Fair where information could also be shared.
- One of the biggest concerns is lack of funding for the SHPO office. They need someone to work with outreach so individual staff don't have to do it.
- Department headcounts are highly sought after but it depends on if there are vacant archaeological positions.
- President Biden is sending funding to IDNR and could any of that funding be appropriated for the SHPO office?

**Question: Are there any municipalities or Certified Local Governments that have an archaeological program in Illinois?**

- There was no response, suggesting there are little to no local archaeology programs in Illinois.

**Question: Are there threatened historic, cultural, and archaeological resources?**

- All of them. Some areas of the state are under higher pressure than others, like the Chicago and St. Louis areas, but there are areas that don't see much cultural resource management, compliance, or academic research for the pre-contact or historic periods. The answer will depend on what area of the state you are located in. Modern agricultural practices, urban sprawl, and the multitude of projects that do fall under the requirements of Section 106 review are a constant pressure and hazard on archaeological resources.
- Archaeological resources should be included in National Register reviews, creating a more integrated process. Michigan has a nice model for that.
- The Black Metropolis National Heritage Area was recently established in Chicago. The money will likely go to economic development and architectural resources. It is not clear how archaeology will play a part in the historical documentation record.
- The site of the 1908 Race Riots in Springfield highlights what can be done in urban areas.

**Question: What have been some of your organization's most important preservation successes?**

- The work done on the 1908 Race Riots in Springfield is a success - not just the archaeological work but also how it was used for interpretation through signage and walking tours. Putting the research together to reach out to the public on what happened there and how it applies to the city today should be the goal for archaeology work around the state.
- The New Philadelphia project is a National Historic Site, though there is nothing to see. The site is also a designated National Historic Landmark. You can visit the area to see virtual exhibits on what the town looked like. It is a good example of interpretation without above-ground resources. The McWorter family used to hold family reunions in conjunction with the field school at the site.
- It is important for Tribal Nations forcibly removed from the state to receive funding to bring them back to visit ancestral sites in Illinois. This is part of why New Philadelphia was so successful.
- The DeWulf site has amazing levels of public archaeology.
- The Center for American Archaeology at Kampsville holds a "knap-in" where people learn about flint knapping and the process of reduction.
- The Macktown Living History Education Center links a variety of pre-historic and historic elements. Their Second Sunday program provides hands-on activities.
- The IAAA booth at the State Fair provides outreach to thousands of people each year.

**Question: Who are your key preservation partners? Who are potential partners?**

- The Society of Architectural Historians is a partner providing archaeology on their site. A lot of historians don't have a complete understanding of what archaeology can bring. There is an exhibit on archaeology at their headquarters in Chicago.
- ISAS works with local historical societies and local IAAA chapters. There should be more partnerships with conservation groups.
- The Forest Preserve District of DuPage County has historic and pre-contact resources.
- It is difficult to know who to talk to when wanting to reach out to Tribal Nations.
- There are lists of Tribal Nations with interests in DuPage County. Start with IDOT, ISAS, the Illinois State Museum, and anyone who works with the Tribes. Some are interested in different areas or types of sites. We need to be more proactive in reaching out. Trust and relationships need to develop.
- ISAS, IDOT, and SHPO are working together to put together more precise contact lists to better gauge interest in areas and time periods. Reach out to the SHPO for more information. Many Tribes don't have staff to do Section 106 reviews or research. Even those with a THPO office usually have just one person doing everything. Not hearing back from a Tribe does not mean they have no interest.
- It would be helpful if the SHPO could hire someone to get a small grant to build outreach and collaborative archaeology.
- The SHPO applied for a National Maritime Heritage grant with multiple partners, including the Underwater Archaeological Society of Chicago, which would fund site forms for submerged resources, particularly in Lake Michigan, and to write a multi-property National Register nomination for submerged resources and other infrastructure in Lake Michigan.
- Changes to the apportionment formula means Illinois will receive a little less Historic Preservation Funds in the future.
- If anyone knows of a grant that would benefit Illinois archaeology, please let the SHPO know about them.

**Question: What are your top preservation priorities over the next decade?**

- Currently the SHPO's mandate is about compliance and review for which they do not have sufficient staff or funding. The SHPO does not have capacity or funding for unfunded mandates such as training, outreach, education, and

research. This won't happen until there is staff and funding. Underwater archaeology is in the books but never received funding.

The listening session wrapped up with a summary of additional public engagement, the next steps in the process, the project website, and appreciation for all who attended and participated.

## ILLINOIS STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

### ONLINE STAKEHOLDER LISTENING SESSION CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND LOCAL ADVOCACY GROUPS

#### Meeting Summary

January 24, 2023, 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Attendance at this session included representatives from Certified Local Governments, local preservation advocacy groups, representatives from the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office (IL-SHPO), and members of the consultant team.

#### Meeting Summary

##### Introduction

The Lakota Group introduced the Online Stakeholder Listening Session as part of the Illinois Statewide Historic Preservation Plan. The purpose of the meeting is to understand the trends and issues impacting Certified Local Governments and local historic preservation advocacy groups in Illinois. The National Park Service requires all State Historic Preservation Offices to prepare a statewide preservation plan. This ten-year plan will look at the issues, trends, and opportunities within the state preservation program as well as statewide. It is a strategic plan for the IL-SHPO and also how to strengthen the preservation movement around the state. It has a broader scope that includes all preservation partners. Collecting feedback from Illinois stakeholders is a part of the planning process prior to preparing goals, objectives, and recommendations for implementation. The IL-SHPO hired The Lakota Group to prepare the plan.

##### Question: How can the IL-SHPO help to advance preservation issues at the local level?

- The IL-SHPO staff is responsive to questions from city staff and property owners. While they don't have a lot of staff, the level of assistance they provide is helpful.
- Local property owners struggle with the shortage of available and knowledgeable contractors to assist in preservation work. It would be great to have assistance in a regional or state discussion on the topic. Having a relationship with a regional or statewide Homebuilders and Remodelers Associations.
- Many people would get information and network at a statewide preservation conference, as well as from the Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commissions (IAHPC).
- We need to figure out how to recruit and train people in the building trades outside of the Chicago area.
- The IL-SHPO used to provide design services to Main Street communities.
- Bring back the 10 percent rehabilitation tax credit.
- Coordinate with Landmarks Illinois and Main Street and widen partnerships.
- In the past the CLG program had different funding programs available. It would be nice if some of those programs could apply to brick-and-mortar projects.
- The IL-SHPO and Landmarks Illinois could start reaching out to redefine the challenges of historic preservation, such as with climate change. The utilization of historic buildings in service is a critical aspect of any community to deal with issues of energy use. There are many organizations dealing with conservation and preservation. How can we bring these organizations together as everyone is working on the same set of problems. You could also add union training and community colleges. Local skilled tradespeople are aging out and we need to bridge the age gap. Help to train low-income people and then help them to start a business. There is no sense that there is a greater social and political force behind this. We have to look at the broader issues.
- Partnerships are extremely important.

**Question: Who are your key preservation partners and who are potential partners?**

- The City of Joliet Planning and Community Development Department and Historic Preservation Commission have a strong partnership with the Joliet Area Historical Museum who partner together on grant applications and projects. We also work with local colleges and universities.
- The McLean County Museum of History in Bloomington cooperates with the City of Bloomington Historic Preservation Commission to provide research services and reference materials. The Museum also partners with the local universities to provide historic preservation internships.
- The City of Elgin Heritage Commission has good relationships with neighborhood groups and the Elgin History Museum. They are trying to improve partnerships with other city commissions and local colleges and universities. It is key for the local preservation movement to work with other commissions.
- It would be beneficial to work closely with realtors or the State Realtors Association so they understand historic districts and provide better house descriptions. They are selling properties to people who may not be aware of historic preservation.

**Question: What is the IL-SHPO's grant cycle?**

- Delays to historic preservation funding at the federal level led to delays at the SHPO, as well as switching to a new online system. The next round of grants should be available in late February. The turnaround for announcing grant awards should be a few months. The SHPO is looking to streamline that process.

**What preservation trends or issues impact historic preservation in your community?**

- Oak Park is seeing a lot of solar panel applications and there is confusion on how the Historic Preservation Commission will respond.
- Basic training from the IL-SHPO for new Historic Preservation Commission members outlining their roles and responsibilities would be helpful. The IAHP used to assist in providing this service.
- The National Alliance of Preservation Commissions (NAPC) provides a high level of training and expertise. Maybe the IL-SHPO could help promote this resource.
- Property owners with designated historic properties no longer want to abide by the restrictions through the ordinance. The City of Joliet just saw a local historic district de-designated and there is interest in doing the same from a second district.
- The loss of IAHP is one of the biggest issues as well as not having a CLG coordinator for five years. The IL-SHPO has half the staff it used to. Building partnerships is great but we need to build from the bottom up again. Without a non-profit organization dedicated to local preservation that the IL-SHPO cannot do as a government entity.
- IAHP is a worthwhile organization to revive. It doesn't require a lot of money, just dedication from local preservation commission members. IL-SHPO staff support of IAHP is vital.
- IAHP formed to help promote the CLG program as well as provide education and training to local commissions. It provided a forum to share information. Local preservation staff have the most difficult job and education is extremely important. Developing a support system to share information can help communities understand the issues happening.
- The loss of the CLG coordinator made it difficult for IAHP to keep going as that position funneled CLG funding through IAHP to support their education and training efforts. It was the loss of a revenue stream rather than lack of interest that led to its demise.
- Does Landmarks Illinois have a role in this process? Their voice is important in this discussion.
- The Lakota Group had a separate discussion with Landmarks Illinois and they are helping to promote the plan. They will participate in these discussions as they see fit.
- Do many communities other than Chicago have a local non-profit preservation advocacy organization? Oak Park just started one called Preservation Oak Park.
- There isn't an official list but Landmarks Illinois may have a good idea of who they are. There aren't a great number of them that aren't also historical societies.
- Demolition by neglect is an issue due to hesitation to enforce as many property owners don't have the money. Absentee property owners will sit on properties and they are usually too far gone once the city gets ownership.
- It would be helpful if CLGs could get together to share information.
- Some communities use land banks as a way to save buildings before they are too deteriorated to save.

**Question: What have been some of the most important preservation successes in your community?**

- Belleville had some buildings slated for demolition that we found developers to rehabilitate, including Lofts on the Square, the former Belleville Hotel, which recently won an award from Landmarks Illinois. The building was vacant for ten years and the city purchased and sold it to a developer who created senior apartments. They also have an infill program where the city acquires a property and finds developers to rehabilitate them.



- Bloomington has the local Funk and Rust grant programs for residential and commercial rehabilitation up to \$25,000. The Historic Preservation Commission provides advice which is appreciated by property owners. They are both funded by the City of Bloomington.
- Charleston has successful partnerships providing walking tours in their historic neighborhoods which raise awareness of local history and preservation.
- Oak Park's historic preservation award program is popular with the Historic Preservation Commission and property owners. Most successes are private individuals taking on preservation projects.
- The City of Carbondale also has a successful historic preservation award program highlighting private preservation projects.

**Question: What are local communities doing to engage youth and underrepresented communities in your work?**

- The Joliet Historic Preservation Commission has not engaged youth. They propose to survey historically African American and Latinx areas but have not yet applied for grant funding due to city staff capacity issues. We know there is a gap but we need to understand what the resources are. They did receive a National Park Service Underrepresented Communities grant to prepare a National Register nomination for the Illinois State Penitentiary.
- The barrier to surveying underserved, low-income neighborhoods in Bloomington is that 90 percent of the buildings have artificial siding and are not eligible for the National Register. There is the possibility of focusing on these communities through the masonry buildings. Low-income property owners do not have the income to remove artificial siding.
- Elgin has a large Hispanic community and they are proposing to translate their design guidelines to Spanish. The Elgin History Museum has a booklet that covers African American and Hispanic heritage for youth. They are looking at setting up a maintenance grant in their low-income Watch Historic District.
- The Carbondale Historic Preservation Commission just designated the African American Attucks High School and one of their commission members, who is a teacher, has her students researching stories from the school.
- It would be helpful to have resources to help get the word out about preservation. That might be engaging to younger people.
- The IL-SHPO received a grant in collaboration with the City of Carbondale, Southern Illinois University, and Shawnee National Forest to document African American resources in southern Illinois.
- Alton has the "Untold Resources of Alton" project documenting African American history and stories which received the Lieutenant Governor's Award for Excellence in Downtown Revitalization.
- The University of Illinois-Springfield has also worked on African American history projects in Alton.

**Question: Have any local communities looked into conservation districts as an alternative tool to historic districts?**

- Joliet has an urban conservation district in their ordinance which they copied from Aurora's ordinance but they have not implemented it. No one is sure how it works. There is interest from the Historic Preservation Commission in looking at an alternative to the current ordinance regulations for some areas.
- The Gridley-Pickett neighborhood in Bloomington has form-based zoning.
- In the 1990s there were discussions on conservation districts with a focus on massing and scale rather than design review.
- The preservation field has not invested in education recently, though that was a focus in the past. There is no focus on the bigger picture. Putting preservation in a positive light in local communities is a benefit, like awards and markers. The community of Aurora came together to save a hotel which is now senior housing. People love local history but they don't want to pay for it. Build the little victories to engage the community.
- The CLG program could fund a mentorship program.
- Stories connect people to places. That is why people love walking tours and cemetery tours. Digital projects have the most impact now. Bloomington has historical markers with QR codes on them. The McLean County Museum of History has social history walking tours that are also online. They tell why places matter.
- There is a misconception about what historic preservation is and what it means. Educating people about the local preservation programs and what they do is extremely important.
- Historic districts should have a marketing plan with a strategy to market properties. Younger people understand the economics and the need for historic preservation.
- The owner of the oldest home in Carbondale, who is a young person, contacted the Historic Preservation Commission as a starting point looking for advice, guidance, and incentives. The commission is also looking at holding workshops like "This Old House."
- Bloomington is having the same discussions, especially how they apply to low-income neighborhoods.
- There is an overlap with preservation and housing and energy efficiency.
- There are other great sources out there that are not government, like the videos by "This Old House," and we're recreating the wheel in many cases.

- Geneva did a preservation workshop for city commissions, elected officials, and city staff bringing in the IL-SHPO and Landmarks Illinois.

The listening session wrapped up with a summary of additional public engagement, the next steps in the process, the project website, and appreciation for all who attended and participated.

## ILLINOIS STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

### ONLINE STAKEHOLDER LISTENING SESSION HISTORICAL SOCIETIES AND MUSEUMS

#### Meeting Summary

February 9, 2023, 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Attendance at this session included representatives from local and regional historical societies and museums, representatives from the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office (IL-SHPO), and members of the consultant team.

#### Meeting Summary

##### Introduction

The Lakota Group introduced the Online Stakeholder Listening Session as part of the Illinois Statewide Historic Preservation Plan. The purpose of the meeting is to understand the trends and issues impacting historical societies and museums in Illinois. The Lakota Group provided an overview of the planning process and additional community engagement opportunities.

##### Question: What trends or issues impact historic preservation advocacy and education in your community?

- The French Heritage Corridor includes seven Midwest states looking at French Canadian history. Senators Duckworth and Durbin and Representative Bost submitted a bill for the creation of the Prairie du Rocher National Historical Park and they need support and outreach.

##### Question: How can the IL-SHPO help to advance preservation issues at the local level?

- What is the relationship between the IL-SHPO and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) grant program for funding public museums? This program is capital money and the McLean County Museum of History used this as a source for restoration of the museum.
- The IL-SHPO reviews the grants but is not in the same division as the IDNR museum grants. These grants are only for publicly-owned museums.
- There is not a strong preservation network in Illinois, especially for smaller communities. It would be helpful to know what others are doing. Having meetings or a conference would be beneficial. West Chicago is a Certified Local Government (CLG) but most information goes to city staff and does not reach the commission or the museum. Museums have a good network but it is not there for preservation advocacy.
- The Stevenson Home in Libertyville was under threat of demolition and the McHenry County Historical Society provided lectures and tours to highlight the property. Wisconsin provides state staff by region to help historical societies and museums.
- The Wisconsin Historical Society offers great support for their historical societies and museums. The IL-SHPO could offer support on how to set up a local preservation group, as not all historical societies, Main Street organizations, or Historic Preservation Commissions deal with preservation advocacy.
- The Pierre Menard House is deteriorating and needs state support, though there are two projects going on there now.
- Landmarks Illinois is the statewide preservation advocacy group and should be more involved in these sessions. Their funding doesn't allow them to work as much in southern Illinois. They do have a downstate coordinator but he is responsible for all of Illinois outside the Chicago region. There is a need for coordinated advocacy in southern Illinois and Landmarks Illinois needs additional funding and capacity to do this.
- There would be some benefit to having someone physically in southern Illinois coordinating advocacy. The Illinois Humanities Council has a field person in Edwardsville who works with historical societies. There is an opportunity for partnership.

**Question: What are the key needs for historical societies and museums and what are the current trends? How did you fare through the COVID pandemic?**

- The pandemic hurt historical societies and museums as there were no visitors. Providing staff was also an issue. They need additional advertising to bring people to the museum.
- Museum meetings continued via Zoom during the pandemic which was effective. Expanding the museum advisory committee to include additional members of the public was also effective.

**Question: What services does the IL-SHPO offer to historical societies and museums?**

- The IL-SHPO does not currently have a specific program for historical societies and museums. There are state public museum grants but they are not specifically for historic preservation projects. The Illinois Association of Museums (IAM) used to provide an annual lobbying day in Springfield. IAM is a non-profit advocacy group.
- The Preservation Plan should include something that would allow the IL-SHPO to address historical society and museum needs.
- The CLG program helps local preservation efforts. The IL-SHPO used to provide a staff person for IAM but budget cuts eliminated the position. The IL-SHPO used to have a heritage grant program as well.
- Landmarks Illinois does have a grant program that benefits non-profits and museums.
- The National Park Service provides expanded grants that a CLG or the IL-SHPO can apply for.
- One necessary program that the IL-SHPO could coordinate with the Illinois State Museum is to provide surveyors to publicly-owned museums with historic buildings do readiness analysis for public museum grants. These organizations don't really have the planning support to preserve the structure housing the museum. This would do a lot to bring funding to local museums.
- The IL-SHPO needs to develop a closer relationship to the grants organization and what they're providing grants for.
- A state organizational chart would be helpful to the public when determining who to contact and who to work with.
- Smaller organizations don't qualify for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and have small staff levels. In Bureau County, local historic homeowners are working to provide information as there is no larger entity to do this.
- Having a list of qualified contractors would be helpful to homeowners who want to preserve their homes.
- The IL-SHPO cannot recommend specific firms and forwards inquiries to Landmarks Illinois who does keep a list on their website.
- Museums have staffing issues with both paid staff and volunteers. The 2008 economic downturn was the beginning of these issues for museums.
- Many museums used to network through the Illinois Historical Association but their director retired and there is a need for additional networking.

**Question: Who are historical societies and museums doing to engage youth and young adults?**

- The McLean County Museum of History has great success with internships from local colleges and universities. The Bloomington-Normal Black History Project worked with 8-12-year-old kids on an interpretive statue program. Educational programming seems to be the best way to engage younger people. Donors will fund educational programs above capital needs. Engagement of younger people starts with education. Several thousand middle school kids attend their cemetery walk which includes actors portraying historical figures. They hand out family passes to kids to bring their family to the museum.
- The cost of buses for field trips is an issue.
- There are WordPress education modules that include online lesson plans. Local university students help with museum tours and local parish youth help with museum gardening. Finding young people to help with a museum's social media and website would be very helpful.
- The Waukegan Historical Society in conjunction with the Waukegan Park District send educators to the classroom on a regular basis and at the end of the year provide a bus tour to show the sites they were discussing.
- Public history education for school kids has to align with curriculum that teaches to the testing requirements.
- McLean County Museum of History analyzes the testing requirements and provides information on how their programs meet these requirements. It makes it easy for the teachers to work with them.
- Teaching art can help bring history into schools. The preservation field is not always welcoming and is dealing with issues of diversity as we try to recognize a broader scope of history. Networking among historical societies and museums around education would be helpful. There is a need for more programmatic grants that apply directly to educating in the field to help promote preservation to black and brown students.

**Question: How are historical societies and museums social media for outreach?**

- They record all educational programming and provide some digital exhibits. Meetup helps to find new residents looking for something to do and make friends. Facebook is another avenue for streaming programming. Constant Contact is

useful to see who is interested in what programming. Throwback Tuesday or Thursday posts on social media do get followers. People are interested in that. Most of these things are not expensive to do.

- The McLean County Museum of History website provides substantial resources to their website. They have a Curator of Digital Humanities to provide online access to historical materials, 75,000 images, interactive tours of their exhibits, History Pin, and online walking tours with QR codes on the street.
- The IL-SHPO could assist with better-coordinated preservation awareness campaigns using social media to promote preservation around the state.

**Question: Are there any specific needs regarding maintaining and preserving archives and collections?**

- For museums in historic buildings, maintaining the proper temperature and humidity levels can be a challenge.
- Many people don't understand the importance of the issue.
- Digitizing archives makes it easier for access by the public. Digital images take up a lot of server space. The Illinois Secretary of State maintains a digital history site where libraries and museums can upload and house digital images.
- A network of preservation programs could help to share what others are doing. IAM has a limited presence in this as well with no paid staff.
- The IL-SHPO used to have educational staff that went to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum.
- There used to be a successful preservation conference which provided networking opportunities. Main Street is again hosting a conference and there is some overlap regarding organizational structure and volunteer base.

**Question: What are your preservation priorities over the next ten years?**

- Help with advocacy dealing with new development in historic neighborhoods trying to maintain historic character and sense of place.
- Additional tools for helping property owners to preserve historic buildings.
- Coordination among private and governmental organizations for communication, education, and networking.

The listening session wrapped up with a summary of additional public engagement, the next steps in the process, the project website, and appreciation for all who attended and participated.

## **ILLINOIS STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN**

### **ONLINE STAKEHOLDER LISTENING SESSION STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES #2**

#### **Meeting Summary**

**April 11, 2023, 10:00 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.**

Attendance at this session included representatives from state and federal agencies, the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office (IL-SHPO), and members of the consultant team.

#### **Meeting Summary**

##### **Introduction**

The Lakota Group introduced the Online Stakeholder Listening Session as part of the Illinois Statewide Historic Preservation Plan. The purpose of the meeting is to understand the trends and issues impacting the role of state and federal agencies related to historic preservation.

##### **Question: What preservation challenges impact your work in Illinois?**

- Electronic submissions are helpful when submitting to the IL-SHPO but there is a need to help manage sharing large files.
- The IL-SHPO intends to keep receiving digital submissions. They do still require a hard copy of archaeological reports. They used to have an FTP site that worked for large files but now they use OneDrive which people are still learning. They hope to have issues with large files worked out soon. A hard copy for wind farm surveys are also helpful.
- The Department of Defense (DOD) has issues forwarding large files. Are there instances where they could send a link to a large file rather than try and submit them?
- It depends on whether the link has an expiration date. If they expire in five days it may not be enough time for the IL-SHPO to access them but it is possible. Once submitted the DOD receives an email receipt. If not received in the five-day period they can resubmit the link.
- The correspondence tracking system includes a header called "agency abbreviation." IDOT identifies projects through the sequence number but it is not showing in the column.
- The IL-SHPO is in the process of either updating the CTS tracking system or exploring using Sales Force used by other SHPO offices. This should be resolved by the end of the year.
- The current IL-SHPO tracking system is not user-friendly and there is no easy way to search for a project. It would be helpful to include a search function and include the various agency reference numbers. It should also include a notification when a project review is complete.
- The IL-SHPO staff are available if you wish to reach out and check on the status of a project.
- There have been issues with review times on IDOT projects that extend past the 30 days - sometimes 60 or 90 days. The new system should address shortening review times.
- The IL-SHPO is under-staffed and has one archaeology reviewer for the entire state. The new system will include notifications. The current system is limited and the IL-SHPO is under-staffed.
- There used to be multiple review staff in the past and IDOT faces the same issues. What is the ability to expand capacity and what might prevent that?
- IDNR is aware of the staffing needs.
- Do developers of wind farms and cell towers refer their projects to the IL-SHPO prior to construction? Sometimes landowners inquire about them separately.
- Developers do refer them to IL-SHPO but they are sometime very large and time-consuming to review. They often reach out to local Certified Local Governments (CLG) and other groups to help determine reviews.
- IEPA has difficulty dealing with all the archaeological requests from Osage Nation which delay projects and increase costs for infrastructure projects. They do not have archaeology staff and hope that IL-SHPO expands their staff because without them it would be impossible to deal with ACHP and THPOs.
- Does the IL-SHPO review all decisions on National Register eligibility for known sites made by other agencies?

- The IL-SHPO does review projects determined eligible for the National Register and do their own review to determine if they agree with the determination of eligibility or if they need more information. There may be instances where a Programmatic Agreement allows for flexibility on internal reviews on determinations of eligibility.

**Question: What are some of the most critical preservation challenges you face in your work in Illinois?**

- Are there any plans to update HARGIS? There are many recent surveys and National Register nominations that are not in HARGIS yet. This is challenging for those at the local level when trying to determine whether need to submit to IL-SHPO.
- The IL-SHPO has not heard back on the OPP grant they applied for to provide contractors to update HARGIS and make corrections to the errors in the database. It is unlikely they will get additional staff to deal with HARGIS. An updated HARGIS would be beneficial to internal staff, other agencies, and the public. The grant would also add a regulatory layer to HARGIS.

**Question: How are disaster-preparedness reviews coordinated with the IL-SHPO?**

- When a disaster happens, FEMA has separate divisions for mitigation and compliance. There is a Programmatic Agreement in place for FEMA to streamline the process and conduct their own reviews. There is a disaster protocol where FEMA engages with the IL-SHPO to determine what historic resources are affected. The Statewide Mitigation Plan covers pre-disaster planning. The compliance division has a good working relationship with the IL-SHPO.
- The IL-SHPO posts all Programmatic Agreements and Memorandums of Agreement on their website.

**Question: Are you seeing any threatened historic and cultural resources?**

- The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is seeing more projects in the railroad rights-of-way. Guidance on the historic nature of railroad rights-of-way in Illinois and how to assess them would be very helpful, especially in the Chicago region.
- The IL-SHPO has had many discussions with the FTA and the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) regarding linear resources. Putting together a joint agency effort would be something to look into.
- The IL-SHPO is seeing many projects dealing with aging infrastructure and flooding.
- IDOT often sees requests for the demolition of historic bridges to meet current safety codes. The process to find acceptable alternatives is challenging.

**Question: Are there any preservation success stories?**

- Shawnee National Forest includes many aging Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) resources. They received federal funding through the American Great Outdoors program to restore resources at Lake Glendale. They have had good experiences with the IL-SHPO review process.
- Vandalism to historic resources and archaeological sites is a problem in southern Illinois.
- The General Services Administration (GSA) provides technical guidance on their website regarding graffiti removal.
- It would be wonderful if there were a website that shared preservation success stories across Illinois.

**Question: What are your preservation priorities over the next ten years?**

- The Army Corps of Engineers is working on several projects dealing with updates to navigation, including the 1930s lock and dam system along Illinois waterways. They are also developing a Programmatic Agreement to address their ecosystem restoration projects on the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers.
- The GSA's historic resource inventory is moving into mid-century and post-modern buildings. The increased inventory is adding pressure to GSA staff and will influence the IL-SHPO down the road. They require a different set of tools for evaluation.
- IL-SHPO staff are available and responsive to discussing tricky archaeological issues.

**Question: Are agencies satisfied with their current Programmatic Agreements?**

- FEMA has the ability to amend their Programmatic Agreement as necessary annually to address issues or challenges that come up, which has been extremely helpful. Other Programmatic Agreements should include this section to make them adaptable and useful.

The listening session wrapped up with a summary of additional public engagement, the next steps in the process, the project website, and appreciation for all who attended and participated.

## **ILLINOIS STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN**

### **IN-PERSON REGIONAL WORKSHOP CARBONDALE**

**January 17, 2023, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., CDT**

#### **Workshop Summary**

##### **Public Responses to Workshop Exhibits**

###### **Station 1: Project Overview**

- Illinois State Historic Preservation Office
- National Register of Historic Places
- Certified Local Government Program
- Cultural Resource Protection, Section 106 and 707
- Tax Incentive Programs
  - Federal Historic Tax Credits
  - Illinois Historic Preservation Tax Credits
  - River Edge Historic Tax Credits
  - Property Tax Assessment Freeze Program

Question: which SHPO program or tax incentive program is a priority for you?

Answers:

- Illinois Historic Preservation Tax Credits
- Tax Credits / Tax Freeze
- Income Producing / Tax Assessment Freeze

###### **Station 2: National Register Landmarks and Districts**

- National Register of Historic Places
- National Historic Landmarks
- State Historic Sites
- National Heritage Areas
- National Historic Trails
- National Historic Sites
- National Historical Parks
- National Scenic Byways

###### **Station 3: Impact of Preservation**

- Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program
- Illinois Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program
- Rivers Edge Historic Tax Credits
- Property Tax Assessment Freeze Program
- Illinois Main Street Program
- Certified Local Government Program

Question: What are your ideas for the Illinois CLG program?

Answers:

- Education on finding and designating historic properties



- Education and workshop for municipalities
- Better marketing and communication
- Partner with Landmarks Illinois
- Stronger tie with economic development

**Station 4: Emerging Resources**

- Architectural Styles Since 1950
- Resources Associated with Underrepresented and Minority Groups
- Intangible Heritage (Cultural Practices, Festivals, Storytelling)
- Sites Associated with Women’s History
- Traditional Cultural Properties and Sacred Sites

**Station 4: What Historic and Cultural Resources are Most Important to Protect? (voting exercise)**

1. **Traditional Housing.** Small, inexpensive houses are targets for demolition and replacement with a new house many times larger and more expensive. This pattern removes affordable housing stock from communities.
2. **Main Street Commercial Districts.** Historically, suburban sprawl and new retail construction centered around big-box stores resulted in disinvestment in traditional Main Street commercial districts. Today online retailing is another significant threat to traditional commercial districts.
3. **State Historic Sites.** Illinois has a rich collection of state-owned historic sites that help tell the unique history of various regions of our state. State budgeting constraints reduce the time these sites are open to the public and result in a large backlog of maintenance projects. Lack of maintenance leads to further deterioration of these significant public assets.
4. **Agricultural Properties** (farmhouses, barns, productive fields). Industrial-scale agriculture renders small family farms obsolete, and the traditional barns used on family farms too small to be useful to these large-scale operations. With the efficiencies of new crop hybrids, less acreage produces the same yield resulting in fields being removed from productive farm use.
5. **Factories and Industrial Properties.** Shrinking industrial and manufacturing output renders historic industrial properties obsolete.
6. **Historic Schools.** Communities consolidate schools due to declining enrollment or build large new schools to attract families to the community. Historic schools are determined surplus and left vacant.
7. **Archaeological Sites.** Archaeological sites from the prehistoric to the 20th-century historic period help tell a more complete and inclusive story of Illinois’ history, and are at risk from development as well as looting.
8. **Public Parks, Coastline, and Cemeteries.** Parks and coastlines are usually highly desirable locations, resulting in pressure for private acquisition. Cemeteries often suffer from neglect and do not receive the upkeep and stewardship they need.
9. **Historic Resources at Risk Due to Climate Change.** Flooding, tornadoes, and other natural disasters damage or destroy historic resources.

Option	Votes
1	7
2	13
3	14
4	3
5	8
6	7
7	8
8	5
9	1

Renumbered based on the number of votes:

- **State Historic Sites** (14 votes)
- **Main Street Commercial Districts** (13 votes)
- **Factories and Industrial Properties (tied)** (8 votes)
- **Archaeological Sites (tied)** (8 votes)
- **Traditional Housing (tied)** (7 votes)
- **Historic Schools (tied)** (7 votes)
- **Public Parks, Coastline, and Cemeteries** (5 votes)
- **Agricultural Properties** (3 votes)
- **Historic Resources at Risk Due to Climate Change** (1 vote)

## Station 5: State Map. Place a sticker on the map and fill out a comment card to share thoughts about places in IL.

Comment cards:

- Resource type: school; Location: Carbondale, Spring Street; Additional Info: Carbondale Community High School
- Resource type: Building; Location: Carbondale; Additional Info: National Guard Armory
- Resource type: Historic Brick Kiln Archaeological Site; Location: Murphysboro; Additional Info: Location of former Murphysboro Brick Paving Company
- Resource type: Residential; Location: Murphysboro; Additional Info: Longfellow School District
- Resource type: School; Location: Murphysboro; Additional Info: Logan School
- Resource type: School; Location: Murphysboro; Additional Info: Douglas School
- Resource type: CCC structure; Location: Grand Tower (along Mississippi River); Additional Info: Small CCC Building
- Resource type: Commercial Downtown District; Location: Downtown Carterville; Additional Info: jaspence@banterra.bank
- Resource type: School; Location: Murphysboro; Additional Info: Logan School
- Resource type: Church; Location: Bethel AME Church, E Jackson, Carbondale; Additional Info:
- Resource type: Residence; Location: N US 51, Carbondale; Additional Info: 2-story brick farmhouse north of Carbondale

## Station 6: Historic Preservation Planning Priority Exercise (voting)

1. **Improve access to National Register, and architectural and cultural survey information and data.** The IL-SHPO collects data from Certified Local Government communities and others statewide about historic and potentially historic buildings, structures, objects, sites, and districts. This database, *HARGIS*, is an important clearinghouse of information for property owners, interested citizens, and researchers.
2. **Expand public education and outreach programs regarding Illinois' history, historic preservation benefits, and IL-SHPO programming.** Deepen public awareness about Illinois' rich history. Engage the public in a variety of ways such as the *Historic Illinois* magazine in digital format, with historic markers, and repair and restoration programs that assist property owners in being good stewards of Illinois' irreplaceable assets.
3. **Provide funding and technical assistance for Historic Preservation Commission education and training.** All-volunteer Historic Preservation Commissions are a vital source of local expertise regarding preservation issues. Training and professional development, through for example, the re-establishment of the Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commissions, supports their work.
4. **Expand existing revenue streams and financial incentives to fund and support the rehabilitation and adaptive use of historic resources.** New sources of funding for restoration projects expand the opportunities for preservation across the state. Successful rehabilitation has the potential to create a domino effect of additional revitalization.
5. **Preserve and protect archaeological sites and cultural landscapes.** Ruins, shipwrecks, historic roads, cemeteries, and American Indian sites are only a few examples of places that embody our shared history. Protecting them enhances our ability to visit and learn from them, expanding our understanding of local, state, and national history.
6. **Support continued cultural and historic resource surveys and documentation activities using the latest digital technologies.** Survey work helps to identify, and document threatened, overlooked, and emerging resources such as those from the recent past or associated with underrepresented communities. Re-establish the *Illinois Register of Historic Places* to document their significance.
7. **Develop the next generation of preservation advocates.** Sustain the preservation movement and secure its future by seeking and welcoming the next generation of preservation advocates. Cross-cultural and cross-generational outreach and educational initiatives foster a broad appreciation of local history and shared heritage.
8. **Promote greater diversity and recognition of underrepresented communities in local history programs and historic preservation initiatives.** Incorporating the stories of underrepresented communities in future National Register nominations preserves the significant but often hidden histories of Illinois' racial and ethnic groups.
9. **Enhance capacity-building for staff and volunteers of preservation and history-related groups.** Foster long-term resilience and permanence of preservation advocacy organizations, historical societies, cultural institutions, and historic boards and commissions by supporting leadership capacity building, fundraising, and a strong presence in the community. Partnership opportunities between these local groups can help amplify their voices and missions.
10. **Strengthen a community's preservation ethic by adopting or updating protective preservation ordinances.** Encourage the protection of historic and cultural resources at the local level. Ordinances are an effective tool for managing changes to historic resources and neighborhoods including alteration and demolition and protecting the history and unique character of the community.
11. **Revitalize Main Street districts and traditional downtowns.** Economic reinvestment through the rehabilitation and reuse of commercial and other downtown buildings stimulates a vibrant community and contributes to the economy through new businesses, jobs, and housing, increased tax revenue, and social opportunities while eliminating blight and vacancies.
12. **Create attainable housing using historic preservation to rehabilitate vacant buildings and revitalize neighborhoods.** Encourage the preservation of older neighborhoods and preserve their identity through the rehabilitation of housing. This maintains local character and contributes to a vibrant community.
13. **Expand the use of preservation tools such as Cultural Districts, Conservation Districts, Legacy and Marker programs, and promote Context-sensitive design in historic districts and neighborhoods.** Cultural districts help draw attention to distinctive assets in the community such as public art; legacy programs support long-standing businesses or

festivals that help define the community's history; and context-sensitive design can bridge the divide between new construction and historic buildings, enhancing historic character.

14. **Strengthen heritage tourism statewide to help promote area culture, attract visitors, and increase local revenue.** Unique communities, historic places, and cultural attractions appeal to visitors who in turn spend money in the community while learning about or making meaningful connections to a historic place.
15. **Promote information directed to elected officials on the benefits of historic preservation.** Historic preservation needs political support. At the state level, an annual summary of each state legislative district with facts and figures about the positive impact preservation has made helps draw the connections for legislators and spotlights the way preservation brings value to their district.
16. **Strengthen history programs in statewide elementary education curriculum.** Teach children why local places are significant, curious, beautiful, entertaining, and in other ways unique, and as they share the enthusiasm for what they learned with their parents, caregivers, and family, the network of people who care for local places grows, along with ensuring the next generation will appreciate and protect historic assets.

Option	Votes		Option	Votes
1	2		9	7
2	13		10	6
3	2		11	6
4	19		12	6
5	2		13	5
6	2		14	7
7	15		15	4
8	5		16	5

Renumbered based on the number of votes:

- (19 votes, option 4) **Expand existing revenue streams and financial incentives to fund and support the rehabilitation and adaptive use of historic resources.**
- (15 votes, option 7) **Develop the next generation of preservation advocates.**
- (13 votes, option 2) **Expand public education and outreach programs regarding Illinois' history, historic preservation benefits, and IL-SHPO programming.**
- (7 votes, **tied**, option 9) **Enhance capacity-building for staff and volunteers of preservation and history-related groups.**
- (7 votes, **tied**, option 14) **Strengthen heritage tourism statewide to help promote area culture, attract visitors, and increase local revenue.**
- (6 votes, **tied**, option 10) **Strengthen a community's preservation ethic by adopting or updating protective preservation ordinances.**
- (6 votes, **tied**, option 11) **Revitalize Main Street districts and traditional downtowns.**
- (6 votes, **tied**, option 12) **Create attainable housing using historic preservation to rehabilitate vacant buildings and revitalize neighborhoods.**
- (5 votes, **tied**, option 13) **Expand the use of preservation tools such as Cultural Districts, Conservation Districts, Legacy and Marker programs, and promote Context-sensitive design in historic districts and neighborhoods.**
- (5 votes, **tied**, option 16) **Strengthen history programs in statewide elementary education curriculum.**
- (5 votes, **tied**, option 8) **Promote greater diversity and recognition of underrepresented communities in local history programs and historic preservation initiatives.**
- (4 votes, option 15) **Promote information directed to elected officials on the benefits of historic preservation.**
- (2 votes, **tied**, option 1) **Improve access to National Register, and architectural and cultural survey information and data.**
- (2 votes, **tied**, option 3) **Provide funding and technical assistance for Historic Preservation Commission education and training.**
- (2 votes, **tied**, option 5) **Preserve and protect archaeological sites and cultural landscapes.**
- (2 votes, **tied**, option 6) **Support continued cultural and historic resource surveys and documentation activities using the latest digital technologies.**

#### Station 6: What is your vision?

Comments:

- Murphysboro downtown historic district designation was supported by Murphysboro Main Street
- Reinstate the state level historic site designation

- Funding for outreach through historical societies to increase participation from the community
- Our city has invested in downtown. Private dollars are following. The goal would be to have more interest than buildings. Commerce with character
- Restoration and preservation of Bucky Dome is 98% complete; acquired property on which to build visitor and interpretive center; planning conference and classes

**Station 6: Share your success story.**

Comments:

- Preservation of industrial and labor related sites in southern Illinois

## **ILLINOIS STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN**

### **IN-PERSON REGIONAL WORKSHOP ALTON**

**January 19, 2023, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., CDT**

#### **Workshop Summary**

##### **Public Responses to Workshop Exhibits**

###### **Station 1: Project Overview**

- Illinois State Historic Preservation Office
- National Register of Historic Places
- Certified Local Government Program
- Cultural Resource Protection, Section 106 and 707
- Tax Incentive Programs
  - Federal Historic Tax Credits
  - Illinois Historic Preservation Tax Credits
  - River Edge Historic Tax Credits
  - Property Tax Assessment Freeze Program

Question: which SHPO program or tax incentive program is a priority for you?

Answers:

- Income Producing/Tax Assessment Freeze.
- State Historic Tax Credit.
- Historic tax credits for registered structures not within a certified local government. Millstadt Mill.
- Increase Illinois state tax credit program dollars.
- Expand and strengthen the Illinois state historic tax credit.

###### **Station 2: National Register Landmarks and Districts**

- National Register of Historic Places
- National Historic Landmarks
- State Historic Sites
- National Heritage Areas
- National Historic Trails
- National Historic Sites
- National Historical Parks
- National Scenic Byways

###### **Station 3: Impact of Preservation**

- Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program
- Illinois Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program
- Rivers Edge Historic Tax Credits
- Property Tax Assessment Freeze Program
- Illinois Main Street Program
- Certified Local Government Program

Question: What are your ideas for the Illinois CLG program?

Answers:

- We would love to take advantage of the CLG grant for interpretive purposes if allowed.

#### Station 4: Emerging Resources

- Architectural Styles Since 1950
- Resources Associated with Underrepresented and Minority Groups
- Intangible Heritage (Cultural Practices, Festivals, Storytelling)
- Sites Associated with Women's History
- Traditional Cultural Properties and Sacred Sites

#### Station 4: What Historic and Cultural Resources are Most Important to Protect? (voting exercise)

1. **Traditional Housing.** Small, inexpensive houses are targets for demolition and replacement with a new house many times larger and more expensive. This pattern removes affordable housing stock from communities.
2. **Main Street Commercial Districts.** Historically, suburban sprawl and new retail construction centered around big-box stores resulted in disinvestment in traditional Main Street commercial districts. Today online retailing is another significant threat to traditional commercial districts.
3. **State Historic Sites.** Illinois has a rich collection of state-owned historic sites that help tell the unique history of various regions of our state. State budgeting constraints reduce the time these sites are open to the public and result in a large backlog of maintenance projects. Lack of maintenance leads to further deterioration of these significant public assets.
4. **Agricultural Properties** (farmhouses, barns, productive fields). Industrial-scale agriculture renders small family farms obsolete, and the traditional barns used on family farms too small to be useful to these large-scale operations. With the efficiencies of new crop hybrids, less acreage produces the same yield resulting in fields being removed from productive farm use.
5. **Factories and Industrial Properties.** Shrinking industrial and manufacturing output renders historic industrial properties obsolete.
6. **Historic Schools.** Communities consolidate schools due to declining enrollment or build large new schools to attract families to the community. Historic schools are determined surplus and left vacant.
7. **Archaeological Sites.** Archaeological sites from the prehistoric to the 20th-century historic period help tell a more complete and inclusive story of Illinois' history, and are at risk from development as well as looting.
8. **Public Parks, Coastline, and Cemeteries.** Parks and coastlines are usually highly desirable locations, resulting in pressure for private acquisition. Cemeteries often suffer from neglect and do not receive the upkeep and stewardship they need.
9. **Historic Resources at Risk Due to Climate Change.** Flooding, tornadoes, and other natural disasters damage or destroy historic resources.

Option	Votes
1	11
2	18
3	6
4	11
5	14
6	5
7	4
8	10
9	7

Renumbered based on the number of votes:

- **Main Street Commercial Districts** (18 votes)
- **Factories and Industrial Properties** (14 votes)
- **Traditional Housing (tied)** (11 votes)
- **Agricultural Properties (tied)** (11 votes)
- **Public Parks, Coastline, and Cemeteries** (10 votes)
- **Historic Resources at Risk Due to Climate Change** (7 votes)
- **State Historic Sites** (6 votes)
- **Historic Schools** (5 votes)
- **Archaeological Sites** (4 votes)

## Station 5: State Map. Place a sticker on the map and fill out a comment card to share thoughts about places in IL.

Comment cards:

- Farms, mills, early rural industrial resources are being overlooked (post-it).
- Rivers are a major historical feature; Historic National River Routes have gaps, Illinois River and Mississippi River in Jersey County (post-it).
- Resource type: Dana Thomas House; Location: Springfield; Additional Info: A wonderful example of Frank Lloyd Wright architecture in the state.
- Resource type: Shawnee National Forest; Location: Southern Illinois; Additional Info: Lots of historic sites.
- Resource type: German immigration; Location: Monroe County; Additional Info: 2 towns, in entirety NRHP - are not listed on the board under historic districts.
- Resource type: Illinois and Mississippi rivers; Location: - none provided; Additional Info: Gaps in National Historic Roads. Illinois and Mississippi rivers are national rivers. Great River Road not designated in Jersey County. Illinois River gap from Mississippi river to Pere Marquette State Park and again from LaSalle County to Chicago. [libbyreuterwc@gmail.com].
- Resource type: Upper Group Camps; Location: Pere Marquette State Park, Grafton; Additional Info: 3 CCC era group camps with historical significance in danger of further decay due to neglect.
- Resource type: Private residences and businesses; Location: Downtown and surrounding areas of Alton; Additional Info: There are so many buildings in the Alton area that are in a state of decay or neglect that need to be restored. Private property owners and city/government entities need to be held accountable for neglect.
- Resource type: Residential; Location: 1121 State Street, Alton; Pfeiffenberger architect, decaying - needs help.
- Resource type: Church; Location: State and Prospect, Alton; Additional Info: SS Peter and Paul Church. They need \$800,000 to preserve 1857 church.
- Resource type: Commercial; Location: 211 William St, Alton; Additional Info: The mill is letting the roof rot; please fix this.
- Resource type: Industrial; Location: Riverfront; Additional Info: none provided.
- Resource type: Residential; Location: none provided; Additional Info: Wilhelms House.
- Resource type: Industrial; Location: - none provided; Additional Info: Duncan Foundry.
- Resource type: Residential; Location: - none provided; Additional Info: Koenig House.
- Resource type: Rural; Location: Monroe County; Additional Info: Farms, industry.
- Resource type: Monument; Location: City cemetery; Additional Info: Lovejoy Monument needs repointing.
- Resource type: Residential; Location: 306 Mill Street; Additional Info: Mitchell Mansion, historic home, servants' quarters, school house, carriage house.
- Resource type: Residential; Location: Alby Street, Alton; Additional Info: McPike Mansion. The owners have been investing their own funds to restore this amazing property for nearly a decade. They have gotten a long way on the exterior, but they need support. Please contact the owners: Sharyn and George Luedke.
- Resource type: Industrial site; Location: Alton Riverfront; Additional Info: Ardent Mills Grain and Flour. It's a part of our skyline and agrarian culture and history.
- Resource type: Schools; Location: throughout Alton; Additional Info: Many former schools are sitting vacant and would be perfect community centers, apartments, co-working spaces, etc.
- Resource type: School; Location: Milton Road, Alton; Additional Info: Milton School, a local small business hub.

## Station 6: Historic Preservation Planning Priority Exercise (voting)

1. **Improve access to National Register, and architectural and cultural survey information and data.** The IL-SHPO collects data from Certified Local Government communities and others statewide about historic and potentially historic buildings, structures, objects, sites, and districts. This database, *HARGIS*, is an important clearinghouse of information for property owners, interested citizens, and researchers.
2. **Expand public education and outreach programs regarding Illinois' history, historic preservation benefits, and IL-SHPO programming.** Deepen public awareness about Illinois' rich history. Engage the public in a variety of ways such as the *Historic Illinois* magazine in digital format, with historic markers, and repair and restoration programs that assist property owners in being good stewards of Illinois' irreplaceable assets.
3. **Provide funding and technical assistance for Historic Preservation Commission education and training.** All-volunteer Historic Preservation Commissions are a vital source of local expertise regarding preservation issues. Training and professional development, through for example, the re-establishment of the Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commissions, supports their work.
4. **Expand existing revenue streams and financial incentives to fund and support the rehabilitation and adaptive use of historic resources.** New sources of funding for restoration projects expand the opportunities for preservation across the state. Successful rehabilitation has the potential to create a domino effect of additional revitalization.
5. **Preserve and protect archaeological sites and cultural landscapes.** Ruins, shipwrecks, historic roads, cemeteries, and American Indian sites are only a few examples of places that embody our shared history. Protecting them enhances our ability to visit and learn from them, expanding our understanding of local, state, and national history.
6. **Support continued cultural and historic resource surveys and documentation activities using the latest digital technologies.** Survey work helps to identify, and document threatened, overlooked, and emerging resources such as those from the recent past or associated with underrepresented communities. Re-establish the *Illinois Register of Historic Places* to document their significance.

7. **Develop the next generation of preservation advocates.** Sustain the preservation movement and secure its future by seeking and welcoming the next generation of preservation advocates. Cross-cultural and cross-generational outreach and educational initiatives foster a broad appreciation of local history and shared heritage.
8. **Promote greater diversity and recognition of underrepresented communities in local history programs and historic preservation initiatives.** Incorporating the stories of underrepresented communities in future National Register nominations preserves the significant but often hidden histories of Illinois' racial and ethnic groups.
9. **Enhance capacity-building for staff and volunteers of preservation and history-related groups.** Foster long-term resilience and permanence of preservation advocacy organizations, historical societies, cultural institutions, and historic boards and commissions by supporting leadership capacity building, fundraising, and a strong presence in the community. Partnership opportunities between these local groups can help amplify their voices and missions.
10. **Strengthen a community's preservation ethic by adopting or updating protective preservation ordinances.** Encourage the protection of historic and cultural resources at the local level. Ordinances are an effective tool for managing changes to historic resources and neighborhoods including alteration and demolition and protecting the history and unique character of the community.
11. **Revitalize Main Street districts and traditional downtowns.** Economic reinvestment through the rehabilitation and reuse of commercial and other downtown buildings stimulates a vibrant community and contributes to the economy through new businesses, jobs, and housing, increased tax revenue, and social opportunities while eliminating blight and vacancies.
12. **Create attainable housing using historic preservation to rehabilitate vacant buildings and revitalize neighborhoods.** Encourage the preservation of older neighborhoods and preserve their identity through the rehabilitation of housing. This maintains local character and contributes to a vibrant community.
13. **Expand the use of preservation tools such as Cultural Districts, Conservation Districts, Legacy and Marker programs, and promote Context-sensitive design in historic districts and neighborhoods.** Cultural districts help draw attention to distinctive assets in the community such as public art; legacy programs support long-standing businesses or festivals that help define the community's history; and context-sensitive design can bridge the divide between new construction and historic buildings, enhancing historic character.
14. **Strengthen heritage tourism statewide to help promote area culture, attract visitors, and increase local revenue.** Unique communities, historic places, and cultural attractions appeal to visitors who in turn spend money in the community while learning about or making meaningful connections to a historic place.
15. **Promote information directed to elected officials on the benefits of historic preservation.** Historic preservation needs political support. At the state level, an annual summary of each state legislative district with facts and figures about the positive impact preservation has made helps draw the connections for legislators and spotlights the way preservation brings value to their district.
16. **Strengthen history programs in statewide elementary education curriculum.** Teach children why local places are significant, curious, beautiful, entertaining, and in other ways unique, and as they share the enthusiasm for what they learned with their parents, caregivers, and family, the network of people who care for local places grows, along with ensuring the next generation will appreciate and protect historic assets.

Option	Votes	Option	Votes
1	4	9	3
2	0	10	2
3	19	11	23
4	45	12	13
5	8	13	3
6	7	14	19
7	9	15	13
8	15	16	1

Renumbered based on the number of votes:

- (45 votes, option 4) **Expand existing revenue streams and financial incentives to fund and support the rehabilitation and adaptive use of historic resources.**
- (23 votes, option 11) **Revitalize Main Street districts and traditional downtowns.**
- (19 votes, **tied**, option 3, **tied**) **Provide funding and technical assistance for Historic Preservation Commission education and training.**
- (19 votes, **tied**, option 14, **tied**) **Strengthen heritage tourism statewide to help promote area culture, attract visitors, and increase local revenue.**
- (15 votes, option 8) **Promote greater diversity and recognition of underrepresented communities in local history programs and historic preservation initiatives.**
- (13 votes, **tied**, option 12, **tied**) **Create attainable housing using historic preservation to rehabilitate vacant buildings and revitalize neighborhoods.**
- (13 votes, **tied**, option 15, **tied**) **Promote information directed to elected officials on the benefits of historic preservation.**



- (9 votes, option 7) **Develop the next generation of preservation advocates.**
- (8 votes, option 5) **Preserve and protect archaeological sites and cultural landscapes.**
- (7 votes, option 6) **Support continued cultural and historic resource surveys and documentation activities using the latest digital technologies.**
- (4 votes, option 1) **Improve access to National Register, and architectural and cultural survey information and data.**
- (3 votes, tied, option 9, tied) **Enhance capacity-building for staff and volunteers of preservation and history-related groups.**
- (3 votes, tied, option 13, tied) **Expand the use of preservation tools such as Cultural Districts, Conservation Districts, Legacy and Marker programs, and promote Context-sensitive design in historic districts and neighborhoods.**
- (2 votes, option 10) **Strengthen a community's preservation ethic by adopting or updating protective preservation ordinances.**
- (1 vote, option 16) **Strengthen history programs in statewide elementary education curriculum.**
- (0 votes, option 2) **Expand public education and outreach programs regarding Illinois' history, historic preservation benefits, and IL-SHPO programming.**

#### **Station 6: What is your vision?**

##### Comments:

- Save the historically significant group camps in Pere Marquette State Park. Built by CCC in 30s and 40s; in deep state of neglect. Camp Ouatoga, Potawatomi, and Piasa.
- Funding for preservation of original windows - public and privately owned buildings. Tax credit?
- More grants and other resources to help us tell our story.
- Have school board, city, state, feds, take care of property or have controlled burns to destroy property. (R.R.)
- My vision of Alton is a vibrant community with a high[?] sense of place which draws people to visit, recreate, dine, shop, play, and also to live. It has restaurants, small businesses, parks, all in and around historical sites which have been preserved.
- An apprenticeship program for proper historic preservation is desperately needed. Very few contractors have the knowledge to do it right and they are all nearing retirement.
- Restore old houses instead of tearing down.
- Have preservation trade school or have Bob Yapp School Branch.
- Make Alton riverfront pedestrian friendly, beautiful, walkable, sittable, bike path that connects from riverfront park to river road.
- Have activities for cruise ships and tourists.
- Think Williamsburg, Hampton Court Palace; world-class living history museum in Alton. Traditional crafts, potters, glassblowers, millinery, rug makers, tailors, quarrying, printers, stone masons, newspaper, brick masons.
- Provide education for cities confronting climate change challenges like flooding, drought, and human challenges of losing population.

#### **Station 6: Share your success story.**

##### Comments:

- The Milton Schoolhouse in Alton is undergoing a huge transformation after many years of vacancy. It is now a coffee shop, small business hub, and air B&B.
- In Belleville, IL, the old Hotel Belleville was redeveloped into a low-income senior housing property. The historic renovation was thoughtfully done and brought the building back to life.

## **ILLINOIS STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN**

### **IN-PERSON REGIONAL WORKSHOP BLOOMINGTON**

**February 14, 2023, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., CDT**

#### **Workshop Summary**

##### **Public Responses to Workshop Exhibits**

###### **Station 1: Project Overview**

- Illinois State Historic Preservation Office
- National Register of Historic Places
- Certified Local Government Program
- Cultural Resource Protection, Section 106 and 707
- Tax Incentive Programs
  - Federal Historic Tax Credits
  - Illinois Historic Preservation Tax Credits
  - River Edge Historic Tax Credits
  - Property Tax Assessment Freeze Program

Question: which SHPO program or tax incentive program is a priority for you?

Answers:

- Expand State Tax Credits to other economically distressed cities and towns.
- Tax incentive programs, but review required % costs have increased so much for homes that 25% is astronomical!
- Tax incentive programs; tax credit.

###### **Station 2: National Register Landmarks and Districts**

- National Register of Historic Places
- National Historic Landmarks
- State Historic Sites
- National Heritage Areas
- National Historic Trails
- National Historic Sites
- National Historical Parks
- National Scenic Byways

###### **Station 3: Impact of Preservation**

- Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program
- Illinois Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program
- Rivers Edge Historic Tax Credits
- Property Tax Assessment Freeze Program
- Illinois Main Street Program
- Certified Local Government Program

Question: What are your ideas for the Illinois CLG program?

Answers:

- Guidance for commissions on areas that have a labor shortage for contractors who specialize in historic renovations.

- “Scholarship” type programs for preservation focused trades. Shortage of labor and knowledge to do the work is a big issue.
- Better guidance for Commissioners on acceptable materials for residential projects (such as window replacement).
- Better communication about what they do.
- More outreach, training, and education is required in marginalized communities.

**Station 4: Emerging Resources**

- Architectural Styles Since 1950
- Resources Associated with Underrepresented and Minority Groups
- Intangible Heritage (Cultural Practices, Festivals, Storytelling)
- Sites Associated with Women’s History
- Traditional Cultural Properties and Sacred Sites

**Station 4: What Historic and Cultural Resources are Most Important to Protect? (voting exercise)**

1. **Traditional Housing.** Small, inexpensive houses are targets for demolition and replacement with a new house many times larger and more expensive. This pattern removes affordable housing stock from communities.
2. **Main Street Commercial Districts.** Historically, suburban sprawl and new retail construction centered around big-box stores resulted in disinvestment in traditional Main Street commercial districts. Today online retailing is another significant threat to traditional commercial districts.
3. **State Historic Sites.** Illinois has a rich collection of state-owned historic sites that help tell the unique history of various regions of our state. State budgeting constraints reduce the time these sites are open to the public and result in a large backlog of maintenance projects. Lack of maintenance leads to further deterioration of these significant public assets.
4. **Agricultural Properties** (farmhouses, barns, productive fields). Industrial-scale agriculture renders small family farms obsolete, and the traditional barns used on family farms too small to be useful to these large-scale operations. With the efficiencies of new crop hybrids, less acreage produces the same yield resulting in fields being removed from productive farm use.
5. **Factories and Industrial Properties.** Shrinking industrial and manufacturing output renders historic industrial properties obsolete.
6. **Historic Schools.** Communities consolidate schools due to declining enrollment or build large new schools to attract families to the community. Historic schools are determined surplus and left vacant.
7. **Archaeological Sites.** Archaeological sites from the prehistoric to the 20th-century historic period help tell a more complete and inclusive story of Illinois’ history, and are at risk from development as well as looting.
8. **Public Parks, Coastline, and Cemeteries.** Parks and coastlines are usually highly desirable locations, resulting in pressure for private acquisition. Cemeteries often suffer from neglect and do not receive the upkeep and stewardship they need.
9. **Historic Resources at Risk Due to Climate Change.** Flooding, tornadoes, and other natural disasters damage or destroy historic resources.

Option	Votes
1	23
2	21
3	13
4	4
5	5
6	6
7	11
8	11
9	7

Renumbered based on the number of votes:

- **Traditional Housing** (23 votes)
- **Main Street Commercial Districts** (21 votes)
- **State Historic Sites** (13 votes)
- **Archaeological Sites (tied)** (11 votes)
- **Public Parks, Coastline, and Cemeteries (tied)** (11 votes)
- **Historic Resources at Risk Due to Climate Change** (7 votes)
- **Historic Schools** (6 votes)
- **Factories and Industrial Properties** (5 votes)
- **Agricultural Properties** (4 votes)

## Station 5: State Map. Place a sticker on the map and fill out a comment card to share thoughts about places in IL.

Comment cards:

- Resource type: Residential/Institutional; Location: Normal; Additional Info: Broadview Manor.
- Resource type: Park; Location: Fell Park, Normal; Additional Info: Fell Park has a historic water tower and amazing community that takes pride in the neighborhood.
- Resource type: Residential; Location: 607 N. Main, Normal.
- Resource type: School, now residence; Location: E. Washington, Bloomington; Additional Info: Old Bloomington High School.
- Resource type: Site; Location: Eastern McLean County; Additional Info: Kickapoo Village Site. Aggressive farming destroying cultural sites and archaeological sites could be damaged.
- Resource type: School; Location: Normal; Additional Info: Thomas Metcalf Lab School.
- Resource type: Historic Houses; Location: Franklin Square, Bloomington; Additional Info: demolition by neglect issues and underfunded owners who may or may not be willing to work on them.
- Resource type: Church; Location: Park Methodist Church, 704 S Allin St., Bloomington; Additional Info: continuing abandonment of significant church building in need of reuse - guidance on how to repurpose.
- Resource type: Site - Zoo; Location: Miller Park; Additional Info: Katthoefer Animal House, great architect-designed building being neglected.

## Station 6: Historic Preservation Planning Priority Exercise (voting)

1. **Improve access to National Register, and architectural and cultural survey information and data.** The IL-SHPO collects data from Certified Local Government communities and others statewide about historic and potentially historic buildings, structures, objects, sites, and districts. This database, *HARGIS*, is an important clearinghouse of information for property owners, interested citizens, and researchers.
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11. **Revitalize Main Street districts and traditional downtowns.** Economic reinvestment through the rehabilitation and reuse of commercial and other downtown buildings stimulates a vibrant community and contributes to the economy through new businesses, jobs, and housing, increased tax revenue, and social opportunities while eliminating blight and vacancies.
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13. **Expand the use of preservation tools such as Cultural Districts, Conservation Districts, Legacy and Marker programs, and promote Context-sensitive design in historic districts and neighborhoods.** Cultural districts help draw

attention to distinctive assets in the community such as public art; legacy programs support long-standing businesses or festivals that help define the community's history; and context-sensitive design can bridge the divide between new construction and historic buildings, enhancing historic character.

14. **Strengthen heritage tourism statewide to help promote area culture, attract visitors, and increase local revenue.** Unique communities, historic places, and cultural attractions appeal to visitors who in turn spend money in the community while learning about or making meaningful connections to a historic place.
15. **Promote information directed to elected officials on the benefits of historic preservation.** Historic preservation needs political support. At the state level, an annual summary of each state legislative district with facts and figures about the positive impact preservation has made helps draw the connections for legislators and spotlights the way preservation brings value to their district.
16. **Strengthen history programs in statewide elementary education curriculum.** Teach children why local places are significant, curious, beautiful, entertaining, and in other ways unique, and as they share the enthusiasm for what they learned with their parents, caregivers, and family, the network of people who care for local places grows, along with ensuring the next generation will appreciate and protect historic assets.

Option	Votes		Option	Votes
1	2		9	9
2	11		10	5
3	7		11	21
4	14		12	25
5	10		13	7
6	4		14	13
7	15		15	5
8	20		16	15

Do you have any Additional Priorities?

Answer:

- The craftspeople who are needed to preserve are not being trained. We need people who know how to do the work.
- Evaluating the material needs of historic preservation - is it enough for property to appear historic (modern materials shaped) or is it important that the material itself be historic (using old-growth timber, for example).

Renumbered based on the number of votes:

- (25 votes, option 12) **Create attainable housing using historic preservation to rehabilitate vacant buildings and revitalize neighborhoods.**
- (21 votes, option 11) **Revitalize Main Street districts and traditional downtowns.**
- (20 votes, option 8) **Promote greater diversity and recognition of underrepresented communities in local history programs and historic preservation initiatives.**
- (15 votes, **tied**, option 7) **Develop the next generation of preservation advocates.**
- (15 votes, **tied**, option 16) **Strengthen history programs in statewide elementary education curriculum.**
- (14 votes, option 4) **Expand existing revenue streams and financial incentives to fund and support the rehabilitation and adaptive use of historic resources.**
- (13 votes, option 14) **Strengthen heritage tourism statewide to help promote area culture, attract visitors, and increase local revenue.**
- (11 votes, option 2) **Expand public education and outreach programs regarding Illinois' history, historic preservation benefits, and IL-SHPO programming.**
- (10 votes, option 5) **Preserve and protect archaeological sites and cultural landscapes.**
- (9 votes, option 9) **Enhance capacity-building for staff and volunteers of preservation and history-related groups.**
- (7 votes, **tied**, option 3) **Provide funding and technical assistance for Historic Preservation Commission education and training.**
- (7 votes, **tied**, option 13) **Expand the use of preservation tools such as Cultural Districts, Conservation Districts, Legacy and Marker programs, and promote Context-sensitive design in historic districts and neighborhoods.**
- (5 votes, **tied**, option 10) **Strengthen a community's preservation ethic by adopting or updating protective preservation ordinances.**

- (5 votes, **tied**, option 15) **Promote information directed to elected officials on the benefits of historic preservation.**
- (4 votes, option 6) **Support continued cultural and historic resource surveys and documentation activities using the latest digital technologies.**
- (2 votes, option 1) **Improve access to National Register, and architectural and cultural survey information and data.**

**Station 6: What is your vision?**

Comments:

- Promote greater outreach, education, and funding to marginalized communities.
- Fund homebuyers-owner occupied- to restore historic housing stock. Do not penalize them with fees. Help them restore.
- Adaptive reuse programs in downtown areas to provide multi-use housing units.
- Establish partnerships with IL Tourism office; create program called "Authentic *Places*" based on IL Tourism's current "Authentic IL" program.
- Resources/guidance for areas that do not have a large supply of contractors who specialize in restoration of historic properties.
- Change zoning regulations to allow for greater density and multi-use structures.
- Create funding sources for accessibility code updates/modernization of historic buildings with minimal architectural impact.
- Completion of an area-wide resource of skilled workers for historic structures. Also, self-help resources for such skills.
- Addition of historic preservation to ecological and global warming toolbox.

**Station 6: Share your success story.**

Comments:

- Adaptive reuse of old McLean County Courthouse into a museum.

## **ILLINOIS STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN**

### **IN-PERSON REGIONAL WORKSHOP MARSHALL**

**February 16, 2023, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., CDT**

#### **Workshop Summary**

##### **Public Responses to Workshop Exhibits**

###### **Station 1: Project Overview**

- Illinois State Historic Preservation Office
- National Register of Historic Places
- Certified Local Government Program
- Cultural Resource Protection, Section 106 and 707
- Tax Incentive Programs
  - Federal Historic Tax Credits
  - Illinois Historic Preservation Tax Credits
  - River Edge Historic Tax Credits
  - Property Tax Assessment Freeze Program

Question: which SHPO program or tax incentive program is a priority for you?

Answers:

- Federal and State tax credits.
- Tax incentives for preservation of historic buildings and grant opportunities.
- Things to help encourage economic development.
- Tax incentives for preservation of historical buildings.
- Historic homeowners need to be aware of programs.

###### **Station 2: National Register Landmarks and Districts**

- National Register of Historic Places
- National Historic Landmarks
- State Historic Sites
- National Heritage Areas
- National Historic Trails
- National Historic Sites
- National Historical Parks
- National Scenic Byways

###### **Station 3: Impact of Preservation**

- Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program
- Illinois Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program
- Rivers Edge Historic Tax Credits
- Property Tax Assessment Freeze Program
- Illinois Main Street Program
- Certified Local Government Program

Question: What are your ideas for the Illinois CLG program?

Answers:

- Provide tax incentives to historic building owners of both for-profit and non-profit.
- [CLG] Deadlines for applications are continually changing. Can it be consistent? Grant applications seem more complicated than previous ones (pre-2016).

#### Station 4: Emerging Resources

- Architectural Styles Since 1950
- Resources Associated with Underrepresented and Minority Groups
- Intangible Heritage (Cultural Practices, Festivals, Storytelling)
- Sites Associated with Women's History
- Traditional Cultural Properties and Sacred Sites

#### Station 4: What Historic and Cultural Resources are Most Important to Protect? (voting exercise)

1. **Traditional Housing.** Small, inexpensive houses are targets for demolition and replacement with a new house many times larger and more expensive. This pattern removes affordable housing stock from communities.
2. **Main Street Commercial Districts.** Historically, suburban sprawl and new retail construction centered around big-box stores resulted in disinvestment in traditional Main Street commercial districts. Today online retailing is another significant threat to traditional commercial districts.
3. **State Historic Sites.** Illinois has a rich collection of state-owned historic sites that help tell the unique history of various regions of our state. State budgeting constraints reduce the time these sites are open to the public and result in a large backlog of maintenance projects. Lack of maintenance leads to further deterioration of these significant public assets.
4. **Agricultural Properties** (farmhouses, barns, productive fields). Industrial-scale agriculture renders small family farms obsolete, and the traditional barns used on family farms too small to be useful to these large-scale operations. With the efficiencies of new crop hybrids, less acreage produces the same yield resulting in fields being removed from productive farm use.
5. **Factories and Industrial Properties.** Shrinking industrial and manufacturing output renders historic industrial properties obsolete.
6. **Historic Schools.** Communities consolidate schools due to declining enrollment or build large new schools to attract families to the community. Historic schools are determined surplus and left vacant.
7. **Archaeological Sites.** Archaeological sites from the prehistoric to the 20th-century historic period help tell a more complete and inclusive story of Illinois' history, and are at risk from development as well as looting.
8. **Public Parks, Coastline, and Cemeteries.** Parks and coastlines are usually highly desirable locations, resulting in pressure for private acquisition. Cemeteries often suffer from neglect and do not receive the upkeep and stewardship they need.
9. **Historic Resources at Risk Due to Climate Change.** Flooding, tornadoes, and other natural disasters damage or destroy historic resources.

Option	Votes
1	6
2	26
3	24
4	8
5	4
6	5
7	10
8	6
9	1

Renumbered based on the number of votes:

- **Main Street Commercial Districts** (26 votes)
- **State Historic Sites** (24 votes)
- **Archaeological Sites** (10 votes)
- **Agricultural Properties** (8 votes)
- **Traditional Housing (tied)** (6 votes)
- **Public Parks, Coastline, and Cemeteries (tied)** (6 votes)
- **Historic Schools** (5 votes)
- **Factories and Industrial Properties** (4 votes)
- **Historic Resources at Risk Due to Climate Change** (1 vote)



## Station 5: State Map. Place a sticker on the map and fill out a comment card to share thoughts about places in IL.

Comment cards:

- Resource type: Commercial; Location: Marshall; Additional Info: Illinois' old[est] hotel: owner is taking too long to renovate.
- Resource type: Commercial; Location: Marshall; Additional Info: Historic District, Marshall - TIFF monies.
- Resource type: Commercial; Location: Marris Building, Downtown Marshall; Additional Info: Needs funds to secure building.
- Resource type: Commercial; Location: Archer House, downtown Marshall; Additional Info: Illinois' oldest hotel.
- Resource type: Structure; Location: Old National Road, west of Marshall; Additional Info: Stone bridge, 1800s. Promote and support bike trails.
- Resource type: Park; Location: National Trail Bike Trail; Additional Info: Need more state awareness to complete this project.
- Resource type: Commercial; Location: Marris Building, Marshall; Additional Info: needs to be saved. It is a gem and needs to have a sizeable investment to strengthen structure.
- Resource type: Commercial; Location: Marris Furniture Store Building, south side of Square, Marshall; Additional Info: This building is a large building which serves as the anchor building for the south quarter of our square. It is in poor architectural shape and will greatly change the total thumbprint of the square. It is currently owned by the Genealogical Society which does not have the physical or monetary resources to address.
- Resource type: One-room School; Location: north of Martinsville; Additional Info: Restored and used for historical benefits. Lincoln School.
- Resource type: Building - Library; Location: Archer Avenue, Marshall; Additional Info: Marshall Public Library.
- Resource type: Park; Location: Clark County; Additional Info: National Road bicycle path. This project has energy behind it, needs additional resources for this national treasure.
- Resource type: Cultural Event; Location: Palestine; Additional Info: [Pioneer City] Rodeo.
- Resource type: Building; Location: Robinson, IL; Additional Info: Business Innovation, Health Museum.
- Resource type: Cultural Event; Location: Oblong; Additional Info: Halloween night-time parade.
- Resource type: Building - State Historic Sites; Location: Lincoln Log Cabin; Additional Info: Fund the sites we have! No staff at historic sites is killing them slowly. Hire staff and preserve sites.
- Resource type: Building - Movie Theater; Location: Charleston; Additional Info: 1935 Art Deco theater listed in NRHP. Vacant since it closed c2010 by AMC.

## Station 6: Historic Preservation Planning Priority Exercise (voting)

1. **Improve access to National Register, and architectural and cultural survey information and data.** The IL-SHPO collects data from Certified Local Government communities and others statewide about historic and potentially historic buildings, structures, objects, sites, and districts. This database, *HARGIS*, is an important clearinghouse of information for property owners, interested citizens, and researchers.
2. **Expand public education and outreach programs regarding Illinois' history, historic preservation benefits, and IL-SHPO programming.** Deepen public awareness about Illinois' rich history. Engage the public in a variety of ways such as the *Historic Illinois* magazine in digital format, with historic markers, and repair and restoration programs that assist property owners in being good stewards of Illinois' irreplaceable assets.
3. **Provide funding and technical assistance for Historic Preservation Commission education and training.** All-volunteer Historic Preservation Commissions are a vital source of local expertise regarding preservation issues. Training and professional development, through for example, the re-establishment of the Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commissions, supports their work.
4. **Expand existing revenue streams and financial incentives to fund and support the rehabilitation and adaptive use of historic resources.** New sources of funding for restoration projects expand the opportunities for preservation across the state. Successful rehabilitation has the potential to create a domino effect of additional revitalization.
5. **Preserve and protect archaeological sites and cultural landscapes.** Ruins, shipwrecks, historic roads, cemeteries, and American Indian sites are only a few examples of places that embody our shared history. Protecting them enhances our ability to visit and learn from them, expanding our understanding of local, state, and national history.
6. **Support continued cultural and historic resource surveys and documentation activities using the latest digital technologies.** Survey work helps to identify, and document threatened, overlooked, and emerging resources such as those from the recent past or associated with underrepresented communities. Re-establish the *Illinois Register of Historic Places* to document their significance.
7. **Develop the next generation of preservation advocates.** Sustain the preservation movement and secure its future by seeking and welcoming the next generation of preservation advocates. Cross-cultural and cross-generational outreach and educational initiatives foster a broad appreciation of local history and shared heritage.
8. **Promote greater diversity and recognition of underrepresented communities in local history programs and historic preservation initiatives.** Incorporating the stories of underrepresented communities in future National Register nominations preserves the significant but often hidden histories of Illinois' racial and ethnic groups.
9. **Enhance capacity-building for staff and volunteers of preservation and history-related groups.** Foster long-term resilience and permanence of preservation advocacy organizations, historical societies, cultural institutions, and historic boards and commissions by supporting leadership capacity building, fundraising, and a strong presence in the community. Partnership opportunities between these local groups can help amplify their voices and missions.

10. **Strengthen a community's preservation ethic by adopting or updating protective preservation ordinances.**  
Encourage the protection of historic and cultural resources at the local level. Ordinances are an effective tool for managing changes to historic resources and neighborhoods including alteration and demolition and protecting the history and unique character of the community.
11. **Revitalize Main Street districts and traditional downtowns.** Economic reinvestment through the rehabilitation and reuse of commercial and other downtown buildings stimulates a vibrant community and contributes to the economy through new businesses, jobs, and housing, increased tax revenue, and social opportunities while eliminating blight and vacancies.
12. **Create attainable housing using historic preservation to rehabilitate vacant buildings and revitalize neighborhoods.**  
Encourage the preservation of older neighborhoods and preserve their identity through the rehabilitation of housing. This maintains local character and contributes to a vibrant community.
13. **Expand the use of preservation tools such as Cultural Districts, Conservation Districts, Legacy and Marker programs, and promote Context-sensitive design in historic districts and neighborhoods.** Cultural districts help draw attention to distinctive assets in the community such as public art; legacy programs support long-standing businesses or festivals that help define the community's history; and context-sensitive design can bridge the divide between new construction and historic buildings, enhancing historic character.
14. **Strengthen heritage tourism statewide to help promote area culture, attract visitors, and increase local revenue.**  
Unique communities, historic places, and cultural attractions appeal to visitors who in turn spend money in the community while learning about or making meaningful connections to a historic place.
15. **Promote information directed to elected officials on the benefits of historic preservation.** Historic preservation needs political support. At the state level, an annual summary of each state legislative district with facts and figures about the positive impact preservation has made helps draw the connections for legislators and spotlights the way preservation brings value to their district.
16. **Strengthen history programs in statewide elementary education curriculum.** Teach children why local places are significant, curious, beautiful, entertaining, and in other ways unique, and as they share the enthusiasm for what they learned with their parents, caregivers, and family, the network of people who care for local places grows, along with ensuring the next generation will appreciate and protect historic assets.

Option	Votes	Option	Votes
1	2	9	7
2	8	10	4
3	4	11	18
4	16	12	4
5	6	13	0
6	7	14	6
7	12	15	4
8	0	16	16

Renumbered based on the number of votes:

- (18 votes, option 11) **Revitalize Main Street districts and traditional downtowns.**
- (16 votes, **tied**, option 4) **Expand existing revenue streams and financial incentives to fund and support the rehabilitation and adaptive use of historic resources.**
- (16 votes, **tied**, option 16) **Strengthen history programs in statewide elementary education curriculum.**
- (12 votes, option 7) **Develop the next generation of preservation advocates.**
- (8 votes, option 2) **Expand public education and outreach programs regarding Illinois' history, historic preservation benefits, and IL-SHPO programming.**
- (7 votes, **tied**, option 6) **Support continued cultural and historic resource surveys and documentation activities using the latest digital technologies.**
- (7 votes, **tied**, option 9) **Enhance capacity-building for staff and volunteers of preservation and history-related groups.**
- (6 votes, **tied**, option 5) **Preserve and protect archaeological sites and cultural landscapes.**
- (6 votes, **tied**, option 14) **Strengthen heritage tourism statewide to help promote area culture, attract visitors, and increase local revenue.**
- (4 votes, **tied**, option 3) **Provide funding and technical assistance for Historic Preservation Commission education and training.**
- (4 votes, **tied**, option 10) **Strengthen a community's preservation ethic by adopting or updating protective preservation ordinances.**
- (4 votes, **tied**, option 12) **Create attainable housing using historic preservation to rehabilitate vacant buildings and revitalize neighborhoods.**
- (4 votes, **tied**, option 15) **Promote information directed to elected officials on the benefits of historic preservation.**

- (2 votes, option 1) **Improve access to National Register, and architectural and cultural survey information and data.**
- (0 votes, option 8) **Promote greater diversity and recognition of underrepresented communities in local history programs and historic preservation initiatives.**
- (0 votes, option 13) **Expand the use of preservation tools such as Cultural Districts, Conservation Districts, Legacy and Marker programs, and promote Context-sensitive design in historic districts and neighborhoods.**

**Station 6: What is your vision?**

Comments:

- Tie tourism to preservation efforts.
- Preserve historic downtown districts.
- Coordinate with Illinois Humanities.
- Coordinate with public libraries.
- Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site - structures are CCC/NPS built and are falling apart due to state neglect. Fund existing sites adequately.
- Once the State owns a facility, they think they are done funding it. IDNR needs to support its historic sites with further funding for both staffing and **preservation.**

**Station 6: Share your success story.**

Comments:

- A group coming together to look at the future to save segments of the National Road to build a bike trail.
- Refurbishing Harlan Hall in Marshall. What could have been a parking lot resulting in people coming together to save a historically significant building.
- Our community held historic walking tours for the first time this summer on Friday evenings prior to our band concerts. Participation ranged from 20-60 individuals. (Marshall Chamber).

## **ILLINOIS STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN**

### **IN-PERSON REGIONAL WORKSHOP ROCK ISLAND**

**March 7, 2023, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., CDT**

#### **Workshop Summary**

##### **Public Responses to Workshop Exhibits**

###### **Station 1: Project Overview**

- Illinois State Historic Preservation Office
- National Register of Historic Places
- Certified Local Government Program
- Cultural Resource Protection, Section 106 and 707
- Tax Incentive Programs
  - Federal Historic Tax Credits
  - Illinois Historic Preservation Tax Credits
  - River Edge Historic Tax Credits
  - Property Tax Assessment Freeze Program

Question: which SHPO program or tax incentive program is a priority for you?

Answers: No responses.

###### **Station 2: National Register Landmarks and Districts**

- National Register of Historic Places
- National Historic Landmarks
- State Historic Sites
- National Heritage Areas
- National Historic Trails
- National Historic Sites
- National Historical Parks
- National Scenic Byways

###### **Station 3: Impact of Preservation**

- Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program
- Illinois Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program
- Rivers Edge Historic Tax Credits
- Property Tax Assessment Freeze Program
- Illinois Main Street Program
- Certified Local Government Program

Question: What are your ideas for the Illinois CLG program?

Answers: No responses.

###### **Station 4: Emerging Resources**

- Architectural Styles Since 1950
- Resources Associated with Underrepresented and Minority Groups
- Intangible Heritage (Cultural Practices, Festivals, Storytelling)
- Sites Associated with Women's History

- Traditional Cultural Properties and Sacred Sites

**Station 4: What Historic and Cultural Resources are Most Important to Protect? (voting exercise)**

1. **Traditional Housing.** Small, inexpensive houses are targets for demolition and replacement with a new house many times larger and more expensive. This pattern removes affordable housing stock from communities.
2. **Main Street Commercial Districts.** Historically, suburban sprawl and new retail construction centered around big-box stores resulted in disinvestment in traditional Main Street commercial districts. Today online retailing is another significant threat to traditional commercial districts.
3. **State Historic Sites.** Illinois has a rich collection of state-owned historic sites that help tell the unique history of various regions of our state. State budgeting constraints reduce the time these sites are open to the public and result in a large backlog of maintenance projects. Lack of maintenance leads to further deterioration of these significant public assets.
4. **Agricultural Properties** (farmhouses, barns, productive fields). Industrial-scale agriculture renders small family farms obsolete, and the traditional barns used on family farms too small to be useful to these large-scale operations. With the efficiencies of new crop hybrids, less acreage produces the same yield resulting in fields being removed from productive farm use.
5. **Factories and Industrial Properties.** Shrinking industrial and manufacturing output renders historic industrial properties obsolete.
6. **Historic Schools.** Communities consolidate schools due to declining enrollment or build large new schools to attract families to the community. Historic schools are determined surplus and left vacant.
7. **Archaeological Sites.** Archaeological sites from the prehistoric to the 20th-century historic period help tell a more complete and inclusive story of Illinois' history, and are at risk from development as well as looting.
8. **Public Parks, Coastline, and Cemeteries.** Parks and coastlines are usually highly desirable locations, resulting in pressure for private acquisition. Cemeteries often suffer from neglect and do not receive the upkeep and stewardship they need.
9. **Historic Resources at Risk Due to Climate Change.** Flooding, tornadoes, and other natural disasters damage or destroy historic resources.

Option	Votes
1	14
2	31
3	14
4	7
5	7
6	17
7	9
8	14
9	3

Renumbered based on the number of votes:

- **Main Street Commercial Districts** (31 votes)
- **Historic Schools** (17 votes)
- **Traditional Housing (tied)** (14 votes)
- **State Historic Sites (tied)** (14 votes)
- **Public Parks, Coastline, and Cemeteries (tied)** (14 votes)
- **Archaeological Sites** (9 votes)
- **Agricultural Properties (tied)** (7 votes)
- **Factories and Industrial Properties (tied)** (7 votes)
- **Historic Resources at Risk Due to Climate Change** (3 votes)

**Station 5: State Map. Place a sticker on the map and fill out a comment card to share thoughts about places in IL.**

Comment cards:

- Resource type: Cemetery; Location: 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Moline; Additional Info: Riverside Cemetery.
- Resource type: Structure, Site; Location: Sylvan Island Nature Area; Additional Info: at old dam on Mississippi River channel.
- Resource type: Park; Location: Riverside, Moline; Additional Info: none provided.
- Resource type: Commercial; Location: 499 14<sup>th</sup> Street; Additional Info: Vacant.
- Resource type: School; Location: 17<sup>th</sup> SE? & 7<sup>th</sup> Ave?, Moline; Additional Info: Industrial Arts Building.
- Resource type: Schools; Location: Lincoln School, Rock Island; Additional Info: Schools should be repurposed, not torn down.
- Resource type: Park; Location: Francis Park, Kewanee, IL; Additional Info: Frederick Francis Woodland Palace in the NRHP.

- Resource type: Commercial; Location: South Park; Additional Info: Our shopping centers and malls are closing at an alarming rate - similar to our downtown 50-60 years ago.
- Resource type: Commercial; Location: 1404 6<sup>th</sup> Ave.; Additional Info: In disrepair.
- Resource type: Church; Location: Rock Island, Moline, East Moline, Silvis; Additional Info: many churches were formed on their historical past in Europe. These churches are dying now that this ethnicity link is gone. This should be memorialized in some way.
- Resource type: Commercial; Location: Rock Island; Additional Info: Rock Island Arsenal. Col Davenport House historic foundation. Receives no help in repairs and all work is donated.
- Resource type: Building; Location: Galena, IL; Additional Info: St. Mary's School.
- Resource type: Site; Location: Hanover, IL; Additional Info: Wapello Site.
- Resource type: School; Location: Moline, McKinley School, 5<sup>th</sup> Ave/41<sup>st</sup> St.; Additional Info: City now owns it.
- Resource type: Building; Location: Moline Ave.; Additional Info: Cleveland School.
- Resource type: Commercial; Location: Moline, 15<sup>th</sup> St/3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.[310 15<sup>th</sup> St]; Additional Info: [Wheelock/] Model Printers Building.
- Resource type: Commercial; Location: 18<sup>th</sup> St., Moline; Additional Info: Manual Arts Building, City now owns it.
- Resource type: Church; Location: Moline, 5<sup>th</sup> Ave, downtown; Additional Info: Lutheran Church.
- Resource type: Church; Location: Moline, 4<sup>th</sup> Ave, 40<sup>th</sup> St.; Additional Info: St. Mary's Church.
- Resource type: Building; Location: Moline, 202 20<sup>th</sup> Street; Additional Info: Industrial Warehouse, Spiegel Building.
- Resource type: Dam; Location: Sylvan Island, Moline; Additional Info: Dam/Electric Turbine.
- Resource type: Church; Location: Rock Island, near Church of Peace.; Additional Info: Baptist Church.
- Resource type: Commercial; Location: Rock Island; Additional Info: Downtown.
- Resource type: Industrial; Location: Water Street, Rock Island; Additional Info: WPA Water Plant.
- Resource type: Industrial; Location: Sylvan Island; Additional Info: Ruins.
- Resource type: Building; Location: west and south Rock Island; Additional Info: Prince Hall.

#### Station 6: Historic Preservation Planning Priority Exercise (voting)

1. **Improve access to National Register, and architectural and cultural survey information and data.** The IL-SHPO collects data from Certified Local Government communities and others statewide about historic and potentially historic buildings, structures, objects, sites, and districts. This database, *HARGIS*, is an important clearinghouse of information for property owners, interested citizens, and researchers.
2. **Expand public education and outreach programs regarding Illinois' history, historic preservation benefits, and IL-SHPO programming.** Deepen public awareness about Illinois' rich history. Engage the public in a variety of ways such as the *Historic Illinois* magazine in digital format, with historic markers, and repair and restoration programs that assist property owners in being good stewards of Illinois' irreplaceable assets.
3. **Provide funding and technical assistance for Historic Preservation Commission education and training.** All-volunteer Historic Preservation Commissions are a vital source of local expertise regarding preservation issues. Training and professional development, through for example, the re-establishment of the Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commissions, supports their work.
4. **Expand existing revenue streams and financial incentives to fund and support the rehabilitation and adaptive use of historic resources.** New sources of funding for restoration projects expand the opportunities for preservation across the state. Successful rehabilitation has the potential to create a domino effect of additional revitalization.
5. **Preserve and protect archaeological sites and cultural landscapes.** Ruins, shipwrecks, historic roads, cemeteries, and American Indian sites are only a few examples of places that embody our shared history. Protecting them enhances our ability to visit and learn from them, expanding our understanding of local, state, and national history.
6. **Support continued cultural and historic resource surveys and documentation activities using the latest digital technologies.** Survey work helps to identify, and document threatened, overlooked, and emerging resources such as those from the recent past or associated with underrepresented communities. Re-establish the *Illinois Register of Historic Places* to document their significance.
7. **Develop the next generation of preservation advocates.** Sustain the preservation movement and secure its future by seeking and welcoming the next generation of preservation advocates. Cross-cultural and cross-generational outreach and educational initiatives foster a broad appreciation of local history and shared heritage.
8. **Promote greater diversity and recognition of underrepresented communities in local history programs and historic preservation initiatives.** Incorporating the stories of underrepresented communities in future National Register nominations preserves the significant but often hidden histories of Illinois' racial and ethnic groups.
9. **Enhance capacity-building for staff and volunteers of preservation and history-related groups.** Foster long-term resilience and permanence of preservation advocacy organizations, historical societies, cultural institutions, and historic boards and commissions by supporting leadership capacity building, fundraising, and a strong presence in the community. Partnership opportunities between these local groups can help amplify their voices and missions.
10. **Strengthen a community's preservation ethic by adopting or updating protective preservation ordinances.** Encourage the protection of historic and cultural resources at the local level. Ordinances are an effective tool for managing changes to historic resources and neighborhoods including alteration and demolition and protecting the history and unique character of the community.
11. **Revitalize Main Street districts and traditional downtowns.** Economic reinvestment through the rehabilitation and reuse of commercial and other downtown buildings stimulates a vibrant community and contributes to the economy

through new businesses, jobs, and housing, increased tax revenue, and social opportunities while eliminating blight and vacancies.

12. **Create attainable housing using historic preservation to rehabilitate vacant buildings and revitalize neighborhoods.** Encourage the preservation of older neighborhoods and preserve their identity through the rehabilitation of housing. This maintains local character and contributes to a vibrant community.
13. **Expand the use of preservation tools such as Cultural Districts, Conservation Districts, Legacy and Marker programs, and promote Context-sensitive design in historic districts and neighborhoods.** Cultural districts help draw attention to distinctive assets in the community such as public art; legacy programs support long-standing businesses or festivals that help define the community's history; and context-sensitive design can bridge the divide between new construction and historic buildings, enhancing historic character.
14. **Strengthen heritage tourism statewide to help promote area culture, attract visitors, and increase local revenue.** Unique communities, historic places, and cultural attractions appeal to visitors who in turn spend money in the community while learning about or making meaningful connections to a historic place.
15. **Promote information directed to elected officials on the benefits of historic preservation.** Historic preservation needs political support. At the state level, an annual summary of each state legislative district with facts and figures about the positive impact preservation has made helps draw the connections for legislators and spotlights the way preservation brings value to their district.
16. **Strengthen history programs in statewide elementary education curriculum.** Teach children why local places are significant, curious, beautiful, entertaining, and in other ways unique, and as they share the enthusiasm for what they learned with their parents, caregivers, and family, the network of people who care for local places grows, along with ensuring the next generation will appreciate and protect historic assets.

Option	Votes	Option	Votes
1	7	9	14
2	15	10	7
3	23	11	39
4	22	12	18
5	4	13	5
6	4	14	15
7	6	15	8
8	15	16	9

Renumbered based on the number of votes:

- (39 votes, option 11) **Revitalize Main Street districts and traditional downtowns.**
- (23 votes, option 3) **Provide funding and technical assistance for Historic Preservation Commission education and training.**
- (22 votes, option 4) **Expand existing revenue streams and financial incentives to fund and support the rehabilitation and adaptive use of historic resources.**
- (18 votes, option 12) **Create attainable housing using historic preservation to rehabilitate vacant buildings and revitalize neighborhoods.**
- (15 votes, **tied**, option 2) **Expand public education and outreach programs regarding Illinois' history, historic preservation benefits, and IL-SHPO programming.**
- (15 votes, **tied**, option 8) **Promote greater diversity and recognition of underrepresented communities in local history programs and historic preservation initiatives.**
- (15 votes, **tied**, option 14) **Strengthen heritage tourism statewide to help promote area culture, attract visitors, and increase local revenue.**
- (14 votes, option 9) **Enhance capacity-building for staff and volunteers of preservation and history-related groups.**
- (9 votes, option 16) **Strengthen history programs in statewide elementary education curriculum.**
- (8 votes, option 15) **Promote information directed to elected officials on the benefits of historic preservation.**
- (7 votes, **tied**, option 1) **Improve access to National Register, and architectural and cultural survey information and data.**
- (7 votes, **tied**, option 10) **Strengthen a community's preservation ethic by adopting or updating protective preservation ordinances.**
- (6 votes, option 7) **Develop the next generation of preservation advocates.**
- (5 votes, option 13) **Expand the use of preservation tools such as Cultural Districts, Conservation Districts, Legacy and Marker programs, and promote context-sensitive design in historic districts and neighborhoods.**
- (4 votes, **tied**, option 5) **Preserve and protect archaeological sites and cultural landscapes.**

- (4 votes, tied, option 6) **Support continued cultural and historic resource surveys and documentation activities using the latest digital technologies.**

**Station 6: What is your vision?**

Comments:

- Get more counties [to be] CLGs so [they] can partner (inter-government) with smaller towns.
- Foster inter-local/regional cooperation and networking.

**Station 6: Share your success story.**

Comments:

- In McHenry County, was able to prevent old Harmony School demolition by IDOT - US20 /Harmony Road. Was moved instead.
- Axis Hotel, 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Moline.
- Hauberg Mansion and Foundation, Rock Island.
- Downtown Historic Commercial Murphy House Lofts - conversion to four condos and restoration, Rock Island.
- Hauberg Estate.
- Hauberg Property.
- Former Mercer Carnegie Library, now High-Tech Small Town, Aledo, IL.
- Axis Hotel, 1630 5<sup>th</sup> Ave, Moline, IL. Historic renovation to hotel.
- John Deere Manson, Moline, listed as a National Landmark.
- Butterworth Center and Deere-Wiman House, Moline.



## **ILLINOIS STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN**

### **IN-PERSON REGIONAL WORKSHOP ROCKFORD**

**March 14, 2023, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., CDT**

#### **Workshop Summary**

##### **Public Responses to Workshop Exhibits**

###### **Station 1: Project Overview**

- Illinois State Historic Preservation Office
- National Register of Historic Places
- Certified Local Government Program
- Cultural Resource Protection, Section 106 and 707
- Tax Incentive Programs
  - Federal Historic Tax Credits
  - Illinois Historic Preservation Tax Credits
  - River Edge Historic Tax Credits
  - Property Tax Assessment Freeze Program

Question: which SHPO program or tax incentive program is a priority for you?

Answers:

- Continuation and expansion of Rivers Edge Historic Tax Credit.
- More promotion/education on reuse of historic schools (and similar buildings) that can be converted to residential (especially in more small-town and rural areas).
- Federal Tax Credits.
- Property Tax Freeze.
- Illinois Tax Credits.
- River Edge Tax Credits.
- Section 106 and 707.
- IL Historic Preservation Tax Credits.
- River Edge Tax Credits.
- Any financial help programs are good - money is the #1 requirement.

###### **Station 2: National Register Landmarks and Districts**

- National Register of Historic Places
- National Historic Landmarks
- State Historic Sites
- National Heritage Areas
- National Historic Trails
- National Historic Sites
- National Historical Parks
- National Scenic Byways

###### **Station 3: Impact of Preservation**

- Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program
- Illinois Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program
- Rivers Edge Historic Tax Credits

- Property Tax Assessment Freeze Program
- Illinois Main Street Program
- Certified Local Government Program

Question: What are your ideas for the Illinois CLG program?

Answers:

- Work with Landmarks Illinois (and other possible organizations) to have a statewide preservation conference and statewide training sessions for CLGs. This had been done prior to about 2015 or so.
- Training of HPC members has been lacking and is rather important.
- A central database of CLGs and listed properties would be so useful!
- Every county should have a CLG. This covers rural properties and can work in small towns through an intergovernmental agreement (IGA).
- Rockford's Preservation Commission needs help recruiting and training commission members.
- Local government officials (alders) need education on the commission's work and the promotion of enthusiasm for what the ordinance can do.

#### Station 4: Emerging Resources

- Architectural Styles Since 1950
- Resources Associated with Underrepresented and Minority Groups
- Intangible Heritage (Cultural Practices, Festivals, Storytelling)
- Sites Associated with Women's History
- Traditional Cultural Properties and Sacred Sites

#### Station 4: What Historic and Cultural Resources are Most Important to Protect? (voting exercise)

1. **Traditional Housing.** Small, inexpensive houses are targets for demolition and replacement with a new house many times larger and more expensive. This pattern removes affordable housing stock from communities.
2. **Main Street Commercial Districts.** Historically, suburban sprawl and new retail construction centered around big-box stores resulted in disinvestment in traditional Main Street commercial districts. Today online retailing is another significant threat to traditional commercial districts.
3. **State Historic Sites.** Illinois has a rich collection of state-owned historic sites that help tell the unique history of various regions of our state. State budgeting constraints reduce the time these sites are open to the public and result in a large backlog of maintenance projects. Lack of maintenance leads to further deterioration of these significant public assets.
4. **Agricultural Properties** (farmhouses, barns, productive fields). Industrial-scale agriculture renders small family farms obsolete, and the traditional barns used on family farms too small to be useful to these large-scale operations. With the efficiencies of new crop hybrids, less acreage produces the same yield resulting in fields being removed from productive farm use.
5. **Factories and Industrial Properties.** Shrinking industrial and manufacturing output renders historic industrial properties obsolete.
6. **Historic Schools.** Communities consolidate schools due to declining enrollment or build large new schools to attract families to the community. Historic schools are determined surplus and left vacant.
7. **Archaeological Sites.** Archaeological sites from the prehistoric to the 20th-century historic period help tell a more complete and inclusive story of Illinois' history, and are at risk from development as well as looting.
8. **Public Parks, Coastline, and Cemeteries.** Parks and coastlines are usually highly desirable locations, resulting in pressure for private acquisition. Cemeteries often suffer from neglect and do not receive the upkeep and stewardship they need.
9. **Historic Resources at Risk Due to Climate Change.** Flooding, tornadoes, and other natural disasters damage or destroy historic resources.

Option	Votes
1	8
2	16
3	3
4	5
5	18
6	7
7	2
8	6
9	5

Renumbered based on the number of votes:

- **Factories and Industrial Properties** (18 votes)
- **Main Street Commercial Districts** (16 votes)

- **Traditional Housing** (8 votes)
- **Historic Schools** (7 votes)
- **Public Parks, Coastline, and Cemeteries** (6 votes)
- **Agricultural Properties (tied)** (5 votes)
- **Historic Resources at Risk Due to Climate Change (tied)** (5 votes)
- **State Historic Sites** (3 votes)
- **Archaeological Sites** (2 votes)

**Station 5: State Map. Place a sticker on the map and fill out a comment card to share thoughts about places in IL.**

Comment cards:

- Resource type: Old Downtown Theaters; Location: such as in Effingham, Hoopeston, etc.; Additional Info: Old theaters in smaller towns and cities face uphill battles to be converted and reused. Perhaps there can be a Classic Cinemas-type business (as in the Tivoli in Downers Grove and the York in Elmhurst) to help or coordinate efforts in this area. Theaters bring people into these towns/cities and bring residents together.
- Resource type: Downtown Commercial Rows; Location: Statewide; Additional Info: former or prospective "Main Street" type commercial rows that are struggling.
- Resource type: Solon Bailey House; Location: Town of Grant Park, Kankakee County, IL; Additional Info: preservation efforts for a notable residential home and property.
- Resource type: Schools; Location: Statewide; Additional Info: Older parochial and public schools can be converted to housing. Private schools seem to be particularly subject to demolition.
- Resource type: Churches; Location: Chicago, South Chicago; Additional Info: St. Adalbert's; St. Michael's on South Shore Drive; Immaculate Conception, South Chicago.
- Resource type: Single Family Houses; Location: Joliet and statewide; Additional Info: Single family homes being converted to rentals, takes "affordable housing" away from prospective owners and into absentee (possibly) landlords.
- Resource type: Industrial Site; Location: Off of Broadway and Kishwaukee; Additional Info: Testor Industrial Building.
- Resource type: Church; Location: next to armory; Additional Info: it's wonderful and a small project.
- Resource type: Park/Waterfront Development; Location: Kankakee, IL; Additional Info: They want to retain the ruins of an old boat house - cool!
- Resource type: Commercial; Location: Jefferson Street [Rockford]; Additional Info: Elks Club [in jeopardy].
- Resource type: Park/Site; Location: Beattie Park, (N. Main); Additional Info: Native American mounds.
- Resource type: Commercial; Location: Sibley, IL; Additional Info: Commercial district, one block long, one story buildings on Route 9.
- Resource type: Residence; Location: Poplar Grove Road and Lawrenceville, Belvidere; Additional Info: Limestone (?) residence - not sure of current ownership status.
- Resource type: School; Location: Harvard, IL; Additional Info: Central School.

**Station 6: Historic Preservation Planning Priority Exercise (voting)**

1. **Improve access to National Register, and architectural and cultural survey information and data.** The IL-SHPO collects data from Certified Local Government communities and others statewide about historic and potentially historic buildings, structures, objects, sites, and districts. This database, *HARGIS*, is an important clearinghouse of information for property owners, interested citizens, and researchers.
2. **Expand public education and outreach programs regarding Illinois' history, historic preservation benefits, and IL-SHPO programming.** Deepen public awareness about Illinois' rich history. Engage the public in a variety of ways such as the *Historic Illinois* magazine in digital format, with historic markers, and repair and restoration programs that assist property owners in being good stewards of Illinois' irreplaceable assets.
3. **Provide funding and technical assistance for Historic Preservation Commission education and training.** All-volunteer Historic Preservation Commissions are a vital source of local expertise regarding preservation issues. Training and professional development, through for example, the re-establishment of the Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commissions, supports their work.
4. **Expand existing revenue streams and financial incentives to fund and support the rehabilitation and adaptive use of historic resources.** New sources of funding for restoration projects expand the opportunities for preservation across the state. Successful rehabilitation has the potential to create a domino effect of additional revitalization.
5. **Preserve and protect archaeological sites and cultural landscapes.** Ruins, shipwrecks, historic roads, cemeteries, and American Indian sites are only a few examples of places that embody our shared history. Protecting them enhances our ability to visit and learn from them, expanding our understanding of local, state, and national history.
6. **Support continued cultural and historic resource surveys and documentation activities using the latest digital technologies.** Survey work helps to identify, and document threatened, overlooked, and emerging resources such as those from the recent past or associated with underrepresented communities. Re-establish the *Illinois Register of Historic Places* to document their significance.
7. **Develop the next generation of preservation advocates.** Sustain the preservation movement and secure its future by seeking and welcoming the next generation of preservation advocates. Cross-cultural and cross-generational outreach and educational initiatives foster a broad appreciation of local history and shared heritage.

8. **Promote greater diversity and recognition of underrepresented communities in local history programs and historic preservation initiatives.** Incorporating the stories of underrepresented communities in future National Register nominations preserves the significant but often hidden histories of Illinois' racial and ethnic groups.
9. **Enhance capacity-building for staff and volunteers of preservation and history-related groups.** Foster long-term resilience and permanence of preservation advocacy organizations, historical societies, cultural institutions, and historic boards and commissions by supporting leadership capacity building, fundraising, and a strong presence in the community. Partnership opportunities between these local groups can help amplify their voices and missions.
10. **Strengthen a community's preservation ethic by adopting or updating protective preservation ordinances.** Encourage the protection of historic and cultural resources at the local level. Ordinances are an effective tool for managing changes to historic resources and neighborhoods including alteration and demolition and protecting the history and unique character of the community.
11. **Revitalize Main Street districts and traditional downtowns.** Economic reinvestment through the rehabilitation and reuse of commercial and other downtown buildings stimulates a vibrant community and contributes to the economy through new businesses, jobs, and housing, increased tax revenue, and social opportunities while eliminating blight and vacancies.
12. **Create attainable housing using historic preservation to rehabilitate vacant buildings and revitalize neighborhoods.** Encourage the preservation of older neighborhoods and preserve their identity through the rehabilitation of housing. This maintains local character and contributes to a vibrant community.
13. **Expand the use of preservation tools such as Cultural Districts, Conservation Districts, Legacy and Marker programs, and promote Context-sensitive design in historic districts and neighborhoods.** Cultural districts help draw attention to distinctive assets in the community such as public art; legacy programs support long-standing businesses or festivals that help define the community's history; and context-sensitive design can bridge the divide between new construction and historic buildings, enhancing historic character.
14. **Strengthen heritage tourism statewide to help promote area culture, attract visitors, and increase local revenue.** Unique communities, historic places, and cultural attractions appeal to visitors who in turn spend money in the community while learning about or making meaningful connections to a historic place.
15. **Promote information directed to elected officials on the benefits of historic preservation.** Historic preservation needs political support. At the state level, an annual summary of each state legislative district with facts and figures about the positive impact preservation has made helps draw the connections for legislators and spotlights the way preservation brings value to their district.
16. **Strengthen history programs in statewide elementary education curriculum.** Teach children why local places are significant, curious, beautiful, entertaining, and in other ways unique, and as they share the enthusiasm for what they learned with their parents, caregivers, and family, the network of people who care for local places grows, along with ensuring the next generation will appreciate and protect historic assets.

Option	Votes		Option	Votes
1	9		9	2
2	10		10	9
3	11		11	12
4	17		12	8
5	8		13	8
6	5		14	4
7	6		15	6
8	8		16	7

Do you have any Additional Priorities?

- For parks, nature areas, etc., and other public spaces, look into partnerships with Trust for Public Land, Nature Conservancy, Sierra Club, etc.
- After the absence of the CLG Coordinator, the position was filled a couple years ago. It is taking some time to get training and information to CLGs. If Landmarks Illinois and IL-SHPO had resources, it would be great to enhance things like the Suburban Preservation Alliance and groups for other entities like Central Illinois, etc. How about an Illinois Alliance of Preservation Commissions (like NAPC).
- Training of preservation trades/craftspeople.

Renumbered based on the number of votes:

- (17 votes, option 4) **Expand existing revenue streams and financial incentives to fund and support the rehabilitation and adaptive use of historic resources.**
- (12 votes, option 11) **Revitalize Main Street districts and traditional downtowns.**
- (11 votes, option 3) **Provide funding and technical assistance for Historic Preservation Commission education and training.**
- (10 votes, option 2) **Expand public education and outreach programs regarding Illinois' history, historic preservation benefits, and IL-SHPO programming.**

- (9 votes, **tied**, option 1) **Improve access to National Register, and architectural and cultural survey information and data.**
- (9 votes, **tied**, option 10) **Strengthen a community's preservation ethic by adopting or updating protective preservation ordinances.**
- (8 votes, **tied**, option 5) **Preserve and protect archaeological sites and cultural landscapes.**
- (8 votes, **tied**, option 8) **Promote greater diversity and recognition of underrepresented communities in local history programs and historic preservation initiatives.**
- (8 votes, **tied**, option 12) **Create attainable housing using historic preservation to rehabilitate vacant buildings and revitalize neighborhoods.**
- (8 votes, **tied**, option 13) **Expand the use of preservation tools such as Cultural Districts, Conservation Districts, Legacy and Marker programs, and promote context-sensitive design in historic districts and neighborhoods.**
- (7 votes, option 16) **Strengthen history programs in statewide elementary education curriculum.**
- (6 votes, **tied**, option 7) **Develop the next generation of preservation advocates.**
- (6 votes, **tied**, option 15) **Promote information directed to elected officials on the benefits of historic preservation.**
- (5 votes, option 6) **Support continued cultural and historic resource surveys and documentation activities using the latest digital technologies.**
- (4 votes, option 14) **Strengthen heritage tourism statewide to help promote area culture, attract visitors, and increase local revenue.**
- (2 votes, option 9) **Enhance capacity-building for staff and volunteers of preservation and history-related groups.**

#### **Station 6: What is your vision?**

Comments:

- Inventory and prioritize former industrial buildings - particularly in cities with industrial pasts. Figure out how to best reuse.
- City to provide preservation workshops via Historic Preservation Commission, such as restoring windows.
- PBS specials on preservation and success stories.
- To make Rockford a more welcoming city by preserving old buildings. Buildings have character, they are unique and send a message to viewers and inhabitants.
- Update historic documentation requirements to reflect "newer" properties, c1960s [and toward present year]
- More education and awareness on the community level - the more people are aware, the more they'll see the importance of local preservation.

#### **Station 6: Share your success story.**

Comments:

- Lincoln Middle School got new windows instead of being torn down.
- Old buildings work for many things!
- Downtown energy and activity is back because buildings were saved!
- Joliet's new and improved [Design] Guidelines. This is helpful for staff, residents, HPC Commissioners and even the media.

## ILLINOIS STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

### IN-PERSON REGIONAL WORKSHOP CHICAGO (PULLMAN)

April 13, 2023, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., CDT

#### Workshop Summary

#### Public Responses to Workshop Exhibits

##### Station 1: Project Overview

- Illinois State Historic Preservation Office
- National Register of Historic Places
- Certified Local Government Program
- Cultural Resource Protection, Section 106 and 707
- Tax Incentive Programs
  - Federal Historic Tax Credits
  - Illinois Historic Preservation Tax Credits
  - River Edge Historic Tax Credits
  - Property Tax Assessment Freeze Program

Question: Which of the Following IL-SHPO Programs Are a Priority For You? (Place a sticker dot below your priority programs)

Answers:

- National Register of Historic Places Program - 15 dots
- Certified Local Government Program - 7 dots
- Cultural Resource Protection: Section 106 and 707 Review - 10 dots
- Federal Historic Tax Credits Program - 8 dots
- Illinois Historic Tax Credits Program - 12 dots
- River Edge Historic Tax Credits Program - 1 dot
- Property Tax Assessment Freeze Program - 9 dots

Question: Which of the Following Programs and Initiatives Would You Like to See the IL-SHPO Provide in the Future? (Place a sticker dot below your priority programs or initiatives)

Answers:

- Training and Support for Local Historic Preservation Commissions - 14 dots
- A Statewide Conference on Historic Preservation - 12 dots
- Education and Outreach Regarding Preservation Programs and Tax Incentives - 11 dots
- Design and Technical Assistance - 13 dots

Other: Share Your Ideas on Post-its Provided

Answers:

1. River Edge doesn't benefit all river towns.
2. NAPC offers excellent webinars, training, and conferences.
3. Workshops to convince local governments to adopt local ordinances to provide real protection.
4. Help increase the capacity of smaller organizations and new sites.
5. The State Office used to provide training for HPCs. My city (Champaign) has a rarely active HPC with some members (this over some years) clearly have limited understanding of historic preservation. Regular training (or refreshment & updating would be helpful.) Further, the local preservation ordinances requires HPC to undertake or oversee local

surveys, but the city refuses to provide any budget to facilitate that, undercutting the HPC's value still further. Frustrating!!

6. Blueprints access for resources.
7. Improvement of DNR GIS program/site.
8. Expanding historic trades training programs.
9. Expanding homeowner incentives.
10. Increase number of archaeological site protections.

#### Station 2: National Register Landmarks and Districts

- National Register of Historic Places
- National Historic Landmarks
- State Historic Sites
- National Heritage Areas
- National Historic Trails
- National Historic Sites
- National Historical Parks
- National Scenic Byways

#### Station 3: Impact of Preservation

- Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program
- Illinois Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program
- Rivers Edge Historic Tax Credits
- Property Tax Assessment Freeze Program
- Illinois Main Street Program
- Certified Local Government Program

Question: What are your ideas for the Illinois CLG program?

Answers:

- CLG networking and education events.
- Lists of 1,764 structural sites eligible for the National Register is needed [*this refers to "Cultural Resource Protection, Project Review" board*].
- A "who's who" of preservation officials in Illinois is needed.
- Verify regularly that a CLG is actually functioning. Champaign is a good example of one that is not. Does not follow CLG requirements, does nothing to support survey of historic resources. Development reigns over preservation.

#### Station 4: Emerging Resources

- Architectural Styles Since 1950
- Resources Associated with Underrepresented and Minority Groups
- Intangible Heritage (Cultural Practices, Festivals, Storytelling)
- Sites Associated with Women's History
- Traditional Cultural Properties and Sacred Sites

#### Station 4: What Historic and Cultural Resources are Most Important to Protect? (voting exercise)

1. **Traditional Housing.** Small, inexpensive houses are targets for demolition and replacement with a new house many times larger and more expensive. This pattern removes affordable housing stock from communities.
2. **Main Street Commercial Districts.** Historically, suburban sprawl and new retail construction centered around big-box stores resulted in disinvestment in traditional Main Street commercial districts. Today online retailing is another significant threat to traditional commercial districts.
3. **State Historic Sites.** Illinois has a rich collection of state-owned historic sites that help tell the unique history of various regions of our state. State budgeting constraints reduce the time these sites are open to the public and result in a large backlog of maintenance projects. Lack of maintenance leads to further deterioration of these significant public assets.
4. **Agricultural Properties** (farmhouses, barns, productive fields). Industrial-scale agriculture renders small family farms obsolete, and the traditional barns used on family farms too small to be useful to these large-scale operations. With the efficiencies of new crop hybrids, less acreage produces the same yield resulting in fields being removed from productive farm use.
5. **Factories and Industrial Properties.** Shrinking industrial and manufacturing output renders historic industrial properties obsolete.
6. **Historic Schools.** Communities consolidate schools due to declining enrollment or build large new schools to attract families to the community. Historic schools are determined surplus and left vacant.
7. **Archaeological Sites.** Archaeological sites from the prehistoric to the 20th-century historic period help tell a more complete and inclusive story of Illinois' history, and are at risk from development as well as looting.

8. **Public Parks, Coastline, and Cemeteries.** Parks and coastlines are usually highly desirable locations, resulting in pressure for private acquisition. Cemeteries often suffer from neglect and do not receive the upkeep and stewardship they need.
9. **Historic Resources at Risk Due to Climate Change.** Flooding, tornadoes, and other natural disasters damage or destroy historic resources.

Option	Votes
1	26
2	29
3	11
4	7
5	7
6	5
7	21
8	12
9	12

Renumbered based on the number of votes:

- **Main Street Commercial Districts** (29 votes)
- **Traditional Housing** (26 votes)
- **Archaeological Sites** (21 votes)
- **Public Parks, Coastline, and Cemeteries (tied)** (12 votes)
- **Historic Resources at Risk Due to Climate Change (tied)** (12 votes)
- **State Historic Sites** (11 votes)
- **Agricultural Properties (tied)** (7 votes)
- **Factories and Industrial Properties (tied)** (7 votes)
- **Historic Schools** (5 votes)

**Station 5: State Map. Place a sticker on the map and fill out a comment card to share thoughts about places in IL.**

Comment cards:

- Add cemeteries, monuments and markers to the details list.
- All open spaces - parks and shorelines and abandoned railroad rights of way: preserve them for public use!
- Archaeological sites: the submerged cultural resources in Lake Michigan and other state waterways are some of the least known and last protected historic sites in the state. The state should employ local knowledge experts to survey the submerged sites in Illinois.

**Map Stickers:**

- Resource type: Commercial; Location: 206 S. Jefferson Street; Additional Info: Former factory turned dance club, birthplace of house music.
- Resource type: Residential/Historic Home; Location: Wilmette; Additional Info: the oldest house (and greenhouse) in Wilmette is abandoned and in significant disrepair.
- Resource type: Commercial site; Location: Lyon & Healy Harps, 168 N. Ogden Ave, Chicago 60607; Additional Info: USA's longest harp manufacturer. Located in the same building since early 1900s, harp makers in Chicago since 1889.
- Resource type: Shipwrecks and other submerged Cultural Resources; Location: Statewide; Additional Info: These sites are deteriorating quickly and urgently need to be studied and protected.
- Resource type: Church; Location: Olivet Baptist Church, 3101 S. King Drive, Chicago; Additional Info: Oldest black Baptist congregation in Chicago.
- Resource type: Commercial Site; Location: Parkway Ballroom & Offices, 4455 S. King Drive; Additional Info: Only site that African Americans could perform, hold ceremonies and banquets during the 1930s.
- Resource type: Cemetery; Location: Oak Woods Cemetery, 67<sup>th</sup> and Cottage, Chicago; Additional Info: Has more than 4-6,000 Confederate soldiers; has the most notable African American leaders.
- Resource type: Open space; Location: Washington and Jackson parks.
- Resource type: Former industrial site/now park; Location: Moline, IL; Additional Info: Sylvan Island in Mississippi River-major steel plant site 1894-1956 (Republic Steel 1899-1956), not adaptive reuse site, combination historic park, nature park, fishing park, biking park. If interested, contact roammoline@augustana.edu.
- Resource type: Courthouse; Location: Joliet; Additional Info: Former 1960s Brutalist style courthouse.
- Resource type: Prison; Location: Joliet; Additional Info: Old Joliet Prison, Illinois State Penitentiary, Joliet.
- Resource type: Industrial Site; Location: Pullman, IL; Additional Info: Pullman factory.
- Resource type: Church; Location: Cabrini Green; Additional Info: Strangers Home Missionary Baptist, adaptive reuse of church including murals by Bill Walker, now at risk. [*note: the exterior murals were painted over in 2015, interior murals were painted over in 2004.*]



**Station 6: Historic Preservation Planning Priority Exercise (voting)**

1. **Improve access to National Register, and architectural and cultural survey information and data.** The IL-SHPO collects data from Certified Local Government communities and others statewide about historic and potentially historic buildings, structures, objects, sites, and districts. This database, *HARGIS*, is an important clearinghouse of information for property owners, interested citizens, and researchers.
2. **Expand public education and outreach programs regarding Illinois' history, historic preservation benefits, and IL-SHPO programming.** Deepen public awareness about Illinois' rich history. Engage the public in a variety of ways such as the *Historic Illinois* magazine in digital format, with historic markers, and repair and restoration programs that assist property owners in being good stewards of Illinois' irreplaceable assets.
3. **Provide funding and technical assistance for Historic Preservation Commission education and training.** All-volunteer Historic Preservation Commissions are a vital source of local expertise regarding preservation issues. Training and professional development, through for example, the re-establishment of the Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commissions, supports their work.
4. **Expand existing revenue streams and financial incentives to fund and support the rehabilitation and adaptive use of historic resources.** New sources of funding for restoration projects expand the opportunities for preservation across the state. Successful rehabilitation has the potential to create a domino effect of additional revitalization.
5. **Preserve and protect archaeological sites and cultural landscapes.** Ruins, shipwrecks, historic roads, cemeteries, and American Indian sites are only a few examples of places that embody our shared history. Protecting them enhances our ability to visit and learn from them, expanding our understanding of local, state, and national history.
6. **Support continued cultural and historic resource surveys and documentation activities using the latest digital technologies.** Survey work helps to identify, and document threatened, overlooked, and emerging resources such as those from the recent past or associated with underrepresented communities. Re-establish the *Illinois Register of Historic Places* to document their significance.
7. **Develop the next generation of preservation advocates.** Sustain the preservation movement and secure its future by seeking and welcoming the next generation of preservation advocates. Cross-cultural and cross-generational outreach and educational initiatives foster a broad appreciation of local history and shared heritage.
8. **Promote greater diversity and recognition of underrepresented communities in local history programs and historic preservation initiatives.** Incorporating the stories of underrepresented communities in future National Register nominations preserves the significant but often hidden histories of Illinois' racial and ethnic groups.
9. **Enhance capacity-building for staff and volunteers of preservation and history-related groups.** Foster long-term resilience and permanence of preservation advocacy organizations, historical societies, cultural institutions, and historic boards and commissions by supporting leadership capacity building, fundraising, and a strong presence in the community. Partnership opportunities between these local groups can help amplify their voices and missions.
10. **Strengthen a community's preservation ethic by adopting or updating protective preservation ordinances.** Encourage the protection of historic and cultural resources at the local level. Ordinances are an effective tool for managing changes to historic resources and neighborhoods including alteration and demolition and protecting the history and unique character of the community.
11. **Revitalize Main Street districts and traditional downtowns.** Economic reinvestment through the rehabilitation and reuse of commercial and other downtown buildings stimulates a vibrant community and contributes to the economy through new businesses, jobs, and housing, increased tax revenue, and social opportunities while eliminating blight and vacancies.
12. **Create attainable housing using historic preservation to rehabilitate vacant buildings and revitalize neighborhoods.** Encourage the preservation of older neighborhoods and preserve their identity through the rehabilitation of housing. This maintains local character and contributes to a vibrant community.
13. **Expand the use of preservation tools such as Cultural Districts, Conservation Districts, Legacy and Marker programs, and promote Context-sensitive design in historic districts and neighborhoods.** Cultural districts help draw attention to distinctive assets in the community such as public art; legacy programs support long-standing businesses or festivals that help define the community's history; and context-sensitive design can bridge the divide between new construction and historic buildings, enhancing historic character.
14. **Strengthen heritage tourism statewide to help promote area culture, attract visitors, and increase local revenue.** Unique communities, historic places, and cultural attractions appeal to visitors who in turn spend money in the community while learning about or making meaningful connections to a historic place.
15. **Promote information directed to elected officials on the benefits of historic preservation.** Historic preservation needs political support. At the state level, an annual summary of each state legislative district with facts and figures about the positive impact preservation has made helps draw the connections for legislators and spotlights the way preservation brings value to their district.
16. **Strengthen history programs in statewide elementary education curriculum.** Teach children why local places are significant, curious, beautiful, entertaining, and in other ways unique, and as they share the enthusiasm for what they learned with their parents, caregivers, and family, the network of people who care for local places grows, along with ensuring the next generation will appreciate and protect historic assets.

Option	Votes	Option	Votes
1	8	9	14
2	12	10	21
3	12	11	11

4	27		12	14
5	32		13	8
6	20		14	12
7	16		15	12
8	32		16	14

Renumbered based on the number of votes:

- (32 votes, **tied**, option 5) **Preserve and protect archaeological sites and cultural landscapes.**
- (32 votes, **tied**, option 8) **Promote greater diversity and recognition of underrepresented communities in local history programs and historic preservation initiatives.**
- (27 votes, option 4) **Expand existing revenue streams and financial incentives to fund and support the rehabilitation and adaptive use of historic resources.**
- (21 votes, option 10) **Strengthen a community's preservation ethic by adopting or updating protective preservation ordinances.**
- (20 votes, option 6) **Support continued cultural and historic resource surveys and documentation activities using the latest digital technologies.**
- (16 votes, option 7) **Develop the next generation of preservation advocates.**
- (14 votes, **tied**, option 9) **Enhance capacity-building for staff and volunteers of preservation and history-related groups.**
- (14 votes, **tied**, option 12) **Create attainable housing using historic preservation to rehabilitate vacant buildings and revitalize neighborhoods.**
- (14 votes, **tied**, option 16) **Strengthen history programs in statewide elementary education curriculum.**
- (12 votes, **tied**, option 2) **Expand public education and outreach programs regarding Illinois' history, historic preservation benefits, and IL-SHPO programming.**
- (12 votes, **tied**, option 3) **Provide funding and technical assistance for Historic Preservation Commission education and training.**
- (12 votes, **tied**, option 14) **Strengthen heritage tourism statewide to help promote area culture, attract visitors, and increase local revenue.**
- (12 votes, **tied**, option 15) **Promote information directed to elected officials on the benefits of historic preservation.**
- (11 votes, option 11) **Revitalize Main Street districts and traditional downtowns.**
- (8 votes, **tied**, option 1) **Improve access to National Register, and architectural and cultural survey information and data.**
- (8 votes, **tied**, option 13) **Expand the use of preservation tools such as Cultural Districts, Conservation Districts, Legacy and Marker programs, and promote context-sensitive design in historic districts and neighborhoods.**

#### Station 6: What is your vision?

Comments:

- Adaptive reuse with conservation - holistic sustainability at its core.
- Add staff to the Chicago Landmarks Division.
- Making 40 year old historic surveys historic documents and not a basis for policy!
- Move historic preservation from still kind of a side branch to more main stream - more adaptive reuse projects, more tax incentives, more strong local ordinances, more zoning decisions to not allow loss of farmland forcing developments "back in town".
- Greater intergovernmental cooperation on historic properties: understanding of differing goals and looking for cooperative opportunities.
- Update the signage/kiosks as the Douglas Tomb site to reflect his role as a slaveholder.
- Bring back birdwatching at Douglas Tomb site.
- Develop a tour guide/docent program to hire teens in Chicago (Douglas Tomb is in Bronzeville).
- Historic building trades training and resources.
- Create an assessment of site conditions and the amount needed for repairs/upgrades.
- Increase awareness among property owners of the value of historic preservation.
- Utilize State Sites grounds for showcasing community talent - art, music, food, etc.
- Demolition reform to 4<sup>th</sup> power.
- Demolition reform.
- More resources focused on historic trades training.
- Resources and blueprints for owners.

- Respect new ideas in the same way we respect decades of preservation experience.
- Focus on the future to save the past: prepare to save resources from the 1970s, 1980s, even the 1990s!
- Demolition surcharges used to fund individual owners struggling to keep up homes.
- Policies that respond to contemporary issues.
- Funding and resources for homes without designation.
- More funding for the SHPO so they can be fully-staffed to help the preservation movement.

#### **Station 6: Share your success story.**

Comments:

- Hosting Afro Birding at Pullman Factory.
- Opened African Heritage Garden at Douglas Tomb Site.
- Curated Great Migration Exhibition at Hotel Florence IL State Historic Site.
- Provided after school/summer learning sessions at Hotel Florence also Douglas Tomb State Site.
- Moline, IL - Sylvan Island. Saving an old steel mill site to make sure its importance from 1894-1956 is not forgotten, especially all of those workers, often immigrants who worked so hard. Now it is a combination rotary park, nature park, tubing park, biking park.
- Renaming the Clark House to honor Bishop Ford (Clark-Ford House).
- Sending the first Brutalist building in IL nominated to the NRHP through IHSAC and on to NPS.
- Listing Emmett Till's childhood home as a Chicago Landmark.
- Created migratory bird oasis at Douglas Tomb Site.
- Developed community-led Juneteenth celebrations at Hotel Florence and Douglas Tomb Site.
- Secured 140 thousand African American burial records from State Comptroller for presentation at Douglas Tomb.
- The Thompson Center being considered a historic resource
- Champaign's Solon House (1867) was given to PACA, which then managed to stabilize it, selling it years later to a local buyer who has put tremendous additional energy and money to preserve it as his own residence. Best outcome in town.
- Mallinckrodt, an historic convent in Wilmette, was purchased by the Park District with most of it being converted into low-cost senior housing.
- Establishing the foundation of America's first Black Labor Tourism District, on the shoulders of America's first Black Labor History Museum, the A Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum.

#### **Station 6: Share other comments or issues.**

- Where is the statewide preservation conference?
- Replace public restrooms at Douglas Tomb Site. They have been broken more than 13 years.
- Address lack of response from State Sites when requesting tours.
- Use older, adaptive reuse sites still not chosen by many businesses and offices - so, how can one make more impact on business location choices (especially for firms which are not specific area dependent).
- Take a page from Indiana Historical Society re: traveling exhibits, local history preservation consultations. Many local history groups do not know how to promote, preserve, etc.
- Misunderstanding that small non-FLW houses are important too (and keeping small housing stock is important!).
- Update the Chicago CHRS.
- Transparency in funding, staff roles/salaries, and contractual agreements.
- Employment and internships are needed at State Sites.
- Update HAARGIS.
- Misunderstanding that historic preservation hinders sustainability projects (e.g. solar panels).
- Team HP & Energy Tax & granting incentives.
- Contractor training and recruitment needed.
- Public educational and history programs are needed at Douglas Tomb Site.
- Staffing needed at Douglas Tomb State Historic Site.
- Downstate finding ways to engage local people in the local preservation organizations. Ours, which is 40 years old, is slowly fading away. We could use help developing motivation. Local people are interested in preserving historic places but they don't realize the work involved. Too few people trying to do too much = exhaustion.
- Contractor training for window preservation really need[ed].
- Tax incentives beyond River communities.
- A/E distribution 30% minimum WBE emphasis on 90% WBE A/E teams.
- The Chicago Historic Resource Survey is out of date. Its data needs to be updated and its methodology broadened to capture Chicago's full diverse and still unfolding history.
- Failure to illuminate historic sites with historical ties to labor, women, and African American heritage.
- Expanded access needed for school-age children at Hotel Florence and Douglas Tomb Sites.
- Please recognize the importance of the original restoration design & construction teams. i.e. Brush with J.G. Water researched the exterior of Pullman Admin & Factory building.
- Additional emphasis on historic structures associated with military bases and national guard armories. Possible collaboration opportunities with Rock Island Arsenal, Naval Station Great Lakes, IL National Guard, etc.

- Un-silo preservation from the rest of planning!
- How is Chicago as a CLG using the benefits of being a CLG?
- Listing Emmett Till's childhood home as a Chicago landmark.

**Station 7: Round Table Discussion**

- 1) An attendee had difficulty navigating the designation process for the Phyllis Wheatley House, but she had only worked with the Park Service. She had not reached out to the SHPO yet; she was directed to Carol Dyson at the workshop for more information.
- 2) An attendee had misgivings about the Art Space project with 38 units for artists in the Pullman neighborhood. He felt the process for historic review was not followed and is unhappy with the result.
- 3) There is interest in creating a Historic Preservation Commissioner Training Program akin to the Plan Commissioner Training Program run by the Illinois Chapter of the American Planning Association (IL-APA).

## ILLINOIS STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

### VIRTUAL WORKSHOP

#### Meeting Summary

February 23, 2023, 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m., CDT

All residents of Illinois were invited to participate in this online workshop.

#### Meeting Summary

##### Introduction

The Lakota Group introduced the Online Workshop as part of the Illinois Statewide Historic Preservation Plan. The purpose of the meeting is to understand the preservation issues, opportunities, and priorities of preservation stakeholders throughout the state.

##### Poll Question

###### 1. What is your affiliation with historic preservation? (Select all that apply) (93% participated)

- Local Historical Society or Museum - 30 %
- Certified Local Government/City or County Staff -- 26%
- Local Historic Preservation Commission Member or Staff -- 19%
- Contractor, Developer, Architect, Consultant -- 15%
- Interested Illinois Resident -- 11%
- Local, Regional, or Statewide Advocacy Group -- 11%
- Archaeology Group -- 7%
- State or Federal Government Agency -- 7%
- Main Street/Economic Development Organization -- 4%

##### Poll Question

###### 2. What size community do you live in? (93% participated)

- Large City (over 100,000 residents) - 45%
- Large Town (between 5,000-25,000 residents) - 24%
- Small City (between 25,000-100,000 residents) - 24%
- Small Town (fewer than 5,000 residents) - 7%

##### Poll Question

###### 3. What Illinois region do you live in? (93% participated)

- Chicago Metropolitan Area - 55%
- Northern Illinois - 24%
- Central Illinois - 21%
- Western Illinois - 0%
- St. Louis Metro East Area - 0%
- Eastern Illinois - 0%
- Southern Illinois - 0%

A summary explanation of IL-SHPO programs includes information about the National Register of Historic Places, Certified Local Government Program, Cultural Resource Protection - Sections 707 and 106, Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credits, Illinois Historic Preservation Tax Credits, River Edge Tax Credits, and Property Tax Assessment Freeze. Other programs include Main Street and State Historic Sites.

### **Poll Question**

#### **4. What SHPO programs do you have experience using? (Select all that apply) (85% participated)**

- None of the Above - 45%
- Certified Local Government Program - 41%
- National Register of Historic Places - 28%
- Certified Local Government Grants - 24%
- Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credits - 24%
- Section 106/707 Review - 17%
- Illinois Historic Preservation Tax Credits - 17%
- River Edge Historic Preservation Tax Credits - 10%
- Property Tax Assessment Freeze - 10%

Chat Comments:

From Landmarks Illinois: There is a bill in both the state House and Senate to extend and expand the Illinois Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program. Bill numbers are SB0119 (Sen. Stadelman - Rockford) and HB1513 (Rep. Gordon-Booth - Peoria). Please reach out to Landmarks Illinois for more information at [bmcdonald@landmarks.org](mailto:bmcdonald@landmarks.org).

From IL-SHPO: The Property Tax Assessment Freeze started about 1983. It is not only available to National Register properties but some local district properties and Local Landmarks are also eligible.

#### **5. Which of the following historic and cultural resources are most important to protect? (Select your top 3) (78% participated)**

- Main Street Commercial Districts - 76%
- State Historic Sites - 44%
- Traditional Housing (Small, inexpensive housing often targeted for demolition, removing housing stock from Communities) - 40%
- Agricultural Properties (Farmhouses, barns, productive fields) - 36%
- Public Parks, Coastlines, and Cemeteries - 32%
- Historic Resources at Risk due to Climate Change (Flooding, tornadoes, and other natural disasters that damage or destroy historic resources) - 24%
- Historic Schools - 20%
- Archaeological Sites - 20%
- Factories and Industrial Properties - 4%

A summary explanation of Emerging Historic and Cultural Resources include architecture of the post war period; resources associated with underrepresented and minority groups; intangible heritage - cultural practices and traditions, story-telling, and community-based history; sites associated with women's history; and traditional cultural properties and sacred sites.

#### **6. Which of these preservation initiatives do you believe are the highest priority to implement? (Select your top 5) (83% participated)**

- Expand Existing Revenue Streams and Financial Incentives to Fund and Support the Rehabilitation and Adaptive Use of Historic Resources - 92%
- Provide Funding and Technical Assistance for Historic Preservation Commission Education and Training - 77%
- Expand Public Education and Outreach Programs Regarding Illinois' History, Historic Preservation Benefits, and IL-SHPO Programming - 65%
- Preserve and Protect Archaeological Sites and Cultural Landscapes - 42%
- Support Continued Cultural and Historic Resource Surveys and Documentation Activities Using the Latest Digital Technologies - 38%
- Improve Access to National Register and Architectural and Cultural Survey Information and Data - 23%

## 7. Which of these preservation initiatives do you believe are the highest priority to implement? (Select your top 5)

(74% participated)

- Promote Information Directed to Elected Officials on the Benefits of Historic Preservation - 83%
- Revitalize Main Street Districts and Traditional Downtowns - 70%
- Create Attainable Housing Using Historic Preservation to Rehabilitate Vacant Buildings and Revitalize Neighborhoods - 61%
- Strengthen a Community's Preservation Program by Adopting or Updating Local Historic Preservation Ordinance - 48%
- Expand the Use of Preservation Tools Such as Cultural Districts, Conservation Districts, Legacy and Marker Programs - 48%
- Strengthen Heritage Tourism Statewide to Help Promote Area Culture, Attract Visitors, and Increase Local Revenue - 48%
- Enhance History Programs in Statewide Elementary Education Curriculum - 48%
- Enhance Capacity-building for Staff and Volunteers of Preservation and History-related Groups - 35%

### Other Comments from the Chat regarding what programs or initiatives should be created or expanded in Illinois:

- Tax credits for housing rehab to help save them.

## Miro Board Summary

The Lakota Group used an online engagement platform called Miro to collect ideas and feedback regarding success stories, participants' vision for historic preservation in Illinois, and other comments. The link to the Miro board was introduced at the online session and stayed live for the following two weeks to allow the public to return and provide comments.

## Share a Success Story!

- Naperville Park District including public in education program participation in archaeological dig. 1980s Knoch Knolls Park.
- Green Barn stabilized! \$1.2 M DuPage County Forest Preserve. (this comment repeated 1 additional time).
- 10+ acres donated. Oak Cottage donated. Green Barn donated. DuPage County. (this comment repeated 1 additional time).
- Book published! "Naperville's Greene Barn & Oak Cottage", Arcadia Publishing. (this comment repeated 1 additional time).
- Establishment of Naperville Preservation, Inc.
- Restoration and donation to North Central College of historic home in Naperville.
- 13+ acre donation of historic settlement site at Knodh Knolls Park, Naperville.
- Main Street has restored our downtown to drive small businesses and restaurants.
- Nichols Library, downtown Naperville, adaptive re-use as Gia Mia restaurant.
- Clow stone farmhouse moved by developer to Conservation Foundation campus in Naperville
- Inclusion of Native American presence on interpretive signs in Naperville Park District parks.
- TheGreeneBarn.org.

## What's Your Vision?

- Adaptive reuse of Oak Cottage & Greene Barn.
- Oak Cottage & Greene Barn open to the public. (this comment repeated 2 additional times).
- IL SHPO to write amicus letters in favor of local preservation projects.
- Offer marketing inclusion for preserved properties.
- Make NPS programs more accessible to more people as tools.
- Partner with higher education. North Central College, Naperville.
- Guide local volunteers with strong advocating techniques.
- Grants for government agencies.
- Address the integrity issue with the NPS criteria.
- Training local commissioners on what you do and what are our resources.
- Use language and practices that make preservation a more welcoming space and where people feel they belong. Not so full of judgement and jargon.
- East Branch of DuPage River re-meandered with canoe launch, and expanded trail.

- 12.a (in response) There is a House Bill HB1568 that addresses access to waterways including the East Branch of DuPage. (In response to the comment above).
- Master Plans for forest preserve districts to reflect statistically valid surveys informing vision, not Made as Instructed by elected officials.
- Address how difficult it is to use the Illinois Historic Tax Credit and the Federal Historic Tax Credit funds (adjusted basis issue).
- Provide better tools to discuss decarbonization in historic and older buildings.
- Ensure local communities have the agency and authority to decide what is significant to them, and what is preserved. Ensure preservation is working with communities.
- Instead of trying to convince people that preservation matters to them, better understand how we can make preservation more relevant in people's lives.
- Very controversial in preservation, but discuss period of significance. Couldn't we argue that all people's contribution have some significance?
- More resources delivered at the local level for proactive work in preservation.
- Add another IHSAC meeting to the annual calendar.
- Expand our toolbox with more than designation and regulation. These are only available to a small number of people.
- Provide better training to local commissioners about working with diverse communities. Make our process more accessible.
- Ensure that emerging preservation professionals have jobs available, mentoring and agency within those firms.
- Ensure that we are making material available in other languages.
- Note that homeowner tax credits are only an incentive to those who own and have enough tax liability to use them.
- Support the addition of solar panels in historic districts. They are reversible.
- Improve the Property Tax Assessment Freeze so that owners do not have to spend 25% of the assessed value-that can be a barrier to using this incentive for those who need it most.
- Promote preservation through school programs, volunteer programs.
- Preservationists need to work with more partner organizations in areas that engage historic places like affordable housing, sustainability and community development.

### **Share Other Comments and Issues**

- Thank you for offering this!
- Educate consulting firms to listen to the public and not create a Made As Instructed document.
- Don't forget the underserved communities. They don't have the resources that most people have to reach out or understand what you do.
- The SHPO office seems hard to reach at times and sometimes I'm unsure how to get additional information.
- 4.a. (in response) Learned about form 106 rather accidentally; funding was through the community but is federal money so this form is required but the organization was not aware of this.
- Prevent builders from tearing down old homes to replace them with giant new homes. Creating historic districts with stricter guidelines for architectural review.
- How to make preservation not as "scary" to homeowners who think government is trying to take over control of decisions for their home.
- Integrating historic resources of the postwar period into the consciousness of preservation practice begins with how we discuss these resources internally. Expressing surprise or disbelief that these resources have aged into significance is not helpful.
- Providing commercial building owners with design/architectural ideas before updating their exterior, keeping in character for the area.
- Is there SHPO training for CLGs on when applications need to be made to them for specific projects?
- Incentives are primarily geared to build capital for those that already have capital.



## ILLINOIS STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

### STATEWIDE PRESERVATION SURVEY

March 21 – April 21, 2023

The following is a summary of the Illinois Statewide Historic Preservation Survey open to the public between March 21 and April 21, 2023. The survey was accessible through the project website, via multiple email invitations, and on social media. The following is a summary of 322 responses.

#### 1) Which Illinois historic resources are most important to preserve?

(Rate each resource by selecting one of the following: Not Important, Somewhat Important, Neutral, Important, Very Important)

Responses: 319 (skipped 3)

Responses in order by weighted average:

- (4.42) Archives, collections, and artifacts
- (4.32) Public buildings (courthouses, schools, universities, libraries, museums, city halls, etc.)
- (4.32) Historic housing and neighborhoods
- (4.27) Historic parks
- (4.25) Cemeteries, parks, and other designed landscapes
- (4.18) Cultural properties, sites, and landscapes (hunting grounds, burial sites, ceremonial sites, etc.)
- (4.03) Intangible cultural resources (oral traditions, folklore, traditional skill sets, performing arts, cultural spaces, etc.)
- (4.02) Traditional downtown commercial buildings
- (3.95) Monuments, public sculptures, and objects
- (3.94) Terrestrial archeological sites and resources
- (3.90) TIE - Agricultural resources (farmhouses, barns, grain elevators, rural landscapes, etc.)
- (3.90) TIE - Resources of underrepresented communities (African American, Asian American, Hispanic American, Indigenous Peoples, Women, LGBTQ+, other ethnic and cultural groups)
- (3.88) TIE - Bridges and other engineering structures
- (3.88) TIE - Houses of worship and other religious buildings
- (3.74) Theaters, stadiums, and recreational facilities
- (3.73) Post-World War II and Mid-Century buildings
- (3.68) Maritime archeological sites and resources
- (3.63) Historic roads and transportation-related resources (gas stations, depots, etc.)
- (3.46) Industrial buildings and complexes

Other (please describe)

- Natural Resources - prairie, fen, savanna, forest, river, stream, lake...
- Forest preserves.
- Important resources that have not reached the 50-year-old mark yet.
- Historic documents and photos (deeds, wills, communications).
- Personal libraries after owner's death.
- Architectural drawings, archeological excavations drawings.
- Bishop Hill Historic Site.
- Late 20th Century buildings, brutalist, and postmodern buildings.
- For the US Bicentennial, many Illinois communities held Quilt Registry Days. When will these registered quilts and their histories be digitized? Does anyone know if they are sitting in boxes and where they are?
- ALL cultural resources that reside on PUBLIC LAND.
- African American Funeral Home Records.
- Support for adaptive reuse. Less focus on rigid Department of Interior standards and more focus on working with communities to flexibly continue using and INVESTING in their historic properties so they will remain in good shape for decades and centuries to come.

- It is so important to preserve our history!

## 2) What issues or trends impact Illinois preservation practice, programs, and efforts?

(Rate each resource by selecting one of the following: No Impact, Slight Impact, Moderate Impact, Significant Impact)

Responses: 285 (skipped 37)

Responses in order by weighted average:

- (3.58) TIE - Declining political support at the local level for preservation activities
- (3.58) TIE - Declining political support at the state level for preservation activities
- (3.57) Need to educate local stakeholders and decision-makers on the benefits of historic preservation
- (3.55) Lack of local preservation incentive programs
- (3.46) Lack of resources to preserve and protect historic resources in rural and agricultural areas
- (3.43) Need for diverse funding and financing sources for advocacy groups, museums, and historical societies
- (3.40) Need for adequate local planning tools and protection mechanisms (surveys, design guidelines, preservation plans, preservation ordinances, etc.)
- (3.39) Shortage of skilled local craftspeople and contractors
- (3.38) Lack of understanding, recognition, or knowledge of cultural landscapes and their importance in understanding local or regional history
- (3.35) Declining number of staff in the IL-SHPO office
- (3.34) Retention and recruitment of volunteers for nonprofit preservation organizations, museums, and archeological and historical societies
- (3.27) Changes to state-level legislation and policies
- (3.26) Declining community populations and changing demographics
- (3.24) Lack of resources to adopt new technologies for historic resource surveys, archival documentation, museum operations, and community outreach
- (3.23) Increasing growth and development pressures in urban and suburban communities
- (3.12) Loss of affordable housing due to gentrification, displacement, and demolition in historic neighborhoods
- (3.11) Lack of diversity and youth engagement
- (3.06) Recognizing resources and places associated with underrepresented communities in Illinois
- (2.80) Addressing the long-term post-Covid economic impacts on historic downtowns and heritage tourism destinations
- (2.79) TIE - Prioritizing preservation of vernacular resources
- (2.79) TIE - Climate change and the increasing number of severe storms and flooding events
- (2.74) Prioritizing preservation of Mid-Century resources
- (2.67) Prioritizing preservation of industrial resources

### Other (please describe)

- Loss of institutional knowledge and connecting seasoned preservationists with those less experienced. Also, less knowledgeable and less professional commissions do more to damage/restrain preservation than any other single component of local and regional preservation...especially when commissions appear to be highly subjective and uninformed.
- Public education and outreach are key.
- Possibility of a serious earthquake (New Madrid Fault).
- Our local preservation organization is struggling in the wake of Covid, etc. No support is provided by local government, despite their mouthing support. The state preserve office is apparently stretched too thin to function in a real leadership capacity to support preservation at the local level. This and the issues raised in this survey section all combine to undercut real progress. We are very discouraged.
- Shoddy preservation examples by Pullman National Historic Park (non-slate roof on clocktower), State-owned Hotel Florence lack of repair and use. The Pullman House Project, shoddy inaccurate restoration with complete disregard for original details (like 1/2 round copper gutters instead of original box gutters. Non-slate roofing. Deferred maintenance to the point of collapse).
- Education, education, education!
- Lack of local understanding about planning as a discipline, and lack of local understanding about how to write and correctly implement historic preservation ordinances as well as zoning and other municipal planning related ordinances. Lack of understanding at a local level about how to implement and/or comply with comprehensive and

land use plans. Lack of understanding about how development outside a historic or culturally significant area will affect that area.

- Subjectivity of sites that "meet criteria" to be on the National Register of Historic Places.
- Lack of interest by the public at the local level.

### **3) How important is it for the Illinois Statewide Historic Preservation Plan to include the following preservation initiatives to implement over the next ten years?**

(Select one for each resource: Not Important, Somewhat Important, Neutral, Important, Very Important)

Responses: 269 (skipped 53)

Responses in order by weighted average:

- (4.53) Expand existing revenue streams and financial incentives to fund and support historic property rehabilitation and adaptive use.
- (4.43) Develop the next generation of preservation advocates.
- (4.32) Revitalize Main Street districts and traditional downtowns.
- (4.32) Preserve and protect archaeological sites and cultural landscapes.
- (4.30) TIE - Expand public education and outreach programs regarding Illinois' history, historic preservation benefits, and IL-SHPO programming.
- (4.30) TIE - Provide funding and technical assistance for Historic Preservation Commission education and training.
- (4.28) Promote information directed to elected officials on the benefits of historic preservation.
- (4.22) Strengthen history programs in statewide elementary education curriculum.
- (4.21) TIE - Strengthen a community's preservation ethic by adopting or updating protective preservation ordinances.
- (4.21) TIE - Create attainable housing using historic preservation to rehabilitate vacant buildings and revitalize neighborhoods.
- (4.21) TIE - Strengthen heritage tourism statewide to help promote area culture, attract visitors, and increase local revenue.
- (4.15) Support continued cultural and historic resource surveys and documentation activities using the latest digital technologies.
- (4.06) Promote greater diversity and recognition of underrepresented communities in local history programs and historic preservation initiatives.
- (4.02) Enhance capacity-building for staff and volunteers of preservation and history-related groups.
- (4.01) TIE - Improve access to National Register, and architectural and cultural survey information and data.
- (4.01) TIE - Review of cultural resources affected by government funding or actions.
- (3.96) Encourage the use of alternative preservation tools such as cultural districts, conservation districts, and legacy business programs.

Other (please specify)

- Promote preservation as a sustainable building type.
- Training programs for contractors or programs to encourage more preservation-minded local contractors. It's hard for our City to promote placing preservation restrictions on buildings when there seems to be a lack of people to do the work.
- Public education and outreach are key.
- Celebrations of successes.
- As our country grows older the history we don't consider "really old" is getting older day by day. The Midwest doesn't consider itself very old. No big events took place here but our buildings and stories go back to the immigration period so there is plenty to preserve.
- Recognize that having an ordinance and an HPC are great, but they require support from planning people and government officials/bodies if they're actually to work.
- Funding for residential restoration, especially single-family homes. There are no programs to help and only wealthy people can take on these projects.
- Bring back a board of directors to strengthen cultural voices.

### **4) Which of the following IL-SHPO programs are most important to you?**

(Rate each program by selecting one of the following: Not Important, Somewhat Important, Important, Very Important)

Responses: 262 (skipped 60)

Responses in order by weighted average:

- (3.53) Historic Tax Incentives
- (3.42) National Register of Historic Places
- (3.24) Regulatory Review: Section 106 and 707 (review of state and federal actions affecting historic resources)
- (3.16) Historic Resources Surveys
- (2.93) Certified Local Governments

Other (please specify)

- Need to reevaluate the CLG program. Champaign never really operated under the CLG requirements but was never "de-listed!" REMOVE IT.
- Program to connect preservationists with masons, carpenters, roofers, painters, and landscapers who specialize in Historic Preservation.
- The Agency is afraid to use the 106 and 707 process. It has become too political and has become a rubber stamp checking the box. The will to stand up and save structures is not there.
- It can be difficult to determine, as we are from a small community in which the idea of Historic Preservation is alien. Finding the right place to start with a group of volunteers that have little experience with Historic Preservation is a challenge in itself.

**5) How can the IL-SHPO improve its current programs, including application and review procedures, as well as accessibility to the public and other interested agencies?**

(Please provide suggestions for any or all of these programs if you are familiar with them.)

Responses: 88 (skipped 234)

The following responses are organized by subject matter.

**Education, Outreach, and Training**

- Mental health support for the frustrated, angry, disillusioned, blocked, and broken advocates. Compassionate, responsive, and timely access to help with initiatives, programs, and procedures.
- More training on current historic preservation issues (postmodern/late modern heritage and cultural heritage, in order to make it easier for these styles and resource types to be recognized and incentivized).
- An updated HARGIS map.
- HARGIS is a really great tool. It would be especially helpful if we could download district and building point data as a shapefile for our research. Wisconsin does this and it's incredibly helpful.
- Approach small organizations. They do not have the staff that bigger organizations have to continually watch for programs and initiatives.
- Get in front of local communities more to help spread the message and benefits of historic preservation.
- Better communication with local preservation commissions about preservation issues.
- Increase educational programs and opportunities, particularly virtually, via platforms like Zoom / online, with local governments and the public.
- It would be great to have the IL-SHPO attend the annual meeting of the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers, which is a part of Preservation Action's National Historic Preservation Advocacy Week. The IL-SHPO should partner with the statewide preservation organization Landmarks Illinois on new programs or assisting in advocacy for the historic tax credit.
- That SHPO is buried in the IDNR structure - you are hard to find - website is clumsy.
- Is there a statewide preservation conference anymore? Giving all preservation advocates a chance to get together, network, and revive flagging spirits might help.
- Suggest an educational program for the mayors and city council persons to talk about the importance and economic benefit of historic preservation with examples of adaptive use.
- Greater outreach.
- Fully comprehensive, state of the art digital archive for education about its programs.
- Send out information to the historical society.
- Support for local history groups.
- I would like to see more public information events that help education community members on the importance of saving some of our most historic elements. If grassroots efforts don't start at basic community levels, opportunities for preservation are lost through local decision-makers with little to no knowledge.
- Improve communication with the public.
- More local and public education and training in the cultural and aesthetic and economic value of preserving historic buildings.

- Public conversation and education are missing at the local level. Engineering, architecture, construction, and real estate programs should include preservation as an element of curriculum.
- More support for advocacy.
- We need help with advocacy to local building inspectors and planning and zoning bodies.

#### **National Register Program**

- Staff needs to be more committed to vernacular and informal properties considering condition/integrity equally with significance.
- More consistency across departments. National Register staff may recommend not to proceed with a National Register nomination based on eligibility concerns after the same resource has been determined eligible through regulatory review. These inconsistencies should not be occurring.
- Allowing National Register nominations to incorporate more than one criterion. In other states, National Register nominations routinely use more than one criterion. The current SHPO preference that only one criterion be used is not in line with common or best practices.
- More IHSAC meetings. It is difficult to meet the deadlines for National Register listing if they are only twice a year.
- National Register nominations are discouraged by attitudes, arrogance, and an unwillingness to really help. It's an elitist approach that is outdated and inappropriate for today's changing society. If you don't have a paid consultant, you're discouraged from submitting a nomination. The facts show just by the number of nominations submitted over the past 10 years. We haven't run out of sites or buildings, just the willingness to value things that really matter to a lot of people.
- Provide accurate, helpful information in a timely fashion. This is not necessarily the case. Be specific in critical responses.
- Streamline the historic registration process.
- Make sure all data is up-to-date.
- Thorough public outreach regarding resources before determining whether or not a site meets criteria for the National Register.

#### **Certified Local Government Program**

- Strengthen CLG training and recruit for well-run commissions to train other commissions so that commissions are valued parts of local government and distinguished from quasi-legislative advocacy groups that don't know how to run meetings or know the law, which confuses elected officials and the public at the local level and leads to discrediting of preservation on the whole.
- More outreach from SHPO CLG staff to existing and potential CLGs. CLGs should regularly have opportunities to interact with SHPO CLG staff.
- Perhaps divide the state into regional CLG centers and have half or full day conferences.
- I feel, if it hasn't happened already, that the Certified Local Government Program should be a name contact with all local municipalities. Our local government doesn't have any experience with historic preservation, and has not taken any interest in assisting us, and declined to provide us funding assistance.
- Better programs and resources for CLGs/local commissions. As a singular staff-person managing a fairly large community commission, I would greatly appreciate having better guidance/resources from SHPO, including better connections to other CLGs.
- We believe that SHPO should be holding cities to their agreements. By not doing so, many cities, including ours, have become slack on historic preservation overall. It has been very bad for our city.
- More frequent communication with Historic Preservation Commissions about upcoming grant cycles (giving them greater response time).
- Consistent deadlines for grant programs, technical assistance for applying for funding, more oversight of projects impacting historic properties.
- Require CLG communities to adhere to their agreements with the State.
- Create more consequences for municipalities that fail to comply with existing ordinances. Create incentives for local governments to participate in training.

#### **Funding/Tax Incentives**

- More funding for SHPO office, more staff, more outreach.
- The Illinois state historic tax credit program needs to be expanded if IL-SHPO and the State of Illinois are serious about historic preservation.
- I believe the SHPO has done a great job in continuing to improve. I think the state HTC program application process can be updated to be based on other markers besides speed of application and disaster relief markers. I'm not sure what other options may exist though.

- HTCs are only viable for deep pocketed investors who can afford to let their building sit while their application goes through. Historic buildings have to 'work' to be saved. Make the financial case more accessible and egalitarian and you'll move mountains.
- Give SHPO opportunities to cross-germinate within other granting agencies so that their historic expertise can help guide projects where cultural resources are impacted.
- Increase funding in order to fully fund tax incentives.
- Unsure of current process for applications.
- Better staffing for better responses! We are floundering out here with no assistance or guidance!! Tax credit programs are a turnoff for most developers because of the perception they are too burdensome.
- Explore more funding opportunities.
- Make the application simpler. I had to hire someone for this.
- Ranking HTC distribution by submittal times violates ADA by disadvantaging slower applicants. Use another method to randomize reward.
- Provide more grant funding for historic preservation, particularly to non-profits like historical societies.
- Developing a greater presence in smaller cities and towns would be helpful, if it pushed the idea that the state actively supports preserving our cultural, architectural, and archaeological heritage of the state in a broad way. You'd likely need additional staff to pull that off.
- Provide more easily accessible funding to small rural communities. Provide preservation workshops for local contractors to educate them on easy to implement preservation tactics.
- There is just nothing to help regular homeowners. I have a coded orange amazing house that I would love to properly restore but as a single mom I can't afford more than basic stuff.
- Improve funding and stop neighborhoods from barring improvements of local sites because they don't want to.
- Expand the ways a project can qualify for the programs.
- More CLG funding, better incentives and less rigorous reviews for state tax freeze program.
- Frankly, it is access to upfront capital (grants). The tax credits are useful, but most historic buildings require some remediation and that cost is high. Small businesses can't afford to rehab a historic building due to the upfront remediation costs.
- We need engaged representatives to help guide historical organizations in uncovering and securing funding.

### Staffing

- The major issue that I see at SHPO is the severe understaffing of archaeology personnel. Other states have multiple archaeology reviewers that cover portions of their states. While our SHPO archaeologist does an absolutely incredible job, they are clearly overworked, and adding at least one more member of staff would be very effective.
- Staff needs to be more accessible and more responsive.
- MY GOD, hire more people. The IL-SHPO staff have been over-worked and under-staffed for years. HIRE QUALIFIED people, not political appointments.
- More staff, travel budget to visit sites, and more partnerships with other organizations. State staff has been MIA for a very long time - many communities do not know the department even exists anymore.
- More SHPO staff.
- Hire a director of IDNR/SHPO that has experience working in the field and has insight into current issues. It disrespects the field to have the head position of a state DNR/SHPO belong to an individual with little experience in the agency they are leading.
- Add capacity.
- Increase funding in order to fully staff SHPO and fully fund tax incentives.
- More staff and speed up reviews.
- Increase staff to better educate and work with HPCs and local preservation groups.
- Hire and retain qualified historic preservation regulatory review staff. We all know the State's change to Tier 2 pensions a decade ago has hurt its ability to compete with other states for quality professional staff in a spectrum of fields, compounded by the Baby Boomers who were the professional backbone of most State agencies retiring en masse over the last dozen years.
- Please add more staff to these programs and those new hires should be of the highest quality to protect our State's historic resources.
- Quicker response and feedback on historic renovations consistent with NPS guidelines - i.e., increased staffing.
- Provide more funding to SHPO so they can add staff and provide adequate outreach. Move SHPO out of IDNR and make its own separate agency again.
- Get rid of any MOU/MOA with other state agencies who have different missions and incentives to circumvent laws related to cultural resources. Alternatively, if another state agency wants to pay the salary of SHPO employees to assist with reviews, that would be more beneficial. More employees in the SHPO office.

- Hire more staff!

### Regulatory Review

- Be responsive to requests in a timely fashion. Keep contractors informed of steps in process. This is not done.
- Be more flexible with the review of historic buildings to provide architectural consistency for the next 50 years over the replacement of historic windows and elements. Design consistency is very important.
- Need more and experienced staff in the Section 106 review process.
- Improved electronic submission process including uploading or otherwise sharing sensitive documents in a secure way.
- Accepting digital submissions, website improvements, and tracking for users to see the status of their project review.
- Doing a pretty good job so far. Expand capacity for large files.
- Stricter enforcement of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties to ensure better outcomes for the resources while being clear on how the Standards are being implemented.

### Underrepresented Communities

- Prioritize underrepresented and marginalized groups. Prioritize groups facing the most hardships and struggles and make programs accessible and reflective of the community's needs and goals.
- Support and fund under-privileged areas.

### Miscellaneous

- Begin a focus on the growing AI movement and its applications.
- A regulatory agency's purpose is specific: identify, strengthen, and support a focused mission using established, consistent, and clear standards and criteria. So by its very nature a regulatory process is exclusionary. Broader inclusion (accessibility) at the entry phase especially is the best civics. The Main Street USA project was like this 20 years ago. Worthy preservation projects -- some that fit the agency's criteria and review -- will follow, but all who participated will become part of a larger network of civic, community, historical, and economic purpose.
- Recognize the inability of rural communities and towns to financially support preservation. Any additional state tax increase cannot be borne.
- The Hotel Florence (state-owned) is falling apart. The caretaker is hostile to the community. It needs new management and direction to coincide with the Pullman National Historical Park that it is now part of.
- Historic buildings should be vital 'historic vessels' that contribute to society beyond their original purpose. Allow preservation to evolve and be useful. Modernize preservation.
- Work the local developers to balance historic preservation with future community sustainability.
- SHPO does a great job currently.
- Current programs do not have a streamlined way to reserve site visits. Volunteer and employment opportunities are not posted in communities served. Seasonal jobs are rare.
- The census method to measure the median income is inaccurate - over 49,000 is a joke.
- If possible, the IL-SHPO should have some enforcement capabilities. In two cases in Oak Park local government used TIF money to acquire and demolish National Register-eligible buildings. This is supposedly illegal. In both cases, I contacted the office of Senator Don Harmon, a co-sponsor of the bill making this illegal, and was told by staff members that I'd need to hire a lawyer and sue privately to challenge government action. In both cases, the SHPO sent disapproving letters to the Village government; these were ignored. Passing laws with no teeth encourages local officials to laugh and ignore them.
- I can't think of anything to improve what is currently being offered. I have had no issues or challenges with state staff or these existing programs that state staff have purview over.

### 6) Which of the following programs and initiatives would you like to see the IL-SHPO provide in the future?

(Rate each program by selecting one of the following: Not Important, Somewhat Important, Important, Very Important)

Responses: 261 (skipped 61)

Responses in order by weighted average:

- (3.43) Education and outreach regarding preservation programs and tax incentives
- (3.32) Training and support for local historic preservation commissions
- (3.16) Design and technical assistance
- (3.0) A statewide conference on historic preservation

Other (please specify)

- Training for local contractors. Recruitment of people to make careers in the trades.
- Celebration of successes.
- Stewardship comes from all ages being involved and learning.
- The last state-wide conference was in Evanston, maybe 8-10 years ago.
- Most people assume tax incentives are only for major rehabilitation projects. If that's not so then education is necessary.
- Have the training and support for local historic preservation commissions to extend to city officials. The City is our biggest obstacle in getting support.
- I only want to see training programs that look at issues more broadly and do not encourage local reviewers to strictly follow National Register criteria and/or standards for review for local landmarks.
- Training and support for local historic preservation commissions should be done in partnership with other voluntary and professional associations every two or three years.
- Rather than a statewide conference, consider local or regional lunch or dinner meetings to draw more city officials who may not be aware of historic preservation benefits.
- Education at the local level is so important. I know my own personal hometown courthouse, which is over 100 years old, is at risk of being torn down due to local politics and lack of funding.
- Programs that are specifically designed to educate preservation advocates about political networking to reach goals.
- Significantly more help attaining funding for preservation.

## **7) How can the IL-SHPO better support historic preservation efforts across the state (outside of providing grants for local preservation projects)?**

Responses: 103 (skipped 219)

The following responses are organized by subject matter.

### **National Register**

- There should be better support in place for nominating archaeological sites for the National Register of Historic Places.
- Provide helpful support in the National Register and community services. They are non-existent. The architectural review staff are fantastic and very helpful. We need more staff like them that really care about preservation.
- Check on communities (such as the one I live in) that have achieved National Register status to be sure they are continuing to abide by the conditions for the status - or are neglecting those conditions.

### **Education, Outreach, and Training**

#### **Next Generation**

- Support training programs for new preservationists.
- Offer a Preservation Box to school districts: benefits, tools of observation, process application samples, nominate a local landmark.
- Teach children about local history.
- Provide support programs to educate youth in the trades like plaster work, repairing wood windows, stone work, etc.
- Focus on the next generation and underserved communities. There lies the future.
- Use public media to educate and inform the public about these issues before there is a threat of tear downs - school projects to start the process of making future generations aware of the importance of preserving the past that unless they care and get involved our history will only be in books and not in tangible, visual buildings, landscapes, and open space that we can use and admire.

#### **Preservation at the Local Level**

- Provide resources to local commissions in the form of educational handouts and workshops.
- Offer training programs virtually.
- Visiting rural communities, more support for HPCs.
- Educate city decision makers.
- Offer to meet with local officials in rural communities.
- Many local history/preservation groups work on slim budgets and small all-volunteer staffs. They could use more support tailored to the types of issues they face as they attempt to preserve history in the local communities.



- Educate even the smallest communities that may or may not know about the programs offered.
- Educate local communities through media strategies, on the benefits of historic resources, the value to their communities, and how the State and Federal HTC can benefit them.
- Education in schools, for local officials, and community members. I learned at age 50 that the school I attended is located next door to the town founder's original home and farmstead from the 1850s. Why was this not once mentioned or cared about?
- Outreach and education for local communities and developers.
- Put out regular updates to local communities where there are IL-SHPO locations.
- Train local council people, city planners, and mayors in the economic value of historic preservation.
- Education on why historic buildings are important to preserve and/or repurpose. Deliver a cost/benefit template for public and local use. Locals must support historic preservation or they tend to fail in the long term.
- Legal advice and access to lawyers willing to work for little or nothing to add support to issues many of us have on a local level.
- Guidance/support for local historic inventory, education of town officials on the economic/tourism opportunities that historic preservation presents, helping them get over the easy response that it is too hard, too difficult, too much work, and not their job. It is so much easier to just say no.
- IL-SHPO should be able to meaningfully intervene when municipalities and developers ignore preservation laws and policies.

#### **Website**

- A better website.
- Have a website where one can find the grants available. I'm not sure where to look.
- Create an online portal, which would guide the subject to needed resources through Q & A.

#### **Conference**

- I would like to see the state historic preservation conference come back. It was an amazing way to learn what was going on in the state, and to meet colleagues and discuss issues.
- Return to holding yearly statewide preservation conferences.
- Statewide preservation conference!
- A more robust, pronounced educational conference or small meetings in rural communities would go a long way. Some of the oldest parts of the state are in Southern Illinois and those communities do not have professional staff capable of navigating IL-SHPO programs.

#### **Contractor Training/Database**

- Again, I think that the SHPO should consider launching training, technical assistance, and recruitment programs related to construction work. There is an appearance at least in Joliet that there is a lack of skilled contractors sympathetic to historic preservation that a local homeowner could reasonably hire.
- Database of contractors/craftspeople with preservation expertise.
- Most local contractors lack the knowledge and skill to work on historic buildings. We live in an age of vinyl siding and pole barn carpenters. We must educate them on ways to preserve the integrity of the building while still providing an affordable cost to the customer.

#### **Tax Incentives**

- Better resources/information about tax incentives and studies on the economic benefits of preservation.
- Provide financial toolkits for available types of funding and make education about these financial incentives a priority.
- Help package and coach attaining funding and seeing local preservation projects through.

#### **General Education and Outreach**

- Providing a path for friends' groups and nonprofits to connect with one another.
- A regular column to all daily and weekly newspapers in Illinois supporting historic preservation.
- Celebrate successes. Recognize champions. Create traveling Landmarks Illinois exhibit for Illinois museums and libraries. Become constructively visible in local mission-aligned Chamber of Commerce marketing.
- Be visible.
- Advertising, emails, Facebook - small amounts of education at a time.
- Assistance with design on historic buildings (if small project, through zoom meeting).
- Bolster the programming for education and technical support.

- Build relationships and find mentors within communities and agencies who can teach and model all the facets involved in historic preservation.
- Public education and outreach are key.
- Education and networking.
- Provide newsletter of what is happening around the state and what is happening in the nation.
- You will fail to engage in minority and low-income neighborhoods if you continue to place art history above community history. Most of their historic structures have been compromised from an art history perspective.
- Education.
- Use media to solicit interest and donated dollars.
- Be in touch two or three times a year with all partners through a newsletter or online meeting. Help to make connections.
- There needs to be a program to inform landowners of cultural resources on their property and the advantages of preserving them. Too many have no knowledge of the resource until it is too late. Sites, burial mounds, cemeteries, and buildings are destroyed through ignorance, not deliberate intent.
- Presence, programs, public engagement!
- You need partners who can tell the citizens why preservation is important. Not sure what the forum to do this is.
- Share information from other states.
- Share knowledge gained from other preservation efforts throughout the state that might be applicable in other applications.
- Help in preventing demolition of historic properties, especially in Chicago and those coded orange. Also to code a lot more properties red and orange.
- Better education on the process and resources.
- An increased marketing of historic places would be beneficial (think tourism).

#### **Certified Local Government Program**

- Provide grants on a published schedule. Preservation Commissions need support and networking. It is imperative that you explain processes clearly and accurately and in a timely fashion.
- Support and resources for local Commission staff.
- Provide training and workshops for historic preservation commissions.
- Our mayor and our local historic preservation commission need to know the importance of ordinances to protect our city.
- Educate the local Historic Preservation Commission on the importance of ordinances to protect our city, including our mayor who does not support preservation.
- Better review of CLGs. For example while Aurora has a preservation ordinance, it is not enforced based on the City not appropriately providing staff per the ordinance requirements. It is not a functioning ordinance.
- Helping our local Historic Preservation Commission. They do not understand our ordinance nor abide by it. This must be fixed. It is a travesty what is happening in Galena.
- Provide historic preservation commissions with resources, tools, and classes.

#### **Regulatory Review**

- Technical review workshops. Speedy reviews.
- The SHPO is understaffed, which means their response time is often very bad. Any way they can find to create greater efficiency or streamline their processes for speedier response time would be a huge help. This is especially true when it comes to the Section 106 process.
- Enforce Federal and State historic preservation standards consistently for grant-funded projects awarded by State agencies. It seems that under the most recent previous IDNR leadership the SHPO went out of its way to make State-funded CDBG public infrastructure projects, especially for water tower replacements, much more costly and lengthy to accomplish, with the local community forced to remain reliant on a clearly failing and potentially dangerous old water tower.
- Better overseeing.
- Improve review of potential impacts to cultural resources.
- Be involved in planning and technical assistance for projects that could avoid resources.
- Get rid of any MOU/MOA with other state agencies.
- Keep the grants to the highest standards with historical accuracy.

#### **Funding/Tax Incentives**

- Make sure the reviewers understand that what we do as a society today is not what was done when the building was first put into service and designs should be flexible based on the current use.

- It would be great to start a statewide grant program where legacy businesses (local, small businesses in operation for at least 20-25 years) can get assistance.
- A specific grant to help local historic preservation commissions that have a lack of funding, or support, that doesn't meet the criteria of a certified local government, to help get them on their feet and in the right direction.
- Perhaps advocating for more state funding for historic preservation. I think I remember there being much more rigorous national funding under the years Jimmy Carter was president. We need to preserve original windows and doors - especially on our Greek Revival and Federal Style buildings since these are what give these their character and beauty. Lately these are all going into the trash. We need programs to support BEAUTY in historic neighborhoods and downtowns, LARGE shade trees and funding to promote this action and education to eliminate light pollution - to counter the false narrative that MORE lighting is safer. Funding for the preservation of brick streets and sidewalks.
- Make sure the grants are uses in ordinance with the state.
- Give density bonuses and create incentives for property owners who restore buildings.
- Help support and strengthen the use of financial incentives for rehab projects.
- Expand the ways a project can qualify for the grants.

#### Staffing

- Increase staffing within department.
- Hire more people so we don't burn out those who are already trying to do good preservation in Illinois.
- SHPO needs more staff and financial support to leverage its skills and abilities across the state.
- Increase staff and travel budget. Remote isn't always the best. We need to build more face-to-face relationships.
- Add capacity.
- Fully fund SHPO for increased staff and tax incentives.
- Satellite office in Chicago.
- More staff.
- The SHPO staff have been amazing to work with. They are excellent resources.
- SHPO needs more outreach and education staff to disseminate information to communities interested in preserving their cultural and historical resources.
- Be more visible to the general public.

#### Miscellaneous

- Tribal Nations as sovereign governments are not at all represented in this survey.
- Let's support Bishop Hill Historic Site. It's deteriorating quickly!
- Not needing union people to repair historical buildings. Don't discriminate against non-union workers.
- Be relevant and innovative. Welcome change to historic properties. Be part of the solution and not an obstruction.
- We need statewide historic preservation ordinances to cover municipalities that have failed to install them themselves.
- Pressure local board to offer incentives to improve local sites.
- Underutilized spaces should be available for recreation, cultural celebrations, and community gardens.
- As an advocacy group, we have found SHPO staff to be extremely supportive and helpful.

### 8) What is your primary involvement with historic preservation?

Responses: 256 (skipped 66)

Responses in order by number of respondents:

- (30) Local Historic Preservation Commission member
- (29) Other (please specify)
- (26) Interested Illinois resident
- (24) Owner of a historic property
- (21) TIE - Preservation consultant, architect, landscape architect
- (21) TIE - Staff or board member of a museum
- (17) TIE - Staff of a local community or county that is a certified local government
- (17) TIE - Staff or board member of a nonprofit historic preservation advocacy organization
- (17) TIE - Staff of a federal or state agency
- (9) Manager or steward of a historic property
- (7) Economic development professional
- (6) TIE - Staff or board member of a heritage tourism organization
- (6) TIE - Builder, contractor, or developer

- (5) TIE - Educator
- (5) TIE - Elected official
- (5) TIE - Professional or amateur archeologist
- (5) TIE - Staff or board member of a Main Street revitalization program
- (4) Staff or volunteer at an Illinois Historic Site
- (1) TIE - Staff of a local community or county that is not a certified local government
- (1) TIE - Realtor
- (0) Tribal representative
- (0) Student

Other responses:

- Director of Regional History Center
- I am involved in many different roles from professional staff to local advocate to historic property owner to NFP board member to professional consultant.
- Staff of a destination management organization.
- Board member of advocacy organization, preservation architect, and own historic home and properties.
- Former Illinois Main Street program staff member.
- Real estate consultant.
- Home owner in a historic town.
- Proprietor, Heritage Tourism business.
- Vice President of Alton Area Landmarks Association and a historic home owner.
- Staff of a non-profit.
- Rental property owner.
- Retired.
- Staff member of a professional association.
- Volunteer at historical society.
- Board member of the advocacy group "Aurora Heritage League."

## 9) What is your age?

Responses: 250 (skipped 72)

Responses in order by number of respondents:

- (97) 66 and over
- (65) 56 - 65
- (34) TIE - 46 - 55
- (34) TIE - 36 - 45
- (20) 26 - 35
- (0) 19 - 25
- (0) 18 and Under

## 10) How would you describe yourself? (multiple choice)

Responses: 249 (skipped 73)

Responses in order by number of respondents:

- (224) White or Caucasian
- (20) Prefer not to answer
- (3) Black or African American
- (1) TIE - Hispanic or Latinx
- (1) TIE - Asian or Asian American
- (0) Native or Indigenous American
- (0) Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- (0) Another race or ethnicity not listed here

### 11) What is your household income?

Responses: 250 (skipped 72)

Responses in order by number of respondents:

- (60) Prefer not to answer
- (59) \$100,000 to \$149,999
- (48) \$150,000 or more
- (33) \$50,000 to \$74,999
- (24) \$75,000 to \$99,999
- (12) \$35,000 to \$49,999
- (11) \$20,000 to \$34,999
- (3) Less than \$20,000

### 12) What is your highest level of education?

Responses: 249 (skipped 73)

Responses in order by number of respondents:

- (111) Master's or Professional Degree (MD, JD, DVM, etc.)
- (71) Bachelor's Degree
- (26) Associate degree/Vocational/Military
- (22) High School/GED
- (19) Doctoral

### 13) Do you currently live in Illinois?

Responses: 256 (skipped 66)

Responses in order by number of respondents:

- (249) Yes
- (7) No

### 14) Please tell us the county in which you live.

Responses: 257 (skipped 65)

Responses in order by number of respondents:

- Cook County (47)
- Jo Daviess County (33)
- Madison County (17)
- Will County (13)
- Winnebago County (12)
- Rock Island County (11)
- Lake County (10)
- McHenry County (10)
- Sangamon County (10)
- Jackson County (7)
- Kane County (7)
- DuPage County (8)
- Coles County (6)
- Champaign County (6)
- McDonough County (4)
- Clark County (3)
- Grundy County (3)
- Henry County (3)
- Iroquois County (3)
- Kendall County (3)
- Morgan County (3)
- Peoria County (3)
- St. Clair County (3)
- Adams County (2)
- Boone County (2)
- DeKalb County (2)
- LaSalle County (2)
- Lawrence County (2)
- Macon County (2)
- McLean County (2)
- Pike County (2)
- Vermilion County (2)
- Cass County (1)
- Christian County (1)

- Crawford County (1)
- Cumberland County (1)
- Fayette County (1)
- Jersey County (1)
- Knox County (1)
- Marion County (1)
- Moultrie County (1)
- Ogle County (1)
- Piatt County (1)
- Shelby County (1)
- Tazewell County (1)
- Whiteside County (1)

**15) Please tell us the community or city in which you live.**

Responses: 224 (skipped 98)

Responses in order by number of respondents:

- |                       |                      |                         |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| • Galena (26)         | • Oswego (2)         | • Knox (1)              |
| • Chicago (25)        | • Peoria (2)         | • Lawrenceville (1)     |
| • Alton (14)          | • Pittsfield (2)     | • Lemont (1)            |
| • Rockford (11)       | • Richmond (2)       | • Libertyville (1)      |
| • Plainfield (6)      | • Rochester (2)      | • Maywood (1)           |
| • Rock Island (6)     | • Watseka (2)        | • Mokena (1)            |
| • Springfield (6)     | • Arenzville (1)     | • Monticello (1)        |
| • Carbondale (5)      | • Barrington (1)     | • Mt. Auburn (1)        |
| • Champaign (5)       | • Batavia (1)        | • Murphysboro (1)       |
| • Charleston (5)      | • Belleville (1)     | • Northwest Indiana (1) |
| • Oak Park (4)        | • Berwyn (1)         | • Oregon (1)            |
| • Aurora (3)          | • Bishop Hill (1)    | • Peotone (1)           |
| • Geneva (3)          | • Bloomington (1)    | • Peru (1)              |
| • Jacksonville (3)    | • Carbon Hill (1)    | • Plano (1)             |
| • Macomb (3)          | • Centralia (1)      | • Roselle (1)           |
| • Marshall (3)        | • Channahon (1)      | • St. Louis (1)         |
| • Moline (3)          | • Chatham (1)        | • Scales Mound (1)      |
| • Naperville (3)      | • Coal Valley (1)    | • Shelbyville (1)       |
| • Belvidere (2)       | • Decatur (1)        | • Sherman (1)           |
| • Crystal Lake (2)    | • East Dubuque (1)   | • Solon Mills (1)       |
| • Danville (2)        | • Elsau (1)          | • Sterling (1)          |
| • DeKalb (2)          | • Flat Rock (1)      | • Sullivan (1)          |
| • Evanston (2)        | • Forsyth (1)        | • Summit Argo (1)       |
| • Geneseo (2)         | • Frankfort (1)      | • Tower Lakes (1)       |
| • Highland Park (2)   | • Glencoe (1)        | • Utica (1)             |
| • Joliet (2)          | • Glenview (1)       | • Vandalia (1)          |
| • Lake Zurich (2)     | • Greenup (1)        | • Wellington (1)        |
| • McHenry (2)         | • Hanover (1)        | • Winfield (1)          |
| • Minneapolis, MN (2) | • Hawthorn Woods (1) | • Wonder Lake (1)       |
| • Morris (2)          | • Highland (1)       | • Woodstock (1)         |

Note: I live near Arenzville, IL in Cass County but I serve on the Boards of the Cass County Historical & Genealogical Society and the Friends of Rexroat Prairie, both located in Virginia, IL in Cass County.

**16) How do you access information on historic preservation?**

Responses: 253 (skipped 69)

Responses in order by number of respondents:

- (46) Historic site website, newsletter, or event
- (42) Other (please describe)
- (37) Website or newsletter for organizations related to local governments or historic preservation
- (29) Local preservation advocacy organization or Main Street program event, website, or newsletter

- (24) Social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube)
- (23) Local or county historic preservation commission website, newsletter, or event
- (19) National Park Service or other federal or state agency
- (17) Local media (newspaper, radio, other)
- (10) Illinois SHPO event, program, website, or publication
- (7) I have not / do not access information about history or preservation
- (0) Podcast or blog
- (0) College or university historic preservation program

Other responses:

- Several or most of the above choices. (8)
- All of the above except "do not access." (8)
- Just online generally.
- Landmarks Illinois, National Trust, Preservation Action, local organizations.
- We access a variety of sources that include Illinois SHPO, Social Media, Podcasts, National Parks Service, and publications.
- Most of the above; primarily various relevant websites including NPS and IL-SHPO.
- Public library.
- Alton Area Landmarks, the Historical Commission, Instagram.
- Social media, NPS, websites, etc.
- National Trust for Historic Preservation.
- Variety of sources: Kanews Media, Historic Associations, Local Preservation Commission.
- Historic site newsletter, HPC participation, Landmarks Illinois, communications from IL-SHPO.
- Native American Tribe, Ho Chunk Nation - IL Historical Museum Staff - Dr. Phil Millhouse, Cultural Resource Archaeologist, Red Gates Archaeology.
- I review DCEO Grantee-completed ERR's for compliance with Federal and State laws.
- The obsolete Chicago historic resources survey or HARGIS.
- Technical bulletins, seminars, self-study/research, historic preservation agencies.
- Personal contacts with people more directly involved.
- Through a friend.
- Newspaper.

### 17) How did you learn about this survey?

Responses: 255 (skipped 67)

Responses in order by number of respondents:

- (162) Email communication
- (30) Preservation organization (Historic Preservation Commission, Main Street, Landmarks Illinois, etc.)
- (21) Other (please specify)
- (17) Social media
- (13) Press release or flyer
- (7) Illinois SHPO representative
- (5) Project website ([www.IllinoisPreservationPlan.com](http://www.IllinoisPreservationPlan.com))

Other responses:

- Newspaper article. (5)
- From a friend. (3)
- All of the above.
- Found by accident. The invitation was originally sent to the wrong person at the Village.
- Work colleague.
- Work email.
- LinkedIn.
- Received a tax grant.

- SHPO presentation in Alton.
- Preservation organization (Historic Preservation Commission, Main Street, Landmarks Illinois, etc.)
- Volunteer Facebook.
- Someone in contact with a SHPO representative.
- April 11, 2023, online workshop.



