



## **Preserve America Summit Implementation** **One-Year Progress Report**

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

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

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

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

Throughout this year, NPS staff has been making presentations nationwide to publicize the implementation of the NPSAB report, the new guidance materials, and efforts to improve accessibility to information. Presentations have been given or are scheduled in the following venues: several Historic Tax Credit Developers conferences, the National Housing and Rehabilitation Association annual meeting, several Traditional Building conferences, the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers annual meeting, the Virginia Downtown Development Association annual meeting, a Restore Media/Traditional Building magazine "Webinar," the upcoming National Preservation Conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and numerous statewide historic preservation conferences.

At the request of the State Historic Preservation Offices, NPS staff is developing training materials about the four rehabilitation treatments discussed in the NPSAB report for their use in promoting the tax credits and planning successful rehabilitation projects.

In addition to the federal preservation tax credit, there are many other federal programs that can provide financial assistance for preservation projects. To help inform the public regarding the broad scope of such

programs, the ACHP updated its Web publication, *Sources of Financial Assistance for Historic Preservation Projects*, in May 2008.

**Next Actions:** NPS will continue to develop materials to promote the use of the Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits and the rehabilitation of historic buildings and make these materials readily accessible to the public through the web. Additional guides focusing on small projects, including small frame buildings and barns, are in progress and will be published by the end of 2008. Due to the high demand for the index, it is already out of print, and NPS is working on a second edition. NPS will continue to make presentations promoting the program as resources allow.

**Important Links:**

Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program Home Page [www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/tax/](http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/tax/)  
Tax Credit and Technical Information Site Map [www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/tax/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/tax/index.htm)  
*Planning Successful Rehabilitation Projects* [www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/tax/guidance.htm](http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/tax/guidance.htm)  
*Making a Good Program Better* [www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/tax/committee.htm](http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/tax/committee.htm)  
*Sources of Financial Assistance for Historic Preservation Projects* [www.achp.gov/funding.html](http://www.achp.gov/funding.html)

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

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