



Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas

PreserveArkansas.org

The Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas works to build stronger communities by reconnecting Arkansans to our heritage and empowering people to save and rehabilitate historic places.



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Blytheville Greyhound Station



Hotel Seville, Harrison



Miller County Courthouse, Texarkana



Quapaw Baths, Hot Springs

More than just saving old buildings, historic preservation offers unique economic and quality of life benefits to Arkansas:

Economic Benefits

Jobs

In typical new construction projects 50% of cost is materials and 50% of cost is labor; in typical rehabilitation projects 40% of cost is material and 60% labor, creating more jobs than new construction.

Redevelopment Tool

Public investment through grants and tax credits is matched many times over with private investment in local rehabilitation projects. Rehabilitation of historic buildings has proven again and again to be an economic catalyst for surrounding areas.

Stabilization & Increased Property Values

Local ordinance historic districts or special zoning districts (like the Capitol Zoning District) allow communities a means to protect historic properties and neighborhoods against actions that can be detrimental to an area's property value and distinctive character.

Heritage Tourism

In 2014, tourism contributed \$6.7 billion to Arkansas's economy. 25% of tourists listed visiting historic sites as a prime activity during their travels across the state. Strong heritage tourism depends on the preservation and continued use of sites with historic and cultural significance.

Neighborhood Revitalization & Economic Vitality

Rehabilitation of vacant or underutilized places returns properties to local and state tax rolls helping to increase tax collections for state and local governments and boost economic strength.

Sustainability

The greenest building is the one that is already built. Historic preservation is a key component of sustainable development. Preservation of existing buildings protects the infrastructure and resource investments made by prior generations.

Quality of Life Benefits

Community Pride

Historic designation gives a property cache that sets it apart from ordinary properties—when you have a property listed in the National Register of Historic Places, you own a recognized piece of American History. Designation also often helps educate members of a community about local history and increases community pride.

Education

Preserving Arkansas's historic places—the physical connections to our past—serves to educate coming generations about important people, events and themes of Arkansas and American history.

Community

With mature trees, front porches, sidewalks and human-scale homes, older neighborhoods have a distinctive sense of place that helps define communities and sets them apart.

Historic homes and neighborhoods provide affordable housing to Arkansas's working families.

Owners of properties that are listed in the National Register may be eligible for State and/or Federal Rehabilitation Credits, or in some cases grant funding to help redevelop, repair or maintain a historic property.



Central High School Neighborhood Historic District, Little Rock

Supporting Existing Programs

State Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit



Since 2009, the State and Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit programs have leveraged over \$162 million in private investment in redevelopment of historic properties. The Historic Rehabilitation Tax credit supports all aspects of Arkansas's distinctive places, from historic neighborhoods and main street commercial districts to rural homesteads and agricultural businesses.

Main Street Arkansas



Arkansas's historic downtowns are natural incubators for new, local businesses. The activities of Main Street Arkansas, a preservation-based downtown revitalization program, have resulted in a net gain of 3,907 jobs, 1,151 new businesses and 1,066 business expansions and relocations into downtown.

Local Ordinance Historic Districts

19 municipalities around Arkansas have adopted ordinances which give a local historic district commission (HDC) design review authority to preserve and protect historic resources in designated districts. The guidelines and process helps to provide stability and certainty to property owners and investors.



Argenta Historic District, North Little Rock



Historic County Courthouses



County courthouses are often the most architecturally significant and recognizable buildings in a given community and serve as the centerpiece of the downtown area. The courthouse is a landmark that ties a community to its heritage and serves as the anchor. It is used by a broader range of citizens than any other public building. Funding for the County Courthouse Restoration Sub-grant program through the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program supports local construction jobs and helps to keep these important buildings viable for the future.

Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council (ANCRC) Funding



Funded by the Real Estate Transfer Tax, ANCRC funds are the **only public funding source** for preservation of publicly owned landmarks in Arkansas. ANCRC funds have been used to preserve and enhance many of the favorite locations of Arkansas's tourists – places such as the Delta Cultural Center, Dyess Colony, the Hemingway-Pfeiffer Museum & Educational Center, Lakeport Plantation, Mosaic Templars Cultural Center, Old State House, the State Capitol, and numerous Arkansas State Parks.

