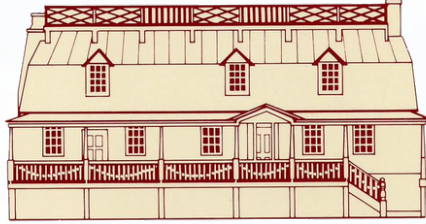


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Catoctin Furnace
Historic District
Boundary Increase:
The National Register
in Maryland
February 11, 2026



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What is the National Register of Historic Places?



The National Register of Historic Places is a list of properties acknowledged by the Federal Government as worthy of recognition and preservation for their significance in American history and culture. National Register properties include districts, buildings, structures, sites, and objects of significance to their local community, state, and/or the nation.



The National Register is maintained by the Secretary of the Interior and administered by the National Park Service. In Maryland, the National Register program is administered by the Maryland Historical Trust, the State Historic Preservation Office.



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How many properties are listed?

The National Register currently comprises over 1600 listings in Maryland, including some 200 historic districts.

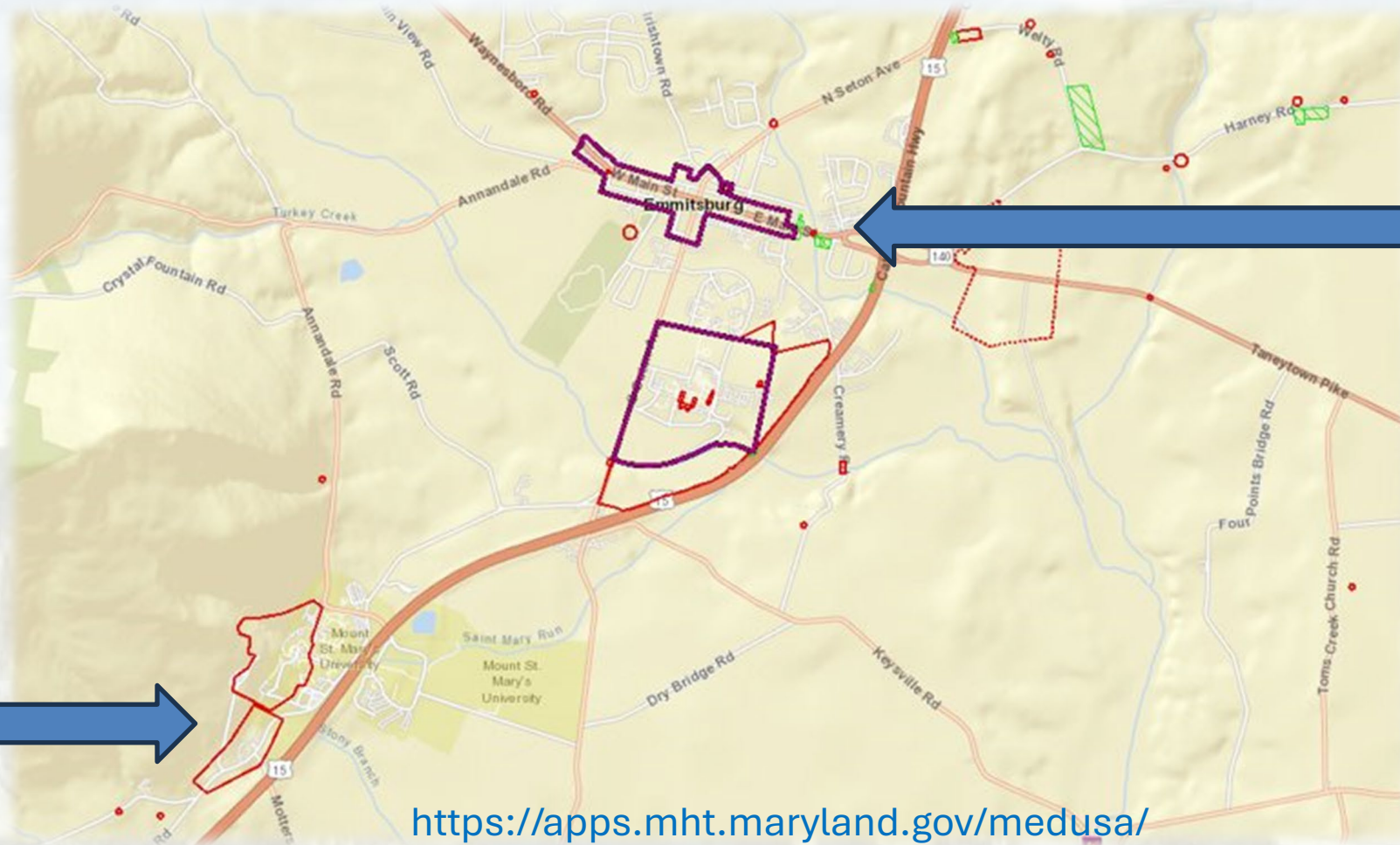
Counting all the contributing properties within those listings, the Register covers more than 100,000 properties in the state.



The Rock School in Cambridge, Dorchester County: a historic African American school building



MEDUSA Database and Map



National Register of Historic Places (purple)

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (red)

<https://apps.mht.maryland.gov/medusa/>



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Benefits of being listed in the National Register:



Asbury UM Church, Talbot County

- Official recognition of the property's significance
- Threshold for financial incentives for preservation, including rehabilitation tax credits
- Consideration in planning for state and federal projects; projects must take effects to historic properties into consideration in the planning and permitting process
- Increasing awareness and appreciation of local, state, and/or national history



Being Listed in the National Register DOES NOT:

- Require private property owners to obtain prior approval to change their property
- Require private property owners to preserve or restore their registered place
- Block state or federally funded/permitted/licensed projects when these are desired by the owner and shown to be in the public interest
- Restrict the use or sale – or even demolition -- of the property
- Establish times that the property must be open to the public



What property types are included?

Listed properties span a wide variety of types and periods, ranging from prehistoric archeological sites to buildings of the recent past.

Recent examples include the Chinatown Historic District in Baltimore city, and Starr Church in Queen Anne's County.



Some Examples	Included
Rural landscapes	✓
Urban and suburban neighborhoods	✓
Bridges	✓
Sailing vessels	✓
Battlefields	✓

Left: Baltimore's Chinatown Historic District

Right: Starr Church in Centreville, a Methodist meeting house



What makes a property eligible?

To be eligible for the National Register, a property must demonstrate significance at the local, state, or national level in terms of one or more of four broad criteria:

- Events or trends;
- Association with individuals who made a demonstrable and lasting contribution;
- Architecture;
- The potential to yield information that will contribute to a better understanding of our past.

The property must also retain physical integrity to reflect its significance.



Historic Context

- Historic context establishes the timeframe, themes, and geographical area of a nominated property.
- Contexts vary with resources; properties may reflect multiple contexts
- Historic context allows us to make comparisons among similar resources, understanding their relative importance



Period of Significance

The Period of Significance is the length of time when a property was associated with important events, activities, or persons, or attained the characteristics which qualify it for National Register listing. It could include:

- Time when an event occurred
- Span of time when property was part of a trend
- Time the property was associated with a person
- Date of construction (and additions)



Integrity: Seven Aspects

- 1. Location:** the resource is in the same place where the historic property was constructed or where the historic event occurred.
- 2. Design:** the resource maintains the combination of elements that created its form, plan, space, structure, and style.
- 3. Setting:** the resource maintains the physical environment that it had during its period of significance.
- 4. Materials:** the resource maintains the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property.
- 5. Workmanship:** the resource maintains the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory.
- 6. Feeling:** the resource expresses the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time in a way that conveys its significance.
- 7. Association:** the resource has a direct link to an important historic event, person, design, or other significant characteristic.



Integrity: Essential Physical Features

- Properties must retain the essential physical features that made up their character or appearance during the period of significance.
- Has the property been altered since the event took place?
- Would the individual recognize it today?
- Does a property significant for its architecture retain the characteristic features of its style, period, or method of construction; are they visible?
- Do archeological sites remain undisturbed, preserving their potential to yield specific data that addresses important research questions?
- For a district to retain integrity as a whole, the majority of its components must possess integrity, and the relationships among the components must be substantially unchanged since the period of significance.



Ordinarily, the Register Does NOT Consider

- Cemeteries
- Birthplaces or graves of historical figures (vs. sites of significant activities)
- Religious properties (church/state concerns)
- Moved structures (loss of setting, association, features)
- Reconstructed historic buildings (authenticity)
- Commemorative properties (not directly associated with event or person memorialized)
- Properties less than fifty years old (historical perspective)



Catoctin Furnace Historic District: Current



Criteria:

A & C

Areas of Significance:

Architecture

Industry

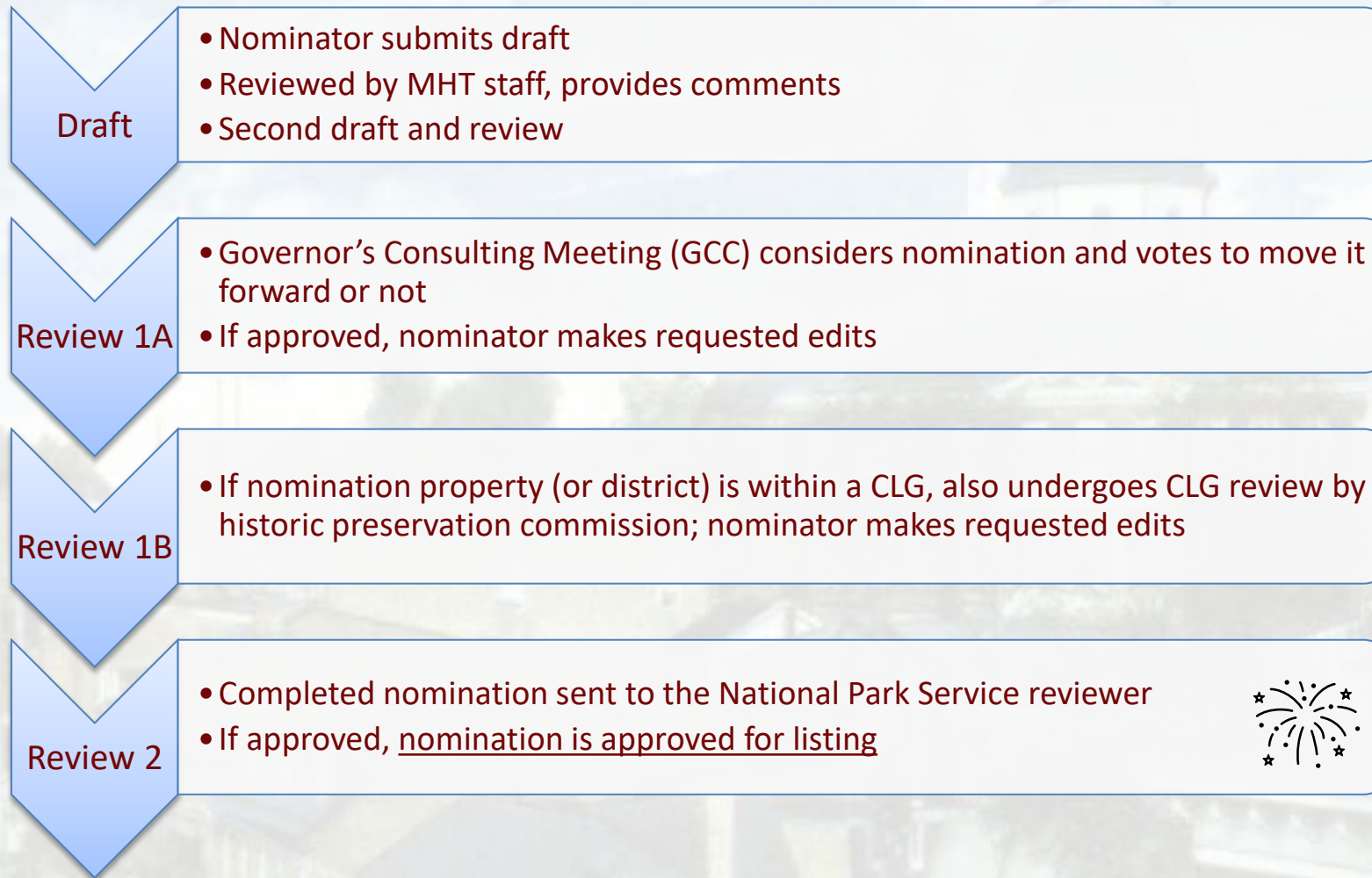
Period of Significance:

1774-1904



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Nomination Review Process



MARYLAND HISTORIC REVITALIZATION TAX CREDIT

What it is:

A 20% refundable state income tax credit on eligible rehabilitation expenses on certified historic structures.

Three tax credit types:



Competitive Commercial



Small Commercial



Homeowner



MARYLAND HISTORIC REVITALIZATION TAX CREDIT

<https://mht.maryland.gov/Pages/funding/tax-credits.aspx>

Website Resources:

Main Tax Credit program Webpage

Resources

- National Register of Historic Places
- Comptroller of Maryland
- Tax Credit Program Statute
- Tax Credit Program Regulations
- Proposed Amendments to Historic Revitalization Tax Credit Program Regulations
- Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties (NPS)
- Preservation Briefs
- Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credit

Reports and Studies

- The Abell Report: Heritage Tax Credits: Maryland's Own Stimulus to Renovate Buildings for Productive Use and Create Jobs, an \$8.53 Return on Every State Dollar Invested (March 2009)
- Final Report of the Governor's Task Force on Maryland's Heritage Structure Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program (2016)

Maryland Historic Revitalization Tax Credit Program

[PRESS RELEASE — Hogan Administration Announces More than \\$19 Million to Revitalize Historic Buildings](#)

NOTICE — Changes to Competitive Commercial and Small Commercial Revitalization Tax Credit

HB0027/SB289 was passed by both the House and Senate Chambers and signed into law by Governor Hogan with an effective date of July 1, 2022. Please note the following changes:

Competitive Commercial Revitalization Tax Credit:

- For each of the fiscal years 2023-2031, the appropriation to the Reserve Fund for competitive commercial projects increases to \$20,000,000 annually.
- The cap on Qualified Rehabilitation Expenditures for commercial projects increases to \$5,000,000 for any project that does not qualify as either a level 1 or level 2 opportunity zone, \$5,250,000 for a project that qualifies as a level 1 opportunity zone project, and \$5,500,000 for a project that qualifies as a level 2 opportunity zone project.

Small Commercial Revitalization Tax Credit:

- The bill establishes a new Trust Account for Small Commercial projects within the Reserve Fund which will receive an appropriation of \$2,000,000 annually for each of the fiscal years 2024-2031. The Small Commercial program will officially reopen July 1, 2023.

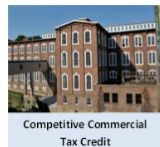
If you have any questions about these legislative changes, please contact Kate Jaffe at kate.jaffe@maryland.gov

The purpose of state and federal preservation tax incentives is to encourage private sector investment in the rehabilitation and re-use of historic buildings and to promote investment in local economies.

If you own a certified historic property in Maryland, you may have the opportunity to earn a state income tax credit on qualified rehabilitation expenditures. Whether you are planning to rehabilitate your primary or secondary residence or a commercial property, there are state incentives that may help. Select a project type for more information.



Homeowner Tax Credit



Competitive Commercial Tax Credit



Small Commercial Tax Credit

Each individual tax credit type has its own webpage with the following resources:

- FAQs
- Application Instructions
- Part 1
- Part 2
- Part 3
- Part 3 Expense Spreadsheet
- Amend Application

Click here for more information about each tax credit type

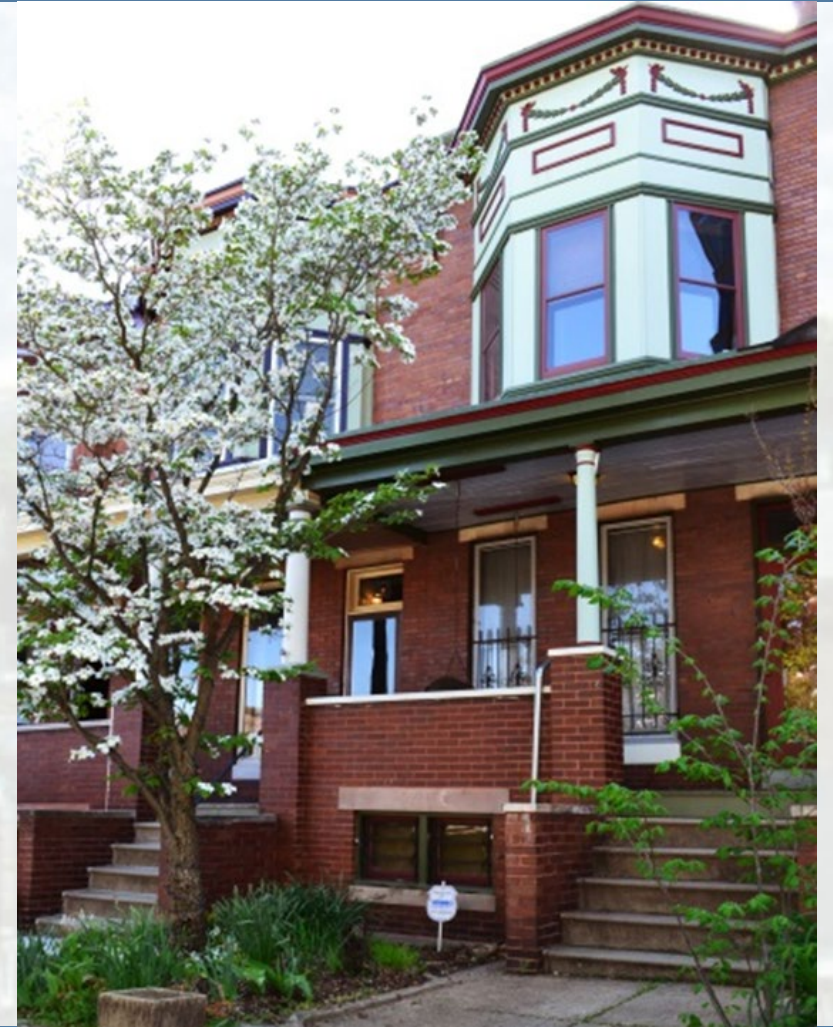


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HOMEOWNER

The credit is:

- 20% of total eligible rehabilitation cost
- Capped at \$50,000 in a 2-year period (\$250,000 in eligible expenses)
- For owner-occupied primary and secondary residential properties that undergo rehabilitations that exceed \$5,000 in eligible costs in a 24-month period.
- Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, year-round, no annual cap on the amount available.
- Available to homeowners of properties that are individually listed in the National Register or contributing to a historic district.



EXAMPLES OF ELIGIBLE EXPENSES



- Roof replacement/repair & chimney repair/lining
- Window/door restoration
- Selective window/door replacement
- New storm doors/windows
- Scraping/painting (interior/exterior)
- Repointing & structural work
- Floor refinishing
- HVAC, plumbing & electrical work
- Drainage work
- Architectural/engineering fees
- Tool/equipment rental



Contact Us!

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