

DRAFT NEW YORK STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN (2021-26)

FRONT COVER

The New York State Historic Preservation Plan (2021 - 2026)

BACK OF FRONT COVER

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Reader Notes:

Portions of the New York State Historic Preservation Plan (2021 - 2026) are available online-only. The Plan's Appendices and the State Environmental Quality Review of the document can be viewed at <https://parks.ny.gov/inside-our-agency/master-plans.aspx>.

The New York State Historic Preservation Plan (2021-2026) is supported in part by the Historic Preservation Fund, administered by the National Park Service (NPS), Department of the Interior.

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**SEQR
NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF A DRAFT GEIS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

Date of Notice: September 8, 2021

Lead Agency: New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP)

Title of Action: Adoption and Implementation of the State Historic Preservation Plan (2021-26)/GEIS

SEQR Status: Type I

Location of Action: Statewide

This Notice is issued pursuant to Part 617 of the implementing regulations pertaining to Article 8 (State Environmental Quality Review) of the Environmental Conservation Law.

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP), as lead agency, has determined that the proposed Adoption and Implementation of the State Historic Preservation Plan (2021-26) may have a significant adverse impact on the environment and a Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement (DGEIS) has been prepared. Copies of the Draft State Historic Preservation Plan (2021-26)/DGEIS are now available for review and comment.

A public meeting on the Draft State Historic Preservation Plan (2021-26)/DGEIS will be hosted online, Tuesday, September 28, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. This meeting will be recorded and made publicly available. During the meeting, Parks staff will make a presentation about the Draft State Historic Preservation Plan and be available for a question-and-answer session afterward. Free registration in advance of the online meeting is required in order to attend. To register, please e-mail SHPP.plan@parks.ny.gov no later than Friday, September 24, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

This meeting is accessible to people with language differences and/or disabilities. Any person who needs an interpretive or disability-related accommodation or modification to participate must make a written request no later than close of business on Tuesday, September 14, 2021. The written request must be addressed to the Agency Contact listed below.

OPRHP encourages the public to participate in the online public meeting for the Statewide Historic Preservation Plan and welcomes all comments on the draft documents. An online version of the Draft Plan/DGEIS is available at the following publicly accessible website: <https://parks.ny.gov/inside-our-agency/master-plans.aspx>. A non-digital copy of the documents can be provided by the Agency Contact listed below.

Written comments on the Draft Plan/DGEIS will be accepted until close of business on Friday, October 15, 2021 and may be submitted to SHPP.plan@parks.ny.gov or mailed to the contact address below.

Following the comment period, OPRHP will prepare and post a Final State Historic Preservation Plan (2021-2026) and Generic Environmental Impact Statement.

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Acronyms and Abbreviations Frequently Used in Plan

2021-26 Plan	2021-26 New York State Historic Preservation Plan
CLG	Certified Local Government
CRIS	Cultural Resource Information System
DHP	New York State Division for Historic Preservation
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EPF	Environmental Protection Fund
GEIS	Generic Environmental Impact Statement
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
IDEA	Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access
NPS	National Park Service
NYS	New York State
NYSCA	New York State Council on the Arts
OPRHP	New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation
SEQR/SEQRA	New York State State Environmental Quality Review Act
SHPO	New York State Historic Preservation Office

Chapter 1 | Introduction

On July 27, 1961, the *New York Times* published the headline: “Penn Station to be Razed to Street Level in Project.” In the following days, weeks, and months, hundreds of advocates for preservation and adaptive reuse of the station took to the streets, united, and organized as *The Action Group for Better Architecture in New York (AGBANY)*. Despite emphatic public outcry, countless newspaper articles, petitions, and meetings, the two-year campaign to save the impressive Beaux-Arts structure was unsuccessful, and the station was demolished in 1963. Undeterred by this tremendous loss, AGBANY forged ahead, appealing to local government boards and leaders to make their voices heard. In 1965, the organization successfully helped to pass the New York City Landmarks Law and create the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission. This effort is widely regarded as the birth of the modern preservation movement in the United States, and it happened right here in New York.

While the demolition of Penn Station galvanized the modern preservation movement—and is without question a pivotal moment in preservation history—New Yorkers have long shared a belief in the value of protecting their historic and cultural resources, building the movement over the course of centuries. In 1813, homeowner Jonathon Hasbrouck III fought and won an expensive legal battle to stop the demolition of his home in Newburgh, the site of General George Washington’s Revolutionary War headquarters. In the 1830s Hasbrouck would begin selling tours to help pay for the house’s upkeep. Later, in 1850, New York State would acquire the property and open it as the first publicly owned historic site in the country. In 1920, the Municipal Art Society of New York City (founded 1893) would defeat imprudent proposals to extend the growing subway system through Central Park. In 1939, the Landmark Society of Western New York (organized in 1937) would lead a group of volunteers to protect and preserve the Campbell-Whittlesey mansion, home to one of Rochester’s first residents. In 1962, the City of Schenectady would adopt an ordinance authored by concerned residents living in the historic Stockade neighborhood, leading to the creation of New York State’s first locally designated historic district. These preservation success stories—among countless others—and the ongoing commitment to preservation work are rooted in a passion and purpose shared among New Yorkers to protect and celebrate daily both local and state history.

Preservation is a movement and land-use discipline that best serves communities when it inspires and empowers people to find or make direct personal connections to historic places, resources, or cultural traditions. Through preservation, we tell the stories of the lifeways of people, both past and present, and the benefits of this practice extend to the social, environmental, and economic realms.

Like other people-powered movements, preservation has not been without its own missteps or growing pains. Too often, the loudest, most strident, voices in preservation have been the only voices heard, and that cacophony has muffled the voices of other advocates or communities that would help to tell a more diverse and complete story of individuals, places, and cultures. More than once the field has been labeled as “elitist” and “exclusionary,” as the power to decide what resources or traditions have intrinsic value and are “worthy” of saving is ascribed to select stakeholders or communities. In many instances, philosophies on community stewardship have been diametrically opposed, producing protracted public battles over resources. Throughout the 1960s, New York City urban planner Robert Moses and journalist-turned-community-activist Jane Jacobs touted city betterment ideas that directly clashed with one another – Moses favored highways and automobiles; Jacobs favored “human-scale” neighborhoods and pedestrian improvements. Well into the 1970s, homogenous urban renewal policies intended to clear “urban decay” instead fractured communities across the state, from Niagara to Newburgh, making apparent that the “right” way to bolster community character and quality of life is not a one-size-fits-all

approach but instead a nuanced, multi-layered process that freely includes community stakeholders and diverse perspectives.

Today, we must envision a new, conscientious future for preservation, one that is responsive to contemporary issues and serves the needs of everyone. This future of preservation must maintain and expand relevancy, dismantle barriers to community progress, and more equitably identify and preserve our state's history.

The 2021-26 New York State Historic Preservation Plan (hereafter referred to as the 2021-26 Plan) was developed through a broad outreach effort and written for all preservation advocates and stakeholders in New York: historic property owners, museum guests and directors, historical societies, local and regional governments, Certified Local Governments, trade schools, nonprofits, libraries, the diverse array of architecture, design, real estate, planning, finance and preservation professionals, and people that visit and celebrate the historic and cultural spaces throughout the state and share what they learn with their communities. This plan is for anyone and everyone who is interested in the celebration and protection of historic and cultural resources.

The Plan identifies eight topics in preservation, illustrative of ongoing challenges preservation advocates and professionals encounter today as well as those they may encounter in the years ahead. The eight topics are presented in no particular order of importance but are meant to illustrate various components of broad themes occurring in preservation:

- Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access
- Survey and Designation
- Economic Development and Recovery
- Environmental Sustainability
- Disaster Planning and Resiliency
- Local Preservation
- Partnerships
- Public Outreach and Education

Each topic has a goal statement followed by a series of objectives; the objectives encourage collective mutual cooperation in preservation and advocacy activities in an effort to help New Yorkers statewide realize individual preservation goals and the larger vision surrounding cultural resource and heritage preservation.

History is the study of our collective experiences, yet our efforts to preserve and celebrate its elements have not always been inclusive and comprehensive. Preservation—an ongoing process of discovery, learning, celebration, and reconciliation of history—possesses the capability to serve the needs of everyone when the field adapts and changes enough to meet advocates where they are. Together, the eight goal statements illustrate a thoughtful vision for preservation practice and advocacy in New York State, and suggest how all stakeholders might work together to improve current preservation services, introduce new ideas, and engage new audiences. **This plan is the first step toward a diverse, accessible, and community-driven future of preservation in New York.**

The New York State Division for Historic Preservation Overview

*The **mission** of the New York State Division for Historic Preservation is to create meaningful connections to the dynamic history of the state for all residents and visitors. Our commitment is to protect historic and cultural resources. The division strives to raise awareness of the value of historic places for future generations and to expand the complex narratives in order to tell a more complete story that represents the diversity of the state's people, both past and present.*

About the New York State Division for Historic Preservation (DHP) & the New York State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO): The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 established historic preservation policy for the nation and a partnership between the federal and state governments whereby a network of State Historic Preservation Offices was created to carry out the policy and provisions of the act on behalf of the National Park Service. New York has a parallel law – the State Historic Preservation Act of 1980. In administering these laws, the DHP, which operates within the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP), provides programs and services to help communities achieve the social, economic, cultural, and environmental benefits associated with historic preservation. The DHP is additionally home to the Bureau of Historic Sites, which provides collections care, conservation, and interpretive services for the network of historic sites, parks, and museums under the stewardship and operation of OPRHP. *(Learn more about the Bureau of Historic Sites online at <https://parks.ny.gov/historic-preservation/bhs/>)*

In a state as large as New York, the DHP must evaluate the differences between communities to establish priorities that help each region of the state manage preservation outcomes. For example, New York City represents historic resource management on a one-of-a-kind scale not seen elsewhere in the nation. Long Island is largely contained within coastlands, while upstate communities are linked by waterways and the Erie Canal. New York includes dense urban areas and rural communities with widely varied economies and resource types. While the 2021-26 Plan is designed for all stakeholders and residents, the goals and objectives within the Plan also set priorities and direction for the DHP, including increased disaster preparedness, creating improved access at historic sites, and the creation of enduring preservation partnerships.

Through its various programs and services, the collective **vision** of the DHP is that residents and visitors will be more aware of and appreciate the many narratives and cultural traditions that have shaped New York's natural and built environment; will understand the importance of preserving and interpreting the places where history happened; and will recognize the significant role New York and its people continue to play in the forming of America.

In its role as the designated SHPO, the DHP administers programs established in partnership with the National Park Service and those established by New York State policy. These include:

The **State and National Registers of Historic Places** are the official lists of properties significant in the history and culture of the state and the nation. Listing helps to raise a community's appreciation of its past, enhances preservation activities, and provides access to incentives such as tax credits and grants. The DHP assists sponsors in developing registers nominations that are reviewed and recommended for listing by the **New York State Board for Historic Preservation** at quarterly meetings. The board is made up of proxies representing additional state agencies, as well as appointees selected by the governor. Upon approval from the board, the State Historic Preservation Officer, who is also the commissioner of

the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, signs nominations and confers State Register status. Nominations are sent to the National Park Service for final review and listing on the National Register. Each year the DHP submits approximately eighty to one hundred nominations, some of which may include entire neighborhoods with hundreds of properties. New York State currently leads the nation in the number of properties listed on the registers.

The **statewide historic resources survey program** provides a comprehensive approach to identifying historic and cultural resources, helping communities recognize the importance of these properties so that they can be incorporated into local planning and development efforts. The DHP guides research, documentation, and evaluation. Each year the DHP adds thousands of properties to the statewide inventory, including neighborhoods that may be eligible for listing and are able to benefit from preservation incentive programs.

The **federal historic preservation tax credit program** offers owners of historic commercial properties a federal income tax credit equal to 20 percent of the qualified rehabilitation cost. To be eligible, properties must be income-producing, listed or in the process of being listed in the National Register, and the proposed work must meet the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*.

A further incentive for rehabilitation projects in New York State is the **state historic preservation tax credit program for commercial properties**, which offers owners of properties that are located in eligible census tracts a state income tax credit equal to 20 percent of the qualified rehabilitation costs, up to \$5 million in credits. As of 2021, the New York State commercial credit has been raised to 30 percent for projects with qualified rehabilitation expenditures under \$2.5 million. The applicant must be approved to use the federal credit to claim the state credit. Additionally, New York State offers the **historic homeownership tax credit program**, which is for owner-occupied residential properties that are listed on the registers and located in eligible census tracts. The homeowner program offers a state tax credit equal to 20 percent of the rehabilitation costs, up to \$50,000 in credits.

Consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Section 14.09 of the New York State Historic Preservation Act, federal and state agencies that fund, license, or permit projects in New York need to determine if historic or cultural properties are involved and whether they will be affected by the proposed activity. Much like more widely recognized environmental review processes, historic preservation reviews ensure that potential project impacts on properties that are listed or eligible for listing on the State and National Registers are evaluated and that adverse impacts are avoided, minimized, or mitigated during the project planning process. Each year the DHP reviews thousands of projects for their impacts on historic and cultural resources, including sensitive archaeological areas. Information about federal and New York State preservation laws and other regulations can be found on the DHP's website at <https://parks.ny.gov/shpo/environmental-review/preservation-legislation.aspx>.

Archaeology is a key component of historic preservation environmental review. The DHP works with public agencies and local communities, providing archaeological guidance, such as how to identify and investigate archaeological sites and how to access cultural resource information. With the help of the research and documentation contained in cultural resource reports, the DHP's archaeological staff develops strategies to streamline environmental review for archaeologically sensitive areas in consultation with federal and state agencies.

New York's Certified Local Government (CLG) program helps communities establish and maintain local preservation programs as part of their governmental functions. A village, city, town, or county begins the certification process by requesting that the DHP review its local preservation law and procedures. If it is determined that the local legislation meets state and federal standards, the municipality is certified and becomes part of the statewide CLG network that receives support from the DHP in the form of technical assistance, grants, and information sharing. The growth of the CLG program in New York has helped to not only increase the number of municipalities involved in advancing preservation at the local level but has also expanded the inclusion and elevation of historic and cultural resources in local planning initiatives. The SHPO's Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS) furthers community preservation efforts by offering the public online access to the SHPO's historic and cultural resource databases as well as information about SHPO programs, including application forms, program guidelines, and project status information.

The DHP helps to administer the **historic preservation grant program** funded under the state Environmental Protection Fund (EPF), providing technical assistance to municipal and nonprofit project sponsors on the acquisition, restoration, rehabilitation, reconstruction, or archaeological interpretation of historic places. To be eligible, properties must be listed on the State or National Registers at the time of grant award. Additionally, DHP manages grants offered by the National Park Service, often in partnership with local organizations.

These programs and services bring the DHP into contact with a wide range of resources and constituents, including government agencies, nonprofit organizations, developers, architects, homeowners, preservationists, and Native American tribal communities. This gives us a broad perspective on past and current trends and allows us to develop strategies to address the short-and long-term preservation needs of the state.

Historic Sites Overview

Historic sites, museums, and parks are success stories in historic preservation, representing a community's collaboration to preserve a building, a site, a place, a memory, a milestone, a story, or a collection. New York's history organizations can be traced back more than 150 years before the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, with early collecting institutions like the 1791 Society for the Promotion of Agriculture, Arts and Manufactures (now the Albany Institute of Art and History) and the New-York Historical Society (founded in 1804).

In 1850, Washington's Headquarters in Newburgh became the first publicly owned historic site in the nation and arguably the first building in New York intentionally "saved" by the public for what today could be termed historic preservation. Over the next century, hundreds of cultural institutions, museums, libraries, and research organizations were founded across New York State. When the National Historic Landmark and National Register programs were formalized in the 1960s, these institutions were already important in their communities and naturally were among the earliest nominated properties.

Although many museums and historic sites were the geneses of their community's historic preservation efforts, these efforts and the stories told were ones often focused on elite families or a particular perception of a national or local identity: the saving of a shrine to a Revolutionary War patriot, a town founder, or some other local benefactor. But, just as preservation ethos has evolved since the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, museum practices have also changed greatly. More museums and cultural institutions have begun telling the stories of those previously excluded from institutional narratives – women, Indigenous peoples, LGBTQ+ individuals, the enslaved, free people of color, immigrants, and servants. Community-based historic preservation's long association with museums and history continues today. More and more museums and historic sites are being formed, expanded, or re-focused with the intent to preserve, collect, and interpret the history of those previously marginalized and silenced.

Both the field of historic preservation and New York's museums, historic sites, parks, cultural and educational institutions are now striving towards inclusivity and alliance. Just as they have in the past, the missions and goals of preservationists and those connected to various museums and sites remain compatible and wholly overlapping. As all face funding pressures and increased competition for people's time and attention, this relationship will need to grow even stronger. The results of the 2020 General Population Questionnaire— produced by the New York State Division for Historic Preservation for development of this Plan—ranked a *lack of public awareness or interest in historic resources* as the #2 threat to historic resources in their community. In the same survey, however, over three-quarters of residents indicated they had been to a local, state, or national museum at least once in the past year. Only 5.6 percent of residents responded that they had not been to a museum or historic site at least once in the past two to three years. The survey data imply museums and historic sites have a built-in audience and could serve as platforms to support preservation efforts and ethos in their communities. Recognizing that the history of a museum or historic site is inseparable from the history of the community surrounding it, museums and sites can take a more active role in encouraging local residents to learn about, appreciate, and engage with their neighborhood's history.

In fact, museums and historical societies at every level have relied on community ambassadors and volunteers since their beginning. Figures from the Internal Revenue Service show 40 percent of public

charities rely heavily or entirely on volunteers to operate; the latest Nonprofit Sector Brief (2019) from the National Center for Charitable Statistics estimates that 25.1 percent of adults volunteered in 2017, contributing more than 8.8 billion hours of service, worth an estimated value of approximately \$195 billion. Doing everything from working the information desk and giving school tours to sewing reproduction clothing, creating websites, writing articles, and transcribing documents, volunteers keep the doors of our cultural institutions open and improve the quality of life in our communities. The field should continue to invest in its volunteers, provide opportunities for growth, and recognize that volunteers have a real, quantifiable, and powerful impact on our institutions.

Studies have shown repeatedly that cultural, historical, and educational institutions are viewed by the public as highly credible sources of information, more so even than government agencies and newspapers. Historic preservation messaging from a museum, its website, or its social media pages is likely to be highly effective. Potential partners and pro-preservation voices are also everywhere. Today there are more than 1,800 chartered educational institutions in New York State. They are a resource in every county, spread across the rural landscape, suburban areas, and cities of every size.

New York's museums, libraries, and cultural and educational institutions have a special role to play in advancing the goals of the 2021-26 Plan. As public-facing entities, these places are often the first (or sometimes the only) interaction New Yorkers have with the field of history, and they can continue to be specialists, valuable **Preservation Partners**, stakeholders, resources, educators, and neighborhood advocates. Their facilities can be platforms for **Public Outreach and Education** initiatives like events and lectures and act as spaces for dialogue to inform or alert the public about historic preservation. These institutions can continue to give space and voice to the marginalized, expanding the public's appreciation of cultural heritage and bringing **Inclusiveness, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA)** to the dialogue around historic preservation. Finally, the importance of historic sites, museums, and other cultural and educational institutions to their local economies cannot be understated. Numerous studies show dollars spent at these destinations flow throughout the local economy; they play a key role in making heritage tourism a driver of **Economic Development and Recovery** throughout New York State.

New York State Inventory

New York's rich heritage and culture are keenly reflected in its buildings, landscapes, neighborhoods, sites, artifacts, and people. The diverse mosaic of historic and cultural properties helps to define the state's distinctive identity as well as establish its special quality, character, and sense of place.

These resources include archaeological sites, landscapes, traditional cultural properties, burial grounds and cemeteries, transportation resources, engineering landmarks, commercial and residential properties, farmsteads, houses of worship, schools, civic buildings, industrial complexes, and many more.

The Inventory

New York's *inventory* is the growing database of properties that the SHPO has identified through surveys, environmental review, and from information submitted by the public. Properties that have been determined eligible for, or are already listed on the National Register of Historic Places make up a portion of the inventory. As of September 2021, the inventory of identified properties and cultural resources includes more than 348,721 entries. Of these, 325,322 represent non-archaeological resources such as buildings, structures, sites, and objects. The remaining 23,399 entries represent archaeological sites and submerged resources. Additionally, the division maintains a database of 5,849 cemeteries.

Within New York State there are 6,270 National Register of Historic Places listings, representing 120,000+ resources, including individually listed properties and resources in historic districts.

The New York State Historic Preservation Office's library of survey documents is primarily divided between built resources and archaeological investigations. There are 1,785 surveys of the built environment, representing a surveyed area of approximately 4 million acres, and 16,107 archaeological surveys, representing a surveyed area of approximately 2.5 million acres. Thematic and architectural surveys include statewide surveys and context studies; countywide surveys and studies; regional surveys and studies, and surveys prepared for cities, towns, villages, and neighborhoods.

While New York's historic built environment records almost 400 years of development, its archaeological resources represent 12,000 years of human activity. Archaeological sites can be found all around the state, from temporary Native American fishing encampments to twentieth-century Cold War military installations. The identification, recognition, and interpretation of these archaeological resources will help to ensure their long-term protection. New York's extensive network of waterways and coastal areas has resulted in an extraordinary legacy of submerged archaeological sites ranging from underwater Native American sites to historic shipwrecks spanning almost 400 years of commerce, technology, and naval history.

Archaeological surveys are primarily initiated through the environmental review process. Of these 16,107 surveys, 13,793 represent preliminary investigations, while 1,958 represent more detailed site-specific examinations. Access to these documents is available to qualified individuals and agencies via the online Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS).

Threats to the Inventory

- Development pressure, lack of public awareness, and inadequate funding for preservation activities have been identified by division staff, professional colleagues, and public survey respondents as the major threats to historic properties.
- Historic churches have been identified as a resource type that is particularly threatened due to the challenges associated with repurposing them in a way that maintains their integrity, particularly the open plan and multi-story interior space. When surveyed, nearly half of public respondents selected religious buildings as a resource type worthy of preservation.
- Following the devastation of Superstorm Sandy, the division managed and monitored the work of outside historic preservation consultants who prepared the *Historic Resources Survey of Selected Waterfront Communities on Long Island and New York City* that concluded in 2020. Support received through the National Park Service for Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief was used to fund this large-scale survey project of selected coastal communities on the north and south shores of Long Island and in Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island, and the Bronx. The goal was to update and expand the SHPO's historic resources inventory in these vulnerable areas so that we are better prepared for future weather and climate-change-related events. The focus of the survey was on above-ground historic resources, including buildings, historic districts, landscape features, structures, and objects. Underground and maritime archaeological sites were not included in this study.

CRIS

The Division for Historic Preservation's flagship online resource is the New York State Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS), which supplies individuals and communities with information and tools to support the preservation and revitalization of New York State's rich heritage and culture.

Launched in 2015, CRIS was developed by the division with funding in part from the Federal Highway Administration and provides access to New York State's vast historic and cultural resource databases, including a statewide map of historic properties, projects, and surveys, as well as more than 1.5 million pages of scanned paper records, photographs, forms, and reports pertaining to historic properties and programs. CRIS also supports the state and federal tax credit programs, the nomination of properties to the New York State and National Registers of Historic Places, conducting environmental review under Section 106 (National Historic Preservation Act), Section 14.09 (New York State Historic Preservation Act), and the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), and the Certified Local Government (CLG) program. CRIS is also the clearinghouse for information on newly identified historic and cultural resources as well as architectural and archaeological surveys.

Further web-based software applications that function with CRIS include CRIS Trekker and CRIS Mobile. Trekker builds upon CRIS to allow the general public to submit new information about historic properties using a mobile device or computer. Historic preservation consultants can use Trekker to conduct field surveys of historic properties on a mobile device, assign and manage field survey team members, and export field survey data to tables, lists, and reports.

CRIS Mobile is a simplified web-based map version of CRIS that can be used to view historic building, structure, and district locations; open historic resource inventory data; launch CRIS Trekker to submit updates to building records and collect building records for a CRIS Trekker survey project.

These three applications working in concert provide flexibility for the public, professionals, and other government agencies to access and improve the state's ever-growing digital inventory of historic and cultural resources and expand on the half-century of documentation that has been accumulated and organized by the division.

The Planning Process

Planning for the 2021-26 Plan began in earnest in late 2019. Plan development was coordinated by a committee of leadership and professional staff from the Division for Historic Preservation and the Division of Environmental Stewardship and Planning within the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP).

Throughout 2020 and into 2021, this committee—also known as the Core Team—met regularly to: gather, organize, and analyze data to identify key preservation issues; discuss an overall vision for preservation and cultural resource management in New York State; and establish priorities for collective action over the next five years. Through this collaborative effort, a comprehensive list of preservation goals with discrete and ambitious, yet obtainable, objectives were developed. These goals and objectives are responsive to local, regional, and statewide needs and priorities; they reflect an understanding of the diversity and complexity of preservation challenges across New York State.

There is a significant change in the statement of goals between the 2021-26 Plan and those in the 2015-20 State Historic Preservation Plan: the departure from holistic goal statements to issue-based ones. The previous Plan presented three broad, impact-based goals: 1) Expand Historic Preservation Efforts Across New York State, 2) Promote Historic Preservation at Local and Regional Levels, and 3) Cultivate Pride of Place. While broad impact-based goals can help stakeholders share a general vision for the future, such goal statements are often too broad, leaving plan implementers without a clear understanding of actionable steps or ways to measure implementation progress.

To avoid these hazards in the implementation of the 2021-26 Plan, the Core Team decided to write issue-based goals. Specific issues, or topics, as they are referred to throughout this document, were identified after finding themes that arose frequently during the plan outreach and engagement process: inclusion, diversity, equity, and access (IDEA), partnerships, public education, and more. For each topic, a goal statement identifies the desired state of affairs to which planning and advocacy efforts will be directed. Objectives associated with each topic are specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and timely; they are focused without being so myopic that stakeholders are unable to see how they may contribute to the larger vision. Whereas preservation is a multidisciplinary field, objectives are often shared between the eight topics to maintain and reinforce the idea that breadth and diverse ways of thinking reap preservation benefits across disciplines, industries, and communities. Actions recommended in the Plan are written to be flexible, inviting the participation of individuals, communities, local preservation groups, government agencies, and non-traditional stakeholders in the effort to preserve, protect, and bring attention to the state's remarkable diversity of historic and cultural resources.

Public Engagement

Statewide plans are the product of collaboration within OPRHP and broad-based professional, partner, and public involvement from across the state. All OPRHP-led public engagement opportunities are designed to be open and accessible, inclusive, and meaningful in order to obtain relevant and timely input for plan development. Public engagement processes are tailored to engage a diverse group of stakeholders and leverage a variety of participation methods to gather information. In considering a more comprehensive body of stakeholders and collecting a wider range of information, the Core Team was able to produce a high-impact plan with goals and objectives both relevant and attainable by a diverse array of partners, including groups and communities not typically viewed as partners in preservation practice or advocacy.

Copies of all surveys and questionnaires distributed as part of the 2021-26 Plan can be found in the Plan's appendices, available online at: <https://parks.ny.gov/inside-our-agency/master-plans.aspx>. The kick-off of the planning process coincided with the early months of the COVID-19 global pandemic. Out of an abundance of caution at a time of great uncertainty, the Core Team elected to promote an **on-demand video presentation**—instead of hosting a series of in-person meetings across the state—to welcome the public to the planning process for the 2021-26 Plan. Made available online via YouTube (<https://youtu.be/-6xdNCCes1I>), the video introduced viewers to the functions of the Division for Historic Preservation, the planning process, and the goals for the development of the Statewide Plan. After viewing the presentation, the audience was invited to join the Plan's mailing list, submit electronic comments, and complete the online "Preservation Professionals & Colleagues" questionnaire described below.

Surveys, Questionnaires, and Personal Interviews

Planning amidst the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Core Team opted to use online engagement tools to solicit public input. While digital communications cannot replace the more serendipitous personal connections found at an in-person meeting, digital engagement can help reduce some barriers to participation, capture a broader range of perspectives, and yield more detailed and illuminating insights.

Two online surveys were a vital component of this Plan's public engagement process and shaped planning outcomes. Both surveys provided ample opportunity for respondents to share their views in narrative form, ensuring that quantitative data was complemented by the qualitative information more likely to be shared during one-on-one conversations at an in-person public meeting.

The General Population Survey included fifteen questions—open-ended, close-ended, and nominal—designed to solicit input from the general public on familiarity with historic resources, current issues, opportunities, and priorities for preservation and cultural resource management in the next five years. Demographic data about respondents was also collected. The survey was distributed using SurveyAnalytics by Question Pro's online software, and exclusively sought respondents ages eighteen and older. QuestionPro collected 3,510 complete surveys, which included representation from all sixty-two counties in New York State.

The Preservation Professionals & Colleagues Survey included fifteen questions—open-ended, close-ended, and nominal—designed to solicit input concerning current issues, threats, opportunities, and priorities from historic preservation professionals, colleagues, advocates, and stakeholders around the state. Demographic data about respondents was also collected. A link to the survey—hosted by OPRHP using the Survey123 online application—was promoted via e-mails to colleagues, including preservation organizations, educators, and Certified Local Governments. The survey link was widely shared by nonprofit, advocacy, and colleague groups on social media platforms such as Facebook and Instagram. A link was also included in monthly electronic newsletter mailings from multiple not for profits in the state. Staff at the Division for Historic Preservation included a hyperlink to the survey in their e-mail signature blocks. Professional networking also played a role in survey distribution. The survey was available from May 5 through July 3, 2020. More than 800 responses were recorded, with participation from all sixty-two counties in New York State.

In addition to the two online surveys, the Core Team developed several questionnaires with open-ended questions designed to gather detailed information from high-impact preservation

stakeholders.

The first questionnaire, the Targeted Colleagues Questionnaire, was distributed to more than sixty colleague groups and organizations across the state. Individuals/groups responding to the Targeted Colleagues Questionnaire represent state agencies, nonprofit preservation organizations, architectural historians, and other preservation consultants across New York State.

The first half of the Targeted Colleagues Questionnaire was composed of questions designed to measure the degree of success preservation stakeholders felt was made toward meeting the three goals, and associated objectives, of the 2015-2020 State Historic Preservation Plan:

Goal #1: Expand Historic Preservation Efforts Across New York State

Goal #2: Promote Historic Preservation at Local and Regional Levels

Goal #3: Cultivate Pride of Place

Respondents were presented with five semantic differential statements from which to evaluate the degree of progress made toward each goal.

The second half of the Targeted Colleagues Questionnaire included open-ended questions that would allow respondents to detail the successes and/or shortcomings of their organization, comment on the larger preservation landscape, the resources utilized or desired to make their work possible, the extent of community outreach in their work, and more.

A second questionnaire was distributed to State Historic Site Managers, with responses representing nearly two-thirds of facilities across the state. A questionnaire was also developed for response by State Historic Site Friends Groups, which are strong advocates for State Historic Sites and organizations keenly aware how local visitation and a local sense of pride and ownership in place are indispensable to a preservation ethos.

A fourth questionnaire about the Archaeology of Underrepresented Communities was distributed to archaeologists in the state and concerned the study of sociocultural groups underrepresented in the historic record and underrepresented in historic preservation. Complementary to the written surveys and questionnaires were personal interviews. The Core Team established a list of interviewees after consultation with nonprofit preservation colleagues across the state in which fifteen community groups were identified as having perspectives or interests historically underrepresented in preservation work and advocacy. Invitations to participate in a phone interview (or written questionnaire) were also sent to Tribal Historic Preservation Officers and other contacts within the Tribal Nations in hopes of better incorporating the knowledge and concerns of Indigenous communities in the 2021-26 Plan. More than twenty-five persons were interviewed as part of this engagement effort. Subsequent to these interviews, the Core Team made a deliberate effort to highlight the participation of these communities and address the identified issues within the Plan's objectives.

Small Group Consultations

In advance of releasing the first public draft of the state Plan, members of the Core Team consulted with preservation colleagues outside the Division for Historic Preservation to elicit initial reactions to proposed Plan goals and objectives. Individuals were invited to participate in these reviews based on their leadership and diverse experience in preservation work and advocacy across the state. The Plan's goals and objectives were refined following discussion of these earliest drafts and the guidance offered by these contributors was invaluable to the final document.

Planning Cycle

As New York's State Historic Preservation Office, the Division for Historic Preservation is mandated by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 to prepare and implement a Statewide Historic Preservation Plan.

Previous Statewide Historic Preservation Plans have been developed on a five-year cycle, consistent with the timing of other comprehensive planning documents produced by OPRHP, such as the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. Generally, the planning processes for these documents do not occur in tandem, ensuring that each document receives the undivided attention of OPRHP program staff in their development.

The latest Statewide Historic Preservation Plan, however, will have a six-year lifespan, from 2021 through the end of 2026. COVID-19 brought many unexpected delays in the planning process for the document, as the statewide workforce began to perform its regular duties from home and the agency answered the governor's call to aid with response operations such as staffing call centers, transporting supplies, and supporting Regional Operations Centers and sample sites.

Sensitive to the extraordinary challenges and impact on families, organizations, and local and regional governments, the Core Team also felt it critical to delay public engagement efforts, ensuring that individuals and groups could devote their time and energy fully to responding to the immediate health, safety, and wellness needs of their communities.

With these unforeseen complications pushing Plan development into 2021—when plan implementation was scheduled to begin—the Core Team determined an extension of the existing 2015-2020 Statewide Plan was necessary. In securing an extension, the Core Team could better ensure the 2021-26 Plan was a thoughtful, forward-thinking document responsive to the ongoing and unprecedented challenges preservation and cultural resource management will face in the years to come.

The Division for Historic Preservation anticipates returning to a five-year plan cycle with the development of the 2027-2031 Statewide Plan.

A discussion of the implementation process for the 2021-26 Plan can be found in Chapter 5.

Introduction to Topics

The goals of the 2021-26 Plan are presented under eight broad topics:

- Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access
- Survey and Designation
- Economic Development and Recovery
- Environmental Sustainability
- Disaster Planning and Resilience
- Local Preservation
- Partnerships
- Public Outreach and Education

These topics reflect overarching themes the Core Team encountered throughout the planning process—in public surveys, one-on-one interviews, colleague conversations, and other outreach efforts—and are illustrative of ongoing challenges preservation advocates and professionals encounter today, as well as those the field is likely to encounter in the years ahead.

Each topic has at least one goal statement. The goal statement is preceded by a series of objectives, which are the measurable actions that will help to achieve the goal. Many objectives are cross-listed under other topics, emphasizing the interconnected, multidisciplinary qualities of historic preservation and cultural heritage. Plan objectives cut across topics and encourage collaboration and collective action in their implementation.

Most importantly, the objectives of the 2021-26 Plan are accessible to all interested persons: the objectives are written so that any person—regardless of professional title, organizational affiliation, technical skill set or training—can support the Plan and envision a role for themselves in its implementation. Together, we can realize the exciting vision for cultural resource and heritage preservation in New York State.

Topic | Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Access (IDEA)

At its core, preservation is a movement about people and the places that matter to them. For decades, passionate individuals and communities have saved and re-envisioned buildings, landscapes, and structures; attended programs and led tours at historic sites and museums; trained new generations in trades and collections care; spearheaded letter-writing campaigns, fundraised, petitioned and more. This ongoing interest in sharing the record of the past is a powerful motivator to preserve culture in its many forms.

For the preservation movement to further contribute to public life and discourse, we—its supporters—must acknowledge and honor an ever-evolving history; sensitively uncovering and examining the diverse, dynamic, and sometimes difficult stories of New York State and its people. We must equip one another with the education and resources necessary to access, illuminate, and preserve the full spectrum of cultural and historic resources in communities. By centering the tenets of inclusion, diversity, equity, and access in this endeavor, we can enrich cross-cultural understanding and appreciation, championing a people-powered movement for generations to come.

For over 12,000 years, Native peoples thrived as groups of nomadic hunter-gatherers and settled agriculturalists across modern-day Long Island, along the Hudson River, north to the St. Lawrence River, and west to Lake Erie. Following early European settlement in the seventeenth century, the eighteenth century saw the arrival of more than twenty million people at Castle Clinton—the nation’s first formal immigrant registration center—and later Ellis Island, rendering New York the birthplace of the “melting pot” mystique. During the nineteenth century and into the twentieth, New York’s streets would host the nation’s first parades for Labor Day, women’s suffrage, Puerto Rican heritage, gay pride, and many other social and cultural communities. Our state’s worldwide renown is due in large part to the inimitable cultural imprint and global influence of its diverse peoples and places.

Although the history of New York, and that of the nation, is one of significant progress—of buildings climbing higher into famous skylines, of World’s Fairs, innumerable adaptations and innovations—it is also a history of regressive practices and policies, unsettling injustice, and violence. For too long, the nation’s more iniquitous histories have been quietly overlooked, if not deliberately unrecognized. As preservationists and interpreters of public history, we can play a substantial role in shaping a future free of erasure, exclusion, and discrimination, a future in which communities have ownership and agency over the stories and traditions of their past and present. If we are not integrating diverse perspectives into contemporary work and advocacy, eliminating barriers to access, or charting pathways toward reconciliation, preservationists are simply failing to do our job.

The preservation movement can help to create environments where people from all backgrounds and experiences are welcomed and engaged at decision-making tables, where more stakeholders have access to the resources and support systems necessary for successful preservation and programming outcomes. By recording, preserving, and building awareness of a more honest, nuanced, and complete history of New York, preservationists—whether by profession or avocation—have the power to ensure that all communities are given a voice, able to protect and build meaningful connections to the historic and cultural resources that distinguish their past.

The objectives in this chapter continue the invaluable ongoing work underway to remove barriers that impede thoughtful, inclusive acts of preservation. These objectives offer guidance on formalizing a commitment to issues of inclusion, diversity, equity, and access. Together, a more complex, multifaceted consortium of preservation stakeholders and partners can unite to protect not only the physical materials and places that memorialize our collective history, but to celebrate the intangible qualities of that shared history: the inviolable spirit of all New Yorkers.

Goal: Ensure activities dedicated to the preservation of cultural heritage recognize and champion the responsibility to uphold and progress the principles of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access.

Objectives:

- Increase diversity in hiring and appointing staff and board members to heritage-based organizations, governmental land-use planning boards, commissions, and other authorities. *(See: Local Preservation)*
- Review existing markers, signage, exhibits, designation reports, and other documents for inaccurate, insensitive, or inflammatory language. *(See: Survey, Designation & Protection)*
- Identify resource types and historic themes absent from or inadequately discussed in existing inventories, landmark designations, surveys, register nominations, and share findings with communities and designating bodies. *(See: Survey, Designation & Protection)*
- Collaborate with diverse individuals and groups, such as folklorists, municipal historians, local merchants, and other community stakeholders, to create more representative local and regional historic context statements. *(See: Survey, Designation & Protection)*
- Work with marginalized communities and insufficiently documented groups to identify the places and history they recognize as significant for the purpose of designating more diverse historic properties. *(See: Survey, Designation & Protection)*
- Communicate and partner with Indigenous leaders and communities to ensure knowledge and concerns for historic indigenous lands are incorporated into preservation projects and programming (e.g. consultation, land acknowledgement, etc.). *(See: Partnerships)*
- Evaluate exhibits and interpretative programming to ensure materials and themes address the diversity of the human experience.
- Reduce barriers—e.g., transportation restraints, cost/entry fees, etc.—that may constrain the ability to experience heritage resources or access opportunities that contribute to their management and stewardship.
- Ensure equitable access to historic sites and preservation programming by providing and improving upon existing accommodations that create universal accessibility and thoughtful opportunities for engagement.
- Offer programs, interpretation, and other relevant materials in multiple languages to broaden the relevance of preservation activities and stewardship to all New Yorkers.
- Be inclusive in the process of recognizing and celebrating sites, stories, and places that have previously received little or no recognition.

- Instill in professional staff the recognition that ALL people are entitled to safe, welcoming, and enjoyable access to historic sites and programmed events. *(See: Public Outreach & Education)*
- Coordinate with people and groups absent from or inadequately represented in cultural heritage stewardship and preservation to develop educational presentations, cultural demonstrations, and other opportunities for cross-cultural exchange.
- Encourage grant-makers to add scoring criteria that reflect an increased emphasis on inclusion, diversity, equity, and access initiatives. *(See: Economic Development & Recovery)*
- Develop and encourage cultural sensitivity training for staff and leaders of preservation partner organizations to facilitate interactions with additional and varying community groups, emphasizing empathy and active listening in dialogue and action. *(See: Partnerships)*

Topic | Survey, Designation, and Protection: Recognizing and Safeguarding Cultural Resources

Cultural resource surveys are an essential building block of effective historic preservation planning at the local, regional, and statewide levels. As preservation planners and advocates we use the information in surveys to become more informed, proactive participants in raising awareness and protecting those resources that connect us to the past, anchor us to the present, and guide us into the future.

Surveys help to identify historic properties that may benefit from State and National Registers listing (which can qualify properties for rehabilitation tax credit and grant programs) and/or local designation; create a body of background information for land-use and resiliency planning; meet specific environmental review requirements (Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and Section 14.09 of the New York State Historic Preservation Act of 1980); increase public awareness of a community's historic resources, and promote heritage tourism.

As the preservation field evolves, we must improve our survey and designation efforts to illuminate the history and experiences of diverse communities. We can build upon some of the recent efforts by groups that are documenting resources that tell the stories of historically marginalized or underrepresented communities. There are several recent inspirational models, such as the New York City Landmark Preservation Commission's *Preserving Significant Places in Black History*, an interactive story map that guides users through more than fifty-five years of the commission's designations that are significant to Black history; the State and National Registers' listing of Sag Harbor Hills, Azurest, and Ninevah Subdivisions Historic District, a summer community created by and for African American families; and the local designation and certification of the Broadway-Fillmore Historic District, representing Polish immigration on Buffalo's East Side.

An important trend that has recently emerged is the revision of old nominations and designation reports to reflect new areas of significance that were overlooked in the original documentation. This progress is illustrated by the documentation added to the National Register nomination for the Alice Austen House on Staten Island—which now more fully recognizes Austen's openly non-traditional life and how she dealt with gender and social norms in her photography—and the recent Rhinebeck Village Historic District boundary increase, which expanded the nomination to include the history of the African American residents of the Oak Street neighborhood. Additional outreach to, and collaboration with, previously surveyed and designated communities may also help bolster support for the protection of historic places at a grassroots level.

It is also important to find new or fresh means of recognizing important places and traditions, such as Living Traditions, an initiative of the Folk Arts Program of the New York State Council on the Arts, which is an online portal to video and photographic documentation of folklife practiced throughout the state; CityLore: the New York City Center for Urban Culture, whose mission is to foster New York City's—and America's—living cultural heritage through education and public programs; and the recently launched New York State Historic Business Registry, which recognizes historic businesses that have operated for at least fifty years and have contributed to their communities' history.

Municipalities and not for profit organizations have created inventories, databases, and interactive websites of historic properties for planning, educational, designation, and resource management purposes. The Ontario County Historical Society, for example, has recently launched *Women's Suffrage in Ontario County*, which links to databases of properties and people associated with the suffrage

movement along with a historic context statement, biographies, images, and historical documents. The New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission also recently undertook a CLG-funded project to inventory, digitize, and publish an online database of designation photographs to provide greater transparency and accessibility to the public.

Over fifty years of cultural resource data, survey reports, and State/National Register nominations can be found in the State Historic Preservation Office's (SHPO) web-based data management and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) program called CRIS – Cultural Resource Information System. New information is continually being added to the statewide inventory in CRIS by local, state, and federal agencies, preservationists, and the public. In recent years, technology has greatly expanded our ability to record, analyze, and share data about historic resources. GIS allows municipal planners and preservationists to easily analyze data on historic properties alongside other variables, such as proposed development, topography, demographic trends, census tracts, et cetera. SHPO's CRIS Trekker survey application allows users to view, submit, and manage historic above-ground resource data using mobile and desktop devices. Several communities, including Amsterdam, Buffalo, Larchmont, Rhinebeck, Rochester, and Syracuse, have used Trekker to successfully undertake large-scale surveys for planning and designation purposes.

We must strive to discover, document, and recognize living cultural heritage by learning from and collaborating with folklorists, community storytellers, and arts-centered groups such as City Lore; New York Folklore; the Center for Art, Tradition, and Cultural Heritage; the Center for Traditional Music and Dance; and others.

Survey, documentation, and designation work also provides the framework for the proper protection and treatment of historic resources. By identifying a community's historic resources through the cataloging of its most significant character-defining features, preservation initiatives can become a natural part of planning and maintenance actions. Building rehabilitation and adaptive reuse, for example, are two accepted preservation treatments that acknowledge the need to alter or add to a historic property to meet continuing or changing uses while retaining its historic character. If communities and local advocates have access to information about their historic resources and acceptable treatment techniques, they will be empowered to make informed choices about preservation and historic resource protection at all levels.

Goal (A): Assist in planning for the continued use and preservation of heritage resources for the benefit of future New Yorkers.

Objectives:

- Encourage municipalities and organizations to undertake historic resources surveys as part of their comprehensive planning responsibilities or to achieve mission objectives.
- Undertake surveys of historic properties and archaeological sites located in flood-prone areas as part of pre-disaster and emergency preparedness plans. (*See: Disaster Planning & Resiliency*)
- Identify natural and climate change vulnerabilities or other threats in communities and plan for potential impacts to historic and cultural resources. (*See: Disaster Planning & Resiliency*)

- Advocate for the inclusion of historic preservation and rehabilitation within infrastructure development and planning; ensure compliance with state and federal preservation laws during undertakings involving infrastructure projects. *(See: Economic Development & Recovery)*
- Leverage technology to improve the management of cultural resources, increase stewardship, enable accessibility/transparency, and enhance education.
- Encourage preservation partners, professionals, and the public to submit identified historic resources to local and state online databases to make inventories of historic resources more comprehensive.
- Expand the listing of historic districts and the certification of local districts to increase access to historic tax credits, grants, and other incentives. *(See: Economic Development & Recovery)*

Goal (B): Guide survey and designation efforts into a more collaborative dynamic process that ensures that the stories of all people, past and present, are told and that cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible, is recognized.

Objectives:

- Identify resource types and historic themes absent from or inadequately discussed in existing inventories, landmark designations, surveys, and register nominations and share findings with communities and designating bodies. *(See: Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Access)*
- Collaborate with diverse individuals and groups, such as folklorists, municipal historians, local merchants, and other community stakeholders, to create more representative local and regional historic context statements. *(See: Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Access)*
- Work with marginalized communities and insufficiently documented groups to identify the places and history they recognize as significant so that more diverse historic properties can be designated and protected. *(See: Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Access)*
- Be proactive in the use of creative solutions to recognize and preserve communities' intangible cultural assets and traditions.
- Review existing markers, signage, exhibits, designation reports, and other documents for inaccurate, insensitive, or inflammatory language. *(See: Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Access)*

Topic | Economic Development and Recovery

Successful preservation projects produce positive, tangible results for the economy and the environment. A completed preservation project—be it a community survey, planning exercise, building rehabilitation, or creative mitigation—demonstrates to investors and grantors that similar and much-needed preservation activities can create a significant return on investment. In a landscape as vast and diverse as New York State, which includes the global economic engine of New York City and rural regions throughout upstate, the needs of and threats to cultural and historic resources vary greatly. Downstate, development pressures reveal themselves to be the greatest concern, while disinvestment remains a significant concern in upstate communities. Both extremes have resulted in the loss of above and below-ground historic resources as well as community character. While financial resources to alleviate these issues are limited, the abundance of preservation resources in New York State—and the flexibility of those tools—can aid in sustainable and sensitive economic growth and recovery on both the micro and macro scales.

The COVID-19 public health crisis and subsequent recovery period have exacerbated many ongoing and emerging trends; it has also created new concerns for the protection and revitalization of historic resources. Stewardship of historic resources is expected to decrease as a result of joblessness and shuttered businesses. With the increase in telecommuting options, real estate markets will be evolving across the state as businesses contemplate the renewal of commercial leases and residents move to other communities in hopes of expanding their personal and professional opportunities. For existing stewards of historic resources, diminished capacities coupled with increases in competition for financial resources will put a strain on accomplishing future preservation goals.

In the years of economic and social recovery ahead, there are intentional steps the preservation community can take to place the need for expanded preservation efforts on the table of decision-makers. Amplifying the success and impact of completed projects remains preservation's best form of promotion. The major milestones achieved by the historic rehabilitation tax credit programs in the state are impressive and reflective of how the programs have helped the state recover from the 2008 recession, particularly upstate, where more than two-thirds of the program's application activity occurred between 2011 and 2020. Further impacts of the heritage economy are documented in recent economic benefit reports that can be found in the Plan's bibliography on [page #](#). In summary, these reports conclude that local historic districts reveal themselves to be among the most stable neighborhoods in municipalities, supporting small business owners and demonstrating increased rates of economic and demographic diversity. Building rehabilitation remains a huge source of job creation and helps to answer the state's affordable housing crisis. In addition, there are also the demonstrated positive impacts on the environment, with historic districts and their resources containing embodied energy, keeping demolition debris from clogging landfills, and density that promotes walkable communities. These investments in people and places not only strengthen communities socially but return money to local treasuries for further community development and benefit.

To amplify the importance of preservation funding, it is necessary to evaluate existing and new funding sources, while also educating developers, elected officials, the real estate community, existing stakeholders in historic communities, and stewards of individual resources. The 2021-26 Plan includes known economic incentives on a federal, state, regional, and local basis, but there remain opportunities

to expand funding opportunities that cater to the differing preservation stresses found within New York State communities.

In promoting and evaluating the economic benefits of preservation, it is critical to take into account that it is the groups with smaller capacities and those that promote the expanded preservation of traditionally underrepresented resources that are frequently shut out of opportunities for technical and financial assistance. It will be important in the coming years that economic decision-makers continue to create opportunities for individuals and groups seeking to protect and advance scholarship around resources and peoples marginalized in the preservation paradigm. As the needs of our state grow in the post-COVID recovery period, ensuring that all groups get access to programs and tools to achieve goals must be a priority to advance the movement.

Goal: Integrate historic preservation and cultural resource management efforts with economic development policies and practices to ensure resources are recognized as indispensable attributes of a competitive, sustainable, and equitable future.

Objectives:

- Promote awareness of existing preservation incentives by widely celebrating successful outcomes to stakeholders and potential investors.
- Increase municipal and regional training on preservation incentives to improve access and reduce real and perceived barriers.
- Work with elected officials and other decision-makers to maintain and strengthen existing preservation incentives.
- Advocate for the inclusion of historic preservation and rehabilitation within infrastructure development and planning; ensure compliance with state and federal preservation laws during undertakings involving infrastructure projects. *(See: Survey, Designation & Protection)*
- Expand the listing of historic districts and the certification of local districts to increase access to historic tax credits, grants, and other incentives. *(See: Survey, Designation & Protection)*
- Encourage municipalities to adopt property tax incentives that benefit property owners who make substantial investments in historic resources.
- Measure the impacts of the benefits of historic preservation by encouraging partners and authorities to undertake and share the results of economic impact studies on a local, regional, and statewide basis.
- Offer new and creative programming at historic sites, museums, and other cultural heritage facilities to bolster heritage tourism opportunities and expansion of services to new audiences.
- Encourage grant-makers to add scoring criteria that reflect an increased emphasis on inclusion, diversity, equity, and access initiatives. *(See: Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Access)*
- Create place-based recreation opportunities at historic sites and within historic communities.
- Work toward providing effective financial incentives for rural and agricultural buildings.

Topic | Environmental Sustainability

Sustainability means meeting the needs of today without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. As such, preservation is, in and of itself, a form of sustainability. A holistic community practice, preservation should be recognized as a centerpiece of activities, programs, and policies that promote socially, culturally, economically, and environmentally sustainable communities.

One of the preeminent threats to sustainability today is climate change. Largely understood as an energy challenge, the problem derives in part from how humans use and produce power. By some estimates, the buildings where we live, learn, work, and play account for 60 percent of energy-related greenhouse gas emissions statewide. Improving existing structures' energy efficiency will be a critical component in achieving larger sustainability goals in the years ahead. However, strategies such as gas and carbon footprint reductions, energy benchmarking, and net-zero energy programs each have the potential to significantly impact historic resources and their appearance. Addressing the impacts of the material fabric of our cultural heritage on the natural environment—without forsaking the unique character of historic places—may involve establishing new, thoughtful partnerships. Whether with agencies, nonprofits, or private firms, these subject matter experts have the knowledge to lead communities and organizations through energy efficiency processes that are compatible with historic preservation criteria and objectives.

But building retrofit, installation of alternative energy sources, and/or other physical interventions alone cannot accomplish the urgent task of minimizing our environmental footprint. Increased public awareness and dialogue on sustainability issues can demonstrably contribute to a future in which we have more sensitive, deliberate interactions with our fragile surroundings. The Harvesting History teaching garden, established by the Friends of Clermont State Historic Site, for example, engages more than 1,000 students each year in learning about local agriculture, climate science, meteorology, and entomology. At Ganondagan State Historic Site, the Iroquois White Corn Project restores traditional indigenous farming, consumption, and distribution practices to both Native American communities and the community at large. Thoughtful interpretation, education, and development initiatives such as these emphasize the role stewards of historic sites and museums can play in establishing an enduring reverence for not only cultural heritage and local history but environmental health and justice. While the energy savings accrued by providing quality interpretation and education—those lessons that influence our day-to-day behaviors and priorities—may be hard to quantify, the value of that effort is real.

After the energy crisis of the early 1970s, preservationists helped to demonstrate the value of “embodied energy” invested in historic buildings; in recent years they popularized the mantra that “the greenest building is an existing building.” But in an era of accelerated climate change, the preservation community must do more to manage cultural resources and impart lessons in stewardship that ensure our cultural heritage can be appreciated in perpetuity. Deliberate attention must be given to educating communities on the impacts of inadvertent or exorbitant uses of energy; to sharing guidance on how to temper that usage; and how to implement a wide range of solutions that reduce and redress energy inefficiencies and promote environmental and cultural resource stewardship. The passion, versatility, and expertise found within the larger preservation movement will be invaluable in answering this call to action.

Goal: Improve understanding of the effects of environmental change on cultural resources and implement energy-conscious practices in the stewardship and management of resources to promote just environmental and public health outcomes.

Objectives:

- Educate owners and occupants on effective use of historic buildings' features—windows, doors, overhangs, shutters—to reduce energy consumption.
- Promote the availability of energy audits of historic structures and facilities (e.g. examining air infiltration, insulation, mechanicals); request and work with auditors with knowledge of historic properties to retain historic architectural features.
- Educate preservation practitioners and future craftspeople in existing and emerging sustainability approaches to ensure that sustainability is prioritized in the implementation of all future preservation projects.
- Establish policy mechanisms—e.g. funding opportunities, tax assessment relief, and other incentives—to assist property owners in undertaking green initiatives for existing building stock. (*See: Local Preservation*)
- Expand relationships with educational institutions to foster training courses for skills necessary for sustainable preservation, restoration, and rehabilitation of historic structures. (*See: Preservation Outreach & Education*)
- Invite the public to education opportunities focused on special issues in sustainable historic resource management such as building materials and public health, preservation stewardship and planning, community design standards, et cetera.
- Reduce demolition waste in landfills and unnecessary building rehabilitation expenditures by promoting repair, salvage, and reuse of historic materials. (*See: Disaster Planning & Resiliency*)
- Install on-site renewable energy sources (e.g. solar, wind, geothermal, biomass, etc.) and other approaches to establish energy independence.
- Strengthen relationships with community groups whose work seeks to keep preservation relevant to sustainability issues (e.g. climate change, social justice). (*See: Partnerships*)
- Promote the adoption of building codes that establish performance-based efficiency standards for historic structures and ensure the historic built environment positively contributes to larger energy efficiency and sustainability goals.

Topic | Disaster Planning and Resiliency

Historic preservation seeks to celebrate and save significant elements of the past while planning for a resilient and sustainable future. In recent years, preservationists and advocates for cultural heritage have been forced to dramatically shift their responses and adaptations to environmental and social challenges because, in today's world, the only constant is change. The prevalence of disasters (natural and manmade) that individuals and communities must overcome is increasing in both frequency and ferocity. This threatens not only our public safety, our communities, and our livelihoods, but also poses a severe threat to our cultural heritage resources. New York State is no stranger to geological, weather-related, hydrological, fire-related, or biological threats. Therefore, disaster planning in multiple capacities should be at the forefront of our minds and actions. While disasters such as those posed by climate change severely threaten our physical and social resources, perhaps the biggest threat of all—one that can be prevented—is the constant threat to our *resiliency*: our capacity to bounce back to normal. Perhaps the best thing communities across New York State can do to prepare for a disaster and plan for the continued preservation of historic resources is to prepare a resiliency and recovery plan.

Our communities and historic places are only as important as the people inhabiting those places – if preservation tells the complete story of *people in places*, then acts of resiliency ensure a shared effort among community members to create a preparedness plan and response to unforeseen circumstances and events. People not only dictate which historic resources possess the most intrinsic value to a community, but they also hold the power to be proactive, be prepared, and avoid calamity by responding to crises in adaptable and dynamic ways. The year 2020 was a tragedy on many fronts – the COVID-19 pandemic that swept across the world killed many of our most vulnerable community members and significantly altered our definition of “normalcy.” The impacts to historic resources and community fabric resulting from the pandemic could be felt globally by way of shuttered storefronts, canceled programs, decreased funding, and increased vacancy. The year also wrought continued climate pandemonium in the United States, with the California and Oregon wildfires, tremendous power outages, flooding, and ice storms in Texas. The year drove home the reality that unprecedented changes can occur at a moment's notice and to survive and thrive, everyone must be prepared.

Creating a resiliency and recovery plan should begin first at the micro level and extend outwards to broader spectrums of society: every individual is responsible for understanding the role they play in a recovery operation, and community leaders must make this clear in their work and public outreach. Local entities that share responsibility in disaster planning and recovery can include public works departments, planning offices, local cultural resource keepers, municipal and building staff, tourism groups, historical commissions/review boards, and more. Those entities that are responsible for the oversight of historic resources should begin resiliency planning by surveying vulnerable resources and their associated community values. Proper risk assessment involves measuring the potential loss of life or property resulting from hazards, and hazard mitigation is the resultant reduction of the loss of life or property through preparedness and recovery efforts.

Together, we can take more intentional steps to integrate disaster, resilience, and preservation planning. Successful consideration and implementation of the plan objectives below will not only increase our capacity to protect the irreplaceable historic and cultural resources imperiled by natural or manmade disasters but help New York State to become more resilient in the face of these threats.

Goal: Foster resiliency by creating the capacity to successfully respond to and mitigate the impacts of geological, weather-related, hydrological, fire-related, biological, and other disasters through the creation of a hazard mitigation, preparedness, recovery, and resiliency plan that considers impacts to historic and cultural resources.

Objectives:

Risk Assessment

- Identify natural and climate change vulnerabilities or other threats in communities and plan for potential impacts to historic and cultural resources. *(See: Survey, Designation & Protection)*
- Undertake surveys of historic properties and archaeological sites located in flood-prone or other types of vulnerable areas as part of pre-disaster and emergency preparedness plans. *(See: Survey, Designation & Protection)*
- Incorporate risk assessment practices into preservation projects to ensure preventable disasters are avoided during rehabilitation and construction.
- Publicize the availability of tools that aid with risk assessment planning as well as continuity of operations, public safety, response, and recovery; add guidance documents and resources to public platforms to help property owners, local governments, and organizations build their disaster planning, response, and recovery efforts.
- Engage the public in the identification of preservation priorities with an eye toward risk assessment and disaster planning.

Adaptation/Mitigation

- Prepare hazard mitigation plans that include strategies and implementation steps to protect heritage resources and minimize adverse impacts.
- Enhance and incentivize protection measures for vulnerable historic properties and resources that maintain historic integrity and withstand the physical impacts of disaster events (e.g. building elevation, window restoration, fire suppression, et cetera).
- Identify and connect local and regional experts who can assist in post-disaster assessment and treatment of damaged resources with nonprofits, municipalities, counties, tribes, and other heritage-keepers.
- Integrate preservation concerns into existing resiliency and recovery plans and coordinate response efforts at local, regional, and state levels.

Recovery

- Promote grant, loan, and other funding opportunities for adaptation measures and/or post-disaster services such as historic tax credits and grants.
- Reduce demolition waste in landfills and unnecessary building rehabilitation expenditures by promoting repair, salvage, and reuse of historic materials. *(See: Environmental Sustainability)*

Training

- Offer training opportunities for preservationists, emergency management officials, property owners, and other stakeholders to promote protection and appropriate treatment of heritage resources.

Outreach

- Raise awareness about and provide education on mitigation, response, and recovery tactics surrounding historic and cultural resources through public lectures, training, workshops, and conferences.
- Build and strengthen relationships between the preservation community and local/state emergency management officials and responders.
- Obtain public input and establish consensus when developing mitigation and response plans in the aftermath of unexpected natural or man-made disasters.
- Make existing resiliency and recovery plans available to the public, local governments, organizations, and state officials to encourage communication and collaborative sharing of plan resources.

Topic | Strengthening Local Preservation

Among many mandated functions and public services, government is responsible for the protection of the physical environment that belongs to and is shared by us all. Some of these services include providing safe roads and infrastructure, creating accessibility to parks and outdoor recreational spaces, and promoting the protection of our built environment for the health, safety, and welfare of the community. The field of historic preservation is a land-use management strategy that can be embedded in local planning and zoning to focus various laws, policies, and other tools to create strong and cohesive communities. By managing change over time, communities can preserve and protect what they identify as important or those elements that give a community its unique character. Historic preservation consistently works to ensure that historical influences remain deeply embedded in our usage and understanding of the built environment by advocating for its protection while leaving room for dynamic, thoughtful, and sustainable future planning.

For many communities in New York State, a preservation law embedded into local municipal code is considered the best means for local government to manage historic and cultural resources. By enacting and enforcing local preservation laws, governmental bodies take an active role in the designation, protection, and stewardship of historic and cultural resources. Local preservation laws and codes are just two specific tools in the preservationist's toolbox that can help elevate the importance of retaining and enhancing historic and cultural resources for the benefit of current and future generations. In communities that don't have preservation laws or ordinances, there is still opportunity for preservation to be a part of the democratic processes that lead to positive community change. Local preservation that considers the voices of the community to create safe and sustainable spaces can also be an instrument to bolster social justice movements. Successful outcomes result when units of government, property owners, investors, advocates, and community stakeholders work together with a shared understanding that a community benefits economically, environmentally, and socially when preservation initiatives are prioritized.

While safeguarding elements of the past, the field of historic preservation is constantly looking toward the future, expanding and shifting its priorities as a result. Varying community concerns, trends, and resources present challenges to the Division for Historic Preservation as it seeks to empower local preservation advocates and improve statewide technical assistance and outreach programs. New York's Certified Local Government (CLG) Program is a specific tool that brings assistance, training, and funding to participating communities, but many locally important and noteworthy preservation movements occur in non-CLG communities as well. Decision-makers and the public should continue to collaborate in their efforts to preserve community character as well as expand their own training in historic preservation initiatives.

Goal: Empower and strengthen the process of preservation at the municipal, county, and regional levels by encouraging and offering expanded historic preservation services, activities, and collaboration.

Objectives:

- Seek new ways to reduce barriers to information and bring awareness about preservation to underrepresented and/or previously excluded communities in New York State across various networks. (*See: Public Outreach & Education*)

- Increase diversity in hiring and appointing of staff and board members to heritage-based organizations, government land-use planning boards, commissions, and other authorities. *(See: Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Access)*
- Offer educational workshops and training opportunities across a wide variety of platforms (in-person vs. virtual) that are sensitive to the needs of each audience and adapt to ever-changing modes of communication by continuously evaluating existing platforms and tools. *(See: Partnerships; Public Outreach & Education)*
- Adopt the [Model Landmarks Preservation Local Law](#) for New York State Municipalities and encourage communities to join New York’s Certified Local Government Program, which provides standard best practices for historic preservation as defined by the National Park Service.
- Encourage local communities to explore and expand their understanding of their history through concerted efforts to uncover and tell complete stories as a way to foster civic pride.
- Establish policy mechanisms—e.g. funding opportunities, tax assessment relief, and other incentives—to assist property owners in undertaking green initiatives for existing building stock. *(See: Environmental Sustainability)*

Topic | Nurturing and Establishing Partnerships for Preservation

At its most fundamental level, historic preservation seeks to celebrate the history and traditions of people in places. The distinctive features of those places—whether elements of the built environment, interpretive history, cultural traditions, or other intangible aspects of the community—are what create the vast and diverse portfolio of New York State’s historic resources inventory. These elements give shape and definition to each of our views on history and help us to decide what is important to protect for future generations. In order to effectively preserve, appreciate, and promote such historic places and stories in the years ahead, preservation stakeholders must fortify and deepen existing partnerships, but also build new relationships with individuals and groups who may not see preservation as their primary charge.

No one definition of a “preservation partner” exists; stakeholders in the field can include professionally trained preservationists and cultural resource specialists, neighborhood advocates, community groups, government officials, or individuals with a vested interest in a specific preservation initiative or project. A broader consortium of partners across New York State, however, will allow us to better leverage existing resources and talents, help to identify new opportunities for preservation, and continue thoughtful celebration and stewardship of our state’s cultural heritage. Successful preservation projects or initiatives seldom happen in isolation; many groups cannot achieve their goals if not supported by dedicated, understanding partners. In neighborhoods, museums, and agencies across the state, thoughtful collaboration between a vast array of stakeholders and advocates has resulted in substantial, high-quality contributions to the excellence of the field, as well as critical support for education, interpretation, and stewardship activities. In strengthening these existing partnerships, we can reliably communicate with our core audience, more quickly adapt to unforeseen setbacks or barriers, and build upon earlier accomplishments.

Strong, lasting partnerships spring from consistent, honest communication and teamwork between organizations and peoples that, despite differences in background, experience, or responsibility, share a common vision of the future. While preservation has sought to bring these different viewpoints forward for discussion, the field was not always successful in amplifying and supporting the diversity of communities, interests, and voices around us. This has created, at great cost, an uneven distribution of preservation resources across communities and fostered a hesitancy among many to believe that historic preservation truly represents or cares about the interests of everyone.

We have much to learn and much to gain from a cultural shift in how we identify and cultivate partners in preservation. The definition of a preservation partnership must evolve as the nature of the field itself expands and grows. As an interdisciplinary practice, preservation must work across disciplines and sectors and ask how its partnerships can be more inclusive and more relevant to the people, places, and communities we serve. In forging new partnerships, we can help a wider spectrum of partners to succeed and deliver benefits to a constituency of people more representative of New York State.

In the future, the strongest, most productive preservation partnerships will be those that recognize and value diverse perspectives and priorities, those that create space and opportunities for underrepresented interests and groups to lead, and those that ensure that the efforts of all contributors are recognized and celebrated. By attending to our existing partnerships and growing new ones from the ground up we can build long-term support for the historic and cultural resources at the heart of each

of our communities.

Goal (A): Seek new community partnerships by forming relationships with individuals and groups to encourage resource awareness, appreciation, and protection in areas where preservation initiatives are lacking.

Objectives:

- Identify new stakeholders from different fields, backgrounds, and experiences to expand the definition of a traditional preservation partner and encourage active dialogue that focuses on the specific needs of various communities.
- Create new opportunities and ways to engage additional preservation partners by adapting flexible communication platforms (e. g., virtual meetings, web/print-based, and social media channels) as well as maintaining “traditional” communication methods to continue serving existing audiences.
- Strengthen relationships with community groups whose work seeks to keep preservation relevant to sustainability issues (e. g., climate change, social justice).
(*See: Environmental Sustainability*)

Goal (B): Strengthen existing partnerships to encourage best practices in the field and support colleagues in growing and strengthening their local, regional, and statewide relationships and networks.

Objectives:

- Maintain and strengthen communication and collaboration among community stakeholders, public/private partnerships, and municipal sectors; encourage existing preservation partners and stakeholders to expand their networks. (*See: Public Outreach & Education*)
- Augment training and educational opportunities for preservation partners, enabling information-sharing to be duplicated in various community spaces and platforms.
- Develop and encourage cultural sensitivity training for staff and leaders of preservation partner organizations to facilitate interactions with additional and varying community groups, emphasizing empathy and active listening in dialogue and action. (*See: Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Access*)
- Communicate and partner with Indigenous leaders and communities to ensure knowledge and concerns for historic Indigenous lands are incorporated into preservation projects and programming (e.g. consultation, land acknowledgement, etc.). (*See: Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Access*)
- Offer educational workshops and training opportunities across a wide variety of platforms (in-person vs. virtual) that are sensitive to the needs of each audience and continue to adapt to ever-changing modes of communication by continuously evaluating existing platforms and tools. (*See: Local Preservation; Public Outreach & Education*)

Topic | Public Outreach and Education

Preservation initiatives cannot grow or succeed if such efforts are perceived to be the sole interest of trained historic preservation professionals and policymakers. The general public possesses the ability to enrich preservation work and programming with new ideas and thoughtful feedback. They can equip leaders and preservation partners with the knowledge and resources necessary to produce more favorable outcomes and, in turn, animate a new generation of preservation advocates. Preservation may be about the past, but historic places and peoples, cultural spaces, and human stories are important to New Yorkers now. The preservation movement will only flourish in the years ahead if it invites broad, inclusive participation from people of all backgrounds and experiences, provides accessible educational and learning opportunities, and offers consistent encouragement for everyone to get involved.

While today's preservation movement is led by a varied and compassionate body of stakeholders, the movement has not always succeeded in welcoming, serving, or educating the full range of citizens interested in the protection of historic resources or the promotion of its benefits. The consequences of this misstep are clear: more than half of the respondents to a 2020 survey of the general population, preservation professionals, and colleagues—prepared as part of the 2021-26 Plan's development—identified a *lack of public awareness* as one of the most critical threats to historic resources. An overwhelming number of respondents also identified a *lack of public awareness* as a significant barrier to public visitation at historic sites across the state. Bridging the knowledge gap between existing preservation stakeholders and the larger community will not only help to accomplish bigger preservation goals—as public values frequently serve as a basis of support from which to implement change at the policy level—but grow general awareness and appreciation for preservation and its positive impacts. Current preservation leaders and advocates—whether rooted in a community group, academic institution, development firm, or local government office—must allow public audiences the opportunity to learn about, meaningfully shape, and initiate preservation endeavors to keep work relevant to current and future New Yorkers.

Preservation at any scale will require imparting the knowledge and skills essential to understanding what and how we preserve and the on-ground impacts that result. Learning opportunities should be accessible, affordable, and attuned to community interests and needs. Central to this discussion is the commitment to ensure the equitable distribution of education and learning opportunities, as well as technical and advocacy resources. In communities historically underrepresented or excluded in preservation—Black, Indigenous, and people of color communities, in particular—the allocation of preservation resources has too often been undersupplied, threatening the preservation and protection of these unique spaces, their tangible and intangible heritage. Moving forward, there must be a more thoughtful and deliberate distribution of resources—as well as vocal support for community-led advocacy work—that helps foster equitable and resilient communities and promotes the celebration of inimitable places and peoples whose stories are long overdue to be told.

Successful outreach in the years ahead will prioritize exchanges in dialogue and active listening between preservation partners and the public, with emphasis on equity and social justice. Creating strong relationships and sharing common ground will perpetuate preservation knowledge and practice into the future; it will simultaneously reinforce the idea that preservation and its resultant quality of life are for

everyone. As the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 explained, “*The preservation of our irreplaceable heritage is in the public interest so that its vital legacy of cultural, educational, aesthetic, inspirational, economic, and energy benefits will be maintained and enriched for future generations of Americans.*” Increasing the quality of public education and outreach efforts is crucial to narrowing the inherent gaps between the field’s various professional sectors and the people who live in and value the same physical environments and resources. Unity, cooperation, and interest in the equal exchange of ideas will allow the preservation movement to thrive and grow, ensuring that the places and stories that give our lives and communities depth and meaning will be shared and appreciated in perpetuity.

Goal: Expand public outreach and education initiatives to strengthen, empower, and create meaningful dialogue between traditional preservation partners (preservation advocates, community stakeholders, and units of government) and the public to advance the shared values of the community at large.

Objectives:

- Seek new ways to reduce barriers to information and bring awareness about preservation to underrepresented and/or previously excluded communities in New York State across various networks. (*See: Local Preservation*)
- Create accessible and replicable opportunities for information-sharing about preservation tools and best practices that eliminate exclusive professional terminology and elitist practices.
- Offer educational workshops and training opportunities across a wide variety of platforms (in-person vs. virtual) that are sensitive to the needs of each audience and continue to adapt to ever-changing modes of communication by continuously evaluating existing platforms and tools. (*See: Local Preservation; Partnerships*)
- Gauge interest, awareness, and need for preservation resources from community leaders, advocates, developers, and other stakeholders with equal attention paid to public vs. private initiatives.
- Recognize different preservation values in various communities and ensure the consultation process for project review is handled sensitively.
- Promote participation in preservation conferences and workshops and encourage memberships in organizations that support historic preservation and historic sites.
- Instill in professional staff the recognition that ALL people are entitled to safe, welcoming, and enjoyable access to historic sites and programmed events. (*See: Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Access*)
- Expand relationships with educational institutions to foster training courses for skills necessary for sustainable preservation, restoration, and rehabilitation of historic structures. (*See: Environmental Sustainability*)
- Maintain and strengthen communication and collaboration among community stakeholders, public/private partnerships, and municipal sectors; encourage existing preservation partners and stakeholders to expand their networks. (*See: Partnerships*)

Implementation

The 2021-26 Plan is a shared guidance document intended to coordinate the efforts of preservationists across New York State in meeting local, regional, and statewide cultural, archaeological, and historic resource needs. The Plan helps both to inform the work of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in administering programs authorized by both the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and the New York State Historic Preservation Act of 1980, but it also aims to inform the work of a wide body of partners that work to advance the field of preservation and cultural resource management.

The Plan lays out actionable goals—each with specific, yet flexible, objectives—that will allow individuals, communities, and organizations to tailor recommended preservation activities to their area’s resources and needs. Whereas preservation is a holistic community practice that promotes socially, culturally, economically, and environmentally vibrant places, successful implementation of the Plan’s goals will not impede individual groups from pursuing their discrete missions. Instead, it will further the impact of their work.

The reality that a full recovery from the devastation of the COVID-19 pandemic will take the lifespan of the 2021-26 Plan (if not longer) complicates its implementation. The preservation community has, however, repeatedly demonstrated resilience, resourcefulness, and creativity in challenging times and in the face of adversity. To overcome the hardships wrought by COVID-19 on the cultural heritage community, preservationists must deliberately strategize ways to sustainably deliver programs, policies, and services that support preservation activities despite ongoing public safety issues and concerns about the availability of funding.

The pursuit and strengthening of partnerships will be fundamental to this recovery and implementation effort. Diverse partnerships will be key to identifying, evaluating, and preserving historic and cultural resources *and* key to activating the power of preservation to support communities in their post-COVID-19 recovery efforts. The preservation movement has continually proven its ability to strengthen our civic, social, and economic interests. Historic places are both fundamental to our local economies and meaningful cultural and residential spaces that comprise the heart of New York State’s diverse heritage. The Plan is meant to inspire successful collaborations across the state so that all New Yorkers have the opportunity to realize the benefits of historic preservation, to safeguard the resources that are meaningful to individual communities, and to support these efforts in whatever way is appropriate for them.

The 2021-26 Plan goals and objectives will be revisited annually and progress assessed in several forums. First, at the State Historic Preservation Conference, an annual event hosted by The Landmark Society of Western New York, the Preservation League of New York State, and the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. The quarterly meetings of the State Board for Historic Preservation may serve as a second forum in which to evaluate Plan progress and update strategies for implementation. The board, which advises the State Historic Preservation Officer on statewide preservation priorities and issues, can assist in determining how it may better communicate with preservation partners, form and empower new relationships among stakeholders, and best coordinate programs and their impacts. Preservation partners across New York are also encouraged to create their own opportunities for evaluating Plan goals and objectives, such as regular and regional colleague gatherings, community meetings, and other discussion events.

Funding

While the COVID-19 pandemic has negatively impacted many parts of our lives, its financial toll on all preservation-related sectors of the economy has been significant. Facility closures, decreased funding, staff furloughs, canceled programs, and other negative financial conditions have impacted preservation nonprofits, advocacy groups, museums, and individuals with direct involvement in preservation activities. Thoughtful strategy building is necessary to remedy these difficult circumstances and may involve collaborative partnerships, affiliations, mergers, and other tactics to bolster or build a financial organization plan that will potentially overcome significant funding lapses.

The availability of funding for preservation and related initiatives will determine the pace and sequencing of actions recommended in this Plan. Funding availability is often defined by the size of an agency or organization's annual capital budget, the availability of staff, and the need to balance investments throughout its service region. While there are many statewide and regional funding initiatives available to preservation-related groups, organizations, and individuals, the production of a comprehensive list of funding sources is complicated by frequent changes and market volatility. Therefore, it is always advisable to think creatively and broadly when searching for funding sources to help implement Plan goals.

The following is a list of active funding sources that may assist in the implementation of Plan goals and objectives. This list is not meant to be exhaustive or complete.

Advocates, property stewards, and potential owners of historic properties are encouraged to contact their community's local development or planning office, as these entities may be able to offer advice or assistance to identify additional incentives at the local and regional levels (e.g., low-interest loans, tax exemptions, small grants, et cetera).

National Sources of Funding:

- **National Park Service (NPS):**
 - ***Underrepresented Communities Grant Program***
This grant program supports the survey, inventory, and designation of historic properties that are associated with communities currently underrepresented in the National Register of Historic Places and among National Historic Landmarks. Eligible applicants are limited to State Historic Preservation Offices, federally recognized Tribes, and Certified Local Governments.
 - ***Save America's Treasures Grant Program***
This grant program helps preserve nationally significant historic properties and collections that convey our nation's rich heritage to future generations. Eligible applicants include tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, units of state or local government, federally recognized Tribes, active religious organizations, and educational institutions.
 - ***African American Civil Rights Grant Program***
This grant program supports projects to document, interpret, and preserve the sites related to the African American struggle to gain equal rights as citizens. Eligible

applicants include States, federally recognized Tribes, local governments, and nonprofit organizations.

- ***History of Equal Rights Grant Program***
This grant program preserves sites related to the struggle of all people to achieve equal rights in America. Grants are not limited to any specific group and are intended to include the broadest possible interpretation of sites associated with efforts to achieve equal rights. This program funds physical preservation work and pre-preservation planning activities for sites that are listed on or determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places or designated as a National Historic Landmark.
- ***Paul Bruhn Rural Revitalization Grant Program***
This grant opportunity supports subgrant programs that enable the rehabilitation of historic properties and rehabilitate, protect, and foster economic development of rural communities. This program funds preservation projects for historic sites, including architectural and engineering services and physical building preservation, through subgrants to communities determined rural by the US Census Bureau.
- ***Tribal Heritage Grant Program***
This program assists federally recognized Tribes in protecting and promoting their unique cultural heritage and traditions.
- ***Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) Grant Program***
This grant program seeks to increase the number of successful returns of Native American human remains and cultural items. Eligible applicants include museums with NAGPRA collections and Indian Tribes. Funding is available to support efforts in consulting and documenting NAGPRA-related human remains and cultural items in non-federal collections and to defray costs associated with the packaging, transportation, contamination removal, and/or storage of NAGPRA-related human remains and cultural items.
- ***American Battlefield Protection Program***
This program offers three types of grants: *Battlefield Preservation Planning Grants* are awarded annually to nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, state, local, and Tribal governments, and other public entities sponsoring preservation projects at historic battlefields. *Battlefield Land Acquisition Grants* are awarded to state and local governments seeking fee simple acquisition of eligible Revolutionary War, War of 1812, or Civil War battlefield land, or for the acquisition of permanent, protective interests (easements) in Revolutionary War, War of 1812, or Civil War battlefield land. *Battlefield Interpretation Grants* are awarded to state, local and Tribal governments and nonprofit organizations proposing projects and programs to enhance interpretation and education at Revolutionary War, War of 1812, and Civil War battlefield sites eligible for Battlefield Land Acquisition Grants.

- **National Trust for Historic Preservation:**
 - ***National Trust Preservation Funds***
Funding is intended to encourage preservation at the local level by supporting on-going preservation work and by providing seed money for preservation projects to nonprofit organizations and public agencies.
 - ***Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation***
This fund aims to save historic environments to foster an appreciation of our nation's diverse cultural heritage and to preserve and revitalize the livability of the nation's communities. Public agencies and nonprofit organizations are eligible. Individuals and for-profit businesses may apply only if the project for which funding is requested involves a National Historic Landmark.
 - ***Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors***
This fund assists in the preservation, restoration, and interpretation of historic interiors. Public agencies and nonprofit organizations are eligible. Individuals and for-profit businesses may apply only if the project for which funding is requested involves a National Historic Landmark.
- **New York State (NYS) Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation:**
 - ***NYS and Federal Commercial Rehabilitation Tax Credit Programs***
Owners of income-producing certified historic properties may be eligible for 20 percent federal and 20 percent state historic preservation income tax credits for rehabilitation projects. The state credit is 30 percent for projects below \$2.5 million in eligible expenditures.
 - ***NYS Historic Homeownership Tax Credit Program***
Owners who occupy certified historic residential buildings in qualifying census tracts may qualify for a tax credit equal to 20 percent of qualified rehabilitation expenses associated with repair, maintenance, and upgrades.
 - ***NYS Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) Grants (OPRHP, SHPO)***
The Environmental Protection Fund offers a source of funding for capital projects that protect the environment and enhance communities in the Parks, Historic Preservation, and Heritage Area categories. Several state agencies administer the funds and award grants to eligible state-led projects, or to partnerships, either between state agencies and municipalities or between state agencies and nonprofit organizations.
 - ***Certified Local Government Planning Grants (OPRHP, SHPO/NPS)***
Competitive funds are awarded among applications from Certified Local Governments in good standing to projects that address the goals of identifying, evaluating, nominating, and protecting a community's cultural resources.
- **Statewide Organizations:**
 - ***Preserve New York (NYSCA, Preservation League of New York State)***
Preserve New York makes grants for historic structure reports, building condition reports, cultural landscape reports, and cultural resource surveys. Applicants must be a

unit of local government or a 501(c)3 nonprofit group. State agencies, private property owners, and religious institutions are not eligible to apply.

- o ***Technical Assistance Grants (NYSCA, Preservation League of New York State)***
The grant program supports discrete projects that preserve cultural and historic resources. Grants are available to 501(c)3 nonprofit groups and municipalities that own or have a long-term lease on buildings that house historic sites, museums, arts facilities, and other important institutions that serve an arts or cultural purpose and are open to the public. State agencies, private property owners, and religious institutions are not eligible to apply.
- o ***Donald Stephen Gratz Preservation Services Fund (Preservation League of New York State)***
The primary goals of the Gratz Fund are to fund professional services for preservation projects that: illustrate the benefits of the New York State Historic Tax Credit Program; leverage other public and private investments; and enable the league to react quickly to preservation opportunities with financial resources. Priority is given to projects in the Utica area whenever possible.
- o ***Endangered Properties Intervention Program (Preservation League of New York State)***
This revolving loan program helps individuals, nonprofit organizations, companies, and municipalities return historic properties threatened with disinvestment, neglect, or demolition to use by providing loan funds for acquisition, stabilization, or rehabilitation.
- o ***Northeast Heritage Economy Grant Program (Preservation League of New York State)***
This program provides grants to community-driven preservation projects to address the negative economic shift produced by the chronic and consistent decline of the forest products industry in the areas of the Northern Border Regional Commission (New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine).
- o ***Parks & Trails NY***
The Park and Trail Partnership Program is open to organizations whose mission includes the preservation, stewardship, interpretation, environmental education, maintenance, and/or promotion of a New York State park, trail, historic site, or public land under the jurisdiction of the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP), or the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). These organizations are typically referred to as “Friends groups.” Eligible applicants must be registered nonprofits who have a formal memorandum of agreement with OPRHP or DEC.
- o ***William G. Pomeroy Foundation Historic Signage Grant Programs***
The Pomeroy Foundation offers multiple marker grant programs designed to help people celebrate their community’s history and cultural heritage. The program is open to local, state, and federal government entities, nonprofit academic institutions, and

501(c)(3) organizations.

- o ***Sacred Sites Program (New York Landmarks Conservancy)***

The New York Landmarks Conservancy's Sacred Sites Program provides congregations with matching grants for planning and implementing exterior restoration projects, technical assistance, and workshops. Eligible properties must be listed on the State or National Registers of Historic Places and actively used for worship.
- o ***NYS Council on the Arts (NYSCA)***

NYSCA welcomes applications from organizations in design fields, which include architecture, landscape architecture, and historic preservation, to apply for funding. Applicants must be nonprofit organizations incorporated or registered to do business in New York State, Native American tribes in New York State, and units of government in municipalities in New York State. An organization must have its principal place of business located in New York serving the state's constituents.
- o ***NYS Main Street Program (NYS Homes & Community Renewal)***

The New York Main Street grant program provides funds to units of local government and not for profit organizations that are committed to revitalizing historic downtowns, mixed-use neighborhood commercial districts, and village centers.
- o ***Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program (NYS Homes & Community Renewal)***

The NYS Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program is modeled after the federal Low Income Housing Credit program and offers a dollar-for-dollar reduction in state taxes to investors in qualified low-income housing that meet the requirements of Article 2-A of the Public Housing Law. The Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program may be combined with the Historic Tax Credit programs.
- o ***Transportation Enhancement Program (NYS Department of Transportation)***

In recognition that transportation systems are influenced and impacted by more than the condition of the traditional highway and bridge infrastructure, this program enables funding for transportation projects of cultural, aesthetic, historic, and environmental significance.
- **Regional Organizations – Various:**
 - o ***Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, IMPACT! Grants***

Grants are made to forward-looking organizations that develop and implement creative place-based projects. Projects submitted for funding consideration must meet at least one of the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor goals. Projects that meet multiple goals will receive priority consideration.
 - o ***Landmark Society of Western New York Preservation Grant Fund***

The Preservation Grant Fund provides initial “start-up” funding to assist in saving historic resources, offering funds for preliminary design and planning studies to help

make positive improvements to at-risk buildings. The grant will not pay for any “bricks and mortar” work. Only pre-construction services are eligible for funding, and grants are available to eligible applicants in the Landmark Society’s nine-county Western New York service area.

- o ***Maurice Hinchey Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area (HRVNHA), Heritage Development Grants***

This grant program provides seed money to organizations for programming, interpretation, and marketing that support the mutual goals of the HRVNHA and applicants. Projects should resonate with the interpretive themes outlined in the HRVNHA Management Plan.

- **Locally Concentrated Sources of Funding:**

- o ***NYC Historic Properties Fund (New York Landmarks Conservancy)***

The New York City Historic Properties Fund offers low-interest loans and project management assistance to owners of historic residential, nonprofit, religious, and commercial properties throughout the city – mostly in low- to moderate-income communities.

- o ***NYC Emergency Preservation Grants (New York Landmarks Conservancy)***

When an immediate hazard threatens a landmark building, this grant program can direct resources toward immediately needed work on historic properties owned by nonprofit organizations. It tends to address discrete exterior building problems that have recently arisen, such as new leaks, fire damage, and falling masonry.

- o ***NYC City Ventures Fund (New York Landmarks Conservancy)***

The City Ventures Fund works with nonprofit organizations to retain the period details of both landmark buildings and non-landmark buildings that are architecturally significant that are being converted to affordable housing or other uses that benefit lower-income communities.

- o ***Queens Historic Properties Fund (New York Landmarks Conservancy)***

This fund offers low-interest loans and project management assistance to owners of historic residential, nonprofit, religious, and commercial buildings in Queens.

- o ***NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission Historic Preservation Grant Program***

This grant program offers grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$30,000 primarily for facade restoration to not for profit organizations and income-eligible owners of buildings located in historic districts or designated individual landmarks. The grants are funded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG).

- o ***Preservation Buffalo Niagara Historic Loan Fund***

The Historic Home Loan Fund (HHLF) was established to enhance Preservation Buffalo

Niagara's mission of historic preservation by providing financing for the preservation, improvement, restoration, and/or rehabilitation of locally designated homes in the city of Buffalo to low-income homeowners. In addition to providing needed capital, the HHLF provides technical assistance to low-income property owners in local historic districts.

Preservation Resources and Contacts

The following represents a partial list of agencies and organizations that offer historic preservation, heritage development, and community improvement programs, services and/or assistance in New York State.

National/Federal

- Advisory Council on Historic Preservation: <https://www.achp.gov/>
- Preserve America Program: <https://www.achp.gov/preserve-america>
- National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers: <https://ncshpo.org/>
- National Alliance of Preservation Commissions: <https://napcommissions.org/>

National Heritage Areas in New York State

- Maurice D. Hinchey Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area: <https://www.hudsonrivervalley.com/>
- Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor: <https://eriecanalway.org/>
- Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership: <https://eriecanalway.org/>
- Niagara Falls National Heritage Area: <https://www.discoverniagara.org/>

Additional National/Federal Contacts & Resources

- National Preservation Institute: <https://www.npi.org/>
- National Trust for Historic Preservation: <https://savingplaces.org/>
- Preservation Action: <https://preservationaction.org/>
- National Park Service: <https://www.nps.gov/index.htm>
 - American Battlefield Protection Program: <https://www.nps.gov/abpp/index.htm>
 - Archeology: <https://www.nps.gov/archeology/>
 - Federal Historic Preservation Institute: <https://www.nps.gov/fpi/Index.html>
 - Geographic Information Systems Facility: <https://www.nps.gov/gis/index.html>
 - National Heritage Areas: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/heritageareas/index.htm>
 - Heritage Documentation Programs: <https://www.nps.gov/hdp/>
 - National Center for Preservation Training & Technology: <https://www.ncptt.nps.gov/>
 - National Register and National Historic Landmarks: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/index.htm>
 - Native American Graves Protection & Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) Program: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nagpra/index.htm>
 - Technical Preservation Services: <https://www.nps.gov/tps/>
 - Climate Change: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/climatechange/ccrp.htm>
 - Historic Structures & Cultural Landscapes: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/culturallandscapes/index.htm>
 - Museum Management: <https://www.nps.gov/museum/>
 - Certified Local Government: <https://www.nps.gov/clg/>
 - Historic Preservation Planning Program: <https://www.nps.gov/preservation-planning/>
 - Maritime Heritage Program: <https://www.nps.gov/maritime/>
 - National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom: <https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1205/index.htm>

- Teaching with Historic Places: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/teachingwithhistoricplaces/index.htm>
- Technical Preservation Services: <https://www.nps.gov/tps/>
- Tribal Preservation Program: <https://www.nps.gov/thpo/>

New York State

- Hudson River Valley Greenway: <https://hudsongreenway.ny.gov/>
- I Love NY: <https://www.iloveny.com/>
- List of all NYS Agencies: <https://www.ny.gov/agencies>
- New York State Archives Partnership Trust: <https://www.nysarchivestrust.org/>
- New York State Canal Corporation: <https://www.canals.ny.gov/>
- New York State Council on the Arts: <https://arts.ny.gov/>
- New York State Education Department: <http://www.nysed.gov/>
 - New York State Museum: <http://www.nysm.nysed.gov/>
 - New York State Office of History: <http://www.nysm.nysed.gov/research-collections/state-history>
 - New York State Archaeologist: <http://www.nysm.nysed.gov/research-collections/archaeology>
 - New York State Archives: <http://www.archives.nysed.gov/>
- New York State Department of State: <https://www.dos.ny.gov/>
 - Local Waterfront Revitalization: <https://www.dos.ny.gov/opd/programs/lwrp.html>
 - Division of Local Government Services: <https://www.dos.ny.gov/lg/>
 - Regional Planning Agencies in NYS: https://www.dos.ny.gov/lg/planning_agencies.html
- New York State Homes & Community Renewal: <https://hcr.ny.gov/>
- New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation: <https://parks.ny.gov/>
 - New York State Historic Preservation Office: <https://parks.ny.gov/shpo/>
 - Bureau of Historic Sites: <https://parks.ny.gov/historic-preservation/bhs/>
 - New York State Historic Sites: <https://parks.ny.gov/historic-sites/>

Federal and State Recognized Indian Nations Consulted in New York State

- Cayuga Nation: <https://cayuganation-nsn.gov/index.html>
- Delaware Nation: <https://www.delawarenation-nsn.gov/>
- Delaware Tribe of Indians: <http://delawaretribe.org/>
- Oneida Nation: <https://www.oneidaindiannation.com/>
- Onondaga Nation: <https://www.onondagation.org/>
- Seneca-Cayuga Nation: <http://sctribe.com/service/historicalcultural-preservation/>
- Seneca Nation of Indians: <https://sni.org/departments/tribal-historic-preservation/>
- Shinnecock Nation: <https://www.bia.gov/bia/ois/tribal-leaders-directory/tribes/shinnecock>
- St. Regis Mohawk Tribe: <https://www.srmt-nsn.gov/>
- Stockbridge-Munsee Community: <https://www.mohican.com/historicpreservation/>
- Tonawanda Seneca Nation: <https://www.bia.gov/bia/ois/tribal-leaders-directory/tribes/tonawanda>
- Tuscarora Nation: <https://www.bia.gov/tribal-leaders/tuscarora>
- Unkechaug Nation: P.O. Box 86, Mastic NY 11950

Regional & Local Historic Preservation Organizations

- Adirondack Architectural Heritage: <https://www.aarch.org/>
- Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy: <https://www.bfloparks.org/>
- Friends of Historic Kingston: <https://www.bfloparks.org/>
- Friends of the Upper East Side Historic Districts: <https://friends-ues.org/>
- Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation: <https://www.villagepreservation.org/>
- Heritage Foundation of Oswego County: <https://www.heritagefoundationoswego.org/>
- Historic Albany Foundation: <https://www.historic-albany.org/>
- Historic Districts Council: <https://hdc.org/>
- Historic Elmira: <http://www.historicelmira.org/>
- Historic Hudson, Inc.: <https://www.historichudson.org/>
- Historic Hudson Valley: <https://hudsonvalley.org/>
- Historic Ithaca: <http://www.historicithaca.org/>
- Historic Saranac Lake: <https://www.historicsaranaclake.org/>
- Hudson River Heritage: <https://www.hudsonriverheritage.org/>
- Landmarks Society of Greater Utica: <https://uticalandmarks.org/>
- Landmark Society of Western New York: <https://www.landmarksociety.org/>
- Landmark West!: <https://www.landmarkwest.org/>
- Corning's Gaffer District – Market Street Restoration Agency: <https://www.gafferdistrict.com/market-street-restoration>
- The Municipal Art Society of New York: <https://www.mas.org/>
- Newburgh Preservation Association: <https://newburghpreservationassociation.org/>
- New York Landmarks Conservancy: <https://nylandmarks.org/>
- Otsego 2000: <https://www.otsego2000.org/>
- Preservation Association of Central New York: <http://pacny.net/>
- Preservation Association of the Southern Tier: <https://www.pastny.org/>
- Preservation Buffalo Niagara: <https://preservationbuffaloniagara.org/>
- Preservation League of New York State: <https://preservenys.org/>
- Preservation League of Staten Island: <https://www.preservestatenisland.org/>
- Preservation Long Island: <https://preservationlongisland.org/>
- Saratoga Springs Preservation Foundation: <https://www.saratogapreservation.org/>
- Troy Architectural Program: <https://www.tapinc.org/>

Architecture, Building Conservation and Landscape Architecture

- American Society of Landscape Architects: <https://www.asla.org/>
 - Historic Preservation Professional Practice Network: <https://www.asla.org/ppnlinks.aspx>
- American Institute of Architects: <https://www.aia.org/>
 - Historic Resources Committee: <https://network.aia.org/HistoricResourcesCommittee>
- Association for Preservation Technology: <https://www.apti.org/>
 - Northeast Chapter: <https://www.aptnet.org/>
- Cultural Landscape Foundation: <https://tclf.org/>
- Friends of Terra Cotta – Preserve & Protect: <http://www.preserve.org/fotc/>
- League of Historic American Theaters: <https://www.lhat.org/home>
- Society of Architectural Historians: <https://www.sah.org/>

- Society for the Preservation of Old Mills: <https://www.spoom.org/>
- Vernacular Architecture Forum: <https://www.vernaculararchitectureforum.org/>

History, Documentation, Historical Societies and Museums

- American Association for State & Local History: <https://aaslh.org/>
- Association of Public Historians in New York State: <http://www.aphnys.org/>
- Center for Applied Historical Research (SUNY Albany): <https://www.albany.edu/cahr/>
- Greater Hudson Heritage Network: <http://www.greaterhudson.org/>
- Historic House Trust: <https://historichoustrust.org/>
- Museum Association of New York: <https://nysmuseums.org/>
- New York History Blog: <http://www.newyorkhistoryblog.com/>
- New York State Historical Association/Fenimore Art Museum: <https://www.fenimoreartmuseum.org/about>
- New York Historical Society: <https://www.nyhistory.org/>

Planning Contacts

- Adirondack Park Agency: <https://apa.ny.gov/>
- American Planning Association: <https://www.planning.org/>
 - Urban Design & Preservation Division: <https://urbandesign.planning.org/>
 - New York Metro Chapter: <https://www.nyplanning.org/>
 - New York Upstate Chapter: <https://www.nyupstateplanning.org/>
- Association of Towns in New York State: <https://www.nytowns.org/>
- Capital District Regional Planning Commission: <https://cdrpc.org/>
- Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board: <https://www.cnyrpdb.org/>
- Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council: <http://www.gflrpc.org/>
- Herkimer-Oneida Counties Comprehensive Planning Program: <http://www.cnyrpdb.org/nysarcwater/?Herkimer%E2%80%93Oneida-Counties-Comprehensive-Planning-Program-53>
- Hudson Valley Regional Council: <https://hudsonvalleyregionalcouncil.org/>
- Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning Board: <https://lclgrpb.org/>
- Long Island Regional Planning Council: <https://lirpc.org/>
- New York Conference of Mayors: <https://www.nycom.org/>
- New York Planning Federation: <https://nypf.org/>
- New York State Association of Counties: <https://www.nysac.org/>
- New York State Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations: <https://www.nysmpos.org/>
- Southern Tier Central Regional Planning and Development: <https://www.stcplanning.org/>
- Southern Tier 8 Regional Planning Development Board: <https://southerntier8.org/>
- Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board: <https://www.southerntierwest.org/>
- Tug Hill Commission: <https://tughill.org/>

Archaeology

- New York State Archaeological Council: <https://nysarchaeology.org/nyac/>
- New York State Archaeological Association: <https://nysarchaeology.org/nysaa>
- Professional Archaeologists of New York City: <http://www.panycarchaeology.org/>

- Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology: <https://cneha.org/>
- Society for American Archaeology: <https://www.saa.org/>
- Society for Historical Archaeology: <https://sha.org/>
- Society for Industrial Archaeology: <https://www.sia-web.org/>
- The Archaeological Conservancy: <https://www.archaeologicalconservancy.org/>

Interview and Survey Respondents

Interview and Survey Respondents

Phone Interviews Conducted by Division for Historic Preservation Staff

With the help of Preservation Colleague groups (listed in Chapter 8: Preservation Resources and Contacts), the Division for Historic Preservation identified several additional partner groups and individuals who could provide perspective on preservation initiatives and issues in various underrepresented sites and communities around the state. As a result, the following interviews were conducted in the summer of 2020 by Division for Historic Preservation staff. Many of the ideas presented and discussed in these interviews are referenced in every topic area of this document. All discussions noted the importance of examining new themes in preservation and history and how bias has shaped previous preservation plans and studies. The Division for Historic Preservation is grateful to these groups and individuals for sharing their time, expertise, and opinions to help shape the 2021-26 Plan.

- Citizens Advocating Memorial Preservation (C.A.M.P.), Little Valley (Cattaraugus County), June 9, 2020.
- Imagine Forestville, Forestville (Chautauqua County), June 10, 2020.
- Dorrance Brooks Property Owners & Residents Association, President Dr. Keith Taylor, Harlem (New York County), July 1, 2020.
- Cooperstown Graduate Program, Professors Gretchen Sorin & Cynthia Falk, Cooperstown (Otsego County), July 2, 2020.
- University at Buffalo, Dr. Henry Taylor, Buffalo (Erie County), July 7, 2020.
- Elmhurst History & Cemeteries Preservation Society, President Marialena Giampino, Elmhurst (Queens County), July 7, 2020.
- Hinge Neighbors, Shawn Dunwoody & Suzanne Mayer, Rochester (Monroe County), July 8, 2020.
- Preserving East New York, Founder Zulmilena Then, Brooklyn (Kings County), July 13, 2020.
- Crown Heights North Association, Members Ethel Tyus, Suzanne Spellen & Deborah Young, Brooklyn (Kings County), July 21, 2020.
- East 25th Street 300 Block Association, President Julia Charles, East Flatbush (Kings County), July 22, 2020.
- City Lore, Molly Garfinkel, New York City (New York County), July 23, 2020.
- Latino Heritage Documentation Project at New York State Archives, John Diefenderfer & Tom Ruller, July 23, 2020.
- National Women's Hall of Fame, Jeanne Giovannini, Seneca Falls (Seneca County), July 27, 2020.
- Ramapough Nation, Chief Dwaine Perry & Tribal Elder Steven Smith (Owl), Rockland County – also present, David Epstein of Land Conservancy of New Jersey, July 28, 2020.

State Historic Site Friends Survey Respondents

A written questionnaire was distributed to Friends Groups supporting New York's State Historic Sites. The questionnaire was designed to engage these strong advocates for State Historic Sites in the planning process. In seeking the input of these volunteers, the Core Team was better able to develop a Plan responsive to the needs of these invaluable groups and the historic sites they steward. The Core Team is grateful to these groups and individuals for sharing their time, expertise, and opinions to help shape this document.

- Friends of Crown Point State Historic Site, Inc.
- Friends of Fort Crailo
- Friends of Fort Ontario
- Friends of Ganondagan
- Friends of Johnson Hall
- Friends of Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site
- Friends of Schuyler Mansion
- Friends of the State Historic Sites of the Hudson Highlands
- Friends of the Stony Point Battlefield and Lighthouse

State Historic Site Manager Survey Respondents

A written questionnaire was distributed to the site managers and executive directors of New York's State Historic Sites. The purpose of the questionnaire was to engage the front-line representatives of the state's historic sites in the planning process. The questionnaire encouraged respondents in an open and in-depth manner to explore how historic sites can serve as beacons for preservation activity and programming not only on-site, but in their host communities. The Division for Historic Preservation is grateful to these individuals for sharing their time, expertise, and opinions to help shape the Plan.

- Constance Barone, Sackets Harbor Battlefield State Historic Site
- David Brooks, Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site
- Robert Emerson, Old Fort Niagara Association
- Elyse B. Goldberg, Washington's Headquarters State Historic Site
- Heidi Hill, Schuyler Mansion State Historic Site & Crailo State Historic Site
- David Hutchings, Sonnenberg Gardens and Mansion State Historic Park
- Paul Lear, Fort Ontario State Historic Site
- Pam Malcolm, Staatsburgh State Historic Site
- Michael McGurty, Knox's Headquarters State Historic Site & New Windsor Cantonment State Historic Site
- Grant Miller, Fort Montgomery State Historic Site
- Steve Oakes, Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site
- Mary Roberts, Frank Lloyd Wright's Martin House
- Aaron Robinson, Senate House State Historic Site
- Julia M. Warger, Stony Point Battlefield State Historic Site
- Wade Wells, Johnson Hall State Historic Site
- Gina Wouters, Planting Fields Foundation

Archaeology of Underrepresented Communities Survey Respondents

Seven archaeologists agreed to complete a written questionnaire concerning the archaeological study of sociocultural groups that tend to be underrepresented in the historic record and underrepresented in historic preservation. These archaeologists were invited to participate in the planning process because of their experience and expertise in the archaeological study of underrepresented communities as their representation of the field in a diversity of professional environments: academia, museums, and compliance (archaeological work done to comply with federal and state historic preservation laws). Collectively, these persons have carried out archaeological investigations of groups such as African Americans, Native Americans, and the indigent, and their investigations are geographically spread from Buffalo to New York City. The Division for Historic Preservation is grateful to these individuals for sharing their time, expertise, and opinions to help shape this planning document.

- Dr. Karolyn Smardz Frost
- Dr. Kurt A. Jordan
- Dr. Michael Lewis
- Dr. Ann K. Wentworth
- Dr. Joan H. Geismar
- Matthew Kirk
- Dr. Douglas Perrelli

Targeted Colleagues Survey Respondents

A written questionnaire was distributed among professional colleagues in New York State, including nonprofit/community representatives, technical specialists, and grants managers. The goal of this exercise was to assess accomplishments of the three goals outlined in the 2015-20 Plan and identify potential goals for the 2021-16 Plan. These survey questions and answers focused mainly on the ways in which the Division for Historic Preservation can help advance and complement preservation work in local communities by supporting and creating dynamic partnerships.

- Albany County Land Bank Corporation
- Landmark Consulting LLC
- Clinton Brown Company Architecture, PC
- University at Buffalo, Department of Urban and Regional Planning
- Saratoga Springs Preservation Foundation
- TAP, Inc.
- Preservation Buffalo Niagara
- Preservation League of New York State
- Preservation Association of Central New York
- The New York Landmarks Conservancy
- Oneida County History Center
- Long Island Traditions
- The Municipal Art Society of New York
- Hudson River Valley Greenway and National Heritage Area
- NYC LGBT Historic Sites Project
- Landmark Society of Western New York
- Friends of Historic Kingston
- Crawford & Stearns • Architects and Preservation Planners, PLLC
- The Cooperstown Graduate Program at SUNY Oneonta
- Historic Ithaca, Inc.

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Avrami, Erica, ed. *Issues in Preservation Policy: Preservation and Social Inclusion*. New York City: Columbia University Press, 2020.

City of Albany, NY. "Historic Preservation Plan." Albany, NY: The Lakota Group, 2019.

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National Center for Charitable Statistics, Urban Institute. "The Nonprofit Sector in Brief 2019." Washington, DC: Online, 2020.

National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. "Disaster: Preparing Your Historic Resources for Disaster." Washington, DC: State, Tribal, Local Plans & Grants Division, 2015.

Technical Preservation Services and Rutgers University. "Annual Report of the Economic Impact of the Federal Historic Tax Credit for FY 2019." Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 2020.

National Trust for Historic Preservation. Forum Journal: The Full Spectrum of History, Prioritizing Diversity and Inclusion in Preservation (Vol. 30, No. 4). Washington, DC: Preservation Leadership Forum, 2016.

Forum Journal: Intangible History (Vol. 32, No. 4). Washington, DC: Preservation Leadership Forum, 2016.

"Preservation for People: A Vision for the Future." Washington, DC: National Trust for Historic Preservation, 2017.

New York Power Authority. "2020 Sustainability Report." White Plains, NY: Sustainability Group, 2020.

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. "Model Landmarks Preservation Local Law for New York State Municipalities." Online. Available: <https://parks.ny.gov/documents/shpo/certified-local-governments/ModelLawForLocalGovernments.pdf>. 2014.

“New York State Historic Preservation Plan 2009–2013: Historic Preservation at a Crossroads.” Albany, NY: Division for Historic Preservation, 2013.

“New York State Historic Preservation Plan 2015–2020.” Albany, NY: Division for Historic Preservation, 2015.

“New York State Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2020-2025: Improving our Visitors’ Experience through Inclusivity, Diversity and Resiliency.” Albany, NY: Division of Environmental Stewardship and Planning, 2020.

Northeast Document Conservation Center and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. dPlan: The Online Disaster Planning Tool. Andover, MA: Northeast Document Conservation Center, 2015.

PlaceEconomics. “Historic Preservation: At the Core of a Dynamic New York City.” Washington, DC: PlaceEconomics, 2016.

“Saratoga Springs: Enhancing the Values through Historic Preservation.” Washington DC: PlaceEconomics, 2018.

Environmental Impacts

State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR)

New York’s SEQR Act requires all state and local government agencies to consider environmental factors in agency decision-making processes and actions, including actions they have the discretion to approve, fund, or directly undertake. SEQR requires agencies to balance environmental impacts with social and economic factors when deciding to approve or undertake an “action.” Agencies must assess the environmental impacts of actions that they propose, evaluate alternatives, develop methods for minimizing potential adverse impacts, and provide an opportunity for the public to participate in the planning process when proposals may have significant impacts.

When an action is determined to have the potential for at least one significant adverse environmental impact, development of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required. The SEQR process uses an EIS to examine ways to avoid or reduce adverse environmental impacts related to a proposed action, including an analysis of all reasonable alternatives to the action.

The action in this case is the adoption and implementation of a comprehensive statewide historic preservation plan, the 2021-26 New York State Historic Preservation Plan (2021-26 Plan). This Plan will guide preservation efforts statewide over the next five years. Its adoption and implementation have the potential for significant impacts on the environment. A Final Scoping Document for the SHPP was published on May 27, 2020.

Whereas the Plan will have “wide application,” will influence “the range of future alternative policies or projects,” and lead agencies are permitted to prepare a generic EIS (GEIS) for “the adoption of a comprehensive plan,” the preparation of a GEIS was determined to be appropriate to assess the environmental impacts of the proposed action (6 NYCRR 617.10(a)). The Plan is more conceptual in nature than a site-specific EIS that addresses a proposed project.

Generic EIS

This document constitutes the Draft Plan and Draft GEIS and discusses the potential impacts and mitigation of impacts associated with adoption and implementation of the 2021-26 Plan.

The Plan describes:

- The Proposed Action;
- The Purpose, Need, and Benefits of the Proposed Action;
- New York State’s Historic and Cultural Resources Conditions Inventory;
- The Vision for Historic Preservation in New York State;
- Goals and Objectives for Implementation; and
- Implementation and Funding.

The GEIS presents a review of the state’s comprehensive preservation plan in the context of potential environmental impacts and mitigation measures of implementation of the 2021-26 Plan. This section will also describe the Plan’s cumulative impacts and its consistency with New York State Coastal Policies. Intended outcomes of the Plan are to improve preservation stewardship and protection, and to help realize the larger vision for preservation in New York State: that residents and visitors will be more aware of and appreciate the many narratives and cultural traditions that have shaped New York’s

natural and built environment; that they will understand the importance of preserving and interpreting the places where history happened; and that they will recognize the significant role New York and its people continue to play in the forming of America.

The GEIS is not intended to provide a comprehensive analysis of impacts of each program or project that may be undertaken pursuant to the 2021-26 Plan. It serves as a reference, providing a sound environmental planning base, setting forth the process for evaluation of future actions and related impacts. Evaluation and review processes are discussed in terms of ensuring that resource protection is given appropriate consideration during planning and implementation of programs and activities recommended by the Plan. The Draft Plan/GEIS will be made available for public review and will be the subject of a public meeting (webinar), in accordance with the public review process of the SEQR. Comments on the Draft Plan/GEIS will be incorporated and addressed in the Final Plan/GEIS as part of the SEQR record, prior to adoption of the 2021-26 Plan.

Environmental Setting

The environmental setting for the Plan consists of the people and the natural, recreational, scenic, historic and cultural resources of New York State, as well as social and economic characteristics. The setting also includes the general public (residents and nonresidents) and preservation advocates and professionals.

Resource categories that are likely to be impacted from implementation of the 2021-26 Plan include archaeological, historic, and cultural resources and community character. These are addressed below.

Alternatives

Choosing not to prepare this plan is not a viable option since the preparation and implementation of a statewide historic preservation plan by the State Historic Preservation Officer is mandated by the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470)—and necessary for New York State to receive appropriations from the federal Historic Preservation Fund. The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation is the only state agency with the statutory responsibility to prepare the Plan.

In terms of implementation, not preparing the Plan would mean that there would be no statewide guidance based on current data of historical and cultural resources, and, if the State continued to use recommendations from the New York State Historic Preservation Plan for 2015-20, its implementation would not be responding to changing resource needs or based on updated goals and objectives. In addition, without proper identification of preservation needs, failure by the agency to implement the 2021-26 Plan may result in the loss of opportunities to strengthen preservation efforts across New York State. Without the guidance provided by updated goals and objectives, adverse impacts to the historical and cultural resource environment could occur. Moreover, without the focus and goals set by the 2021-26 Plan, opportunities for identifying, maintaining, and protecting cultural and historical resources could be hindered.

Environmental Impacts and Mitigation

In this section, goals and objectives are briefly described and the implications as to potential environmental impacts are discussed. Where possible, general approaches that mitigate potential adverse impacts are identified.

Planning Process

The planning process described in Chapter 3 assures that preservation planning in New York State considers environmental as well as human resources. Continually reevaluating assumptions, methods and objectives throughout the planning process helps assure that cultural, archaeological, and historic resources are protected when conditions change, or new information is available. The extensive outreach to the public and professionals in the field conducted during the planning process—a video presentation with feedback option, multiple questionnaires and surveys, personal interviews, and small group consultations—have provided comprehensive input into the development of the Plan’s goals and objectives. A major theme heard throughout this outreach process was ensuring that Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) concerns were reflected not only in each topic but given a whole topic write-up to itself. This helped to drive goals and objectives development. Another theme that was heard, and proved central to plan development, was ensuring that any stakeholder (government official, preservation professional, museum volunteer, etc.) could pick up the Plan document and see the role they could play in resource protection/preservation.

Adequate information and analysis, coordination, and public participation are key to the implementation of actions that protect resources and enhance preservation resource stewardship. The planning process considers resource and user impacts and emphasizes the best use of available resources and knowledge. Public participation in the planning process ensures a balance of interests in plan formulation.

Goals and Objectives

To maximize the social and economic benefits associated with preservation, while minimizing adverse impacts to the resources of the state, it is critical that while planning for preservation activities and programming, consideration be given to the entire set of the Plan topics, goals, and objectives. A sensitive, nuanced, approach is necessary to achieve the vision for preservation in New York State. Focusing on only a portion of the goals, or giving undue weight to certain objectives, can result in substantial reduction in the quantity of potential preservation services (and the associated benefits), or in the quality of the state’s cultural, archaeological, and historic resources, and blur the larger vision.

The 2021-26 Plan’s topics, goals, and objectives are comprehensive and consistent with the state’s desire to protect and preserve its cultural, archaeological, and historic resources and environment. They also provide enjoyable educational and interpretive opportunities, while enhancing the public’s safety and welfare. Resource protection is balanced with other goals to achieve optimal levels of preservation services and programs.

Each time the State Historic Preservation Plan is revisited, suggestions for new strategies and improvements are sought from the Division for Historic Preservation, the State Board for Historic Preservation, statewide nonprofits, public and private museums and cultural centers, cooperating agencies, community groups and the public, through the public participation process. This ensures that the goals and objectives continue to be responsive to local, regional, and state preservation demands and needs. Since the Plan is a broad framework within which more detailed planning must take place, it is not possible to definitively identify potential adverse impacts. It is, consequently, infeasible to suggest specific mitigation measures.

The state’s review processes, including SEQ, ensure that due consideration is given to protection of its cultural and historic heritage. These processes, by which more detailed plans and projects are developed

and evaluated, should serve to minimize, if not eliminate, potential adverse impacts associated with the provision of preservation services and programs. This Plan contains topics and goals that reflect major issues and provide a larger context for enhancing existing preservation programs and activities across the state. The 2021-26 Plan topics are woven throughout the goals and objectives, assuring focus on them as an overarching framework.

TOPIC: Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA)
GOAL: Ensure activities dedicated to the preservation of cultural heritage recognize and champion the responsibility to uphold and progress the principles of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access.

Many of the objectives in this goal are administrative and programmatic tasks, such as increasing diversity in hiring of staff, reviewing documents for inaccurate or missing information, offering programs and materials in multiple languages, and evaluating grant scoring criteria to support IDEA initiatives. By the very nature of these actions, there will be no direct adverse environmental impacts. There will likely be benefits to the historic preservation community and resources by ensuring that a wider diversity of the public and stakeholders are involved with, and have access to, cultural heritage programs. The more active/interactive objectives include collaborating with diverse individuals and groups; working with marginalized communities; reducing barriers and ensuring equitable access to heritage resources; and coordinating with inadequately represented groups to develop educational presentations, cultural demonstrations, and other opportunities for cross-cultural exchange. These are also expected to have great benefits to the preservation community by incorporating a larger and more diverse representation of communities and histories. This may also help to protect and expand documentation of physical historic and cultural resources and enhance meaningful connections to these resources, strengthening the sense of place and community character.

TOPIC: Survey and Designation
GOAL (A): Assist in planning for the continued use and preservation of heritage resources for the benefit of future New Yorkers.
GOAL (B): Guide survey and designation efforts into a more collaborative dynamic process that ensures the stories of all people, past and present, are told and that cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible, is recognized.

Many of the objectives in these goals are administrative and programmatic tasks, such as encouraging municipalities and organizations to undertake historic resources surveys, undertaking surveys in flood-prone areas, assessing climate change challenges, submitting historic resource information to online databases, and identifying places and history that are important to marginalized communities. By the very nature of these actions, there will be no direct adverse environmental impacts. There will likely be indirect benefits to the historic preservation community, local communities, and resources as a result of these types of actions. By gathering more data and better understanding existing resources, collaborating, managing resource information via online databases, and expanding the breadth of input from communities, analysis and planning for the future of heritage resources can be done in a more comprehensive, diverse, and inclusive manner.

TOPIC: Economic Development and Recovery
GOAL: Integrate historic preservation and cultural resource management efforts with economic development practices and policies to ensure resources are recognized as indispensable attributes of a competitive, sustainable, and equitable future.

Promoting awareness of, expanding training on, and strengthening preservation incentives can go a long way to increasing preservation efforts at all levels, including private landowners and businessowners, local community groups, municipalities and more. Expanding financial incentives for preservation of agricultural buildings and having municipalities adopt property tax incentives that benefit property owners who make substantial investments in historic resources could benefit both urban and rural communities. Reinvesting in existing built resources is generally considered a benefit to the environment.

Creating new programming, services, and place-based recreation opportunities at historic sites or within legacy communities can help bolster interest from new audiences and potentially create new jobs and sources of revenue. Any potential physical disturbance in the form of developing new recreational facilities at these sites that may impact cultural resources will likely require consultation with the New York State Division for Historic Preservation (DHP). Projects should provide for the long-term protection of the cultural resources and any natural resources that may be impacted. This is accomplished through site specific review and coordination with appropriate resource and permitting agencies.

TOPIC: Environmental Sustainability
GOAL: Improve understanding of the effects of environmental change on cultural resources and implement energy-conscious practices in the stewardship and management of resources to promote just environmental and public health outcomes.

Some of the objectives under this goal focus on initiatives to educate and provide training on sustainability approaches to preservation projects, methods for reducing energy consumption, and other skills for sustainable preservation, restoration, and rehabilitation of historic structures. Other objectives include promoting energy audits of historic structures, installing on-site renewable energy sources, and reducing demolition waste in landfills by promoting repair, salvage, and reuse of historic materials. Implementing such actions will increase the sustainability of historic resources and the communities in which they are located. Reducing our gas and carbon footprint can have a positive impact on the natural environment, bring greater sustainability to our cultural resources, and ideally result in cost-savings. Reduce, reuse, and recycle will continue to be a mantra for all communities and types of resources to provide greater environmental integrity and sustainability.

Integrating sustainability measures into policy mechanisms, such as funding opportunities and tax assessment relief, and into building codes, to establish performance-based efficiency standards for historic structures, will more consistently and thoroughly ensure energy efficiencies are assimilated into preservation projects.

TOPIC: Disaster Planning and Resiliency
GOAL: Foster resiliency by creating the capacity to successfully respond to and mitigate the impacts of geological, weather-related, hydrological, fire-related, biological, and other disasters through the creation of a hazard mitigation, preparedness, recovery, and resiliency plan that considers impacts to historic and cultural resources.

Objectives listed under this goal are largely administrative and programmatic in nature—conducting risk assessments and surveys, publicizing risk assessment tools, preparing hazard mitigation plans, incentivizing protection measures, and promoting funding opportunities for adaptation measures—that will not pose any direct adverse environmental impacts. To the contrary, these actions will directly and indirectly help promote preparedness and resiliency in structures, services, and programming in light of potential disasters. A more connected and coordinated approach for development of recovery plans, and post-disaster assessment and treatment of damaged resources, with nonprofits, municipalities, counties, tribes, and other heritage-keepers for response efforts at local, regional, and state levels can only serve better to protect the hardscape resources and the communities they are in.

Training and public outreach and education to promote protection and appropriate treatment of heritage resources, raising awareness about mitigation, response, and recovery tactics, and publicizing resiliency and recovery plans will strengthen the resolve and abilities of communities to respond to and engage in these efforts.

TOPIC: Local Preservation
GOAL: Empower and strengthen the process of preservation at the municipal, county, and regional levels by encouraging and offering expanded historic preservation services, activities, and collaboration.

Some of the objectives under this goal speak to reducing barriers, increasing diversity in staffing, increasing workshop and training opportunities to reach an expanded audience, and undertaking community-wide surveys and condition reports. Enhancing awareness and understanding about preservation is expected to provide further protection to cultural resources, services, and programs. As people gain an appreciation for their local resources, they are more likely to be engaged and advocate for these resources. Adopting and incorporating preservation laws into local governments and policies will further empower the preservation process and ingrain it in local community undertakings.

TOPIC: Partnerships
GOAL (A): Seek new community partnerships by forming relationships with individuals and groups to encourage resource awareness, appreciation, and protection in areas where preservation initiatives are lacking.
GOAL (B): Strengthen existing partnerships to encourage best practices in the field and support colleagues in growing and strengthening their local, regional, and statewide relationships and networks.

Strengthening and expanding public and professional networks and partnerships in the preservation field is key to building long-term support for historic and cultural resources in communities. New training and educational opportunities provided in a variety of forms and platforms will encourage more

meaningful and in-depth communication and coordination among various groups and stakeholders. Strengthening relationships with community groups whose work seeks to keep preservation relevant to sustainability issues (e. g., climate change, social justice) will provide more resilient communities, programs, and physical historic resources and enhance community character.

TOPIC: Public Outreach and Education

GOAL: Expand public outreach and education initiatives to strengthen, empower, and create meaningful dialogue between traditional preservation partners (preservation advocates, community stakeholders, and units of government) and the public to advance the shared values of the community at large.

Breaking down barriers to information and bringing awareness about preservation to underrepresented and/or previously excluded communities will allow for more diverse public engagement. This may result in new insights into, and resources for, preservation activities at a local community level. This encourages gaining new advocates and new stories to share, thereby strengthening the preservation community. A concerted effort to share information about preservation tools and best practices to more audiences, providing education workshops and training opportunities, and promoting participation in preservation conferences and workshops expands the diversity of the audience and can strengthen the preservation community and local communities' skills necessary for sustainable preservation, restoration, and rehabilitation of historic structures. As more people become aware of the importance and relevance of historic and cultural resources and more enriched exchanges in dialogue occur, this will help ensure a more common preservation ethic and practice into the future.

Coastal Zone Management Program Consistency

For a state agency action in the coastal area, an EIS must address the action's consistency with the applicable Coastal Management Program (CMP) state coastal policies or, when the action is in an approved local waterfront revitalization program area (LWRP), with the local program policies. As the Plan is a statewide program document, policies are considered on a statewide level.

The 2021-26 Plan's focus is on historic preservation efforts and will guide decision making, influence historic preservation policy in state and local governments, and empower local communities, organizations, and individuals to action for the next five years. The vision, goals, and objectives of the Plan promote and are consistent with the state's coastal policy regarding historic resources: protect, enhance, and restore structures, districts, areas, or sites that are of significance in the history, architecture, archaeology, or culture of the state, its communities, or the nation.

Many of the listed objectives are administrative and programmatic in nature, while others are more active and interactive between various groups of stakeholders, the public, communities, and government entities, involving programs, services, funding opportunities, and training. The variety of topics addressed in, and the focus of, the Plan allow for beneficial changes to heritage communities and resources throughout the state and are flexible in order to allow individuals, organizations, and communities to tailor the activities to their area's resources and needs.

A few objectives involve the potential for ground disturbance or physical changes to historic resources. The state's review processes, including SEQR, ensure that due consideration is given to protection of its

natural and cultural heritage. As projects are planned and designed on the local level, they are subject to SEQR and will be evaluated to minimize, if not eliminate, potential adverse impacts associated with development or rehabilitation of facilities.

Implementation

To fully implement the objectives outlined in the Plan, local, regional, and state level entities must develop strategies, translating topics, goals, and objectives into the delivery of preservation programs, policies, and services for the protection of cultural, archaeological, and historic resources. In a state as large as New York, priorities will vary across geographic and political boundaries, and the DHP can help prioritization processes. Implementation vehicles include private, local, state, and federal funding, such as the allocation of funds for preservation, education, and interpretation projects.

The partnership philosophy is also key to implementation and is supported throughout the Plan, particularly relating to improving cooperation and coordination in resource stewardship, protection, and promotion between all levels of government and the private sector. These partnerships play an increasingly important role in leveraging existing resources and talents, identifying new opportunities for preservation, and continuing thoughtful celebration and stewardship of the state's cultural heritage.

Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Access (IDEA) must be an overarching goal in resource stewardship, planning, and celebration. As noted in multiple Plan objectives, implementation must respond to the need to reach marginalized communities and insufficiently documented groups and remove access barriers and ensure equitable access to heritage resources. Multiple goals include objectives regarding the need for grant-makers to add scoring criteria that reflect increased emphasis on IDEA initiatives.

When specific projects are undertaken, funded, or approved by state or local agencies pursuant to the Plan, they are subject to SEQR if the projects meet certain thresholds as defined by SEQR regulations. Evaluation of some of these specific proposals, including the many administrative and programmatic actions, will result in determinations that they will not have significant adverse impacts on the environment as a result of undertaking the actions. Those proposals that may have significant adverse impacts on the environment will require the preparation of an EIS. Under SEQR, the EIS process ensures that an action to be undertaken will avoid or minimize adverse environmental impacts to the maximum extent practicable. Through SEQR and other existing review mechanisms, such as environmental permit processes, consideration of environmental factors is a part of all plans or specific actions undertaken to implement the SHPP.

Cumulative Impacts

The topics, goals, and objectives defined in the 2021-26 Plan will have a positive impact on the environment. The primary effect of the Plan is to promote the topics, goals, and objectives identified within the Plan. While the Plan is focused on many attributes of the built environment—buildings, structures, and cultivated landscapes—it also demonstrates a respect for natural resource stewardship—such as the Environmental Sustainability goal: Improve understanding of the effects of environmental change on cultural resources and implement energy-conscious practices in the stewardship and management of resources to promote just environmental and public health outcomes—recognizing that healthy ecosystems mean healthy, vibrant cultural communities.

The cumulative effects of applying the goals and objectives of the 2021-26 Plan in a systematic manner will be substantially beneficial. Existing preservation services to the public will be maintained and likely enhanced and expanded, while protection of cultural, archaeological, and historic resources will be

ensured. Perhaps one of the most important cumulative effects of the SHPP is also the least tangible. The implementation of preservation, education, and interpretation programs recommended in the Plan substantially enhances the physical and psychological wellbeing—the quality of life—of the state’s residents and visitors.

Enhancing the quality and quantity of preservation services and programs has substantial beneficial effects on economic activity. Implementation of efficiently designed plans for community preservation and restoration often contributes to the attractiveness of a municipality for investment by businesses. Thus, the facilities and programs impacted by the SHPP are an important adjunct to factors leading to economic recovery and development. In New York State, these existing and established centers generally stabilize existing investments and services.

The goals stated in the Plan will not result in any significant increase in energy consumption associated with preservation activities. On the contrary, several of the objectives and initiatives defined in the Plan will promote reduced energy consumption in the provision of programs, services, and in the physical activities associated with preservation work.

Since the 2021-26 Plan is a general plan, identification of program-specific or site-specific adverse impacts, including those which are unavoidable, will be accomplished during future planning and environmental review of specific programs and projects at a more local or regional level.

Applying the goals and objectives of the Plan to the development of preservation services and programs requires a commitment of planning resources. Resources are committed to preservation activities through a variety of funding sources (see Chapter 5: *Implementation and Funding*), including state or federal legislative action, gift, grants, fundraising, or other opportunities. The 2021-26 Plan can help to determine the priority for use of these committed resources. Implementation of the objectives defined in the Plan will result in irreversible and irretrievable commitments of time, funds, and energy resources; but, overall, the benefits of preservation, stewardship, and providing interpretive and educational opportunities outweigh these commitments.