

Old Slater Mill, Providence County, RI  
Lach Franquemont

The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the Nation's historic places worthy of preservation. Authorized under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, it is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect our historic and archeological resources.

## Who We Are

Properties listed in the National Register include districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture.

Listing properties in the National Register of Historic Places often changes the way communities perceive their historic places and strengthens the credibility of efforts by private citizens and public officials to

preserve these resources as living parts of our communities.

Nomination to the National Register plays an important role in preservation activities of federal agencies; state, tribal, and local governments; and private organizations.

All National Historic Landmarks and all historic areas in the National Park System are included in the National Register of Historic Places.

## What We Do

The National Register of Historic Places program reviews nominations submitted by States, tribes, and Federal agencies, and lists eligible properties in the National Register. We offer guidance on evaluating, documenting, and listing different types of historic and archeological places through the National Register Bulletin series and other publications.

The National Park Service and National Register can

provide information on the National Register program, including lists of properties, nomination documentation, and information on preparing nominations.

Contact information for State Historic Preservation Officers, Federal Preservation Officers, and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers can be found on our website ([www.nps.gov/history/nr](http://www.nps.gov/history/nr)) or on reverse side.



McDougall-Sullivan Gardens  
Historic District  
New York County, NY  
Michael Daddino



Angels Flight Railway  
Los Angeles County, CA  
Corey Miller



Cragwold,  
St. Louis County, MO  
Doug Moss



Lindholm Oil Company  
Service Station  
Carlton County, MN  
Michael Barton

## How Properties are Listed in the National Register

The National Register nomination process usually starts with your State historic preservation office.\* If the property is on Federal or tribal land, then the process starts with the Federal preservation office or Tribal historic preservation office. See reverse side for contact information.

Nominations can be submitted to your State historic preservation office from property owners, historical societies, preservation organizations, governmental agencies, and other individuals or groups.

The State historic preservation office notifies affected property owners and local governments and solicits public comment. If the owner (or a majority of owners for a district nomination) objects, the property cannot be listed but may be forwarded to the National Park Service for a Determination of Eligibility (DOE).

Proposed nominations are reviewed by your State's historic preservation office and the State's National Register Review Board. The length of the state process varies but generally will take a minimum of 90 days.

Complete nominations, with certifying recommendations, are submitted by the State Historic Preservation Office, Federal Preservation Office, or Tribal Historic Preservation Office to the National Park Service in Washington, DC for final review and listing by the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places. The National Park Service makes a listing decision within 45 days.

\*Contact your SHPO or THPO or check their website for National Register information, research materials, and necessary forms to begin the nomination process.

## How Properties Are Evaluated

To be considered eligible, a property must meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. This involves examining the property's significance, age, and integrity.

**Significance:** Is the property associated with events, activities, or developments that were important in the past? With the lives of people who were important in the past? With significant architectural history, landscape history, or engineering achievements? Does it have the potential to yield information about our past through archeological investigation?

**Age and Integrity:** Is the property old enough to be considered historic (generally at least 50 years old) and does it still look much the way it did in the past?

*"Thank you and the National Park Service for your part in protecting my family's home and heritage."  
-Joanne Y.*

## Criteria for Evaluation

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of

construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or

D. that have yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory.

## Criteria Considerations

Ordinarily cemeteries, birthplaces, graves of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes, structures that have been moved from their original locations, reconstructed historic buildings, properties primarily commemorative in nature, and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years shall not be considered eligible for the National Register. However, such properties will qualify if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the criteria or if they fall within the following categories:

- A. a religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic importance; or
- B. a building or structure removed from its original location but which is primarily significant for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a historic person or event; or
- C. a birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no appropriate site or building associated with his or her productive life; or
- D. a cemetery that derives its primary importance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events; or
- E. a reconstructed building when accurately executed in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan,

and when no other building or structure with the same association has survived; or

F. a property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own exceptional significance; or

G. a property achieving significance within the past 50 years if it is of exceptional importance.

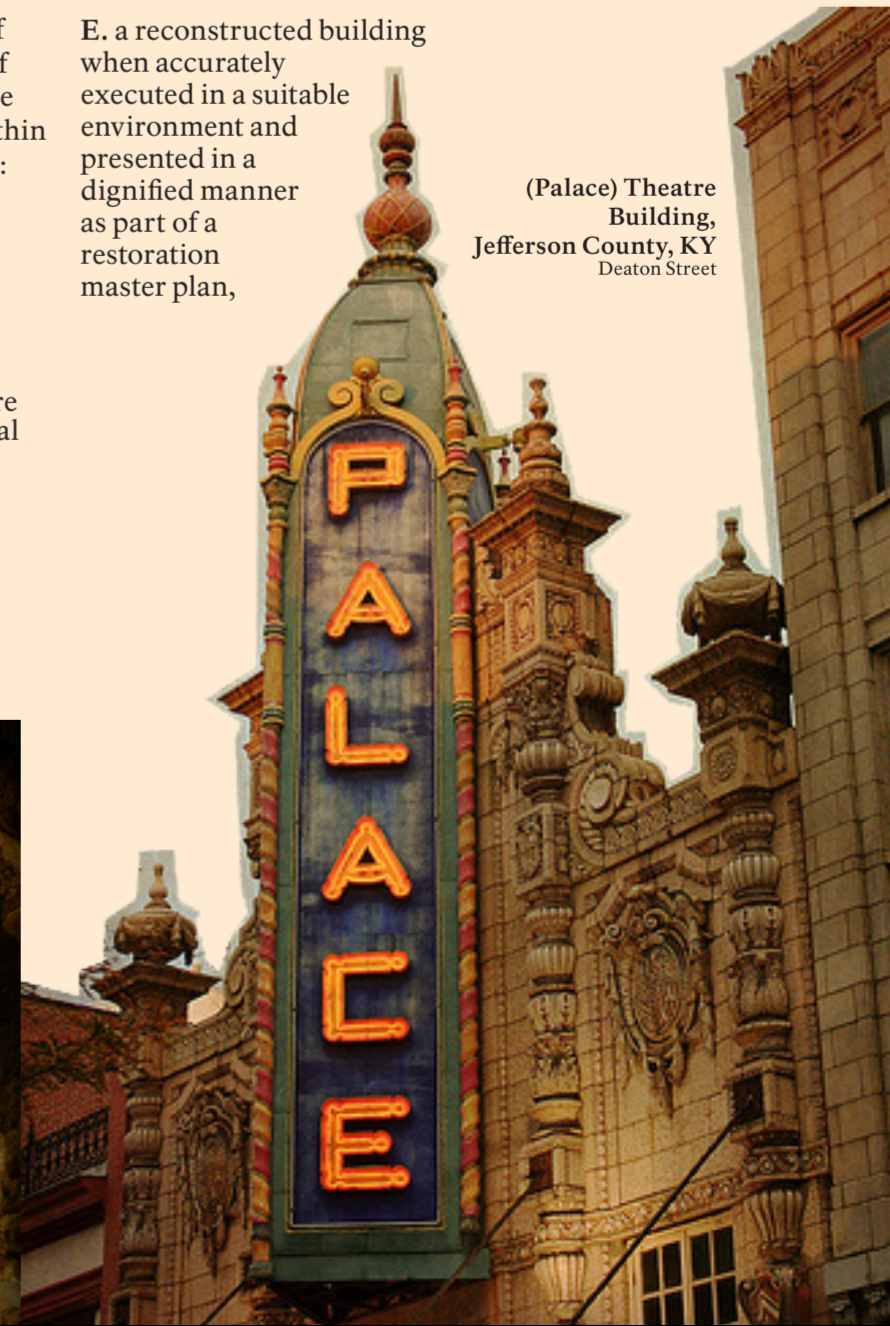
- A. a religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic importance; or
- B. a building or structure removed from its original location but which is primarily significant for

Foretiere Underground  
Gardens, Fresno County, CA  
Matthew G. Cohan

Cape Creek Bridge No. 01113  
Lane County, OR  
Bruce Fingerhood



(Palace) Theatre  
Building,  
Jefferson County, KY  
Deaton Street



## The National Register & Your Community

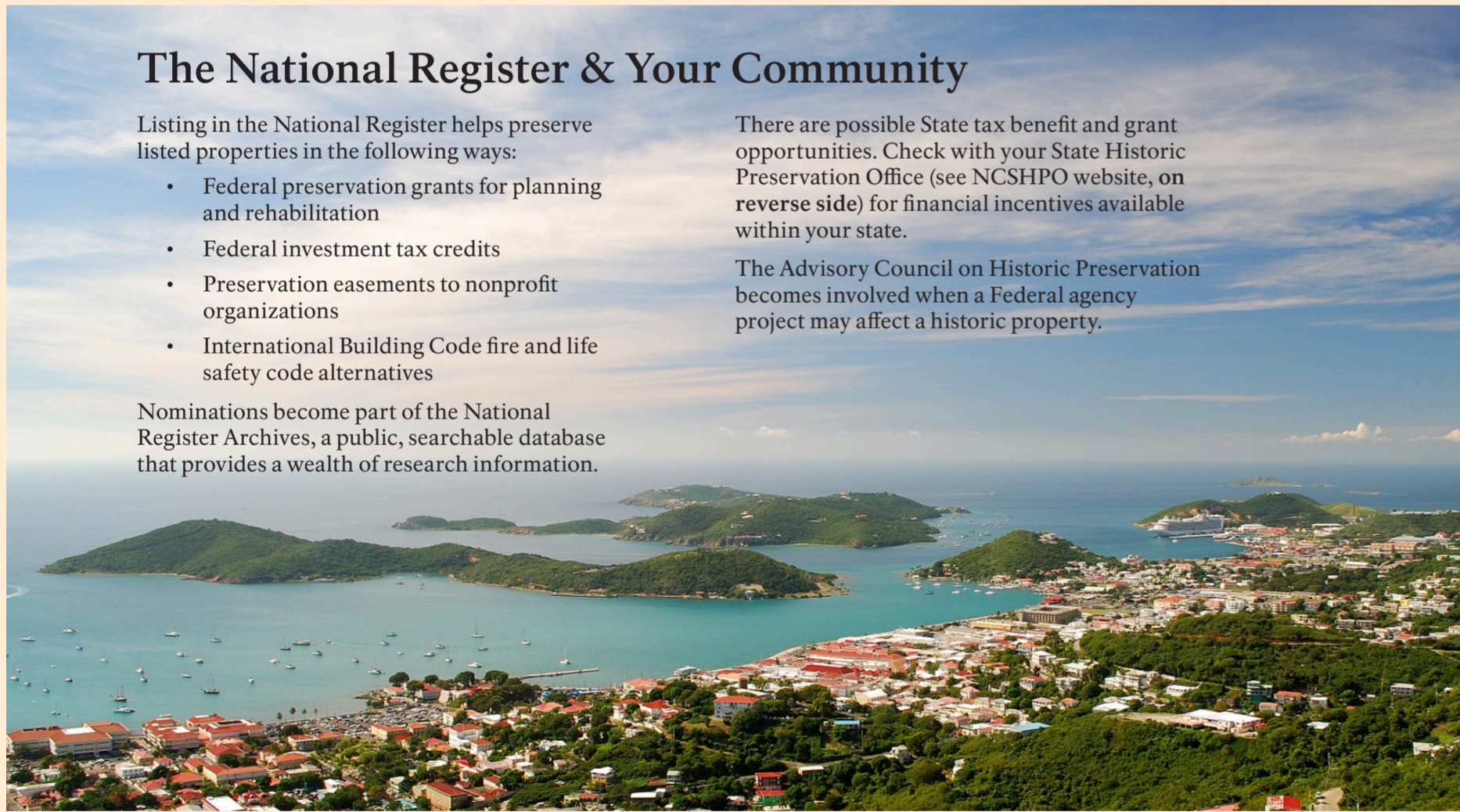
Listing in the National Register helps preserve listed properties in the following ways:

- Federal preservation grants for planning and rehabilitation
- Federal investment tax credits
- Preservation easements to nonprofit organizations
- International Building Code fire and life safety code alternatives

Nominations become part of the National Register Archives, a public, searchable database that provides a wealth of research information.

There are possible State tax benefit and grant opportunities. Check with your State Historic Preservation Office (see NCSHPO website, on reverse side) for financial incentives available within your state.

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation becomes involved when a Federal agency project may affect a historic property.



Charlotte Amalia Historic District (foreground) and Hassel Island Historic District (background), St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands  
Sergey Klachkov

*"I don't think without the National Register designation of the Warehouse district we could have gotten the investor interest and the interest of public officials in taking a bunch of old buildings ... and turning them into a vibrant retail, residential, and office district."  
-Hunter Morrison, City of Cleveland Planning Office*

## Listing & Ownership

Owners of private property listed in the National Register have no obligation to open their properties to the public, to restore them, or even to maintain them, if they choose not to do so. Owners can do anything they wish with their property provided that no Federal license, permit, or funding is involved.

National Register listing does not lead to public acquisition or require public access.

An individually owned property will not be listed if the owner objects. For historic districts, a district will not be listed if a majority of private property owners object.

National Register listing does not automatically invoke local historic district zoning or local landmark designation.

Moffatt-Ladd House  
Rockingham County, NH  
Ed Bolton



McPherson Opera House  
McPherson County, KS  
Keith A. Wondra



Bryson Apartment Hotel, Los Angeles County, CA  
Corey Miller



Brokaw-McDougall House, Leon County, FL  
Amanda Baird



Argo Tunnel and Mill, Clear Creek County, CO  
Thad Roan



Old Deerfield Village Historic District, Franklin County, MA  
Corey P. Nasman



Carl's, Fredericksburg Independent City, VA  
Jennifer Glass

## Economic Growth & Revitalization Opportunities

Web addresses and phone numbers of State, Tribal, and Federal historic preservation offices can be found on the National Register website.

### Federal Tax Incentives for Rehabilitation

Since 1976, the Federal Internal Revenue Code has contained a variety of incentives to encourage capital investment in historic buildings and to spur revitalization of historic properties. These incentives encourage the preservation of historic commercial, industrial, and rental residential buildings listed in the National Register

by allowing favorable tax treatments for rehabilitation. More information can be obtained by contacting the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Act Program at the web address listed in the Quick Reference section of this brochure or by contacting your State Historic Preservation Office.

### Easement Donations

The Federal Internal Revenue Code also provides for Federal income, estate, and gift tax deductions for charitable contributions of partial interests in real

property (easements on land and buildings). Further information on easements may be obtained from the sources listed above in the tax incentives section.

### Federal Historic Preservation Grants

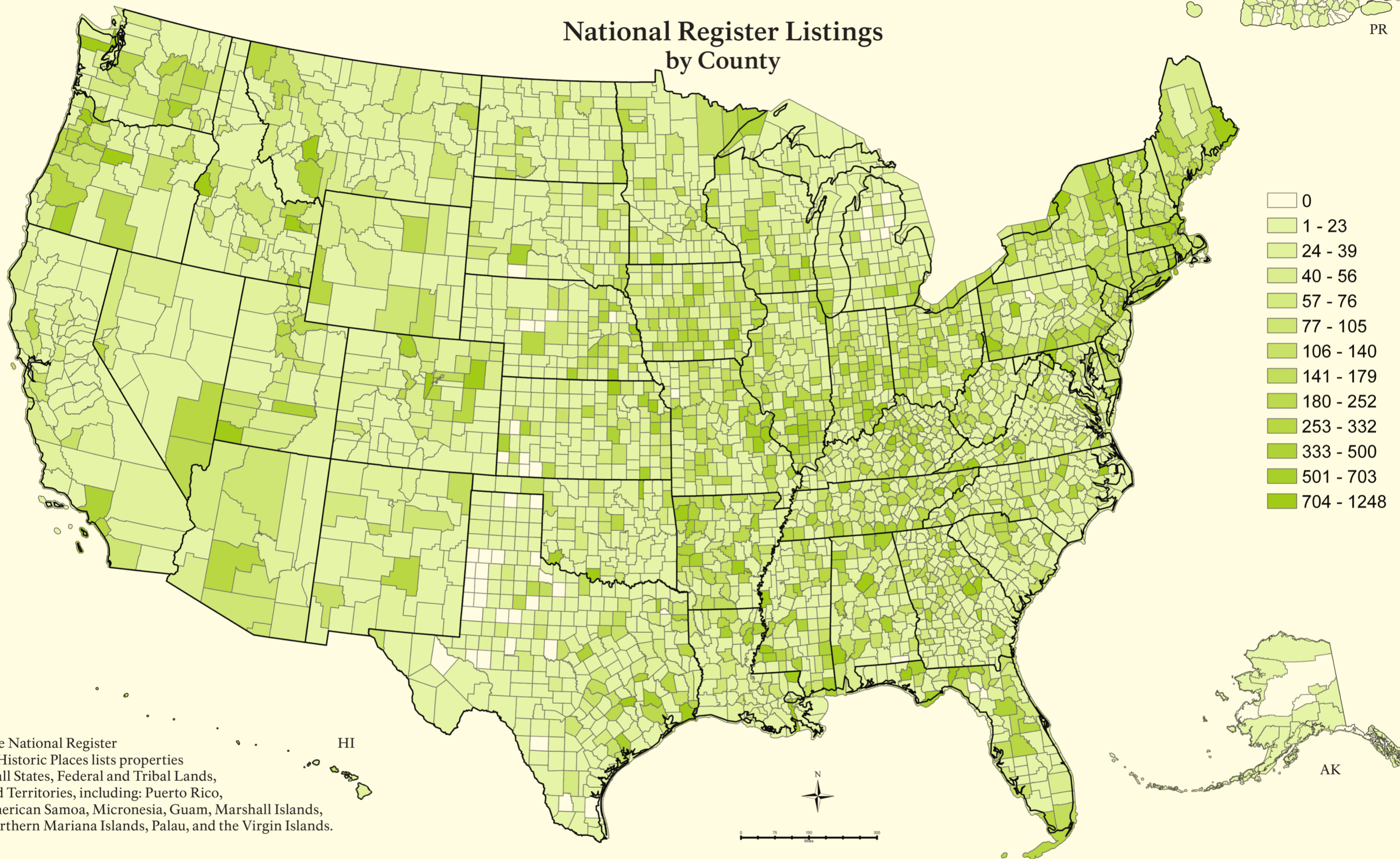
Owners of National Register listed properties may be able to obtain Federal historic preservation funding, when funds are available. Information about Federal historic preservation grant assistance is available on the Heritage Preservation Services website (see Quick Reference

below) or by contacting your State Historic Preservation Office.

### State Historic Grant and Tax Programs

States also administer State grant assistance programs and many of them allow for property tax abatements and State income tax credits for rehabilitated historic properties. See NCSHPO website contact information listed below.

## National Register Listings by County



The National Register of Historic Places lists properties in all States, Federal and Tribal Lands, and Territories, including: Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Micronesia, Guam, Marshall Islands, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, and the Virgin Islands.

### Quick Reference

- National Park Service  
[www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)
- National Historic Landmarks  
[www.nps.gov/history/nhl](http://www.nps.gov/history/nhl)
- Archeology Program  
[www.nps.gov/history/archeology](http://www.nps.gov/history/archeology)
- Teaching with Historic Places  
[www.nps.gov/history/nr/twhp](http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/twhp)
- Travel Itineraries  
[www.nps.gov/history/nr/travel](http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/travel)
- Heritage Preservation Services  
[www.nps.gov/history/hps](http://www.nps.gov/history/hps)
- Cultural Resources Diversity Internship Program  
[www.nps.gov/history/crdi](http://www.nps.gov/history/crdi)
- NPS Park History  
[www.nps.gov/history/history](http://www.nps.gov/history/history)
- Maritime Heritage Program  
[www.nps.gov/history/maritime](http://www.nps.gov/history/maritime)
- Advisory Council on Historic Preservation  
[www.achp.org](http://www.achp.org)

### Preservation Officers

- National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers (NCSHPO)  
[www.ncshpo.org](http://www.ncshpo.org)
- National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (NATHPO)  
[www.nathpo.org](http://www.nathpo.org)
- Federal Agency Preservation Programs and Officers  
[www.achp.gov/fplist](http://www.achp.gov/fplist)

*"My students truly appreciated the chance to learn more about the church's history and architecture directly from this important source document."*

—Catherine,  
NH elementary school teacher

### Contact Us

- National Register of Historic Places  
1201 Eye Street NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
202-354-2211  
[www.nps.gov/history/nr](http://www.nps.gov/history/nr)  
[nr\\_info@nps.gov](mailto:nr_info@nps.gov)

