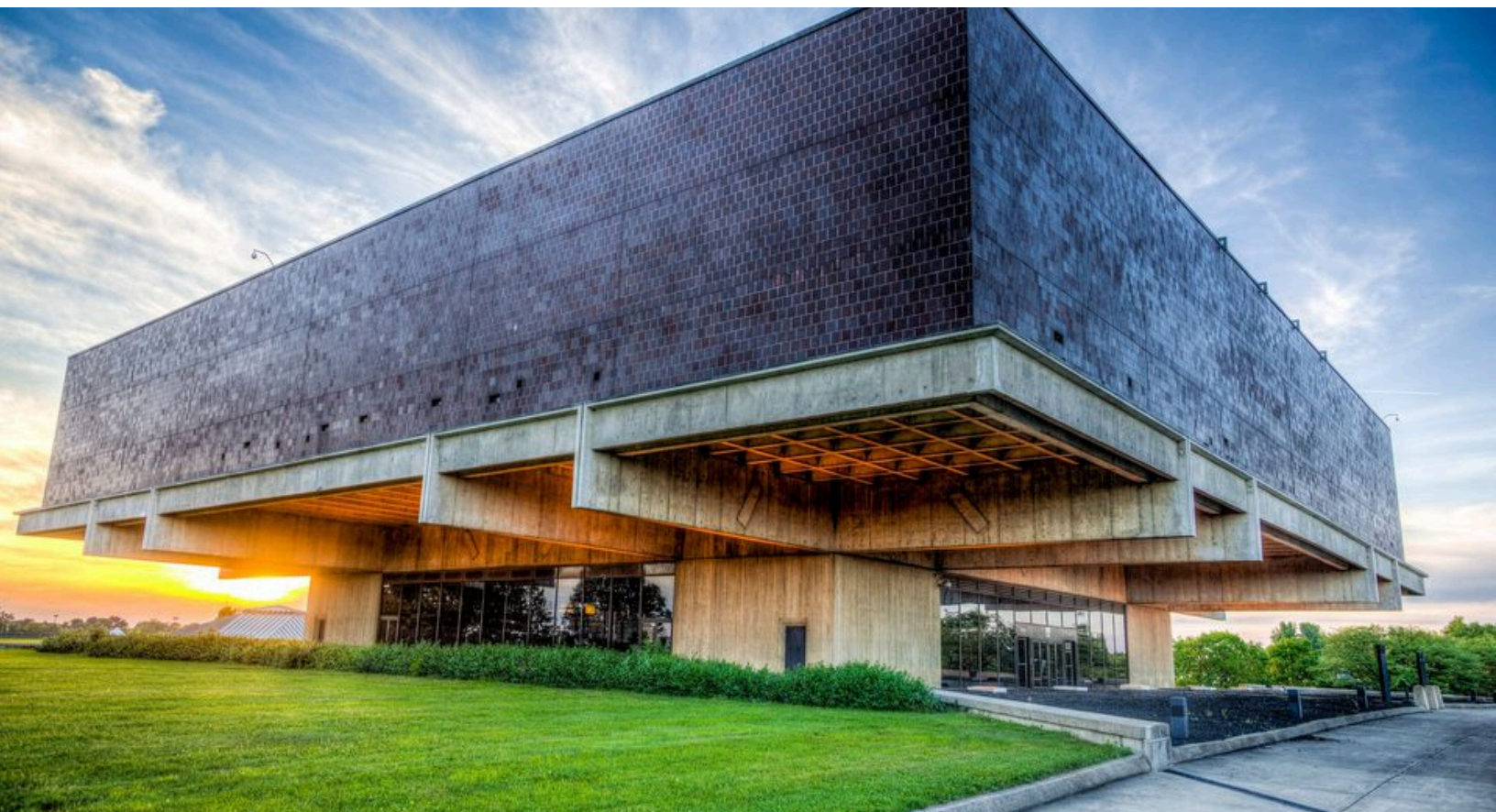


State Historic Preservation Office Awards



2025 Awards Information



Each year, the Ohio History Connection's State Historic Preservation Office recognizes achievements in historic preservation. We present awards in two categories: Public Education and Awareness, and Preservation Merit.

Award Categories

The Public Education and Awareness Award is for increasing interest in historic preservation. Eligible activities have substantially increased public understanding and awareness of historic preservation at the local, regional, or state level. These include, but are not limited to:

- media
- newsletters
- publications
- interpretation
- original research
- educational programs
- special events

The Preservation Merit Award is for preserving Ohio's prehistory, history, architecture, or culture. Eligible activities include, but are not limited to:

- restoring, rehabilitating, or otherwise preserving an important building or site
- longtime stewardship of a property
- promoting protective legislation
- funding preservation projects
- offering leadership, support, or service
- furthering preservation at the local, regional, or state level

Eligibility

People, organizations, businesses, and public agencies are eligible for the awards. There may be more than one award in each category. Employees and trustees of the Ohio History Connection and members of the Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board are not eligible for the awards.

Nominations & Requirements

Anyone may submit a nomination for the awards. Nominators can include but are not limited to individuals and organizations that are eligible for awards (see eligibility above). Submitted materials cannot be returned.

The selection committee will base their decision about whether a project is awarded using the materials provided. Do not assume the selection committee knows as much about the project as you do. In the online nomination form, please be as detailed as possible.

To make your applications as competitive as possible, your nomination should answer these questions:

1. What did your project achieve?
2. Who helped your project with this achievement?
 - a. "Who" means individuals and/or firms that contributed significantly to the project. Your answer to this question should explain the roles and importance of co-nominees to the project and their qualifications.
3. What qualifies for your achievement for a SHPO award?
 - a. In your response, explain why your project is a model for others in your field to follow.

Secretary of the Interior's Standards: In general, nominated projects must uphold the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. Rehabilitation, restoration, or otherwise preserved buildings or sites must meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

Photographs/Visuals: Please include images that illustrate your project's achievement. In the case of rehabilitation and restoration projects, please include before and after photos and architectural drawings. If you submit video documentation, please ensure it is no more than 10 minutes long unless the video itself is being nominated for an award.

Supporting Materials: You are welcome to enclose media stories, brochures, or other written materials about your project.

Eligibility and Requirements Continued

Tax Credit Projects: Rehabilitations financed with federal, or state historic tax credits must have a Part 3 certification prior to submitting an award nomination deadline. Projects without a Part 3 certification will not be considered for a State Historic Preservation Office Award.

Section 106: Federally funded or licensed projects must comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Additionally, building preservation projects must meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

Selection

Award recipients will be chosen by a selection committee comprising of members from the governor appointed Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board (OHSPAB) and the State Historic Preservation Office staff.

Awards Luncheon

Once the recipients are announced, the State Historic Preservation Office will host a luncheon in the fall to present the awards.

Deadline

Nominations must be submitted via the online form by July 1st, 2025, by 11:59 p.m. EST

For More Information:

For questions, contact our office at 614-298-2000 or email at shpoprograms@ohiohistory.org

You may also visit our website: [SHPO Awards](#)