

VOLUME III: EDUCATION

**RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL
PRESERVATION AND HERITAGE
COMMISSION**

Agency Summary

Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission

Agency Mission

To preserve and protect places of historical, archaeological, and cultural significance as a means of illuminating an appreciation for the state's history and heritage among all of Rhode Island's diverse communities.

Agency Description

The Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission is the state office for historic preservation and for sponsorship of state heritage activities. It is Rhode Island's only statewide preservation program to identify and protect historic buildings, districts, and archaeological sites. The commission is responsible for developing a state historical preservation plan and for survey and planning activities which provide for in-depth studies of each city and town to identify, evaluate, and record sites, structures, districts, and objects of historical, architectural, cultural, or archeological significance to the people of the state and nation.

The Commission sponsors and/or coordinates heritage festivals, heritage seminars, conferences and symposia, and publishes scholarly and popular works relating to the social, political, and cultural development of the State. It also coordinates programs with other private or public groups or agencies to bring attention to the many cultures of Rhode Island's citizens.

The Commission develops and implements programs for the preservation of historic resources. federal, state, and municipal projects are reviewed by the Commission to assess their effect on specific cultural resources. The Commission administers programs of financial assistance, which include grants, loans, and tax credits for restoration projects. A wide range of information and technical assistance is provided to citizens who own historic properties or are interested in preserving the heritage of their neighborhood and community. The Commission certifies municipal historic district zoning programs, which meet minimum standards, and annually administers funds to these "certified local governments."

Statutory History

R.I. General Laws Ch. 42-45 established the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission and defined the duties of the Executive Director and commission members. Executive Order Number 10, issued July 1, 1977, initially created the Heritage Commission. In 1981, the General Assembly enacted RIGL Ch. 42-79, establishing the commission as a permanent state agency. In the 1994 legislative session the General Assembly repealed RIGL Ch. 42-79 and amended Ch. 42-45 to add Heritage Commission responsibilities creating the Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission.

Budget

Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission

	2023 Actuals	2024 Actuals	2025 Enacted Budget	2025 Revised Budget	2026 Recommended
Expenditures by Program					
Central Management	1,782,255	2,141,262	3,727,660	3,965,840	3,465,631
Total Expenditures	1,782,255	2,141,262	3,727,660	3,965,840	3,465,631
Expenditures by Object					
Salary and Benefits	1,431,342	1,719,320	2,379,509	2,248,501	2,493,072
Contract Professional Services	8,679	9,560	16,575	16,575	17,825
Operating Supplies and Expenses	271,104	273,999	389,176	408,364	334,354
Assistance and Grants	71,130	132,225	585,400	585,400	610,380
Subtotal: Operating	1,782,255	2,135,104	3,370,660	3,258,840	3,455,631
Capital Purchases and Equipment	0	6,158	357,000	707,000	10,000
Subtotal: Other	0	6,158	357,000	707,000	10,000
Total Expenditures	1,782,255	2,141,262	3,727,660	3,965,840	3,465,631
Expenditures by Source of Funds					
General Revenue	1,040,750	1,204,648	1,898,100	1,747,211	1,986,751
Federal Funds	636,937	807,741	1,267,431	1,613,889	822,451
Restricted Receipts	12	134	419,300	419,300	511,827
Operating Transfers From Other Funds	0	0	0	50,000	0
Other Funds	104,557	128,739	142,829	135,440	144,602
Total Expenditures	1,782,255	2,141,262	3,727,660	3,965,840	3,465,631
FTE Authorization	15.6	15.6	15.6	15.6	15.6

Personnel Agency Summary

Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission

	FY 2025		FY 2026	
	FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost
Classified	12.6	1,167,723	12.6	1,260,535
Unclassified	3.0	301,715	3.0	325,838
Subtotal	15.6	1,469,438	15.6	1,586,373
Turnover		(151,258)		(127,954)
Total Salaries		1,318,180		1,458,419
Benefits				
FICA		100,839		115,965
Health Benefits		305,876		325,620
Payroll Accrual		7,713		8,838
Retiree Health		58,587		55,918
Retirement		419,077		484,352
Subtotal		892,092		990,693
Total Salaries and Benefits	15.6	2,210,272	15.6	2,449,112
Cost Per FTE Position		141,684		156,994
Statewide Benefit Assessment		38,229		43,960
Payroll Costs	15.6	2,248,501	15.6	2,493,072
Purchased Services				
Other Contracts		14,575		14,825
Training and Educational Services		2,000		3,000
Subtotal		16,575		17,825
Total Personnel	15.6	2,265,076	15.6	2,510,897
Distribution by Source of Funds				
General Revenue	9.6	1,288,272	9.6	1,691,349
Federal Funds	5.0	842,564	5.0	676,146
Other Funds	1.0	134,240	1.0	143,402
Total All Funds	15.6	2,265,076	15.6	2,510,897

Personnel

Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission

Central Management

		FY 2025		FY 2026	
		FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost
Classified					
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR- FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT	0134 A	1.0	96,015	1.0	101,661
DATA CONTROL CLERK	0315 A	0.6	46,027	0.6	48,826
DEPUTY DIRECTOR (RIHPHC)	0138 A	1.0	105,147	1.0	114,584
OFF & FACILITIES MGR (RIHPHC)	0125 A	1.0	72,121	1.0	77,334
PRIN HIS PRES SPEC (RIHPHC)ARC	0135 A	1.0	108,823	1.0	118,412
PRIN HIS PRES SPEC(RIHPHC)ARCH	0135 A	1.0	104,092	1.0	113,264
PRIN HIS PRES SPEC(RIHPHC)PROJ	0135 A	1.0	94,629	1.0	102,967
RESTORATION PROJECT MANAGER (RIHPHC)	0135 A	2.0	235,690	2.0	245,118
SENIOR HISTORIC GRANTS MANAGER (RIHPHC)	0131 A	1.0	79,714	1.0	85,939
SENIOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION SPECIALIST (ARCH HISTORIAN)	0131 A	1.0	77,906	1.0	83,968
SR HISTORIC PRESERVATION SPECIALIST (ARCHAEOLOGIST)	0131 A	1.0	78,297	1.0	84,391
SR HISTORIC PRESERVATION SPECIALIST (PUBLIC INFO COORD)	0131 A	1.0	69,262	1.0	84,071
Subtotal Classified		12.6	1,167,723	12.6	1,260,535
Unclassified					
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (RI HISTORIC PRES & HERITAGE COMM)	0843 A	1.0	153,662	1.0	166,316
HERITAGE PROGRAM COORDINATOR (RIHPHC)	0128 A	1.0	69,756	1.0	75,131
SENIOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION SPECIALIST (RIHPHC)PROJECT REVI	0131 A	1.0	78,297	1.0	84,391
Subtotal Unclassified		3.0	301,715	3.0	325,838
Subtotal		15.6	1,469,438	15.6	1,586,373
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Performance Measures

Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission

Central Management

Architectural Review - Investment

The figures below represent the dollar value of investment of historic preservation projects that complete HPHC's Phase III architectural review (i.e., completed projects).

	<i>Reporting Period: State Fiscal Year</i>				
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Target	\$197,687,924	\$155,607,860	\$242,458,949	\$206,041,845	\$212,541,845
Actual	\$11,900,000	\$123,329,732	\$36,963,237	--	--

National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Nominations

HPHC documents and nominates historic structures and archaeological sites to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), the official list of properties that possess historical significance and are worthy of preservation. Properties entered on the NRHP become eligible for the benefits of HPHC programs. The figures below represent the number of properties nominated to the NRHP each year.

	<i>Reporting Period: State Fiscal Year</i>				
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Target	40	20	20	20	20
Actual	55	17	0	--	--

Heritage Program Attendance

The HPHC Heritage Program works with ethnic subcommittee members to document, support and celebrate the diverse cultural heritage of Rhode Island's people through publications and events. The figures represent the number of people who participate in Heritage programs each year.

	<i>Reporting Period: State Fiscal Year</i>				
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Target	50,000	25,000	35,000	55,000	50,000
Actual	42,848	46,919	49,300	--	--
