

BUILT HERITAGE PROGRAM

Program Description

The Built Heritage Program is administered by Heritage Branch, Tourism, Heritage and Culture, Province of New Brunswick. The program is directed at preservation-related aspects of built heritage rehabilitation projects. Built Heritage includes heritage buildings and heritage landscapes. Preservation-related aspects may include elements of restoration.

This program has two components:

- Component A will contribute up to 75%, to a maximum of \$5,000 per project, for specialized design, engineering and/or conservation expertise for preservation related aspects.
- Component B will contribute up to 50%, to a maximum of \$30,000 per project, of the capital required for preservation related aspects.

Key Definitions

A number of terms have specific meanings for the purpose of this program. These terms are defined here. (Taken from Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada, Historic Places Initiative, Department of Canadian Heritage)

Character-defining elements: the materials, forms, spatial configurations, uses, and cultural associations or meanings that together comprise the heritage value of a historic place, and which must be retained in order to preserve its heritage value.

Heritage value: the aesthetic, historic, scientific, social, or spiritual importance or significance for past, present, or future generations. The heritage value of a historic place is embodied in all the materials, forms, spatial configurations, uses, and cultural associations or meanings that together comprises its character-defining elements.

Preservation: the act or process of protecting, maintaining, and / or stabilizing the existing materials, form, and integrity of a historic place, or of an individual component, while protecting its character-defining elements.

Preservation can include both short-term or interim measures to protect or stabilize the place, as well as long-term actions to retard deterioration or prevent damage so that the place can be kept serviceable through routine maintenance and minimal repair, rather than extensive replacement and new construction.

Rehabilitation: the act or process of making possible a continuing or compatible contemporary use for a historic place, or of an individual component, through repair, alterations, and / or additions, while protecting its character-defining elements.

Rehabilitation can include replacing missing historic features. The replacement may be an accurate replica of the missing feature, or it may be a new design that is compatible with the style, era, and character of the historic place.

Restoration: the act or process of accurately revealing, recovering, or representing the state of a historic place, or of an individual component, as it appeared at the particular period in its history, while protecting its character-defining elements. Restoration includes the removal of features from other periods in its history and the reconstruction of missing periods in its history and the reconstruction of missing features from the restoration period. Restoration must be based on clear evidence and detailed knowledge of the earlier forms and materials being recovered.

Project Eligibility

Built heritage rehabilitation projects that include preservation components for heritage buildings and/or landscapes owned by or subject to a long-term lease agreement with not-for-profit organizations are eligible under the program, where the sites are:

- Designated under the *Historic Sites Protection Act* or have municipal designation under the *Municipal Heritage Preservation Act*.
- Or where the building and/or landscape can be shown to have significant community heritage value.

Rehabilitation projects that contain preservation components for publicly accessible heritage buildings or landscapes, owned by municipalities (excepting village, town or city halls), but administered by an appointed custodial group or committee that meet the above requirements, may be eligible. Active church buildings and cemetery restorations, and commercial buildings such as Bed & Breakfasts are not eligible.

For the purpose of this program, examples of character defining elements for built heritage that may be included as preservation components are:

For heritage buildings:

- Exterior wood: clapboard, weatherboard, shingles, logs and other wooden elements;
- Exterior masonry: Brick, stone, terra cotta, concrete, stucco, and mortar;
- Architectural metals: Cast Iron, steel, pressed tin, copper, aluminum, and zinc;
- Roofs;
- Windows
- Entrances and porches;
- Storefronts;
- Interiors spaces, features and finishes;
- Structural Systems;

For heritage landscapes,

- Built features: fountains, statuary, light standards, benches, other structures;
- Spatial layout;
- Planting design and vegetation.

Heritage Branch will be using *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada* produced by Heritage Places Initiative, Department of Canadian Heritage as a reference document in the administration of this program.

For further information call the Heritage Branch, Tourism, Heritage and Culture at (506) 453-2324.