



## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

# HISTORIC SAVANNAH FOUNDATION 2026 PRESERVATION AWARDS

Each year, Historic Savannah Foundation (HSF) celebrates the best of preservation by honoring projects and people whose contributions demonstrate excellence in historic preservation in Savannah and Chatham County. HSF invites you to participate by nominating individuals, organizations, and companies you believe are most deserving of these highly competitive honors.

### ELIGIBILITY

- Nominated projects must have been completed within the past three years.
- Nominations submitted previously but were not selected to receive an award may be revised, expanded, and resubmitted.
- Nominations for projects must have the consent of the owner of the property of the nomination. Self-nominations will be accepted.
- Nominations are open only to Historic Savannah Foundation members. See the nomination form for membership information.

### JUDGING CRITERIA

Award winners will have adhered to the applicable Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, or Reconstructing historic buildings. These standards can be viewed on the National Park Service website at <http://www.nps.gov/tps/standards.htm>.

Historic Savannah Foundation Preservation Awards are juried. Projects are judged based on how successfully they have achieved the preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, and interpretation of our architectural and cultural heritage. The general evaluation criteria include:

1. Quality and degree of difficulty of the nominee's project or effort.
2. Degree to which the nominee's project or effort is unusual or pioneering or serves as an example that influences good preservation practices.
3. Demonstrable or measurable impact of the nominee's project on the community.

A jury of local professionals is invited each year to review nominations for HSF's Preservation Awards. Although the composition of the jury changes from year to year, Historic Savannah Foundation strives to achieve balanced representation from the related disciplines of architecture, preservation, and planning. HSF staff are not members of the Preservation Awards jury.

## NOMINATION GUIDELINES

These categories are meant to guide applicants on the basis for which awards are given. Nominations should fall under at least one category to be eligible for an award.

**RESTORATION** – Work that allows for the depiction of a building at a particular time in its history by preserving materials from the period of significance and removing material from other periods.

**REHABILITATION** – Work that acknowledges the need to alter or add to a historic property to meet continuing or new uses while retaining the building's historic character. Adaptive use falls under this category.

**NEW CONSTRUCTION** – Work that is visually compatible in height, mass, scale, and materials with the surrounding historic buildings within the immediate context.

**STEWARDSHIP** – Work that shows consistent and careful maintenance and enhancement of a historic site or monument in Savannah or Chatham County.

**CRAFTSMANSHIP** – Work that shows mastering of a Building Arts trade that has enhanced the practice of preservation in Savannah or Chatham County.

**ARCHAEOLOGY** – Work that meets the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Archaeology on significant projects in Savannah and the surrounding historic areas.

## NOMINATION PROCEDURES & KEY DATES

Please be sure to read all guidelines and eligibility information before starting your application. **Nominations open on Monday, January 12, 2026. The deadline for all award nominations is 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 11, 2026. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Mailed entries must be postmarked by this date. Nominations that fail to meet the above requirements or do not meet the entry deadline will be ineligible.

Preservation Award recipients will be notified by **Friday, March 20, 2026**. The nominator or primary contact will be notified for those not selected. **Award announcements will be made at HSF's Preservation Awards Ceremony on Thursday, May 7, 2026.** Please hand-deliver or mail entries to:

Historic Savannah Foundation  
Attn: Preservation Awards  
321 E. York Street  
Savannah, GA 31401

## QUESTIONS

For more information, contact Kendall Graham at [kgraham@myhsf.org](mailto:kgraham@myhsf.org) or 912-233-7787. Ext. 109



# AWARD NOMINATION FORM

**\*\*ENTRY DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 11, 2026\*\***

## SUBMISSION CRITERIA & CHECKLIST

In addition to the application form, please submit the following:

- ☐ \$75 non-refundable nomination fee. (Please make checks payable to Historic Savannah Foundation).
- ☐ A concise summary (**750 words or less**) of the project, program, organization, or individual that is being nominated. **Please submit a Microsoft Word file on a thumb drive.** This description/narrative should address the following:  
  
For nominated projects or programs: explain the project, work completed, and why the project is noteworthy, including challenges overcome, unique strategies and activities carried out, impact that this project has had on the community or immediate neighborhood; as well as a BRIEF narrative describing the architectural or historical significance of the structure.
- ☐ Please include 8 – 10 specific bullet points about the project that will appear in the presentation for judging. Judges will receive all submitted materials, including the project summary, to review prior to judging, however, these bullet points are the text that will be used in the judging presentation slides along with submitted photographs.
- ☐ No more than **sixteen (16)** digital JPEG images at a **minimum resolution of 300 dpi**, including at least one wide-angle shot of the nominated building, and a document including relevant photo captions. **Please submit on the same thumb drive as your project summary and bullet points. Submissions will not be returned.** For projects, please submit “before” and “after” images that capture the essence of the project. All images should be clearly titled in the file name by address or project name and designated as “before” or “after.” Ideally, “after” images should directly relate to “before” images.
- ☐ **A Primary Contact must be identified for all nominations for projects. This person does not need to be the applicant but must be aware of the nomination. This person will be responsible for communication with other project partners.**
- ☐ Include contact information (name, phone number, and e-mail address) for Owner, Architect, Contractor, for **ALL** key project partners.

**Please submit this checklist with your application form.**



# AWARD NOMINATION FORM

## PROJECT

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**Nominee (project address and/or name)**

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**Primary Contact name**

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**Address**

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**Telephone**

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**E-mail**

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Owner name

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Address

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Telephone

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E-mail

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Architect name, Company

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Telephone

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E-mail

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Contractor name, Company

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Telephone

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E-mail

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Other project partner name(s), Company

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Telephone

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E-mail

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Nomination submitted by (name)



## AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Nominations are open only to Historic Savannah Foundation members. If you are currently a member of HSF please list the name, or company name, that the membership is listed under.

If you or your company, as the submitter of this nomination, are not a member of HSF, please select a membership level below and enclose a check for your chosen level with this nomination form. Please make checks payable to Historic Savannah Foundation. For membership information please visit [www.myhsf.org/support/](http://www.myhsf.org/support/).

### General Membership Levels:

- € Preserver (Individual) – \$65
- € Hearth (Individual) - \$150
- € Hearth (Family) – \$150
- € Conservator (Individual) – \$250
- € Artisan (Household) – \$500
- € Restorer (Household) – \$1,000
- € 1733 Society (Household) – \$2,500+

### Corporate Membership Levels:

- € Advocate – \$250
- € Protector – \$500
- € Guardian – \$1,000
- € 1733 Society – \$2,500+

### Release Authorization

The undersigned gives Historic Savannah Foundation the absolute and unqualified right to use all images, video and other materials submitted (in whole or part) in whatever manner HSF may desire, including (but not limited to) publicity, audio-visual presentation, and promotional purposes in perpetuity.

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Release authorized by

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Signature

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Name and Title / Date

**\*\*ENTRY DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 11, 2026\*\***