Historic Preservation

Master of Historic Preservation
Master of Historic Preservation/
  Master of Community Planning
  Dual Degree
Master of Historic Preservation/
  Master of Architecture
  Dual Degree
Master of Historic Preservation/
  Master of Real Estate Development
  Dual Degree
Master of Historic Preservation/
  Master of Applied Anthropology
  Dual Degree
Graduate Certificate
  in Historic Preservation
The Historic Preservation Program draws on multiple disciplines, perspectives and practices to prepare you for a career preserving our nation’s tangible and intangible heritage and finding inspired uses for these resources in today’s world.

With so many preservation organizations and agencies—local, state and federal—in the metropolitan D.C. region, you’ll learn from well-connected faculty and challenging internships that will allow you to expand and apply your knowledge and skills. Plus, you’ll find two great urban laboratories in Baltimore and Washington; places and spaces where you can explore gentrification, sustainability and other pressing issues; and a broad cultural landscape, from the Atlantic coast to the mountains of Appalachia.
Historic Preservation: Graduate Program

Virtually every class, from the introductory course to the final project, gets you out in the field and connects you to preservation issues and practice in communities and neighborhoods. You may be pressing your case on Capitol Hill as part of National Historic Preservation Advocacy Week, attending a local historic district commission meeting for your law class or visiting one of hundreds of historic properties to start a project in your historical research methods or vernacular architecture class.

We’re one of the only master of historic preservation programs in the country with a course focused on the social and ethnic issues and challenges of preservation in a diverse society. While preservation has largely been a privileged practice, this class examines what it means to preserve heritage and memories of groups that have been underrepresented and marginalized in history books.

Job placement rate
one year after graduation
85%

Year program
was founded
1988

Bachelor’s Degree
+

Master
of Historic Preservation

Size
of class per year
10-12 students

Number
of degrees awarded
180

Size
of program
2 years full-time / flexible part-time

45 graduate credits

Alumni go on to work in government, cultural resource management, architecture firms, museums, nonprofit agencies and historic sites.

Employers have included:
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Anne Arundel County, Md.
Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities
Baltimore City Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation
Baltimore Heritage
Civil War Trust
EHT Traceries
Historic New England
Maryland Historical Trust
Massachusetts Historical Commission
Montgomery County, Md.
National Park Service’s Battlefield Protection Program
New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission
North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office
Preservation Maryland
Preservation Virginia

Academic Experience
You can combine your coursework with invaluable research and field-based professional training in documentation, policy and interpretation. With our partners, such as the National Park Service, Maryland Historical Trust and local, county and city agencies, we provide unique ways to get experience in decision-making, management and conservation.

Here’s just a sample:

**Bostwick House:** This 18th-century house and its 10-acre property in nearby Bladensburg, Md., provide a living classroom for the program.

**Studio Classes in Historic Neighborhoods:** Using site analysis, historical research, geographic information system (GIS) mapping and community outreach, teams of students have developed recommendations interweaving historical tradition and legacies with future needs in neighborhoods such as Old Goucher in Baltimore and the H Street Corridor and Georgia Avenue in D.C., as well as in nearby Hyattsville and Bladensburg.
Tesfaye developed a self-guided architectural tour for The City of Frederick, Md. The brochure, which includes photos and descriptions of buildings along with a route map, allows visitors to explore the historic treasures of Frederick, located about an hour northwest of the university. Her work was part of the Partnership for Action Learning in Sustainability (PALS) program, which brings together students, expert faculty and leaders of communities across the state of Maryland to tackle their unique sustainability challenges.

Abby Tesfaye B.S. Arch. ’13, M.H.P. ’16

“I looked at other historic towns’ guides and visited Frederick to see what it had that was historic and valuable, and I did research on each site. I had a friend take photos, and then I did the layout for the brochure. I used a little of everything I knew: historic preservation, architecture and planning.”

Donald Linebaugh Ph.D.
Program Director

Linebaugh is engaged in a major research project on the 17th- to 19th-century Kippax Plantation in Hopewell, Va. Home to the Bolling and Bland families and their enslaved workers, the plantation served as an important site for provisioning trade with the region’s native peoples. Linebaugh is also exploring the design and cultural context of the early 20th-century Indian Steps Cabin in Pennsylvania. Its owner, lawyer and outdoorsman John E. Vandersloot, embedded his Indian artifact collection into the walls of the Craftsman-style dwelling. Properties like Indian Steps, Linebaugh says, “provide exciting opportunities for students to examine and interpret the material stories and histories of a site.”
Alumni Spotlight

Margaret De Arcangelis M.H.P., M.C.P. '11
Preservation Services Director,
Preservation Maryland

De Arcangelis is heavily involved in the nonprofit’s new program, “Maryland’s Six-to-Fix,” designed to help save threatened sites and structures, including Antietam Battlefield, Baltimore’s storefronts and the historic resources of Dorchester County.

“Having the opportunity to learn from preservation professionals—that’s one of the greatest things about Maryland. The fact that they’re pulling from across the region to bring in professionals who do this on a daily basis means the information students are getting is so up to date. You’re learning from people who are out in the field every day.”
Contact Us

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OFFICE HOURS
The office is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays. Enter the building using the bridge on Campus Drive (across the street from the entrance to the Parren J. Mitchell Art-Sociology Building) and walk straight ahead to reach the office.

WEBSITE
arch.umd.edu/historic-preservation