

MISSISSIPPI HERITAGE TRUST

2026 HERITAGE AWARDS

AMERICA



MISSISSIPPI

NOMINATION FORM

Submissions should be submitted to heritageawards@mississippiheritage.com
by April 30, 2026

ELIGIBILITY

- The Mississippi Heritage Awards are open to any individual, organization, business, or agency involved in historic preservation activities in Mississippi.
- Nominated projects must have been completed between January 1, 2024 through March 31, 2026.
- Submissions due April 30, 2026.
- Entries may be made without the knowledge of the nominee and self-nominations will be accepted. Entries for posthumous awards will not be accepted.
- Mississippi Heritage Trust trustees and staff are not eligible for a Heritage Award.



NOMINATION FORM

Project Name: _____

Nominee: _____

Use additional sheets to list co-nominees.

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

County: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Nomination Submitted By: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

This is a tax credit project.

Nominee knows they have been nominated.

Is this property a:

National Historic Landmark

Mississippi Landmark

Local Landmark

National Register Listed Property *Either individual or in a National Register district.*

AWARD CATEGORIES

Restoration/Rehabilitation

Restoration of a structure to an earlier appearance; or rehabilitation for a new use.

Historic Landscape/Archaeology

Restoration of a historic landscape or preservation of an archaeological resource.

Award of Excellence in Preservation Education/Media

Outstanding heritage education programs or media on historic preservation in book, brochure, curriculum, video or other form.

MHT Trustees Award for Organizational Achievement

Recognizes outstanding achievement in preservation activities by a group, business, neighborhood or other organization.

Excellence in Stewardship of Historic Sites

Recognizes sustained excellence in the preservation, management, and interpretation of a historic site or sites.

Individual Distinguished Service Award

Recognizes outstanding contributions to preservation in Mississippi by an individual.

Outstanding Achievement in Public Policy

Recognizes an outstanding contribution to historic preservation in the field of public policy.

MHT/MDAH Award for Excellence in Historic District Preservation

Recognizes the preservation efforts by a community to protect or develop historic districts.

Award for Excellence in African American Preservation

Recognizes outstanding achievement in African American preservation activities by a person, group, business, neighborhood or organization

Libby and Al Hollingsworth Award

This most prestigious award recognizes an individual's lifelong achievements and leadership in both state and national preservation arenas and their service to MHT

America 250 Award

Recognizes ongoing efforts by an individual or organization to preserve a nationally significant site that involves one or more of the America 250 themes of We the People, The Power of Place, Mississippi in the American Story and Mississippi Traditions.

RELEASE AUTHORIZATION

The undersigned gives the Mississippi Heritage Trust the absolute and unqualified right to use in whole or in part, in whatever manner the Mississippi Heritage Trust may desire, including (but not limited to) use for publicity, audiovisual presentation, and/or promotion, all photographs, videos and other materials submitted to the Mississippi Heritage Trust's Mississippi Heritage Award Program. The Mississippi Heritage Trust is hereby given permission to make any editorial changes and/or additions to the materials referred to in the paragraph above as it may deem necessary or desirable for production purposes.

Printed or typed name and title: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS

Each entry must be submitted using the entry form and include the following:

Concise Description

In 750 words or less, describe the project, organization or individual that is being nominated.

- If that nominated project involves a site or district, explain its historical significance, the challenges overcome, unique strategies and activities carried out, and the impact of these activities on the community.
- Describe the people involved and how this project could be a model for other communities. If the nominee is an individual or organization, describe accomplishments and contributions in the area of historic preservation.
- Please list any people that have made a significant contribution to the success of the project.

Photographs

Digital images of the project illustrating various aspects of the project or program.

- Images of the project should demonstrate before and after results, show interior shots from a variety of angles, and include overall exterior shots. When possible, photos should include people and activity around the site, including a shot of the project in the context of the greater community.
- Photos should be labeled and include a credit line for publication. Images should be in focus.
- Photos should be submitted in JPEG or TIFF format and at least 300 DPI. Individual files should be labeled with corresponding credit information.

Supporting Materials

Brochures or news clippings may be scanned and submitted.

Letters of recommendation that demonstrate community support may be submitted.

Note: Depending upon the applications received, awards may not be given in every category.

ENTRY PROCEDURE AND JUDGING

- All entries must be submitted on the entry form with supporting materials.
- Entries must be emailed to heritageawards@mississippiheritage.com by **April 30, 2026**.
- A jury will review all entries and reserves the right to disqualify any entry that is incomplete or does not meet the requirements. The jury's decisions are final and will be based upon the following criteria:
- For restoration/rehabilitation projects, adherence to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for rehabilitation.
- Quality and degree of difficulty of a project along with its significance.
- Impact of nominee or nominated project on the community and the degree to which it serves as an example to influence others.

HERITAGE AWARDS CELEBRATION
June 4 • 5 - 7 pm | Ole Towne Church, Brookhaven

Questions? Email the Mississippi Heritage Trust at heritageawards@mississippiheritage.com