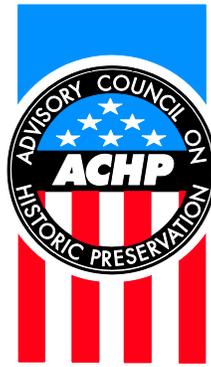


Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA
Chairman

Clement A. Price, Ph.D.
Vice Chairman

John M. Fowler
Executive Director



Preserving America's Heritage

December 20, 2012

Honorable Barbara Mikulski
Chair, Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Room S-128
The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Thad Cochran
Ranking Member, Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Room S-128
The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Mikulski and Senator Cochran:

We understand that the Senate Appropriations Committee is currently considering supplemental Disaster Assistance appropriations for 2013 intended to fund recovery efforts in the wake of the devastating effects of Hurricane Sandy in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic. Speaking as the independent federal agency charged with advising the President and Congress on historic preservation matters under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (*16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.*), the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) believes it is vitally important that this supplemental funding include money from the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) for historic preservation work and related expenses. As was done in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, such funding would be used to stabilize, repair, and rehabilitate damaged but salvageable historic buildings in affected states. Given the significant impacts on historic resources in the region, dedicated historic preservation funding is essential.

The recommended HPF funding level would also provide an administrative allocation for the State Historic Preservation Offices and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices in the affected states to expedite necessary historic preservation reviews under federal law. As the Katrina experience demonstrated, these funds are of critical importance to ensure the efficient delivery of federal disaster recovery assistance.

At its most recent meeting on November 15, 2012, the ACHP membership passed the following motion regarding support for historic preservation during Hurricane Sandy recovery:

The ACHP resolves that based on the successful model that was developed and followed for hurricane recovery after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, any supplemental funding to help respond to the catastrophic damage throughout the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic by Super Storm Sandy should include support for historic preservation work, including:

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

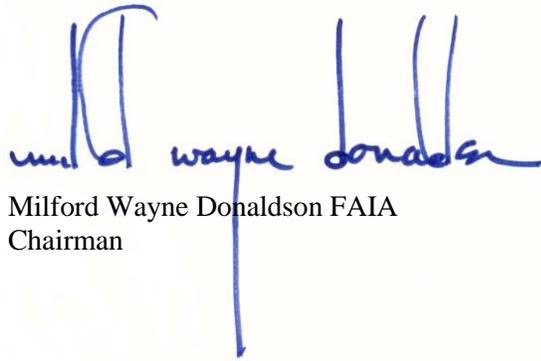
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- *Funds for survey, evaluation, stabilization, rehabilitation, and repair of historic structures and sites affected by Super Storm Sandy and listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places;*
- *Temporary increases and extension of the Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credits for both income-producing historic properties and historic principal residences in declared disaster area states and counties; and*
- *Funds for affected State Historic Preservation Offices to provide sufficient expert staff and administrative support for review of disaster recovery projects under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act at properties listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.*

We urge the Committee and the U.S. Senate to give full consideration to the needs of historic properties damaged by Hurricane Sandy so that this key element of America's communities and their historic and cultural legacy will be protected and saved for future generations.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "milford wayne donaldson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M" and "D". A vertical line extends downwards from the end of the signature.

Milford Wayne Donaldson FAIA
Chairman