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Military Memorials, Monuments, and Museums: Selected Resources for Federal, State, and Local Funding

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SUMMARY

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Military Memorials, Monuments, and Museums: Selected Resources for Federal, State, and Local Funding

This report provides selected resources to aid congressional offices with constituent grantseekers in identifying potential funding opportunities for military-related historic preservation and commemoration projects (referred to collectively in this report as "military-related initiatives"). Examples of military-related historic preservation projects include museum collections, exhibitions, and projects that explore aspects of military history. Examples of military-related commemoration projects include monuments and memorials to honor servicemembers and veterans. This report identifies potential funding opportunities at the federal, state, and local levels for military-related historic preservation and commemoration projects. It also includes sources of potential funding from private organizations, general grant resources on how to identify private organizations, relevant CRS grant products, and a table with state-level grant programs available in each state and territory.

This report is intended to serve as a guide to locating potential grant programs for military-related initiatives. It is not intended to be an exhaustively comprehensive resource on all possible funding avenues for this topic.

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Introduction

Congressional offices frequently receive requests from constituent grantseekers interested in funding for military-related historic preservation and commemoration projects (collectively referred in this report as "military-related initiatives"). Common military-related historic preservation projects desiring funding include museum exhibits or collections that highlight military history. Frequent military-related commemoration initiatives desiring funding include state, local, and private monuments and memorials to honor servicemembers and veterans. For the purposes of this report, the term "military-related commemoration initiative" does not include national monuments and memorials.

This report is intended to serve as a guide to aid congressional offices with constituent grantseekers in identifying possible sources of funding for military-related initiatives. It provides selected potential federal, state, and local governmental assistance opportunities. It also identifies selected nongovernmental sources of possible funding, general resources for identifying private grantmaking organizations, relevant CRS products on grants, and includes a table of selected state-level grant program websites available for each state and territory. Examples of previously funded military-related projects are also included throughout, where available.

The governmental resources for military historic preservation and commemoration projects constitute the bulk of this report. This portion of the report is organized into two categories: 1) "Historic Preservation Initiatives" and 2) "Commemorative Initiatives." Each category contains examples of entities and programs that are potential sources of funding for that category. There may be some overlap between the two categories, so it is possible that some programs and entities included in one category may also provide funding opportunities applicable to projects in the other category.

The governmental resources for historic preservation initiatives and commemorative initiatives are further categorized as either federal, state, or local level programs, depending on which entity is primarily responsible for the program administration, regardless of the original source of funds. For example, a grant program that is administered by a state-level entity but uses federal funds would be listed as a state-level resource. Funding for governmental grant programs is complex and varies widely by program. Identifying the funding structure for each program is beyond the scope of this report.

The remainder of the report contains resources on private organizations, CRS products, and a table of state-level grant program websites.

While the grants landscape is generally vast in scope and complexity, the narrow purposes of many grant programs—and the strong competition for funds—means that the success rate in obtaining grants may be limited. Also, note that many of the assistance programs listed here are not explicitly designed for military-centered initiatives, and there may be few (if any) funding opportunities for certain kinds of projects.

This report is not intended to be a comprehensive resource on all possible funding avenues for this topic.

Historic Preservation Initiatives

Various entities, including museums, historical societies, state and local governments, institutes of higher education, and nonprofits, may seek funding assistance for preservation projects related to military history. This section identifies possible sources of funding at the federal and state levels of government.

Federal Resources

Various federal entities may provide funding assistance for military historic preservation initiatives. Some of the programs listed below are specifically focused on military-related initiatives, while other programs focus more broadly on historic preservation initiatives. Where possible, particularly for programs with broader purposes, examples of previous funding awards for military historic preservation projects are included.

For congressional offices with constituent grantseekers seeking an introduction to the federal grants landscape, refer to CRS Report RL34012, *Resources for Grantseekers*, by Maria Kreiser, which provides an overview of federal grants, identifies the different types of entities eligible for funding, and provides key resources that may help grantseekers identify relevant federal grant opportunities.

National Endowment for the Humanities

Standing Together: The Humanities and the Experience of War
https://www.neh.gov/veterans/standing-together

Standing Together is an organization-wide initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to "promote understanding of the military experience and to support returning veterans. NEH seeks grant proposals that explore war and its aftermath, promote discussion of the experience of military service, and support returning veterans and their families."[1]

NEH has awarded numerous grant awards for military history. For example, the Virginia Historical Society received an NEH grant to assist with the preservation of its U.S. military history materials, which document the lives of soldiers primarily between 1914 and 1975.[2]

Eligibility for NEH grants varies by program, but grant awardees typically include cultural institutions such as museums, archives, libraries and institutes of higher education, and individual scholars.[3] For guidance on matching a project proposal to an NEH program, refer to https://www.neh.gov/grants/match-your-project.

National Park Service

The National Park Service (NPS) administers several grant programs to assist with historic preservation initiatives. Below are selected NPS historic preservation grant programs that may provide funding assistance for military historic preservation initiatives. For more information on the historic preservation programs of the NPS and federal historic preservation in general, refer to

[1] NEH, "Standing Together," at https://www.neh.gov/veterans/standing-together.

[2] NEH, "Preservation and Access: Military History," at https://www.neh.gov/veterans/preservation-and-access-military-history.

[3] NEH, "About the National Endowment for the Humanities," at https://www.neh.gov/about.

CRS Report R45800, *The Federal Role in Historic Preservation: An Overview*, by Mark K. DeSantis.

American Battlefield Protection Program
https://www.nps.gov/orgs/2287/index.htm

The American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) awards funding to assist with the preservation and interpretation of "significant historic battlefields and sites of armed conflict on American soil."[4] NPS offers four types of grants through this program:[5]

- Battlefield Land Acquisition Grants
- Battlefield Interpretation Grants
- Battlefield Restoration Grants
- Preservation Planning Grants

Eligibility varies by program but may include state, local, and tribal governments and nonprofit organizations[6]. For application information and guidance, visit https://www.nps.gov/orgs/2287/apply-for-grants.htm.

For additional background information on the ABPP, refer to CRS In Focus IF11329, *American Battlefield Protection Program*, by Mark K. DeSantis.

Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program[7]
https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1379/index.htm

The Japanese American Confinement Sites (JACS) grant program provides funding assistance "for the preservation and interpretation of incarceration sites where Japanese Americans were detained during World War II."[8] These sites include the ten War Relocation Authority sites, as well as other historically significant locations, as determined by the Secretary of the Interior, where Japanese Americans were detained during World War II.[9]

As an example of a project funded through the JACS program, the Alaska Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League received a JACS grant in 2021 to support an oral history project to record the stories from descendants and friends of Japanese Americans who lived in Alaska at the time of the attack on Pearl Harbor.[10]

Eligible entities are those organizations that seek to preserve Japanese American confinement sites and their history and include state and local governments, educational institutions, nonprofit organizations, and federally recognized Indian tribal governments.[11] For grant application and instructions, visit https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1379/grant-application.htm.

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[4] NPS, "What We Do," at https://www.nps.gov/orgs/2287/whatwedo.htm.

[5] NPS, "American Battlefield Protection Program," at https://www.nps.gov/orgs/2287/index.htm.

[6] NPS, "Apply for Grants," at https://www.nps.gov/orgs/2287/apply-for-grants.htm.

[7] The JACS grant program was authorized by Congress in 2006 (P.L. 109-441).

[8] NPS, "Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program," at https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1379/index.htm.

[9] See P.L. 109-441.The ten War Relocation Authority sites are Gila River, Granada, Heart Mountain, Jerome, Manzanar, Minidoka, Poston, Rohwer, Topaz, and Tule Lake.

[10] NPS, "National Park Service commemorates Asian American, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Heritage Month, Announces $3.15 million in grants to preserve and interpret World War II Japanese American Confinement Sites," press release, May 19, 2021, at https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1207/aanhpi_2021.htm.

[11] See P.L. 109-441.

Maritime Heritage Grants Program
https://www.nps.gov/subjects/maritimeheritage/maritime-heritage-grants.htm

The Maritime Heritage Grants program is administered by NPS in partnership with the Maritime Administration (MARAD). The program awards grants for initiatives that seek to promote the preservation and education of historic maritime resources.[12] As an example of a previously funded military project, the Destroyer Escort Historical Museum in Albany, New York, which houses the USS *Slater,* a World War II-era Destroyer Escort,[13] received funding to transport the ship to a new location to address preservation concerns associated with the hull and mast.[14]

Eligible entities include state and local governments, federally recognized tribes, and nonprofits.[15] For application information, visit https://www.nps.gov/maritime/grants/apply.htm.

Save America's Treasures Grant Program – Preservation Projects[16]
https://www.nps.gov/subjects/historicpreservationfund/save-americas-treasures-grants.htm

The Save America's Treasures Grant program is administered jointly by NPS, the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), and the National Endowment for the Humanities. It promotes the preservation of America's nationally significant historic properties. [17]

Grant funding is awarded for two types of projects: projects for the preservation of historic properties; and projects for collections projects, such as artifacts, museum collections, documents, and sculptures. NPS manages the preservation grants, which are reserved for properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places for national significance or listed as a national historic landmark. Grant funding for collections projects is managed by the IMLS.[18] For more information on the collections component, see "Institute of Museum and Library Services" below.

As an example of a preservation project funded under this program, the city of Detroit, Michigan received grant funding in 2021 for the rehabilitation of the Commanding Officer's House at Historic Fort Wayne.[19]

Eligible entities include nonprofit organizations, state and local governments, educational institutions, federally recognized Indian Tribes[20], Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiian Organizations.[21] For application information visit https://www.nps.gov/subjects/historicpreservationfund/sat-grant-info.htm.

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[12] NPS, "Maritime Heritage Grants," at https://www.nps.gov/subjects/maritimeheritage/maritime-heritage-grants.htm.

[13] USS *Slater*-Destroyer Escort Historical Museum at https://ussslater.org/.

[14] NPS, "National Maritime Heritage Grant Recipients," at https://www.nps.gov/maritime/grants/recipients.htm.

[15] NPS, "Maritime Heritage Grants--Who May Apply," at https://www.nps.gov/maritime/grants/pdf/WhoMayApply.pdf.

[16] The Save America's Treasures grant program is authorized under 54 U.S.C. Ch. 3089.

[17] NPS, "Save America's Treasures Grants," at https://www.nps.gov/subjects/historicpreservationfund/save-americas-treasures-grants.htm.

[18] Ibid.

[19] NPS, "National Park Service and Partner Agencies Announce $15.5 million in Save America's Treasures Grants," press release, September 10, 2021, https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1207/sat-grant-2021.htm.

[20] To search for federally recognized tribes, visit https://www.bia.gov/service/tribal-leaders-directory/federally-recognized-tribes.

[21] NPS, "Save America's Treasures Application Information," at https://www.nps.gov/subjects/historicpreservationfund/sat-grant-info.htm.

Underrepresented Communities Grant Program
https://www.nps.gov/subjects/historicpreservationfund/underrepresented-community-grants.htm

The Underrepresented Communities grant program seeks to increase the diversity of nominations to the National Register of Historic Places.[22] Potential projects include "surveys and inventories of historic properties associated with communities underrepresented in the National Register, as well as the development of nominations to the National Register for specific sites."[23]

As an example of a project funded through the Underrepresented Communities grant program, the city of Pasco, Washington, received funding to examine historic properties associated with Pasco's African-American communities and changes in the communities' population during World War II.

Eligible entities are State Historic Preservation offices, Tribal Historic Preservation Offices, federally recognized Indian Tribes, Alaska Natives Villages/Corporations, Native Hawaiian Organizations, and Certified Local Governments. For application information, visit https://www.nps.gov/subjects/historicpreservationfund/urc-grant-info.htm.

Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)

Inspire! Grants for Small Museums
https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/inspire-grants-small-museums

The Inspire! Grants for Small Museums grant program supports small museums with a variety of projects including exhibitions, digital learning resources, and collections management. For example, in FY2019, the Virginia National Guard Museum received funding for a training program to teach interns how to organize and preserve the museum's archaeology collections.[24]

Museums for America
https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/museums-america

The Museums for American grant program provides assistance to museums of any size for endeavors that promote the capacity to meet the needs of museum patrons. These grants may fund diverse projects including exhibitions, collections management, professional development and educational programs. For example, in FY2018, the Boston Athenaeum in Massachusetts received grant funding for a cataloging project of posters from the Richard W. Cheek World War II Graphic Arts collection.[25]

Museum Grants for African American History and Culture
https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/museum-grants-african-american-history-and-culture

The Museum Grants for African American History and Culture grant program provides funding to initiatives that support African American museums. Projects may include professional development, institutional capacity, and museum and archival collections at both African

[22] The National Register of Historic Places (or National Register) stands as the United States' "official list" of properties significant in "American history, architecture, archeology, engineering and culture" (54 U.S.C. §302101). The National Register is maintained by the Department of the Interior (DOI) and in particular by NPS under the authority of NHPA, as amended.

[23] NPS, "Underrepresented Community Grants," at https://www.nps.gov/subjects/historicpreservationfund/underrepresented-community-grants.htm.

[24] IMLS, "Virginia Department of Military Affairs (Virginia National Guard Museum)," at https://www.imls.gov/grants/awarded/ma-35-19-0144-19.

[25] IMLS, "Boston Athenaeum," at https://www.imls.gov/grants/awarded/ma-30-18-0320-18.

American museums and Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). For example, the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum in Houston, Texas was awarded a grant in FY2018 for a multifaceted endeavor focused on incorporating new exhibition technology, improving collection management methods, and developing educational programming.[26]

Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program
https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/native-americannative-hawaiian-museum-services-program

The Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program is designed to "support Indian Tribes and organizations that primarily serve and represent Native Hawaiians in sustaining heritage, culture, and knowledge..."[27] For example, in FY2020, the Chickaloon Native Village received funding for its Nay'dini'aa Na' Kayax Nahwgholnicde project to catalog the military contributions of Indigenous peoples and the effects of military service.[28]

Save America's Treasures—Collections Projects
https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/save-americas-treasures

IMLS administers the collections projects grants component of the NPS Save America's Treasures Grant Program. Collections must be nationally significant and include artifacts, museum collections, documents, and sculptures.[29] For example, the Naval War College Museum received funding in 2022 to inventory, catalog, and digitize its collection, which includes manuscripts, oral history interviews, books, letters, and journals related to military history.

State Resources

Various state government entities may offer funding opportunities and other assistance for military historic preservation projects. This section provides an overview of selected entities that may be sources of funding. The entities listed here are not intended to reflect a comprehensive list of all available at the state level.

Military History Grant Programs

There are several states that administer specific programs for the preservation of military history, including

- The Massachusetts State Historical Records Advisory Board administers the Veteran's Heritage Grants Program[30]
- The Tennessee War Commission administers the Civil War Sites Preservation Fund and the Tennessee Wars Commission Grant Fund[31]
- The Texas Historical Commission administers a Military Sites Program[32]

[26] IMLS, "Buffalo Soldiers National Museum," at https://www.imls.gov/grants/awarded/mh-00-18-0011-18.

[27] IMLS, "Native American/Native Hawaiian Museums Services Program," at https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/native-americannative-hawaiian-museum-services-program.

[28] IMLS, "Chickaloon Native Village," at https://www.imls.gov/grants/awarded/mn-245530-oms-20.

[29] NPS, "Save American's Treasures Grants," at https://www.nps.gov/subjects/historicpreservationfund/save-americas-treasures-grants.htm.

[30] See https://www.sec.state.ma.us/arc/arcshrab/grants-and-programs/shrab-veterans-heritage-grants.htm.

[31] See https://www.tn.gov/environment/about-tdec/grants/tennessee-wars-commission.html.

[32] The Texas Historical Commission supports projects related to preserving Texas military history but may not necessarily offer grants. See https://www.thc.texas.gov/preserve/projects-and-programs/military-history.

The majority of states do not have grant programs geared specifically towards military history, and it may be necessary for grantseekers to identify possible funding opportunities from state programs that are broader in scope.

Historic Preservation Entities

A potential source of funding for military historic preservation initiatives may be state-level agencies or other entities that focus on preserving state history. Although these entities vary widely by state, agency, department, or division names may include historical or heritage commissions, historical societies, archives, and historic or cultural resources. Although uncommon, there are some state entities that administer specific grant programs for the preservation of military history.

Grantseekers may wish to reach out to the state entity responsible for historic preservation to inquire about possible grant programs. Here are a few examples of previously awarded grants for military preservation projects:

- In 2021, the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission awarded its Cultural and Historical Support Grants to several entities, including the Braddock Battlefield History Center and the Eldred World War II Museum Inc.[33]
- The Florida Department of Environmental Protection was recommended for a Special Category Historic Preservation Grant for FY2023 from the Florida Division of Historical Resources for its restoration project of Fort Clinch State Park Barracks.[34]
- In 2018, the Fort Douglas Military Museum used grant funding from the Utah Division of Archives and Records Service for a project involving a historic map collection.[35]

See **Appendix** at the end of this report for a table of selected state- and territory-level grant program websites from state historic preservation entities. These program websites may contain funding opportunities for military historic preservation projects.

Other State Entities

While state-level agencies that focus on historic preservation initiatives are a likely source of potential funding, other state grant programs may also provide assistance for military history preservation projects. The types of state entities and programs vary widely by state. The following are examples of previously awarded funds for military projects:

- The Indiana Tourism Council (now the Indiana Destination Development Corporation) awarded the Indiana Military Museum in Vincennes a matching

[33] Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission, "The Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission Awards More Than $2 Million In Grants To Museums, Historical Organizations, Local Governments And Academic Institutions," press release, December 8, 2021, at https://www.media.pa.gov/pages/phmc-details.aspx?newsid=400.

[34] Florida Division of Historical Resources, "Special Category Historic Preservation Grants FY2023 Final Ranking Projects List," at https://files.floridados.gov/media/704898/fy2023-sc-ranking-list.pdf.

[35] Janell Tuttle, "USHRAB Grants Help Museums Organize Collections," *Utah Division of Archives and Records Service*, May 3, 2018, at https://archivesnews.utah.gov/2018/05/03/ushrab-grants-help-museums/.

grant for the creation of an interactive diorama depicting U.S. military conflicts from World War I up to the Vietnam War.[36]

- Empire State Development, an entity dedicated to economic development across New York State,[37] awarded grant funding to the Buffalo and Erie County Naval and Military Park for upgrades to the Veterans Memorial Garden and the USS *Little Rock*.[38]
- In 2020, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources awarded a Public Museum Capital grant to the Veterans Memorial Hall and Museum in Rockford, Illinois.[39]

Commemorative Initiatives

This section provides selected sources of potential government funding for state, local and private military commemorative initiatives, and includes examples of military commemorative efforts. Funding opportunities for national monuments and memorials are outside the scope of this report.[40] All references to monuments and memorials refer to state, local, and private commemorative initiatives.

In general, government funding for military commemorative initiatives is limited. At the federal level, there are no grant programs that provide direct funding specifically for military memorials or monuments. At the state and local levels, limited funding may be available for commemorative projects, but funding assistance varies widely by state and locality.

The following potential state and local government funding sources are not a comprehensive list of all possible sources of governmental funding. In addition, because government funding opportunities may be limited, it may be useful for grantseekers to solicit assistance from private entities, such as nonprofit organizations, corporations, and foundations, as well as individual donations. For example, the construction of the African American Veterans Monument, unveiled in September 2022 at the Buffalo and Erie County Naval & Military Park in Buffalo, New York, was funded by contributions from New York State, charitable donations, and private businesses[41]

Refer below to section "Nongovernmental Organizations" for examples of potential private sources of funding, and to the section "Additional Resources" for more information on how to identify private funding sources.

[36] IDDC, "Destination Development Grants Awarded to Connect Cultural Districts & Military Museum Expansion," press release, https://www.in.gov/iddc/tourism/tourism-research/news-releases/destination-development-grants-awarded-to-connect-cultural-districts-and-military-museum-expansion/.

[37] Empire State Development, "About Us," at https://esd.ny.gov/about-us.

[38] Regional Economic Development Councils, "Buffalo and Erie County Naval & Military Park Improvement Capital," at https://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/cfa/project/255824.

[39] Veterans Memorial Hall and Museum, "Illinois Department of Natural Resources Public Museum Capital Grants Program Awards Veterans Memorial Hall $192,000," press release, November 19, 2020, at http://veteransmemorialhall.com/news/21/illinois-department-of-natural-resources-public-museum-capital-grants-program-awards-veterans-memorial-hall-192-000.

[40] For further information on commemorative memorials, see CRS Report R45741, *Memorials and Commemorative Works Outside Washington, DC: Background, Federal Role, and Options for Congress*, by Jacob R. Straus and Laura B. Comay.

[41] Cathy Free, "New Monument Honors Service of Black Americans in 12 U.S. Wars," *Washington Post*, October 6, 2022, at https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/2022/10/06/buffalo-monument-black-veterans/.

State Resources

Various state government entities may administer grant programs that could potentially provide funding for military commemorative initiatives. Although some states have specific grants programs for military commemorative projects, the majority of states do not, so grantseekers may seek funding from grant programs with broader objectives. The following are examples of specific military grant programs available in certain states, as well as selected state government entities that may provide funding assistance through broader grant funding programs. This is not a comprehensive list of all possible state-level sources.

Military Commemorative Grant Programs

When soliciting funding, grantseekers may wish to determine if there are grant programs specifically for military commemorative initiatives available at the state level. The following states administer specific programs for military monuments and memorials or administer programs that explicitly state the monuments and memorials projects are eligible. For state programs that focus more broadly on military historic preservation initiatives, see "Military History Grant Programs" above.

- The Alaska Veterans Memorial Endowment Fund provides grants both for the maintenance of existing monuments and memorials and the creation of new ones to honor veterans and the military.[42]
- The Massachusetts Veterans Heritage Grant Program awards funding for the maintenance or enhancement of existing military monuments and memorials.[43]
- For fiscal years 2022 and 2023, the Minnesota Department of Administration is administering a Veterans Memorial Grants program for local units of government.[44]
- The Oregon Veterans and War Memorial Grant Program awards funding for the creation and rehabilitation of military memorials to honor Oregon military personnel and veterans.[45]

Natural Resources/Parks and Recreation Entities

Because the majority of states do not administer grant programs specifically dedicated to military commemorative initiatives, grantseekers may wish to seek opportunities from broader state-level grant programs. One possible source of state grants for military monuments and memorials may be state natural resources department or similar entities, such as parks and recreation departments. Since many military monuments and memorials are installed in parks or other public spaces, these projects may be eligible for outdoor and recreation-oriented grants offered by these state agencies. Refer to the examples below of previously awarded grants from these types of state entities:

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[42] Alaska State Office of Veterans Affairs, "Veterans Memorial Endowment Fund," at https://veterans.alaska.gov/endowment-fund/.

[43] Massachusetts State Historic Records Advisory Board, "Veterans Heritage Grants," at https://www.sec.state.ma.us/arc/arcshrab/grants-and-programs/shrab-veterans-heritage-grants.htm.

[44] Minnesota Department of Administration, "Competitive Grant Opportunities," at https://mn.gov/admin/government/grants/arts-cultural-heritage-fund/competitive-grants/.

[45] Oregon Heritage, "Grants," at https://www.oregon.gov/oprd/OH/Pages/Grants.aspx.

- In 2020, the California Department of Parks and Recreation awarded funds to the City of Santa Maria Recreation and Parks Department for improvements to the city's Veterans Memorial Park, including the addition of a memorial garden to honor veterans.[46]
- In 2019, the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism awarded a Park and Recreation Development grant to Bamberg County to build a Veterans Memorial Park with benches dedicated to Bamberg County veterans.[47]
- In 2019, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources approved a NatureWorks grant for the village of Attica for the development of Attica's Veterans Memorial Park project. The initiative proposed the addition of memorials and flags in honor of the U.S. Armed Forces, benches for reflection, and remembrance bricks in honor of local veterans.[48]

Refer to the **Appendix** at the end of this report for a selected list of state- and territory-level grant program websites from state parks and recreation entities. These program websites may contain grant opportunities for military commemorative initiatives.

Other State Entities

State-level parks and recreation entities are not the only potential sources of possible state government funding. Because state entities and programs vary so widely by state, there is no comprehensive list of all possible state-level sources. Grantseekers might consider making inquiries with the state entities listed in the "State Resources" for military historic preservation initiatives, and also search for state grant programs with broader purposes and objectives. For example, the Connecticut Office of Policy and Management Approved a Small Town Economic Assistance Program grant in 2022 for the town of Harwinton, Connecticut to support upgrades to the town's Veterans War Memorial.[49]

Local Resources

Local units of governments, such as municipalities or counties, may also be possible sources of funding for military commemorative initiatives. Grantseekers may wish to reach out to local bodies such as town councils, local parks and recreation departments, and county governments to discuss potential funding opportunities. The following example projects received assistance from local governments:

- In 2021, the San Diego County Government in California, through its Neighborhood Reinvestment Program awarded the Rotary Club of Vista,

[46] Patricia Martellotti, "Santa Maria Gets $2 Million Grant to Remodel Veterans Memorial Park," *News Channel 12 3 11*, March 5, 2020, at https://keyt.com/lifestyle/community/2020/03/05/santa-maria-gets-2-million-grant-to-remodel-veterans-memorial-park/.

[47] Bamberg County Government, "Bamberg County Citizens Work Together to Create Veterans Memorial Park," press release, December 3, 2018, at https://www.bambergcountysc.gov/bamberg-county-citizens-work-together-to-create-veterans-memorial-park.

[48] Seneca County Government, "Attica Veterans Memorial Development to Get $83,380 Grant," press release, November 19, 2019, at https://senecacountyohio.gov/3036-2/.

[49] Connecticut Office of the Governor, "Governor Lamont Approves $31.3 Million in State Grants to 77 Small Towns for Infrastructure Improvements," press release, September 19, 2022, at https://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/News/Press-Releases/2022/09-2022/Governor-Lamont-Approves-State-Grants-to-77-Towns-for-Infrastructure-Improvements.

California a grant to complete the Vista Military Memorial Wall, which honors the military service of Vista Residences from all military branches.[50]

- Providence City Council in Rhode Island provided monetary assistance in 2019 to the Downton Providence Parks Conservancy for a project to restore Rhode Island's Soldiers and Sailors Monument.[51]
- The City of Norwalk, Connecticut, through its Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Affairs Committee and Veterans Committee, provided funding for the creation of a monument to honor the city's Purple Heart recipients.[52]
- In September 2021, the Pensacola City Council in Florida agreed to award funds for both the creation of a monument honoring women veterans as well as a statue in honor of General Daniel "Chappie" James, the first African American to become a four-star General in the U.S. Air Force.[53]

Nongovernmental Organizations

In addition to government funding opportunities, private entities may also be a potential source of funding for military historic preservation and commemoration projects. The following entities are examples of organizations that might provide financial assistance or general support for military-related initiatives. This is not an exhaustive list of all possible private funding resources.

Community-based Organizations

Community-based organizations, such as the Rotary Club, Lions Club, and Kiwanis Club, may be able to provide funding for military-related initiatives or serve as fundraising partners, particularly for commemorative projects that seek to honor military personnel and veterans. Refer to the following examples from some community-based organizations.

- As of May 2022, numerous Lions Club chapters are listed among the donors for a veteran monuments restoration project in Waconia, Michigan.[54]
- In 2022, the Lincoln East Rotary Club donated funds to help maintain and enhance the Veterans Memorial Garden in Lincoln, Nebraska.[55]

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[50] Linda McIntosh, "Rotary Club Receives Grant to Finish Military Memorial Wall Project," *The San Diego Tribune*, May 14, 2021, at https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/north-county-community-news/story/2021-05-14/rotary-club-receives-grant-to-finish-military-memorial-wall-project.

[51] Providence City Council, "City Council Awards $50K to Help Restore Soldiers and Sailors Monument in Kennedy Plaza," press release, January 24, 2019, at https://council.providenceri.gov/2019/01/24/city-council-awards-50k-to-help-restore-soldiers-and-sailors-monument-in-kennedy-plaza/.

[52] Abigail Brone, "Norwalk Secures Funding for Purple Heart Monument at Veteran's Park," *The Hour*, September 20, 2021, at https://www.thehour.com/news/article/Norwalk-secures-funding-for-Purple-Heart-monument-16473771.php.

[53] Jim Little, "Pensacola Agrees to Help Fund Gen. 'Chappie' James Statue and Women Veterans Monument," *Pensacola News Journal*, September 9, 2021, at https://www.pnj.com/story/news/local/pensacola/2021/09/09/pensacola-help-fund-chappie-james-statue-and-womens-veteran-monument/5776042001/.

[54] Al Lohman, "Work on Monument Progresses as Funding Grows," *SunPatriot Newspapers*, May 26, 2022, at https://www.hometownsource.com/sun_patriot/community/work-on-monument-progresses-as-funding-grows/article_ed07382a-dcf1-11ec-b1c6-3fc33e420920.html.

[55] Maggie Stuckey-Ross, "East Rotary Donates $50K to Veterans Memorial Garden," *Lincoln Journal Star*, April 1, 2022, at https://journalstar.com/niche/neighborhood-extra/east-rotary-donates-50k-to-veterans-memorial-

- In 2020, the Bowling Green chapter of the Kiwanis Club in Ohio donated $5,000 for the construction of a Veterans Memorial plaza in Wood County.[56]

Foundations

Private, corporate, and community foundations are possible sources of nongovernmental funding for grantseekers. As defined by the Council on Foundations,[57] a foundation "supports charitable activities by making grants to unrelated organizations or institutions or to individuals for scientific, educational, cultural, religious, or other charitable purposes."[58] Foundations narrowly focused on military issues, as well as foundations with broader scopes, may be able to provide assistance for military-related projects.

An example of a foundation with a focus on military initiatives is the Pritzker Military Foundation, a component of the Pritzker Military Museum and Library.[59] This foundation provides grant funding for projects related to preserving and promoting military history and supporting servicemembers and veterans.[60] For 2021, the foundation has allocated grant funding in numerous areas, including military history, cultural institutions, and historic preservation.[61] For the latest application information, visit https://www.pritzkermilitaryfoundation.org/apply/.

Grantseekers may also seek funding assistance from foundations that have broader missions, such as regional foundations. For example, in 2020 the Carlsbad Community Foundation in New Mexico awarded a grant to the Carlsbad Veterans Memorial Park Committee for the purchase of a Vietnam-era combat helicopter.[62]

For informational resources on foundations, see "Additional Resources" below.

Humanities Councils

Humanities councils are independent, nonprofit entities affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities to promote the humanities within each state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa. To encourage public awareness of the humanities, these councils administer various types of grant programs.[63] These organizations may provide funding for military-related initiatives. For example, in 2021 the organization Colorado Humanities, through their Sustaining the Humanities

garden/article_1cd72219-1bb6-516d-b15b-57178a1f67ca.html.

[56] Jan Larson McLaughlin, "BG Kiwanis Club Donates to New Wood County Veterans Memorial," *BG Independent News*, January 16, 2020, at https://bgindependentmedia.org/bg-kiwanis-club-donates-to-new-wood-county-veterans-memorial/.

[57] The Council on Foundations is a nonprofit membership association. See more at https://cof.org/about.

[58] Council on Foundations, "Foundation Basics," at https://cof.org/content/foundation-basics.

[59] See https://www.pritzkermilitary.org/.

[60] Pritzker Military Foundation, "Our Focus," at https://www.pritzkermilitaryfoundation.org/our-focus/.

[61] Pritzker Military Foundation, "Our Grants," at https://www.pritzkermilitaryfoundation.org/our-grants/.

[62] Carlsbad Community Foundation, "Carlsbad Community Foundation Announces Grant Award to Benefit Carlsbad Veterans Memorial Park," press release, June 25, 2020, at https://carlsbadfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Foundation-Announces-Grant-Award-to-Benefit-Carlsbad-Veterans-Memorial-Park.pdf.

[63] NEH, "Office of Federal/State Partnership," at https://www.neh.gov/divisions/fedstate.

awarded the Broomfield Veterans Museum a grant through the American Rescue Plan grants program.[64]

For contact and website information for the humanities councils in each state and territory, visit https://www.neh.gov/about/state-humanities-councils.

Veterans Service Organizations

Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs) are "organizations that aid and serve veterans, servicemembers, dependents, and survivors."[65] For military commemorative initiatives, grantseekers may wish to reach out to local chapters as potential fundraising partners. For example, a Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) post in Pawcatuck, Connecticut partnered with the town of Stonington to raise funds for the creation of a veterans' monument dedicated to the Stonington residents who have served in the armed forces since World War I.[66]

For more information on VSOs, refer to CRS Report R46412, *Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs): Frequently Asked Questions*, by Tamar B. Breslauer and Carol D. Davis.

Additional Resources

The following selected resources may help grantseekers identify additional sources of grant funding.

Candid

https://candid.org/

Candid is an information portal that serves as a gateway to the foundation grantseeking process. Users can identify private funding sources (including national, state, community, and corporate foundations), explore online training modules, and access guidelines on grant writing proposals.

Candid has a network of local libraries, community foundations, and other nonprofit resource centers that provide full public access to their subscription database, *The Foundation Directory Online*. See their Funding Information Network page to find a local participating organization, https://candid.org/improve-your-nonprofit/funding-information-network.

State Grant Resources (The Grantsmanship Center)

https://www.tgci.com/funding-sources

The State Grant Resources tool from the Grantsmanship Center lists the top grantmaking, community, and corporate foundations for each state.

Community Foundation Locator (Council on Foundations)

https://www.cof.org/page/community-foundation-locator

[64] Colorado Humanities, "Announcing 79 New Grant Recipients," press release, October 19, 2021, at https://coloradohumanities.org/programs/sustaining-the-humanities-through-the-american-rescue-plan/.

[65] CRS Report R46412, *Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs): Frequently Asked Questions*, by Tamar B. Breslauer and Carol D. Davis.

[66] Joe Wojtas, "Stonington Holding Fundraisers for Veterans' Monument," *The Day*, November 20, 2021 at https://www.theday.com/local-news/20211120/stonington-holding-fundraisers-for-veterans-monument/.

The Community Foundation Locator from the Council on Foundations is an interactive map that allows users to find community foundations across the United States. Community foundations are grantmaking public charities that operate within a specific geographic area and work to provide funding to nonprofit organizations in their communities.[67]

Relevant CRS Reports

The following CRS reports are also freely available to the public at https://crsreports.congress.gov/.

CRS Report RL32159, *How to Develop and Write a Grant Proposal*, by Maria Kreiser

CRS Report RL34012, *Resources for Grantseekers*, by Maria Kreiser

CRS Report R45800, *The Federal Role in Historic Preservation: An Overview*, by Mark K. DeSantis

CRS In Focus IF11329, *American Battlefield Protection Program*, by Mark K. DeSantis

CRS Report R46813, *Department of Veterans Affairs: Burial Benefits and the National Cemetery Administration*, by Heather M. Salazar and Tamar B. Breslauer[68]

[67] Council on Foundation, "Community Foundations," at https://www.cof.org/foundation-type/community-foundations-taxonomy.

[68] This CRS report contains information about the VA's Veterans Cemetery Grant program, which provides assistance to states, federally recognized tribes, and U.S. territories for "establishing (or improving) state and tribal veterans cemeteries."

Appendix. State and Territory Grant Programs

This table contains selected state and territory grant program websites. These websites may contain information on grant programs that may offer funding assistance for military-related initiatives. CRS identified grant program websites from departments and agencies with purposes related to parks and recreation, natural resources, historic preservation, and other similar entities. This table is not a comprehensive list of all state and territory grant program websites.

Table A-1. Selected Grant Resources by State/Territory

State/ Territory	State Government Grant Websites
AK	**Alaska Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation** http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/grants/index.htm
	Alaska Office of History and Archaeology http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha/designations/grants.htm
AL	**Alabama Historical Commission** https://ahc.alabama.gov/Resources/grants.aspx
AR	**Arkansas Heritage Division** https://www.arkansasheritage.com/available-grants/division-of-arkansas-heritage-grants
	Arkansas Historic Preservation Program https://www.arkansasheritage.com/arkansas-preservation/about/available-grants
	Arkansas State Archives https://www.arkansasheritage.com/arkansas-state-archives/arkansas-state-archives-about/available-grants
AS	**American Samoa Historic Preservation Office** Phone: (684) 699-2316
AZ	**Arizona State Parks and Trails** https://azstateparks.com/grants/
CA	**California Department of Parks and Recreation** https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=29752
	California Natural Resources Agency https://resources.ca.gov/grants
	California Office of Historic Preservation https://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=1073
CO	**Colorado Parks and Wildlife Department** https://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/GrantPrograms.aspx
	History Colorado https://www.historycolorado.org/grants-incentives
CT	**Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development** https://portal.ct.gov/DECD/Content/Historic-Preservation/02_Review_Funding_Opportunities/Grant-Opportunities/

State/ Territory	State Government Grant Websites
DC	**District of Columbia Office of Planning** https://planning.dc.gov/page/preservation-grants
DE	**Delaware Heritage Commission** https://heritage.delaware.gov/grants/
	Delaware Division of Parks and Recreation https://destateparks.com/Know/Grants
FL	**Florida Department of Environmental Protection** https://floridadep.gov/Grants
	Florida Division of Historical Resources https://dos.myflorida.com/historical/grants/
GA	**Georgia Department of Community Affairs** https://www.dca.ga.gov/georgia-historic-preservation-division/tax-incentives-grants/georgia-heritage-grant-0
	Georgia Department of Natural Resources https://gadnr.org/grants
GU	**Guam State Historic Preservation Office** https://historicguam.net/
HI	**Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts** https://sfca.hawaii.gov/grants/
IA	**Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs** https://iowaculture.gov/about-us/about/grants
	Iowa Department of Natural Resources https://www.iowadnr.gov/About-DNR/Grants-Other-Funding
ID	**Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation** https://parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/grants-and-funding/
	Idaho State Historical Society https://history.idaho.gov/grants/
IL	**Illinois Department of Natural Resources** https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/grants/Pages/default.aspx
IN	**Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology** https://www.in.gov/dnr/historic-preservation/help-for-owners/financial-assistance/grants/
	Indiana Division of Outdoor Recreation https://www.in.gov/dnr/outdoor-recreation/grants/outdoor-recreation-grants/
KS	**Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks** https://ksoutdoors.com/KDWP-Info/Grants
	Kansas Historical Society https://www.kshs.org/p/kansas-historical-society-grants/18575
KY	**Kentucky Historical Society** https://history.ky.gov/participate/support-local-history

State/ Territory	State Government Grant Websites
LA	**Louisiana Office of Cultural Development** https://www.crt.state.la.us/cultural-development/historic-preservation/grants/index
	Louisiana Office of State Parks https://www.lastateparks.com/grant-opportunities-for-outdoor-recreation
MA	**Massachusetts State Historic Records Advisory Board** https://www.sec.state.ma.us/arc/arcshrab/shrab-grants-and-programs.htm
	Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs https://www.mass.gov/land-and-recreation-grants-loans
	Massachusetts Historical Commission https://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc/mhcmppf/mppfidx.htm
ME	**Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands** https://www.maine.gov/dacf/parks/grants/index.shtml
	Maine Historic Preservation Commission https://www.maine.gov/mhpc/programs/grants
MD	**Maryland Department of Natural Resources** https://dnr.maryland.gov/Pages/grantsandloans.aspx
	Maryland Historical Trust https://mht.maryland.gov/grants.shtml
MH	**Marshall Islands State Historic Preservation Office**[a] Phone: 011-692-625-4642 Email: rmihpo@ntamar.net
MI	**Michigan Department of Natural Resources** https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-350-79134_81684---,00.html
MN	**Minnesota Department of Administration** https://mn.gov/admin/government/grants/arts-cultural-heritage-fund/competitive-grants/
	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/recreation/index.html
MO	**Missouri State Parks** https://mostateparks.com/page/55065/outdoor-recreation-grants
MP	**Northern Marianas Islands Department of Community and Cultural Affairs** http://dcca.gov.mp/
MS	**Mississippi Department of Archives and History** https://www.mdah.ms.gov/taxonomy/term/67
	Mississippi Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks https://www.mdwfp.com/parks-destinations/outdoor-recreational-grants/

State/ Territory	State Government Grant Websites
MT	**Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks** https://fwp.mt.gov/aboutfwp/grant-programs/
	Montana Historical Society https://mhs.mt.gov/Shpo/RMRH/
NC	**North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources** https://www.ncdcr.gov/resources/grants
	North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office https://www.ncdcr.gov/about/history/division-historical-resources/nc-state-historic-preservation-office/grants-historic
ND	**North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department** https://www.parkrec.nd.gov/business/grants
	North Dakota State Historical Society https://www.history.nd.gov/hp/grants.html
NE	**Nebraska Game and Parks Commission** http://outdoornebraska.gov/grants/
NH	**New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources** https://www.nh.gov/nhdhr/grants/
	New Hampshire Division of Parks and Recreation https://www.nhstateparks.org/about-us/trails-bureau/grants
NJ	**New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection** https://www.nj.gov/dep/grantandloanprograms/
	New Jersey Historic Trust https://www.nj.gov/dca/njht/programs/overview/
NM	**New Mexico Historic Preservation Division** http://www.nmhistoricpreservation.org/programs/grants.html
NV	**Nevada State Historic Preservation Office** https://shpo.nv.gov/homepage/commission-for-cultural-centers-and-historic-preservation-ccchp
	Nevada Division of State Parks http://parks.nv.gov/about/grant-programs
NY	**New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation** https://parks.ny.gov/grants/grant-programs.aspx
OH	**Ohio History Connection** https://www.ohiohistory.org/preserve/local-history-services/history-fund
	Ohio Department of Natural Resources https://ohiodnr.gov/wps/portal/gov/odnr/buy-and-apply/apply-for-grants/grants
OK	**Oklahoma Historical Society** https://www.okhistory.org/about/grants
OR	**Oregon Parks and Recreation Department** https://www.oregon.gov/oprd/gra/pages/gra-overview.aspx

State/ Territory	State Government Grant Websites
PA	**Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources** https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Communities/Grants/Pages/default.aspx
	Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission https://www.phmc.pa.gov/Preservation/Grants-Funding/Pages/default.aspx
PR	**Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office** https://oech.pr.gov/Pages/default.aspx
RI	**Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management** http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/planning/grants/
	Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission https://preservation.ri.gov/preserve-protect/financial-assistance/grants
SC	**South Carolina Department of Archives and History** https://scdah.sc.gov/historic-preservation/programs/grants
	South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism https://www.scprt.com/grants
SD	**South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks** https://gfp.sd.gov/partnerships/
	South Dakota State Historical Society https://history.sd.gov/preservation/fundingopportunities.aspx
TN	**Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation** https://www.tn.gov/environment/program-areas/res-recreation-educational-services/res-recreation-educational-services-grants0.html
	Tennessee Historical Commission https://www.tn.gov/historicalcommission/federal-programs.html
TX	**Texas Historical Commission** https://www.thc.texas.gov/preserve/projects-and-programs
	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department https://tpwd.texas.gov/business/grants/
UT	**Utah Division of Archives and Records Service** https://archives.utah.gov/USHRAB/grants.html
	Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation https://stateparks.utah.gov/resources/grants/
VA	**Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation** https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/grants-funding
	Virginia Department of Historic Resources https://www.dhr.virginia.gov/grants/
VI	**Virgin Islands State Historic Preservation Office** https://dpnr.vi.gov/vi-state-historic-preservation/

State/ Territory	State Government Grant Websites
VT	**Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development** https://accd.vermont.gov/historic-preservation/funding
	Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation, Agency of Natural Resources https://fpr.vermont.gov/about/grants
WA	**Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation** https://dahp.wa.gov/grants-and-funding/grants-contracts
	Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office https://rco.wa.gov/recreation-and-conservation-office-grants/
WI	**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources** https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/aid/Grants.html
WV	**West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History** https://wvculture.org/agencies/archives-and-history/grants-provided/
WY	**Wyoming Department of State Parks & Cultural Resources** https://wyospcr.wyo.gov/index.php/administration/grants

Source: Table compiled by CRS from various state and territory government websites and the National Park Service website "State Historic Preservation Offices."

Notes: For states or territories where no grants program website was identified, the website or contact information of the State Historic Preservation Office is provided if available.

a. Contact information for the Marshall Islands State Historic Preservation Office was identified from the NPS website "State Historic Preservation Offices" at https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/state-historic-preservation-offices.htm.

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