



# New Historic District Sign Project

By Angie Schmidt

After every House & Garden Tour, I am asked, “What do you DO with the money?” My usual answer is that we use it for things like our office space and bookkeeper and fun things like this newsletter and rental space and refreshments for our events. But we also save for occasional important projects. The CHRS Board has decided that the time has come to use our funds on Historic District signage.

We have noticed that many of the signs in the Capitol Hill historic district have become extremely faded or have other issues—see the photo below! We are going to have replacement signs printed and installed. They will look exactly the same as the old ones.

And as you also know, we have been paying close attention to the development of the RFK site and are concerned about the impact this will have on our neighborhood. But we have also been thinking about how this will impact our close neighbor—the Kingman Park historic district (KPHD). While it was designated in 2018, KPHD has never had signs installed so many people do not know of its existence. One of its borders is Oklahoma Avenue NE, which is right up against the RFK site.

The CHRS Board voted to lend a hand to the KPHD by paying for the printing and installation of Kingman Park Historic District signs, while we are working on the Capitol Hill signs. I have met with the board of Friends of Kingman Park and also presented this idea to the Kingman Park community meeting. The response was 100% positive.

We are looking for volunteers to help in this effort. Friends of Kingman Park will be identifying intersections that should have signs, but we also need help identifying historic district signs that are missing, faded or hanging on by a thread in the Capitol Hill historic

One of many Capitol Hill Historic District signs in need of replacement.

### Summer Membership Meeting

Mark your calendars for June 29 for our Summer membership meeting to announce the results of the elections to the CHRS Board of Directors. Details TBD.

district. Photos are helpful, as are addresses with the basic cross street information. Send these to [caphrs420@gmail.com](mailto:caphrs420@gmail.com). We would like to get the signs into production before the end of the summer so that they can all be installed before the end of 2026. ★

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IMAGE COURTESY CHRS



# Reception Celebrates Winners of 2026 Photo Contest

By Libby Quaid

We were thrilled to gather with this year's Capitol Hill photo contest winners to celebrate the places and people who make our neighborhood fantastic.

Thank you to Chuck Burger and Coldwell Banker Capitol Hill for hosting last month's reception and to our judges Gary Mintz, William Hauck, Joe Himali and Marianna Sotomayor. You'll find the photos in the Coldwell Banker windows near Eastern Market.

The photos highlight the beauty in everyday DC moments: row houses, light, architecture, streetscapes, and community. See all the winning photos at: [chrs.org/2026-photo-contest-winners](https://chrs.org/2026-photo-contest-winners). ★



IMAGE COURTESY LIBBY QUOID

TOP LEFT: "Night Sky" by Michael Bowers.

BOTTOM LEFT: "Capitol Hill in Color" by Shelby Swiney.

TOP RIGHT: "Our Library's Glow-up" by Donna McLean.

BOTTOM RIGHT: The 2026 CHRS Photo Contest Winners (front row): Bob Dardano, First Place Winner Jasmine Padgett, Shelby Swiney, Mike Bowers, Donna McLean; (back row) Patti Martin, Ragnar Thoresen.

# Capitol Hill Restoration Society (CHRS)

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\* Chair is an appointed Board Member

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Marianne Klein and Kelly Vielmo, Editors

## WEBMASTER

Vacant

## OFFICE MANAGER

Jill Uvena Cullinane

To reach any of the above, please contact the CHRS office at (202) 543-0425 or via e-mail at: caphrs420@gmail.com.

## ABOUT CHRS

The Capitol Hill Restoration Society is a nonprofit, volunteer organization devoted to protecting, preserving, and celebrating our historic Capitol Hill neighborhood.

Founded in 1955, CHRS is a pioneer in the urban preservation movement. CHRS was instrumental in securing Capitol Hill's designation in 1976 as a national historic district. Since then, CHRS has worked continuously to protect historic spaces and to enhance life on the Hill.

CHRS is driven by members who love their neighborhood and want to preserve and share the dynamic story of Capitol Hill for future generations. Come join us!

Learn more and join at [chrs.org](http://chrs.org)

# Join Us for the Capitol Hill Community 4th of July Parade

By Elizabeth Nelson

It's that time of year again! The Jeanne Phil Meg Team at Compass Real Estate is organizing the annual Capitol Hill Community 4th of July Parade. As in past years, CHRS will participate and we invite all of you to march with us!

We need to report for duty (and get our group photo) at 9:30 am near the underpass on 8th Street and Virginia Avenue SE. The parade will step off at 10 am, led by the Eastern High School band, The Blue and White Marching Machine. We'll have lollipops to distribute along the parade route, which extends north on 8th Street to D Street, where marchers turn left at the corner and disband.

We'd love to have as many members as possible join us—and invite their friends, neighbors,

and anyone else with an interest in community fun—the more the merrier. An RSVP is not required but if you know you're coming, please feel free to send an email to [Elizabeth\\_knits@yahoo.com](mailto:Elizabeth_knits@yahoo.com) with "July 4th Volunteer" in the subject line.

We look forward to seeing you at the parade! ★



IMAGES COURTESY CHRS

# Historic Preservation Briefs

By Beth Purcell

The Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB or the Board), considered the following cases at its virtual hearing on April 23, 2026. HPRB is responsible for determining if proposed changes to a building are consistent with the DC Preservation Act. A “concept review” is a preliminary determination

of a building owner’s plan to alter the building, and if the concept is approved, the owner will return to the HPRB for a final review.

The Board approved the following cases on its consent calendar:

- **1341 A Street NE**, HPA 26-214, permit/construct two story garage.

- **1320 A Street SE**, HPA 26-211, permit/rear addition and second story addition to garage. (The Board allowed testimony from two neighbors in opposition to the rear addition but determined it to be compatible with the Capitol Hill Historic District.) ★

## Thank You, CHRS Supporters!

CHRS wishes to thank the following donors for their invaluable support:

### CONTRIBUTORS

#### General Donations

David Moore  
Scott Roberts

#### House Tour

Kathryn Fitrell  
Matthild Schneider

### MEMBERSHIPS

#### Individual

Lauren Axley  
Elizabeth Barnett  
Hannah Fluker Davis  
Andrea Delaney  
Carol Edwards  
Joan Fallows  
Wayne Kehoe  
Michael Lesley  
Virginia McMullan  
Patricia Molumby  
Ana Maria Muniz-Leen  
Scott Roberts  
Matthild Schneider  
Carlynn Spring  
Catherine Sugg

#### Household

Abigail Agresta  
Paul & Eileen Dougherty  
Scott & Heather Knight  
Thea Kreis  
Peter & Cindy Malvicini  
Donna McLean & Marcus Peacock  
Claire Moser & Sam Ferenc  
Monica Plisch  
Jason & Stacey Secrest  
Alicia Smith & Brett Seifried  
Mary Tarnowka & R Lance Minor  
Paul Turczynski

#### Bronze

Peggy & Bill Dickson  
Michael & Barbara Eck  
Alison “Kim” Hoagland  
Barry W. Johnson &  
Edward Chapman  
James & Mary Lischer

#### Silver

Lynne Church  
Jeff Fletcher & Tara Hamilton  
Barry and Sandra Harrelson  
David Moore  
Martha Pope

#### Gold

Etta Fielek

Interested in learning more about historic district designation?

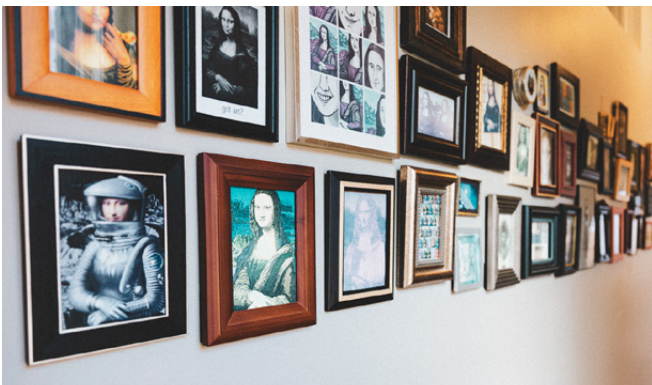
Contact CHRS at [info@chrs.org](mailto:info@chrs.org).

# The 2026 House & Garden Tour

By Fynnette Eaton, Jackie Krieger, and Angie Schmidt

We had a great time on May 9 and 10! Beautiful cool weather, another 1,300 visitors, and no major mishaps! Thank you to all the home owners, house captains, and the multitudes of docents who made this all possible. ★

Thank you to photographer Sarah Lauck for these wonderful shots from the 2026 House and Garden Tour.



# Historic Homeowner District Grant Program

By Marianne Klein

Does the façade of your Capitol Hill home need a glow up? Perhaps the gutter framing your row home is sagging and worn with age or your front stoop has seen better days? DC Office of Planning provides Homeowner Grants to income-qualifying homeowners in all DC historic districts to fund exterior and structural renovations. While the maximum grant of \$50,000 can't be applied to an interior spa—or HVAC systems, plumbing, interior finishes, or new additions—the money can be used for eligible restorations and repairs of historic houses.

First, who qualifies:

**The home must be in the Historic District.** To check the address, visit: [propertyquest.dc.gov](https://propertyquest.dc.gov). Non-contributing houses—modern houses not built during a historic time period—do not qualify.

**The house must be the owner's primary residence.** The house must receive the Homestead Deduction for property taxes. Since the 2020s, new DC home purchases are no longer automatically given the Homestead Deduction, which reduces DC property taxes for any eligible DC homeowner's primary residence. To find out more and apply go to: [otr.cfo.dc.gov/page/real-property-tax-reliefs-credits-and-deductions](https://otr.cfo.dc.gov/page/real-property-tax-reliefs-credits-and-deductions).

**Grantees must obtain a Clean Hands Certificate.** Basically, this means you have no outstanding fees owed to DC.

**Total household income must be less than 120% of the area median income.** See the table on this page for more information.

Historic Homeowner Grant Program  
2024 Eligibility and Match Requirement Table

When submitting income information on the grant application, use the most recent tax year filed. For Total income, use your IRS 1040, Line 8. Include all tax filings made by members of your household, even if filed separately. This grant will require some grant recipients to match the grant with their own money. Depending on the applicant's gross household income the match requirement can be as high as 50% of project costs. If your household has more than 8 people, contact the DC Historic Preservation Office at 202-741-5248.

Number of people in household	Category 1 0% match required	Category 2 25% match required	Category 3 50% match required	Ineligible
1	\$64,974 or below	\$64,975 to \$97,461	\$97,462 to \$129,948	\$129,949 and above
2	\$74,256 or below	\$74,257 to \$111,384	\$111,385 to \$148,512	\$148,513 and above
3	\$83,538 or below	\$83,539 to \$125,307	\$125,308 to \$167,076	\$167,077 and above
4	\$92,820 or below	\$92,821 to \$139,230	\$139,231 to \$185,640	\$185,641 and above
5	\$102,102 or below	\$102,103 to \$153,153	\$153,154 to \$204,204	\$204,205 and above
6	\$111,384 or below	\$111,385 to \$167,076	\$167,077 to \$222,768	\$222,769 and above
7	\$120,666 or below	\$120,667 to \$180,999	\$181,000 to \$241,332	\$241,333 and above
8	\$129,948 or below	\$129,949 to \$194,922	\$194,923 to \$259,896	\$259,897 and above

Total income amounts are based on annual updates from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that measure median family income in the Washington Metropolitan Statistical Area. The median in 2024 was \$154,700.

The Grants are awarded on a competitive basis with project priority based on the benefits to historic preservation and the community.

The application process is in two parts, the first is short and will help homeowners determine if they are eligible. Photos and a description of the project are required: [planning.dc.gov/service/historic-homeowner-grant-program](https://planning.dc.gov/service/historic-homeowner-grant-program).

If deemed eligible, homeowners will receive Part 2 of the application where more information is needed, including work estimates from contractors based on an

Second, what qualifies:

- Reconstruction of missing exterior ornaments and components.
- Repair of original front windows and doors.
- Repair or reconstruction of front porches and stairs.
- Replacement of non-historic windows and doors with historic materials and styles.
- Repair, replacement, and painting of wood siding and trim.
- Repair and replacement of visibly prominent roofs.
- Only interior item eligible is a major structural repair.

itemized Work Request provided by DC's Historic Preservation Office and a copy of the previous year's federal tax return indicating total household income.

Grantees must find their own licensed contractor, manage the work, agree to maintain all grant work in good repair for 10 years, and, depending upon household income, match the grant by paying for a share of the work. ★

**CELEBRATE USA'S 250<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY AT  
STANTON PARK NEIGHBORHOOD PICNIC**  
June 20, 2026 ★ 10 AM – 2 PM



**Hosted by National Capital Parks East (NACE) of the National Park Service (NPS) and Revive Stanton Park, a neighborhood volunteer group. Bring a picnic lunch and your family and friends!**

- ✓ Enjoy the U.S. Army Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps performance
- ✓ Experience what a Continental Army encampment was like
- ✓ Hear the story of Continental Army General Nathanael Greene, whose statue in the center of the park has been restored for the 250th celebration
- ✓ Enjoy games, reenactments, and thought challenges organized by the Maryland First Regiment revolutionary era reenactors and NPS Rangers
- ✓ Take a historic neighborhood walking tour guided by Capitol Hill Restoration Society expert volunteers
- ✓ Lots of activities, fun, and learning for kids and adults!

*Revive Stanton Park will keep you posted as plans unfold. To receive notifications or if you're interested in volunteering at this event or other Stanton Park volunteer activities, send your name and email address to [revivestantonpark@gmail.com](mailto:revivestantonpark@gmail.com).*



Capitol Hill Restoration Society

420 10th Street SE  
Washington, DC 20003

[chrs.org](http://chrs.org)

## Mark Your Calendar!

Please check [chrs.org](http://chrs.org) for current information—cancellations or postponements will be posted as they are known.



Capitol Hill Restoration Society

### JUNE

**3** Wednesday, 7 pm  
Zoning Committee Meeting,  
420 10th Street SE.

**9** Tuesday, 10 am  
Communications Committee Meeting,  
420 10th Street SE.

**17** Wednesday, 6 pm  
Board Meeting, Northeast Library,  
330 7th Street NE.

**20** Saturday, 10 am–2 pm  
Stanton Park Neighborhood Picnic (rain  
date: 6/27)—see page 7 for details.

**29** Monday  
June Membership Meeting. Details TBD.

### JULY

**1** Wednesday, 7 pm  
Zoning Committee Meeting,  
420 10th Street SE.

**4** Saturday, 10 am  
Capitol Hill Community July 4th Parade.  
See article on page 3 for details.

**6** Monday, 6:30 pm  
Historic Preservation Committee Meeting,  
420 10th Street SE.

**14** Tuesday, 10 am  
Communications Committee Meeting,  
420 10th Street SE.

**15** Wednesday, 6 pm  
Board Meeting, Northeast Library,  
330 7th Street NE.

### AUGUST

*The CHRS Board and Historic Preservation  
Committee will not meet in August.*

**5** Wednesday, 7 pm  
Zoning Committee Meeting,  
420 10th Street SE.

**10** Monday  
Deadline for artists to register for the  
Capitol Hill Art Walk. Details:  
[HillRag.com/Art-Walk-2026](http://HillRag.com/Art-Walk-2026).

**11** Tuesday, 10 am  
Communications Committee Meeting,  
420 10th Street SE.

### COMING THIS FALL!

**Capitol Hill Art Walk** • September 12–13, 12–4 pm

**Halloween** • October 30, 5–7:30 pm

**CHRS House Expo 2026** • October 31, 9 am–3 pm