



# HISTORIC TRADES

**96 MILLION**  
BUILDINGS TOTAL IN THE U.S.

**40%**

OVER 40% THOSE  
BUILDINGS ARE MORE  
THAN 50 YEARS OLD

Skilled workers who utilize traditional techniques and materials to preserve and rehabilitate historic buildings, defined as buildings more than 50 years old. These trades require more specialized knowledge of historic materials, building techniques, and design principles than general building trades.

Deconstruction Technician  
Preservation Carpenter  
Preservation Glazier  
Preservation Mason  
Preservation Metalworker  
Preservation Roofer  
Preservation Painter  
Preservation Plumber

## HISTORIC BUILDING TRADES IMPACTS

» A 2022 LABOR STUDY BY THE CAMPAIGN FOR HISTORIC TRADES SHOWS:



**\$85 BILLION ANNUAL INVESTMENT IN BUILDING REHABILITATION EMPLOYS MORE THAN 1.3 MILLION WORKERS**



**TOTAL INVESTMENT IN HISTORIC BUILDING REHABILITATION, INCLUDING THE FEDERAL HISTORIC TAX CREDIT, IS ESTIMATED AT NEARLY \$37 BILLION.**

**~\$12B OF THAT IN RESIDENTIAL AND ~\$25B IN NONRESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS.**



**INVESTMENT IN HISTORIC BUILDING REHABILITATION CREATES 165,000+ DIRECT JOBS ANNUALLY**

## SKILLED CRAFTSPEOPLE LABOR SHORTAGE

» A 2019 SURVEY BY THE ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS OF AMERICA REPORTS:



**80% OF CONSTRUCTION FIRMS SAY DIFFICULT TO FILL CRAFT POSITIONS**



**82% RESPONDENTS: LABOR SHORTAGE IS A TOP ISSUE**

*Especially acute in the specialized trades that are needed for preservation projects*



» A 2022 LABOR STUDY BY THE CAMPAIGN FOR HISTORIC TRADES SHOWS:



**THE U.S. WILL NEED OVER 100,000 PRESERVATION TRADESWORKERS BY 2030 TO MEET DEMAND**



**SHORTAGES MOST SEVERE IN HISTORIC MASONRY, METALWORKING, CARPENTRY**

### WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT

Legislation designed to strengthen and improve our nation's public workforce system and help get Americans, including youth, into high-quality jobs and careers and help employers hire and retain skilled workers.

### NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT (NHPA)

The NHPA indirectly recognizes the need for skilled craftspeople as it enshrines the protection of the nation's cultural heritage by preserving historic properties as well as encouraging federal agencies and other stakeholders to be responsible stewards of historic resources.

### HISTORIC TAX CREDIT PROGRAM

Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives Program creates market demand for skilled trades by making historic rehabilitation financially viable. It stimulates demand for specialized contractors and tradespeople because to qualify, one must follow the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, which requires craftsmanship and knowledge in historic trades.

### FEDERAL APPRENTICESHIP ACT

Established the framework for the national apprenticeship system, including the Department of Labor's role in promoting and safeguarding apprenticeship standards.

## Building Rehabilitation and Historic Trades Training

**OUR ASK:  
INCLUDE "BUILDING REHABILITATION" OR "PRESERVATION TRADES" IN PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

Historic trades contractors work on the restoration of the 1870's Sauer Castle in Kansas City, Kansas. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the owner – Mike Heitmann – utilized both the Federal and State Historic Tax Credits to restore the property.



## Sauer Castle

KANSAS CITY, KS



Named "HOPE Crew" for "Hands-On Preservation Experience," the program links preservation projects with local youth serving organizations and preservation trades experts to teach preservation trades to youth participants.



## HOPE Crew



## Revolution Workshop



## HistoriCorps



Revolution Workshop builds skills, hope, and resilience in Chicago's underserved communities through construction job training and free pre-apprenticeship training.

HistoriCorps leverages private-sector resources by training volunteers and students on historic projects to address critical maintenance backlogs on public lands like the National Parks.