Heritage Consulting Inc.

Heritage Consulting Inc. provides training, research, coaching and consulting on historic preservation, downtown and commercial district revitalization, and organizational development issues for individuals, corporations, non-profit organizations and government agencies nationwide. Donna Ann Harris is the firm's principal.

Strategy and Business Planning

Strategy and business planning entails guiding board and staff planning committees in writing strategic, business and/or other plans, creating vision statements, and performing bylaw and mission review. Notable clients include:

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
North Fifth St. Revitalization Project, Philadelphia
Downtown Somerville Alliance, NJ
Tacony Community Development Corp., Philadelphia

Roxborough Development Corporation, Philadelphia

Pinelands Preservation Alliance, NJ Wyck House, Farm, Garden, Philadelphia, PA

Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia Charnley Norwood House, Ocean Springs, MS
New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office Barrow Mansion Development Corporation, NJ

Program Development

Preservation New Jersey

Program conceptualization for heritage tourism, preservation plans and development of new programs. Notable clients include:

Illinois Main Street Bartram's Garden, Philadelphia, PA

Whitesbog Preservation Trust, NJ
St Mary's Episcopal Church, Burlington, NJ
Jacob's Chapel Colemantown Foundation, NJ
Glover Filling Mill Park, Haddon Heights NJ

Organizational Assessments

Organizational assessment includes governance review, board development and training, accreditation, and other assessments. Notable clients include:

Florida Main Street Rehoboth Beach Main Street, DE Main Street Iowa Main Street Vineland, NJ

Facilitation of Meetings and Retreats

Meeting and retreat facilitation with boards, staff, and community in support of visioning, planning and program development. Notable clients include:

Mississippi Department of Archives & History Midwest Regional Office, National Trust for Historic Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy, Preservation

Chicago IL Historic Annapolis Foundation, Annapolis MD

Northeast Regional Office, National Trust for Illinois Historic Preservation Agency

Historic Preservation Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission

Training and Workshops

Professional development training for entry level and mid-career staff and boards in museums and downtown organizations. Notable clients include:

Delaware Main Street Main Street America Institute for National Main Street

Main Street New Jersey Center

Minnesota Main Street International Downtown Center, Washington DC

Main Street Iowa American Association for State and Local History Missouri

Michigan Main Street Main Street Connection

Arkansas Main Street American Association of Museums

Nebraska Main Street

Donna Ann Harris, Principal Heritage Consulting Inc.

Education

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, Master of Public Administration, Fels Center of Government, Graduate School of Fine Arts, 1994.

Columbia University, NYC, Master of Science in Historic Preservation, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, 1981.

State University of New York at Albany, BA cum laude, American Studies and Art History, 1976.

Professional Experience

- Principal, Heritage Consulting Inc., Philadelphia, PA 2004-present
- Principal, Donna Ann Harris consulting, Chicago, IL 2002-2004
- State Coordinator, *Illinois Main Street Program*, Dept. of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Chicago, IL 2000-2002; Acting State Coordinator, 2000; Manager, Chicago Office, Illinois Main Street 1999-2000; Suburban Coordinator, Office of the Lt. Governor 1998-1999
- Executive Director, Landmarks Preservation Council of Illinois, Chicago, IL 1997-1998
- Senior Project Manager, Kise Franks & Straw, Architects and Planners, Philadelphia, PA 1995-1997
- President, Lower Merion Preservation Trust, Bryn Mawr, PA 1992-1995
- Director, Historic House Museum Challenge Grant Program, Philadelphia Historic Preservation Corporation, Philadelphia, PA 1992-1993; Vice President for Program Development 1988-1992; Director, Preservation Programs 1985-1988
- Assistant Director, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Mid-Atlantic Regional Office, Philadelphia, PA 1984-1985
- Merchant Coordinator, 14th Street Union Square Local Development Corporation, NYC 1982-1985
- Executive Director, Preservation New Jersey, Princeton, NJ 1980-1982
- AV Technician, School Coordinator, Statue of Liberty National Monument, NYC, 1976-1979

Awards and Honors

- 2011 Grand Jury Award Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia for Delaware County (PA) Public History Feasibility Project
- Mid-Career Fellowship, James Marston Fitch Charitable Foundation, NYC 2004
- Scholarship, Certification Institute, National Trust Main Street Center, 2003
- Preservation Award 1994 for individual service from the Lower Merion Historical Architectural Review Board, Township of Lower Merion, PA, 1994
- Teaching Assistant, Governmental Administration Workshop II, Fels Center of Government, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, 1994
- Fels Scholar, Fels Center of Government, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, 1992-1994
- Victorian Society in America, Study Tour of Glasgow & Edinburgh, 1991
- Victorian Society in America, Summer School in London, 1987
- William Kinne Fellows Memorial Traveling Fellowship, Columbia University, NYC, 1981
- Scholarship and Readership, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, Columbia University, NYC, 1979-81

Publications

- New Solutions for House Museums: Ensuring the Long Term Preservation of America's Historic Houses, 2007 AltaMira Press.
- "Getting Ready to Ask for Year End Gifts Main Street Story of the Week, National Main Street Center, October 10, 2015

Donna Ann Harris Heritage Consulting Inc.

- Recorded webinar "Why Aren't You Asking for Year End Gifts" for National Main Street Center September 17, 2015
- "A Bakers Dozen: Thirteen Myths about Main Street Board Service" feature article, National Main Street Center, *Main Street Now*, winter 2015
- "The Power of Thank You," Main Street Story of the Week, National Main Street Center, July 25, 2014.
- "Recruiting New Board Members: 13 Documents Every Main Street Organization Should Give to Potential Candidates," Main Street Story of the Week, National Main Street Center, February 27, 2014
- "Ten Tips for Networking at the Main Street Conference," a Blog Post for National Main Street Conference blog, January 14, 2014
- "Procrastinators Guide to Year End Gifts, Part 1 and 2" Main Street Story of the Week, National Main Street Center, December 5 and 12, 2013
- "Six Steps to a Successful Year End Giving Campaign" article in fall 2013 issue of *Saving Land*, the quarterly magazine of the Land Trust Alliance, Washington DC.
- "Ten Things Board Members Can do to Improve Manager Retention" in Main Street Story of the Week, National Main Street Center, March 4, 2013
- Commentary piece in *The Art Newspaper*, "Historic Houses Take Note: Innovate or Die," December 5, 2013;
- "Illinois Main Street Back on Track: Case Studies" in *Main Street Now*, National Trust Main Street Center, July/August 2012
- "Make More Money From Members," article in *Main Street News*, National Trust Main Street Center, August 2008
- "Is a BID Feasible in Your Town? Ten Questions to Ponder," in *Main Street News*, National Trust Main Street Center, June 2007
- "A Valiant Effort" and "What You Can Do and Lessons from Illinois Main Street" two articles for *Main Street News* National Main Street Center January 2005.

Grant Review and Jury Experience

- National Main Street Center, Great American Main Street Awards Jury Panel, 2014
- Greater Philadelphia Preservation Alliance, Awards Panel, 2014
- Philadelphia Cultural Fund, panel member for historic sites, large cultural organizations and project support grants, yearly 2009 -2013, 2015
- Institute of Museum and Library Services, Conservation Support Project Grants, Washington DC, 2009, 2010.

Contact

Donna Ann Harris, Principal
Heritage Consulting Inc.
422 South Camac Street
Philadelphia, PA 19147
215 546 1988 office phone 267 251 5444 cell phone
donna@heritageconsultinginc.com EMAIL
www.heritageconsultinginc.com WEBSITE
www.heritageconsultinginc.com/blog BLOG
www.facebook.com/heritageconsultinginc FACEBOOK
#donnaannharris TWITTER