



Heritage Consulting Inc.

Heritage Consulting Inc., founded in 2004 is a Philadelphia-based Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) registered in PA, NJ and DE. Heritage Consulting Inc. aids non-profit organizations and government agencies nationwide in the following practice areas: downtown and commercial district revitalization, historic preservation, tourism product development, and non-profit organizational development. **Donna Ann Harris** is the firm 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	Tacony Community Development Corp., Philadelphia
Downtown Somerville Alliance, NJ	Wyck House, Farm, Garden, Philadelphia PA
Oregon Heritage, Salem OR	Roxborough Development Corporation, Philadelphia PA
Ardmore Initiative, Ardmore PA	Charnley Norwood House, Ocean Springs MS
Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia	Metuchen Downtown Alliance, Metuchen NJ

Program Development

Program conceptualization for heritage tourism, preservation and interpretive plans and development of new programs.

Missouri Main Street Connection	Jacobus Vanderveer House Bedminster, Bedminster NJ
Glover Fulling Mill Park, Haddon Heights NJ	Sourlands Conservancy, Princeton NJ
St Mary's Episcopal Church, Burlington NJ	Delaware County Planning Department PA.
Jacob's Chapel Colemantown Foundation, NJ	Arch Street Meeting House Philadelphia PA
Main Street Lansing, IA	Camden County Historical Society NJ
Bartram's Garden Philadelphia PA	

Organizational Assessments

Organizational assessment includes governance review, board development and training, and other assessments.

Florida Main Street	Nakashima Workshops, New Hope PA
Main Street Iowa	Friends of Jacobus Vanderveer House, Bedminster NJ

Facilitation of Meetings and Retreats

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

Mississippi Department of Archives & History	Midwest Regional Office, National Trust for Historic Preservation
Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy IL	Historic Annapolis, MD
Northeast Regional Office, National Trust for Historic Preservation	Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
	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:

National Main Street Center	International Downtown Association
Main Street Iowa	American Association for State and Local History
Downtown Delaware	Mid Atlantic Association of Museums
Main Street New Jersey	Missouri Main Street
Minnesota Main Street	Michigan Main Street
Saskatchewan Main Street, Canada	

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
- Certified Main Street Manager, National 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.
- "The Essential Role of Boards in Reimagining Historic House Museums," Chapter author, for AltaMira Press book edited by Kenneth Turino and Max Van Balgooy, June 2018 Forthcoming

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- “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 to present
- Institute of Museum and Library Services, Conservation Support Project Grants, Washington DC, 2009, 2010.

Contact

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