**Cultural Fabric Funding Playbook**

**Helping communities fund cemetery mapping and heritage preservation projects**

**1. Why Funding Matters**

* Preserves local history and heritage for future generations
* Makes burial records accessible to families, genealogists, and the community
* Supports education, outreach, and regional partnerships
* Provides transparency and accountability for project costs

**2. Key Iowa Grant Opportunities**

**Iowa Community Cultural Grant**

* Supports arts, culture, and heritage projects
* Ideal for cemetery mapping, digitization, and preservation projects
* Learn more and apply: <https://opportunityiowa.gov/community/arts-culture/grants-programs/iowa-community-cultural-grant>

**SAPIC Grants (State Association for the Preservation of Iowa Cemeteries)**

* Small grants for cemetery preservation and workshops
* Deadlines and details: <https://sapiciowa.org/sapicgrantapplication.pdf>

**3. National & Regional Grant Opportunities**

**National Trust for Historic Preservation Grants**

* Supports planning, preservation, and community heritage projects
* <https://savingplaces.org/grants>

**Daughters of the American Revolution Historic Preservation Grants**

* Funds restoration, digitization, and monument conservation
* <https://www.dar.org/outreach/historic-preservation/dar-historic-preservation-grants>

**Historic Preservation Fund (via NPS)**

* Supports surveys, planning, and preservation projects
* <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/historicpreservationfund/project-grants.htm>

**Save America’s Treasures**

* Preserves nationally significant heritage sites
* <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Save_America%27s_Treasures>

**Veteran Cemetery Grants & Restoration Programs**

* Supports community efforts for veteran gravesites
* <https://www.cem.va.gov/grants/information_kit.asp>

**4. Using This Playbook**

1. Use your **cemetery mapping cost calculator** to estimate how much a tax-levying authority can expect to levy in taxes depending on expected project costs, how many tax paying individuals, and duration of project: <https://spatialagency.org/cemeteryprojectcalculator>
2. Identify grants that fit your project type and scale
3. Combine multiple sources for maximum impact (state, local, national)
4. Leverage community partners and volunteer support to increase project reach

**Tip:** Even small grants can act as seed funding and help attract additional funding and community support.

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