

Delaware Department of State

Office of the Secretary of State

Status	FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE	Contact	Lisa Olson
Release Date	Tuesday, 20 May 2008	Phone	(302) 739-4748 x117

lisa.olson@state.de.us

DELAWARE RECEIVES \$40,000 FEDERAL GRANT TO HELP PROTECT LOCAL HERITAGE

Dover – The preservation of Delaware’s history has received a significant boost from a \$40,000 grant recently awarded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) in Washington, DC. The Delaware Division of Libraries, in collaboration with the Delaware Public Archives, the Division of Historical & Cultural Affairs, and the Delaware Museum Association, will use the funds to assess statewide collections to determine how to best ensure their longevity.

“It is important to safeguard our rich history and make it available to people for years to come,” said Lisa Olson, Senior Librarian and project manager of the Delaware Collections Stewardship Project. “The future success of such an endeavor will depend on our careful planning today, and the IMLS grant will help us significantly in achieving that goal.”

In all, 19 projects were funded nationally by the IMLS this year. “These 19 projects represent movement toward collaborative thinking among collection-holding institutions that have a strong commitment to collections stewardship,” said Dr. Anne-Imelda M. Radice, the director of IMLS.

Among the many collections to benefit from the IMLS grant are those at the Nanticoke Indian Association, the Corbit-Calloway Memorial Library, the Laurel Historical Society, Winterthur Museum & Gardens, and the Delaware Public Archives.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation’s 122,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The Institute's mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas. The Institute works at the national level and in coordination with state and local organizations to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge; enhance learning and innovation; and support professional development. To learn more about the Institute, please visit www.imls.gov.

###