

APRIL 10, 2024

THE PRESERVATION POST

BY ANGELA NEWMAN

SUSTAINABLE PRESERVATION AND ADAPATIVE REUSE

On April 4, 2024, The Biden Administration announced awards for the \$20 BILLION Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund known as GGRF; a substantial amount of money. So, what will it be used for?

The EPA describes the funding as such: *\$27 billion investment to mobilize financing and private capital to address the climate crisis, ensure our country's economic competitiveness, and promote energy independence while delivering lower energy costs and economic revitalization to communities that have historically been left behind.* (The press release stated \$20B and the EPA's website states \$27B.)

So how does all this support historic preservation? First, we need to define, 'sustainable preservation' which can be the best of both worlds. Preserving historic buildings, their character-defining features, and their cultural history (the preservation side) and looking at how our use of energy and materials will impact future generations (the sustainability side). Marrying the two together (preservation and sustainability) can have an incredibly positive impact on our communities.

From a sustainable preservation perspective, it's great news because some of this money will be made available to help communities preserve their historic buildings, while at the same time reusing them for other purposes rather than allowing them to deteriorate. Making energy-efficient upgrades while being sensitive to the building's historic fabric and character-defining features is key to achieving a win-win situation.

The President & CEO of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Carol Quillen commented in the press release, *"In many, many rural communities across the country there are abandoned older and historic buildings that can be repurposed to reduce carbon emissions while also meeting the urgent need for new housing and local commercial space. We are delighted and grateful that the Green Bank for Rural America will soon be able to provide the low-cost capital required to bring these buildings back to life."*



Adaptive reuse of a toy warehouse converted into loft apartments in LA. Photo credit: National Trust of Historic Preservation

ARCHITECTURE ARCHIVES

brick bonding patterns

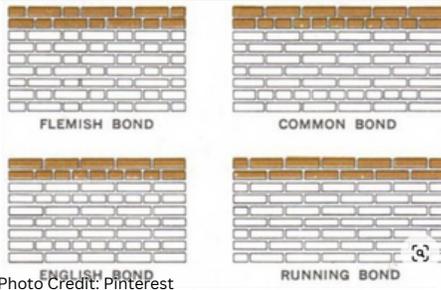


Photo Credit: Pinterest

There are several methods in which brick or stone can be coursed (position in rows). Some provide a stronger wall than others while some are strictly ornamental.

Bonding refers to how the bricks are laid in a particular pattern.

For example, the running bond uses stretchers (long horizontal view of the brick) repeatedly whereas the flemish bond, uses a stretcher and then a header (end or butt of the brick).

Often when you see a running bond, it is a brick veneer as there are no headers placed. Brick veneer is brick laid over a wooden frame.



Angela Newman

Angela lives in Maury County, TN and has over 20 years experience in leadership roles. She is passionate about sustainable and historic preservation, communities and small businesses. She holds an MBA and is currently studying for Certifications in Historic Preservation from Boston Architectural College and Sustainable Preservation from Cornell University and sits on the board for the Maury County Historical Society.

Her desire to bring awareness to and advocate for old homes is what inspired her to create, 'Historic District Walking Tours' and social media platforms to promote her community.



“Preservation is climate change.”

Will Hurst, Managing Editor of Architects Journal in the UK

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