



Explore and Enjoy Our Heritage

Preserve America Communities, Stewards, Grant Projects and Awards Celebrating Latino and Hispanic Heritage

*The **Preserve America Communities** program recognizes municipalities, counties, neighborhoods in large cities, and tribal communities that protect and celebrate their heritage. Since the program began in 2003, 906 communities have been designated in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories. To read more about Preserve America Communities and for application forms, please visit <http://www.preserveamerica.gov/PACommunities.html>.*

Preserve America Communities protecting and interpreting Latino and Hispanic heritage include the following:

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| Alabama: | Mobile |
| Arizona: | Nogales, Tucson, Yuma |
| California: | Monterey, Santa Barbara, San Buenaventura (Ventura), San Juan Bautista, Santa Paula, Sonoma |
| Colorado: | Baca County, Denver, Montezuma County, Otero County |
| District of Columbia: | Washington |
| Florida: | Leon County, Miami, St. Augustine, Tampa |
| Idaho: | Boise (Basque) |
| New Jersey: | Newark-Ironbound neighborhood (Portuguese) |
| New Mexico: | Las Vegas |
| Rhode Island: | Central Falls, Cumberland, Pawtucket |
| Texas: | Brownsville, El Paso, San Antonio, Seguin |



*The **Preserve America Stewards** program recognizes organizations, businesses, and governmental programs which demonstrate a successful use of volunteer time and commitment in order to help care for our historic heritage. Since the program began in 2008, 58 Preserve America Stewards have been designated. For more information and application forms, please visit <http://www.preserveamerica.gov/stewards.html>.*

Preserve America Stewards caring for and interpreting Latino and Hispanic heritage include the following:

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| Arizona: | Kaibab Vermilion Cliffs Heritage Alliance |
| California: | Monterey State Historic Park |
| Florida: | City of St. Augustine Archaeological Program |
| Nationwide: | HistoriCorps; Passport in Time (PIT) Program |
| Nevada: | Southern Nevada Agency Partnership & Public Lands Institute, UNLV |
| New Mexico: | Cornerstones Community Partnerships; New Mexico SiteWatch; Valles Caldera National Preserve |
| Texas: | Texas Archeological Society; Texas Historical Commission – Texas Archeological Stewardship Network |

Applications from prospective new Preserve America Communities and Stewards organizations are accepted quarterly. The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation administers Preserve America with assistance from the U.S. Department of the Interior.

The **Preserve America Grant program** provided funding to designated Preserve America Communities as well as State and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices to support preservation efforts through heritage tourism, education, and historic preservation planning. Though these grants remain authorized, they have not been funded by Congress since 2010. Administered by the National Park Service in partnership with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, funded activities included interpretation and education, planning, promotion, training, and research and documentation of cultural and historic resources. Successful projects involved public-private partnerships and serve as models to communities nationwide for heritage tourism, historic preservation planning, history education, and economic development.

Some related Preserve America Grant projects:

Brownsville-21 Project

Brownsville, Texas

The City of Brownsville, an international border community with a 93 percent Hispanic or Latino population, developed a GIS-based interactive web application, as well as brochures, signage, and informational kiosks, in an effort to provide greater accessibility and information for their historically significant resources. Walking tour materials, including CDs, have been produced in both English and Spanish as a result of this project, and have highlighted prominent Mexican-American and other American Latino citizens, families, and businesses.

Broad Street Regeneration Initiative

Pawtucket, Cumberland, and Central Falls, Rhode Island

This project helped three Preserve America Communities produce sustainable development principles in an effort to support heritage tourism and business development in the region. Central Falls, Rhode Island, is economically depressed, and its population is approximately 48 percent Hispanic or Latino. A number of partnerships have been formed with Latino-American business development and financial investment organizations. One of the Broad Street programs has focused on international culinary culture tours that include “behind the scenes” visits to share recipes and food history, and discover how Latino foods are made.

Rediscover Nogales

Nogales, Arizona

The City of Nogales produced effective interpretive materials about events, individuals, organizations, and cultural and historical sites that have shaped the heritage of Nogales and the Pimeria Alta region; produced school-based educational curricula and a program to train educators on how to teach local history; produced a docent-training program for the Pimeria Alta Historical Society; and conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of these programs.

Interpreting Miami’s Vizcaya Museum and Gardens

Miami, Florida

The City of Miami produced a multilingual audio tour of the Vizcaya Museum and Gardens. It featured 90 minutes of content in English, Spanish, and Portuguese using archival research and interviews with experts and community members on Miami’s premier historic site.

State of Florida Historic Preservation Training Initiative

Tallahassee, Florida

The State of Florida provided sub-grants and technical assistance to communities in Florida for training in the study, use, protection, and promotion of local historic and cultural resources in the state.

El Camino Real Heritage Tourism Plan

El Paso, Texas

This project developed a heritage tourism plan to address the broad cultural and historic heritage of El Paso, including architecture, archaeology, folklore, and community celebrations. It also examines natural, scenic, and recreational resources as well as the infrastructure and transportation components of the area.

Re-Encuentro: Seeing El Paso Through New Eyes

El Paso, Texas

The El Paso History Museum partnered with the City's Library, Historic Preservation Office, and local universities, colleges, and schools to involve middle and high school students in discovering and sharing the area's rich architectural history. The neighborhoods of Chihuahita and El Segundo Barrio, the city's oldest and just across the border from Mexico, were the initial focus. Students researched and documented properties with architectural significance, conducted oral history interviews, and produced brochures.



Preserve America and Texas Main Street: Partners in Community Development

Texas Historical Commission

The State Historic Preservation Office of Texas used this grant to expand and enhance technical preservation assistance provided to communities across the state through the Texas Main Street Program. The initiative also involved preservation training and education for the public through a series of seminars. Grants targeted projects that enhanced local inventories of historic properties, promoted cultural diversity, measured the economic benefits of historic preservation to small cities and towns, and provided detailed technical assistance to local communities in the promotion of their historic resources and heritage tourism. Funds were targeted at Texas Main Street Communities that are also designated Preserve America Communities.



From 2004 through 2008, **Preserve America Presidential Awards** were given to organizations, businesses, and government entities for:

- *exemplary accomplishments in the sustainable use and preservation of cultural or natural heritage assets;*
- *demonstrated commitment to the protection and interpretation of America's cultural or natural heritage assets; and*
- *the integration of these assets into contemporary community life, and combination of innovative, creative, and responsible approaches to showcasing historic resources in communities.*

More information about these awards is available at <http://www.preserveamerica.gov/presidentialaward.html>.

Preserve America Presidential Awards associated with Latino and/or Hispanic Heritage:

Texas Heritage Trails Program: Statewide (2005)

Mission San Luis: Tallahassee, Florida (2006)

Hampton Hotels "Explore the Highway with Hampton, Save-A-Landmark™" Program: Nationwide (2006)

Natchitoches-Cane River Region Heritage Tourism – Louisiana (2007)

The History Channel, Save Our History Initiatives – Nationwide (2007)

Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program – Statewide (2008)

*The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's **Chairman's Award for Achievement in Historic Preservation** has been presented to several projects with Latino and/or Hispanic association:*

General Services Administration, for the U.S. Post Office & Courthouse restoration in San Juan, Puerto Rico (2002)

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, for the discovery, documentation, and relocation of shipwrecks *Manuela* and *Cristóbal Colón* in San Juan Harbor, Puerto Rico (2006) and for innovative programs in the St. Louis District funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (2009)

Department of Agriculture/Department of the Interior, for the administration of National Historic Trails, including the El Camino Real de los Tejas, El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, Juan Bautista de Anza, Old Spanish, and Santa Fe National Historic Trails (2008)

