



Preserve America Community Designation Events in 2008

January 25, 2008: Mrs. Laura Bush sends a letter of congratulations to 14 new communities, for a total of 585 designated Preserve America Communities.

The 14 new communities are:

Anchorage, Alaska	Rockville, Maryland	Jefferson County, Montana
Fremont County, Colorado	Meridian, Mississippi	Lincoln County, North Carolina
New Britain, Connecticut	Cape Girardeau, Missouri	Lincolnton, North Carolina
Hardin County, Iowa	Soulard (neighborhood), St.	Enterprise, Oregon
Portland, Maine	Louis, Missouri	Abbeville, South Carolina

February 22, 2008: Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Stephen Johnson presents a Preserve America Community road sign to Mayor Karen Tingle-Sames of Georgetown, Kentucky. Other participants include Kitty Dougoud, director of Georgetown Renaissance, Scott County Judge-Executive George Lusby, and Donna Neary, State Historic Preservation Officer.

March 19, 2008: U.S. Representative Rodney Alexander presents Mayor Margaret Rogers with a certificate signed by First Lady Laura Bush designating Dubach, Louisiana as a Preserve America Community.

March 27, 2008: Mrs. Laura Bush sends a letter of congratulations to 23 new communities, for a total of 608 designated Preserve America Communities. Four neighborhoods within large cities are among the newly designated communities.

The 23 new communities are:

El Dorado, Arkansas	Will County, Illinois	Lancaster County, South Carolina
Japantown, San Francisco, California	Noblesville, Indiana	Victorian Village, Memphis, Tennessee
Little Tokyo, Los Angeles, California	Saginaw, Michigan	Albany, Texas
Colorado Springs, Colorado	Arrow Rock, Missouri	Giddings, Texas
Sarasota, Florida	Saint Charles, Missouri	Junius Heights, Dallas, Texas
Fort Valley, Georgia	Lincoln, Nebraska	San Antonio, Texas
Kamiah, Idaho	Highland Falls, New York	
	Banner Elk, North Carolina	
	Bradford, Pennsylvania	

April 2, 2008: Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish, Wildlife and Parks Lyle Lavery honored Preserve America Communities along the Hudson River Valley in New York as part of a biennial conference on “Growing Hudson Valley Tourism” hosted by Dutchess County Executive William Steinhaus in Poughkeepsie. The most recently designated Preserve America Communities - Highland Falls, Ramapo, and Rockland County - receive certificates of designation, and other previously designated New York Preserve America Communities along the Hudson, including Beacon, Beekman, Dutchess County, Newburgh, Ossining, Owego, Putnam County, Rensselaer County, Saratoga Springs, Schenectady, and Schenectady County are also recognized.

April 7, 2008: Bob Young, assistant deputy secretary for Field Policy and Management at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, presents a Preserve America Community designation certificate to Abbeville, South Carolina Mayor Harold McNeill in front of the historic Opera House.

April 11, 2008: Borough of Gettysburg Mayor William E. Troxell hosts representatives of six other Civil War related Pennsylvania Preserve America Communities - Carlisle, Chambersburg, Hanover, Harrisburg, Lancaster County, and York - for a recognition ceremony in the Borough Council Chambers. Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Chairman John Nau, III; Department of the Interior Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks Mitch Butler; and Department of Housing and Urban Development Regional Director John G. Bravacos all participate in the program and the presentation of certificates. Pennsylvania Historical Museum Commission Executive Director Barbara Franco receives a symbolic check representing a \$142,250 Preserve America grant, to be used for developing a comprehensive survey and context study on African American historic and cultural resources throughout the state of Pennsylvania. The funds will also enable the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office to sub-grant funds to Pennsylvania communities to develop and implement African American heritage tourism projects.

April 17, 2008: Representatives of Ambridge, Pennsylvania, and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, receive their Preserve America Community designation certificates from Deputy Secretary of the Interior Lynn Scarlett and U.S. Housing and Urban Development Regional Director John G. Bravacos at a ceremony at the Fort Pitt Museum in Point State Park, Pittsburgh. Previously designated Washington County, Pennsylvania, receives a ceremonial check representing a \$120,000 Preserve America Grant, awarded to help the county develop a marketing strategy geared towards improving and expanding heritage tourism.

May 29, 2008: The Preserve America Community of Selma, Alabama, is recognized at a ceremony in front of city hall. Participants include Mayor James Perkins, Jr.; U.S. Housing and Urban Development Field Office Director Cindy Yarbrough; George Evans, president of the city council; Frank White, director of the Alabama Historic Commission; and the directors of the Downtown Selma Association and the city Office of Planning and Development. Scott Patterson, president of the Selma Historic Development Commission presents the certificate and Catherine Light, superintendent of the Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail unveils the street sign.

May 30, 2008: Mrs. Laura Bush sends a letter of congratulations to 12 new communities, for a total of 620 designated Preserve America Communities.

The 12 new communities are:

San Ramon, California
Golden, Colorado
Alpharetta, Georgia
South Bend, Indiana

Mandeville, Louisiana
Slidell, Louisiana
Ludington, Michigan
Natchez, Mississippi

Sharkey County, Mississippi
Enid, Oklahoma
Walterboro, South Carolina
Hillsville, Virginia

June 5, 2008: U. S. Department of Agriculture Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment Mark E. Rey presents a Preserve America Community designation certificate to representatives of Enterprise, Oregon.

June 7, 2008: Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Chairman John L. Nau, III delivers remarks in Columbia, Tennessee, during the annual statewide Tennessee Preservation Trust Conference. He also recognizes several Preserve America Communities, including Columbia, Oak Ridge, and Rugby, and presents a certificate to the newly designated Victorian Village neighborhood of Memphis. Participants include ACHP mayor-observer Tom Miller, former mayor of Franklin, Tennessee; Columbia Mayor William E. Gentner; Oak Ridge Mayor Tom Beehan; Barbara Stagg, executive director, Historic Rugby; and Scott Blake, chairman, Victorian Village. The city of Oak Ridge, built secretly during World War II as part of the Manhattan Project, is presented with a symbolic check representing a Preserve America grant of \$150,000. The grant will fund inventory of historic records, oral history interviews, an interpretive exhibit and developing educational materials. Chairman Nau also presents a Partnership Award to Patrick McIntyre, Tennessee's State Historic Preservation Officer.

June 9, 2008: A Preserve America Community designation ceremony is held in Natchez, Mississippi, with the participation of Bob Young, assistant deputy secretary, Office of Field Policy and Management, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Both the current and the incoming mayor are presented with the community designation certificate.

June 10, 2008: Participants in the Mayors' Forum in Jackson, Mississippi, hear from Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Chairman John L. Nau, III and Bob Young, assistant deputy secretary, Office of Field Policy and Management, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Grover Mouton, III, director of Tulane University's Regional Urban Design Center, speaks on "Utilizing Preserve America in Communities," followed by recognition of the newly designated Preserve America Communities of Natchez and Sharkey County. Mayor Phillip West of Natchez and Bill Newsome, president of the Board of Supervisors of Sharkey County, receive certificates, and Mayor Johnny L. DuPree of the city of Hattiesburg (a Preserve America Community) and president of the Mississippi Municipal League shares his perspective. Cassandra Terry, field office director of HUD's Jackson, Mississippi Office, opens and closes the program.

June 12, 2008: HUD Regional Director John Bravacos (Region III) presents a Preserve America Community designation certificate to the mayor of Hinton, West Virginia.

June 13, 2008: The *Treasures of NOAA's Ark Pioneers: People and Technology* exhibit opens to the public at the St. Petersburg Museum of History in downtown St. Petersburg, Florida. The exhibit showcases artifacts representing 200 years of science, service and stewardship by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and its ancestor agencies. A reception for the Museum's board and patrons includes the presentation of a Preserve America Community designation certificate to St. Petersburg Mayor Rick Baker. John Oliver, deputy assistant administrator for NOAA Fisheries, welcomes the participants and Brian LaMarre, meteorologist in charge for Tampa Bay, is the speaker.

June 26, 2008: Maui County, Hawaii, Mayor Charmaine Tavares and John Nau, chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation arrive at the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary on Thursday morning in canoes and are welcomed with a folkloric program. In a ceremony coordinated by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Tavares and Nau announce the designation of Maui County as a Preserve America Community and display the designation certificate and road sign announcing that status.

July 11, 2008: Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Chairman John Nau delivers remarks in New Orleans during the annual National Association of Preservation Commissions, and presents a certificate of designation to the newly designated Preserve America Community of Slidell, Louisiana.

July 11, 2008: Mrs. Laura Bush sends a letter of congratulations to 30 new communities, for a total of 650 designated Preserve America Communities. Two neighborhoods within large cities are among the newly designated communities.

The 30 new communities are:

Nogales, Arizona	Springfield, Massachusetts	Newtown Township, Pennsylvania
Chinatown, Los Angeles, California	Northfield, Minnesota	Saltsburg, Pennsylvania
Thai Town, Los Angeles, California	Florissant, Missouri	Gray Court, South Carolina
Tuolumne County, California	Rocheport, Missouri	Pacolet, South Carolina
Gilpin County, Colorado	Lewis & Clark County, Montana	Harris County, Texas
New London, Connecticut	Buffalo, New York	Provo, Utah
Jeffersonville, Indiana	Syracuse, New York	Chesterfield County, Virginia
St. Joseph County, Indiana	Shawnee, Ohio	Stafford County, Virginia
Lewiston, Maine	Corvallis, Oregon	Bayfield, Wisconsin
Rockland, Maine	Newtown Borough, Pennsylvania	Rock Springs, Wyoming

July 22, 2008: Bruce D. Reed, president of the Board of Commissioners of Lower Merion Township, Pennsylvania, receives a Preserve America Community designation certificate from John Bravacos, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regional director (Region III). The event is held at the historic Pencoyd Iron Works building in Bala-Cynwyd, and is followed by a tour of the restored building and the nearby Cynwyd train station. Other honored guests include Pennsylvania State Senator Constance Williams and Zachary Hoover, chief of staff for Pennsylvania State Representative Daylin Leach.

July 30, 2008: John Bravacos, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Region III director, presents a Preserve America Community designation certificate to Mayor Richard B. Yoder of West Chester, Pennsylvania, on the steps of the Chester County Courthouse.

August 11, 2008: Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Chairman John Nau, III presents a Preserve America Community designation certificate to Mayor Timothy A. Kaumo of Rock Springs, Wyoming. The event, held at the Rock Springs Historical Museum, includes participation by representatives of Senators Mike Enzi and John Barrasso.

August 11, 2008: Deputy Secretary of the Interior Lynn Scarlett presents a Preserve America Community designation certificate to Mayor Heather Fargo of Sacramento, California. The venue for the event is the Stanford Mansion, a State Historic Site used by the governor for formal events and ceremonies.

August 14, 2008: Chairman John Nau, III recognizes six Missouri Preserve America Communities at the chairman's dinner during the quarterly meeting of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Representatives of Arrow Rock, Cape Girardeau, Jefferson City, the Soulard neighborhood of St. Louis, Sainte Genevieve, and Weston are guests at the dinner at the historic Grant's Farm estate, and receive their designation certificates from Chairman Nau and Missouri Governor Matthew Blunt.

August 29, 2008: First Lady Laura Bush sends a letter of congratulations to 14 new Preserve America Communities – for a total of 664 designated communities.

The 14 newly designated communities are:

Ledyard, Connecticut	Elkhart, Indiana	Bethlehem, Pennsylvania
DeLand, Florida	Bath, Maine	The Borough of Columbia, Pennsylvania
Dahlonega, Georgia	Bozeman, Montana	Conway, South Carolina
Forsyth, Georgia	Kalispell, Montana	Fauquier County, Virginia
Oak Park, Illinois	New Richmond, Ohio	

September 4, 2008: John Bravacos, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Region III director, presents a symbolic check representing a Preserve America grant to Mayor James L. Ford, III of Lewes, Delaware and Michael DiPaulo, executive director of the Lewes Historical Society. Special guest Senator Tom Carper and HUD’s Field Office Director Diane Lello join with representatives of the Lewes City Council in recognizing Lewes’ status as a Preserve America Community at the Lewes Historical Society Headquarters. The grant supports efforts to increase off-season heritage tourism.

September 13, 2008: During the 70th annual Autumn Moon Festival, the Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Los Angeles (CRA/LA), in partnership with the Chinatown Preserve America Coalition, receives a White House certificate of recognition and unveils a Preserve America road sign to mark the Chinatown neighborhood’s designation as a Preserve America Community. Speaking at the event are CRA/LA Board of Commissioners Member Alejandro Ortiz, City Councilmember Ed Reyes, Assembly Member Mike Eng, and Preserve America representative, Yenie Tran, special assistant to the Under Secretary of Natural Resources and Environment, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

September 19, 2008: Native Sarasotan Jan Snyder Matthews, associate director for Cultural Resources of the National Park Service, speaks and presents a Preserve America Community designation certificate in Sarasota, Florida.

September 21, 2008: The Thai Town neighborhood of Los Angeles, California, celebrates its Preserve America Community designation in conjunction with Thai Culture Day. Yenie Tran, special assistant to the Under Secretary of Natural Resources and Environment, U.S. Department of Agriculture, speaks and presents Thai Town’s Preserve America Community certificate. Thai Town’s Preserve America sign is unveiled at the Thai Community Development Center. Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Stephen Mikesell also participates in the recognition ceremony.

September 24, 2008: Yenie Tran, special assistant to the Under Secretary of Natural Resources and Environment, U.S. Department of Agriculture, presents a Preserve America Community certificate to Mayor Lewis K. Billings of Provo, Utah. The celebration on the Provo City Library lawn includes remarks by local actor James Arrington as Brigham Young, and 80 fourth graders singing the Utah State song.

September 27, 2008: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Region III Director John Bravacos presents a Preserve America Certificate of Designation to Tredyffrin Township, Pennsylvania Board of Supervisors Representative Judy DiFilippo; Township Historical Architectural Review Board Chairperson Gretchen Kiernan, and Tredyffrin Historic Preservation Trust Representative Bob Wise in front of the Preserve America road sign at the historic Strafford Train Station.

October 3, 2008: Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Chairman John Nau, III presents a Preserve America Community designation certificate to A. S. “Art” Warren, chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Chesterfield County, Virginia. John V. Cogbill, III, chairman of the National Capital Planning Commission, also participates in the program at the Historic 1917 Courthouse.

October 6, 2008: Georgia State Representative Chuck Martin and Bud Wilkerson, Department of Housing and Urban Development Southeast regional director, present a Preserve America Community designation certificate to the mayor of Alpharetta, Georgia, Arthur Letchas. The ceremony takes place in the City Hall Council Chambers, and is part of a celebration of the city’s sesquicentennial year.

October 9, 2008: Fort Valley, Georgia, Mayor John Stumbo receives a Preserve America Community certificate from Department of Housing and Urban Development Southeast Regional Director Bud Wilkerson. The Preserve America sign is presented to Lorraine Khoury, director of the Fort Valley Main Street/Downtown Development Authority.

October 13, 2008: Congressman Mike Ross speaks about the necessity of historic preservation prior to presenting a Preserve America Community certificate to Mayor Mike Dumas and members of the El Dorado Historic District Commission at the John Newton House in El Dorado, Arkansas.

October 22, 2008: Deputy Secretary of the Interior Lynn Scarlett presents a Preserve America Community designation certificate to Mayor Manny Diaz of Miami, Florida. Mayor Diaz, the current president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, expresses strong support for the Preserve America initiative. The reception is held in Miami City Hall, originally the Old Pan American seaplane base and terminal building. Built in the middle of the Great Depression, the building has been completely restored and is now a beautiful reminder of Miami’s history. The ceremony takes place exactly a year after the city was formally designated a Preserve America Community.

October 27, 2008: Lancaster County, South Carolina receives its Preserve America Community designation certificate from Jim Chaplin, Department of Housing and Urban Development Field Office Director, at a County Council meeting.

November 5, 2008: First Lady Laura Bush sends a letter of congratulations to 32 new Preserve America Communities, making a total of 696 designated communities.

The 32 newly designated Preserve America Communities are:

Mendocino, California	Washington, Missouri	Frederiksted, Virgin Islands
Montrose, Colorado	Helena, Montana	Middleburg, Virginia
Suffield, Connecticut	Hamlet of Oyster Bay, New York	Purcellville, Virginia
Dover, Delaware	Old West End Historic District, Toledo, Ohio	Roanoke, Virginia
Delray Beach, Florida	Olmsted Falls, Ohio	Strasburg, Virginia
Tarpon Springs, Florida	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	Harpers Ferry, West Virginia
Riley County, Kansas	Blairsville, Pennsylvania	Martinsburg, West Virginia
Opelousas, Louisiana	Fountain Inn, South Carolina	Jackson, Wyoming
College Park, Maryland	Rock Hill, South Carolina	Laramie, Wyoming
Holyoke, Massachusetts	Christiansted, Virgin Islands	Teton County, Wyoming
Salem, Massachusetts		
Ocean Springs, Mississippi		

December 9, 2008: Walterboro, South Carolina, receives its Preserve America Community designation certificate from Jim Chaplin, Department of Housing and Urban Development Field Office Director, at a County Council meeting.

December 11, 2008: Fountain Inn, South Carolina, receives its Preserve America Community designation certificate from Jim Chaplin, Department of Housing and Urban Development Field Office Director, at a County Council meeting.

December 12, 2008: First Lady Laura Bush sends a letter of congratulations to 17 new Preserve America Communities. The year concludes with a total of 713 communities designated since the inception of the program, including 66 counties, two city-county consolidated governments, 17 historic neighborhoods within large cities, and three tribal communities.

The 17 newly designated Preserve America Communities are:

West Memphis, Arkansas	Moline, Illinois	Nelsonville, Ohio
Fullerton, California	Muncie, Indiana	Tipp City, Ohio
Monterey County, California	Beaufort, North Carolina	Lac du Flambeau Band of
Gainesville, Florida	Woodbridge Township, New	Lake Superior Chippewa
Miami Springs, Florida	Jersey	Indians, Wisconsin
Americus, Georgia	Bowling Green, Ohio	Casper, Wyoming
Kaua`i County, Hawaii	Marysville, Ohio	

December 16, 2008: Bob Young, Assistant Deputy Secretary for Field Policy and Management, Department of Housing and Urban Development, presents Preserve America Community designation certificates to Mayor Doug Echols of Rock Hill and York County Chairman Buddy Motz, both of South Carolina. The event is held at the Gettys Center Courtroom in Rock Hill.

December 17, 2008: A regional Preserve America Community recognition event is held at the Mather Training Center in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. Mayor James Addy of Harpers Ferry, Mayor George Karos of Martinsburg, West Virginia, Mayor Robert W. Lazaro, Jr. of Purcellville, Virginia, and Mayor Tim Taylor of Saltsburg, Virginia, are presented with their designation certificates by Bob Young, Assistant Deputy Secretary for Field Policy and Management, Department of Housing and Urban Development. Beth Erickson, Vice-President, The Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership, accepts certificates on behalf of Fauquier County and Middleburg, Virginia. Also participating in the program are Michael Castagnetto, Acting Superintendent of Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, Peter Minter, HUD Field Office Director, West Virginia Office, and Judy Rodenstein, Office of Preservation Initiatives, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, as well as representatives of Senator Jay Rockefeller and Congresswoman Shelley Moore Capito. A guided walking tour in Lower Town follows.

