BACKGROUND
Preserve America is a national program developed by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) in cooperation with the U.S. Departments of the Interior, Agriculture, and other agencies. It has several components, one of which is the designation of Preserve America Communities.

Preserve America Community designation will be granted to eligible tribal communities that meet three general criteria:

- The community has recently supported a historic or cultural preservation project that has promoted and/or is promoting heritage tourism or otherwise fostering economic vitality, and also involved a public-private partnership between government entities and at least one civic association, nonprofit, and/or business enterprise.
- The governing body of the community has adopted a resolution indicating its commitment to the preservation of its heritage assets.
- The community meets at least five criteria specified in three broad categories: discovering heritage through historic places, protecting historic resources, and promoting historic assets.

ELIGIBLE TRIBAL COMMUNITIES
1. Indian tribes are eligible to seek designation as Preserve America Communities. “Indian tribe” or “tribe” means “an Indian tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community, including a Native Village, Regional Corporation or Village Corporation, as those terms are defined in section 3 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1602), which is recognized as eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians” (National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, 16 U.S.C. Sec. 470w(4)).

2. Subdivisions of such Indian tribes as defined in “1.” above that are distinct communities and that are represented by elected officials within the greater tribal government, including, as appropriate, districts, villages, chapters, or other equivalent communities, may also be eligible for this designation. Representatives of such units are encouraged to contact the ACHP to discuss preparation of their applications prior to their submission.

Any tribal community that meets one of these definitions should use this application form, which is also available at www.preserveamerica.gov/tribal-communities-form.doc.
THE APPLICATION PROCESS
Copies of the application forms, sample resolution language, deadlines, and links to information on previously designated communities can be found at www.PreserveAmerica.gov/communities.html. Requests for information or forms can also be made by calling Judy Rodenstein at the ACHP at (202) 517-1488, or by e-mailing her at jrodenstein@achp.gov.

Applications are received and reviewed by ACHP staff for completeness. Complete applications are shared with the National Park Service (NPS), and sometimes other agencies, for their independent review. Communities with incomplete or unclear applications will be contacted by ACHP staff for additional information or clarification.

When an application is judged complete by the ACHP and the NPS, the name of the community is added to a list pending the next announcement of designated communities. Announcement of designated Preserve America Communities will take place several times a year and may be made by official letter or at a public event.

We can notify the tribal tourism office, the local convention and visitors bureau, and the relevant state tourism office(s) of your new designation. If you would like us to do so, please provide the name and title of the head of the Tribal Tourism Office, the local convention and visitors bureau, and the relevant state tourism office(s), as well as their mailing and e-mail addresses.

HELPFUL HINTS FOR PREPARING SUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS
Communities should follow some simple guidelines in preparing their applications for Preserve America Community designation to ensure that their applications are complete and can be processed in a timely manner (item numbers refer to sections of the application form):

**Item 1:** Be sure to consult with your Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO), if there is one, while developing your application. THPO names and contact information can be found at https://grantsdev.cr.nps.gov/THPO_Review/index.cfm. If there is no THPO, we encourage you to consult with any equivalent tribal agency while developing your application.

**Items 3 & 7:** The application must be signed and submitted by the governing official of the tribe, or by the governing official of a jurisdiction that is an official tribal subdivision. If someone else is designated to do this, there should be a clear authorization for this delegation included in the submission package.

**Item 4A:** The project you select to feature needs to be one that has been supported by the community within the last three years and is complete and/or already having a positive economic impact. Make sure the project description includes information on the public and private partners involved and their roles and clearly documents how the specific project is promoting heritage tourism or economic vitality in the community. Any data you can share on the economic or other impacts of the project is desirable. Please note that a history of the community, a list of projects supported over the years, or information
about planned projects that are still prospective do not meet this criterion. However, such information is welcome as supplementary material.

**Item 4B:** Resolutions of the tribal government should be recent and specific to the Preserve America initiative, or should be comprehensive and current enough (within the last five years) to show the community’s present commitment to the preservation of its heritage assets and the goals of the program. Make sure the resolution is signed and dated, and that the governing body that has adopted it is clearly identified. Model resolution language, which you can adapt, is available at www.PreserveAmerica.gov/communities.html.

**Item 4C:** Communities should carefully read through the additional criteria for designation and ensure that they adequately document how they meet at least five of these criteria, including at least one from each of the three categories (discovering heritage through historic places, protecting historic resources, and promoting historic assets). If there is any question about how well the community meets one of the five selected criteria, then the community should provide information on more than five. Communities should feel free to contact ACHP staff if they have a question about how they fulfill and document specific criteria.

**Item 4C(1):** An “ongoing, publicly available inventory of historic properties” means the product of a survey that identifies, describes, and evaluates the condition of historic properties in the community. Be sure to include information on when this was done, any subsequent updates, as well as how and where the public can access the results of this research.

**Item 4C(5):** The “tribal governmental body, such as a Tribal Historic Preservation Office or tribal cultural committee, charged with leading historic preservation activities within the community” should be specifically authorized or established by the tribal government to carry out its duties. Non-profit or quasi-governmental organizations with ex-officio membership of a governmental representative do not meet this requirement unless they have a recognized role under a tribal governmental charter or ordinance.

**Item 4C(10):** “A historic preservation awards or recognition program” means a program through which the tribal community seeking designation gives awards. It does not mean that the community has received awards for its preservation efforts.

**Item 4D:** Communities are asked to submit three to five color images that illustrate their community’s character and show people using and enjoying local historic resources. Digital images on a CD with a minimum resolution of 300 dots per inch (dpi) are preferred; 4” x 6” or larger photographs are acceptable. Photocopies are not acceptable. Please provide captions and credits for these images and identify the community on the CD or on the back of the photos. The images may be used on the Preserve America Web site or for other publicity or educational purposes, which will increase the visibility of the community.

**Item 5:** Additional materials are strongly encouraged, since applications will certainly be enhanced with a showing of community interest and involvement through letters of endorsement and illustrative materials. However, they are not required. Please do not send books.

**Items 6 & 7:** Make sure to read the release authorization and sign and date the application. Since applications are reviewed by at least two reviewers, remember to submit an original application and one copy set.
1. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS
If there is a Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) or equivalent, consult with him or her while developing this application. Applicants are encouraged to send a copy of the completed application to the THPO at the same time it is submitted to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. THPO names and contact information can be found at https://grantsdev.cr.nps.gov/THPO_Review/index.cfm.

Applications must be submitted in hard copy and will not be returned. Please provide an original and one copy of all materials and three to five related images as described on page 5. Please do not use sheet protectors, binders, or tabbed dividers. Submission well in advance of one of the quarterly deadlines (March 1, June 1, September 1, December 1) will facilitate timely review.

Submit applications to:
Preserve America Communities
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
401 F Street NW, Suite 308
Washington, DC 20001-2637

Sources of additional information:
Office of Preservation Initiatives
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
(202) 517-1488
Web site: www.PreserveAmerica.gov

2. COMMUNITY INFORMATION
All federally recognized Indian tribes and their eligible subdivisions and unincorporated communities may seek designation as Preserve America Communities.

Name of tribal community seeking designation ______________________________________________________________

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<tr>
<th>Tribe</th>
<th>Subdivision of tribe (see guidance)</th>
<th>Population</th>
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This community is in ___________________________________________________________ State(s) or Territory(ies).

Congressional District(s) ____________________ Representative(s) __________________

3. APPLICANT INFORMATION
Application for designation can only be submitted by the following:

- Tribal governing official
- Governing official of an official subdivision of a tribe

Applicant’s Name: ______________________________________________ Title: _______________________

Mailing Address: ______________________________________________________________________

City: __________________________ State: __________________ Zip: _______________________

Phone: ______________________ Fax: ______________________ E-mail: ______________________

Street/Delivery Address (No Post Office Boxes): __________________________________________

City: __________________________ State: __________________ Zip: _______________________

Attn: __________________________ Phone: ______________________ E-mail: ______________________

For more information, contact: ______________________________________ Title: ______________________

Phone: ______________________ Fax: ______________________ E-mail: ______________________
4. DESIGNATION CRITERIA AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

A tribal community will qualify for designation as a Preserve America Community if:

A. The community has supported (within the last three years) a historic or cultural preservation project that has promoted and/or is promoting heritage tourism or otherwise fostering economic vitality. The project must have involved a public-private partnership between a government entity and at least one civic association, non-profit organization, or business enterprise. (*Please provide a written description of a specific project, documenting how it fulfills these requirements. Do not exceed 500 words.*)

B. The governing body of the community has recently adopted a resolution indicating its commitment to the preservation of its heritage assets. (*Please include a signed and dated copy of the resolution.*)

C. The community meets at least five of the criteria outlined below (with at least one from each specified category). (*Please check the criteria below under which you are seeking Preserve America Community designation. For each criterion, please provide a written description of no more than 250 words explaining how your community meets the criterion.*)

- **Category 1: Discovering Heritage Through Historic Places**
  - An ongoing, publicly available inventory of historic properties
  - A community-supported museum, interpretive facility, archive, or local history records collection (private or public)
  - Active citizen volunteer involvement, such as a docent or guide program for interpretation of local history and culture, or volunteer participation in improving the condition of heritage assets within the community
  - Opportunities for children to learn about local heritage in the schools, through either established curriculum or special outreach activities

- **Category 2: Protecting Historic Resources**
  - A tribal governmental body, such as a tribal historic preservation office or tribal cultural committee, charged with leading historic preservation activities within the community
  - An adopted community-wide historic preservation plan that is being implemented
  - A historic preservation review ordinance and volunteer or professional staff to implement it

- **Category 3: Promoting Historic Assets**
  - A local heritage tourism program or active participation in a regional program, with such promotional material as a walking/driving trail or tour itinerary, map of historic resources, etc
  - A regularly scheduled heritage observance or event
  - A historic preservation awards or recognition program

D. Submit three to five images that show people using and enjoying your historic cultural and natural resources (CD with digital images scanned at a resolution of 300 dots per inch (dpi) or greater or 4” x 6” color photographs) and provide caption and credit information for each. Please do not superimpose captions, credits, or dates on the images.

E. Provide approximately 150-200 words on the history of your community, including key events, evolution of the economy, current population, public information on other key historic/cultural resources not otherwise mentioned in the application, and two-three links for further information. This information will be edited and incorporated into profiles of designated communities (for examples see www.preserveamerica.gov/ PAcommunities.html).
5. ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING MATERIAL
Written endorsements by preservation organizations, civic organizations, members of Congress, and other elected officials are encouraged. These may be addressed to Ms. Druscilla Null, Acting Director, Office of Preservation Initiatives, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, 401 F Street NW, Suite 308, Washington, DC, 20001-2637. *(Please provide an original and one copy of any letters of endorsement.)*

Documenting participation in other nationwide preservation programs is encouraged. *(Please let us know if your community has been a recipient of a Tribal Historic Preservation Grant, funds under the Save America’s Treasures program, or similar federal funding for historic preservation.)*

Brochures, additional photos, reports, publications, etc. may be appended if desired.

6. RELEASE AUTHORIZATION
The undersigned gives the ACHP and the Preserve America Communities program absolute right to use, in whole and in part, all material submitted in furtherance of this application with the following exception - any information that is provided with an indication that it is of a confidential or sacred nature will not be shared. All submitted materials become the property of Preserve America. Materials may be used in program activities, including publications and Web sites. Preserve America is given permission to make any editorial changes and/or additions to the subject material. The undersigned guarantees to have on file all necessary individual agreements and signatures to ensure Preserve America unencumbered use of all associated material.

I further acknowledge that, if designated a Preserve America Community, our community will be authorized to use the Preserve America logo, or to refer to Preserve America, solely for non-commercial purposes related to the promotion and public understanding of the Preserve America Community designation and the Preserve America program. I agree that the logo, or any reference to Preserve America, will not be used in for-profit commercial applications or ventures and acknowledge that the Preserve America logo is a registered trademark entitled to the legal protections attendant to such status. I further agree that any use of the Preserve America logo, or any reference to Preserve America, will be consistent with the stated purposes of the Preserve America Community designation and the Preserve America program. I further acknowledge that the authorizations described in this paragraph can be revoked at any time and for any reason by the ACHP.

7. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT
*The elected governing official of the tribal community must sign and date this form. Signatures must be original and in ink.*

Signature: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________

Name (please print): ____________________________

Title: ____________________________