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Preserve America News | May 2007

Mrs. Laura Bush Presents 2007 Preserve America Presidential Awards

Mrs. Laura Bush, First Lady of the United States and Honorary Chair of Preserve America, announced and presented the four 2007 Preserve America Presidential Awards at a White House Rose Garden ceremony on May 9, 2007. This year's honorees were:

- In the Heritage Tourism category, the USS Midway Museum, San Diego, California; and, Natchitoches-Cane River Region Heritage Tourism, north-central Louisiana.
- In the Private Preservation category, The History Channel, Save Our History, an effort that is nationwide in scope but also conducts heritage tours in New York City; and, Downtown St. Louis Revitalization, Missouri.



Mrs. Laura Bush Presents 2007
Preserve America Presidential
Awards

For more detailed information, [click here](#).

[Photo in Rose Garden, White House]

June 29 Deadline for Next Round of 2007 Preserve America Grant Applications

Applications for the second round of Preserve America Grants are now being accepted by the National Park Service with a deadline for submission of June 29, 2007. For information on the second round for 2007 and to obtain information on how to apply for grants visit www.cr.nps.gov/hps/hpg/PreserveAmerica/index.htm.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Announces First Wildlife Refuge Preserve America Grants

In March 2007 the first grants from their own Preserve America effort were announced by the National Wildlife Refuge System and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. A total of \$126,000 in U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) funds, coupled with almost \$240,000 in matching funds, went to 11 projects across the nation as well as American Pacific Island locations. The locations of these projects are as diverse as the innovative

efforts to enhance heritage tourism they represent. The sites receiving grants for historic preservation and/or heritage tourism are:

- Blackwater Refuge, Maryland
- Assabet River Refuge, Maine
- Steward McKinney Refuge, Connecticut
- Tula Lake Refuge, California
- Kenai Refuge, Alaska
- Statewide (seven refuges), Iowa
- Banks Lake Refuge, Georgia
- Big Muddy National Fish & Wildlife Refuge, Missouri
- Waccamaw Refuge, South Carolina
- Rydell Refuge, Minnesota
- Pacific Islands



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
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For a list of all projects and more information about what they entail, and more information on the USFWS historic preservation effort, visit www.fws.gov/historicPreservation/preserveAmerica/.

Save Our History Awards Ceremony Held with Historic Preservation Caucus

The History Channel's Save Our History National Honors Breakfast was hosted in the Cannon Caucus Room on Capitol Hill in conjunction with the Congressional Historic Preservation Caucus (CHPC) on May 16, 2007. The awards breakfast followed a Save Our History youth summit held the previous day. At the breakfast, Tom Boyenton of Sharpsburg, Maryland, and Tashae

Grooms of Princeton, Kentucky, (at microphone) gave four recommendations regarding how to better involve youth in historic preservation. Sharing the occasion were (left) Rep. Brad Miller of North Carolina and Rep. Mike Turner of Ohio, the CHPC co-chairs. The students' recommendations were:

- Identify historic places, appreciate their value to our history, and be active in preserving these stories and places for present and future generations.
- Make historic preservation a theme we learn in school, from the early grades on. It can be incorporated into many of our classes in subjects we already study. After-school history projects and activities can enrich our studies even more.
- Use museums, historic sites, and archives as important resources. Experts can visit us in class and open our eyes, field trips can make the past real for our generation, and new technologies can take us to places we've never been before.



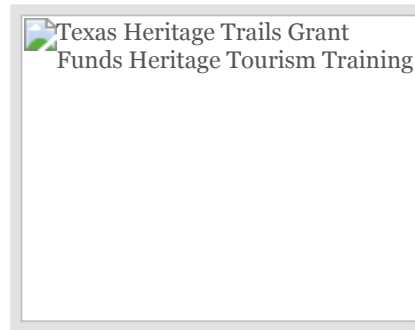
Save Our History Awards
Ceremony Held with Historic
Preservation Caucus

- Recognize that local history can bring people together, strengthening personal and community identities. Search for the hidden stories of people and places that have been overlooked.

For more information on Save Our History and the full list of award-winning historic preservation projects honored in this and prior years, visit www.saveourhistory.com and click on the National Honors feature at the left margin of the page.

Texas Heritage Trails Grant Funds Heritage Tourism Training

Last year, the Texas Heritage Trails program received a \$147,000 Preserve America Grant to the State Historic Preservation Office. Those funds were to help provide in-depth training for community representatives on the successful development of heritage tourism plans and to develop a new Heritage Tourism Guidebook and a workshop series. To learn more about the success of this innovative program, [click here](#).



Many Recent Designation Events

There have been many Preserve America Community designation events round the country over the past two months with the assistance of partners in the Preserve America initiative.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Regional Director Bob Young presented certificates and presided at five events, at Sandersville, Georgia on April 2, Oxford, Mississippi on April 19, Walker County, Georgia, and Huntsville, Alabama, on April 20, and Warsaw, Kentucky, on May 16. On April 23, HUD Deputy Assistant Secretary Ana Maria Farias recognized the Preserve America Community of El Paso, Texas at a special event. And on May 1, HUD Deputy Regional Director Patricia Hoban-Moore presented a certificate to Wilkes County, North Carolina at a recognition event in Wilkesboro, North Carolina. Young was joined by Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) Chairman John L. Nau, III, at Oxford and Walker County.



[Read More>>](#)

[ACHP Member Julia King presents designation certificate to Calvert County, Maryland. Photo by Kirsti Uunila]

13 New Preserve America Communities Designated

On April 19, 2007, Mrs. Laura Bush notified 13 new Preserve America Communities via letter that their applications had been accepted. This brought the national total to 486 designated communities nationwide and in the U.S. Virgin Islands. These recent communities are Ketchikan,

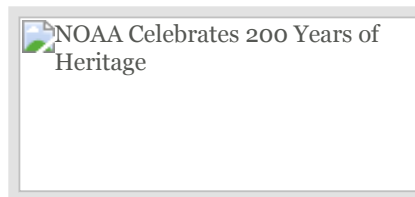
Alaska; Little Rock, Arkansas; Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, and Prowers counties, all in Colorado; Lafayette, Indiana; Saco, Maine; Wyandotte, Michigan; Owego, New York; and, Bellingham, Washington. For a list of communities designated to date, see www.preserveamerica.gov/PACommunities.html



[Whatcom Museum of History and Art, Bellingham, Washington. Photo by David Scherrer]

NOAA Celebrates 200 Years of Heritage

One of Preserve America's earliest and most enthusiastic partner agencies, The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), is celebrating the 200th anniversary of the founding



of its root agency, the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey. In 1807, President Thomas Jefferson founded the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey (as the Survey of the Coast) to provide nautical charts to the maritime community for safe passage into America's ports and along its extensive coastline. The Weather Bureau was founded 1870 and, one year later, the U.S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries was founded. Individually, these organizations were America's first physical science agency, America's first agency dedicated specifically to the atmospheric sciences, and America's first conservation agency. For more, visit www.celebrating200years.noaa.gov. To learn about NOAA's larger Preserve America efforts, visit preserveamerica.noaa.gov.

New Orleans Preserve America Summit Report to be Released Soon

At its spring business meeting on May 10, 2007, the ACHP adopted final recommendations from the Preserve America Summit held in New Orleans last October that are intended to advance the national historic preservation program 40 years after passage of the National Historic Preservation Act. The ACHP evaluated more than 60 ideas that emerged during the Summit process. The priority ideas that were adopted will be available in a final report in June 2007. When the report is available it will be posted online on the agency's Web site, www.achp.gov.

