

National Heritage Areas Alliance Update

ANHA



Historic Beauvoir House, home of Jefferson Davis, suffered severe damage during Hurricane Katrina. Efforts are now underway to rehabilitate the structure.

ANHA Board of Directors Visit Mississippi Gulf Coast National Heritage Area

From October 9th to 12th, the Alliance of National Heritage Areas (ANHA) held its annual Fall Board Meeting in Biloxi, MS. The event, hosted by the Mississippi Gulf Coast National Heritage Area (MGCNHA) began on October 9th, with a Heritage Development Institute workshop entitled, "Where the Stories Matter Most: Story Based Preservation in America's Gulf Coast." The one-day training explored how heritage professionals working in distressed landscapes can still successfully engage their communities and visitors.

Focusing on best practices drawn largely from the experiences of the MGCNHA, workshop sessions highlighted themes such as the impact of environmental change on cultural tradition, the discovery of new voices and audiences through the restoration of distressed landscapes and the role that heritage, culture, and traditions play in the disaster recovery process. Following the workshop, ANHA members were treated to a one of a kind meal at Aunt Jenny's of Ocean Springs. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Aunt Jenny's menu features traditional gulf coast cooking, including catfish and shrimp. Situated at the mouth of Biloxi Bay, the evocative 1852 structure sits under 500 year old oak trees, which once appealed to Elvis Presley, a native Mississippian who frequented the restaurant.

On October 10th, ANHA members took part in a fascinating all-day tour of the MGCNHA. Highlights included a meeting with Biloxi Mayor A.J. Holloway at City Hall; a stop at Keesler Air Force Base, a tour of the historic Saenger Theatre, a 1929 vaudeville house rehabilitated into a region-wide performing arts center; a stop at a recently discovered 1701 cemetery site dubbed the "Jamestown of the south" by leading archaeologists; and tours of the historic towns of Ocean Springs and Pass Christian.

On Thursday and Friday, the ANHA Board held its business meetings, with both general sessions as well as more specialized meetings geared towards the concerns of specific board committees. Board Members also heard an update on international partnerships between the ANHA and heritage-development oriented organizations in other countries.



The ANHA Board of Directors was given rare access to a U.S. Air Force C-130 during a special tour of Keesler Air Force Base, home of The Hurricane Hunters.



ANHA Board members visit a recently discovered 1701 cemetery site in the city of Biloxi, MS.

Legislative Update

On September 17, the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources reported on **S. 278, the National Heritage Areas Partnership Act** (Thomas R-WY). The bill is now ready for Senate Floor action.

On September 26, the House Natural Resources Committee held a full committee markup hearing on **H.R. 1483** (Regula R-OH), to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to extend the authorization for certain national heritage areas and for other purposes. The Bill was ordered to be reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 23 - 12.

On September 27, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources

Subcommittee on National Parks held a hearing on **S. 128** (Allard R-CO), to amend the Cache La Poudre River Corridor Act to designate a new management entity, make certain technical and conforming amendments and enhance private property protections and **S. 697** (Specter R-PA), to establish the Steel Industry National Historic Site in the State of Pennsylvania.

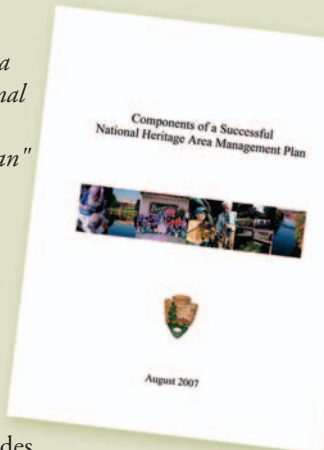
On October 10, Rep. Paul Kanjorski (D-PA) introduced **H.R. 3809**: To amend the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor Act of 1988 regarding the local coordinating entity of the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, and for other purposes. The Bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

Publications and Resources

Copies of "Components of a Successful National Heritage Areas Management Plan" Draft

management planning notebook are now available online or through the mail. The

document provides straight-forward guidance to heritage areas as they begin the management planning process, with information on legal compliance, public involvement and partnership development. Visit www.nps.gov/history/heritageareas to download a copy or contact Eleanor Mahoney, National Heritage Areas Program Assistant, at Eleanor_Mahoney@contractor.nps.gov for a hard copy. Draft guidelines for conducting a Feasibility Study are also available at <http://www.nps.gov/history/heritageareas/FSGUIDE/index.html>



National Park Service Launches New Discover Our Shared Heritage Travel Itinerary for Augusta, Georgia

The National Park Service recently launched a new on-line travel itinerary for Augusta, Georgia, the 45th in its ongoing Discover Our Shared Heritage Travel Itinerary Series. The National Park Service's Heritage Education Services, Historic Augusta, Inc and the Augusta Canal National Heritage Area produced the itinerary in partnership with the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. A Tourism Grant from the City of Augusta and the Augusta Convention and Visitors Bureau provided part of the project funding. The new itinerary explores 39 historic places that bring Augusta's history to life. It includes site descriptions as well as photographs and visitor information. The itinerary is available on the National Park Service website at www.nps.gov/history/nr/travel/augusta/, and visitors can print it as a guide. The Augusta itinerary is part of the Department of the Interior's strategy to promote public awareness of history and encourage visits to historic places throughout the country.

News from the Heritage Areas



Crossroads of the American Revolution Association Receives Statewide Award

On Saturday Sept. 29, 2007, Preservation New Jersey held its annual Preservation Gala in Florham Park, NJ. At the Gala Preservation New Jersey honored the Crossroads of the American Revolution Association with the annual Sarah P. Fiske Preservation Award for their longstanding commitment to improving popular understanding of New Jersey's

Revolutionary War heritage, while also promoting open space conservation, historic preservation, community revitalization and heritage tourism. Incorporated in 2002, the Crossroads Association – its founders and present leaders – headed the advocacy effort that resulted in Congressional designation of the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area in 2006. The Fiske Award is dedicated to the memory of Sarah Pitney Fiske of Morristown, philanthropist, local historian, member and generous benefactor of Preservation New Jersey. It recognizes groups or individuals whose efforts make a significant impact on preserving historic resources in the state. Honorary Co-Chairs for the 2007 Preservation Gala, U.S. Representative Rodney P. Frelinghuysen and U.S. Representative Rush Holt, were the Congressional co-sponsors of the Crossroads Heritage Area legislation, which was strongly supported by the entire New Jersey Congressional delegation. For more information visit www.revolutionarynj.org.

New Section of Lackawanna River Heritage Trail Completed

On Monday, September 24th, the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority (LHVA) and the Lackawanna County Commissioners hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening of a new section of the Lackawanna River Heritage Trail in Mayfield Borough and Carbondale Township, Pennsylvania. The one-mile section of trail, known as the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Center Trail, is part of a larger 40 mile project which aims to re-connect local residents to the Lackawanna River and to link the valley's major cultural, recreational, educational, and historic sites. The Trail is funded by the National Park Service, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and PennDOT.



Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area Hosts Heritage Walks

Over the weekends of September 22 & 23 and October 6 & 7, 2007, the Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area hosted a free series of heritage walks. Led by historians, naturalists, and environmentalists, the walks explored the Housatonic River, the history of the villages and towns in the Upper Housatonic Valley, the geological, ornithological and horticultural resources of the area, and the splendid autumn foliage. This is the sixth year that the Upper Housatonic Valley national Heritage Area has sponsored the event. For more information, you can visit <http://www.upperhousatonicheritage.org> or www.heritage-hikes.org.

continued on page 4

Assistance/Awards

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation is accepting nominations for the 2008 Preserve America Presidential Awards. The program recognizes exemplary heritage tourism and historic preservation programs and projects that meet 2008 Preserve America Presidential Award criteria. Beginning this year, preservation projects that are primarily publicly funded are eligible for consideration, unlike past years when preservation projects had to be primarily privately funded. Nominations must be postmarked no later than **November 1, 2007**. More information and a nomination form are available at www.preserveamerica.gov.

The objective of the Conservation Trust is to support conservation activities around the world as they fit within the mission of the National Geographic Society. The trust will fund projects that contribute significantly to the preservation and sustainable use of the Earth's biological, cultural, and historical resources. Grants of up to \$20,000 each are available to fund individuals or groups with a proved record of conservation work related to the proposed program. The deadline is open, visit <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/research/grant/rg2.html> for more information.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is offering Marine Debris Prevention and Removal Project Grants to individual, grass-roots marine debris prevention and removal projects that benefit coastal habitat like wetlands and coral reefs, as well as fisheries, marine mammals, sea turtles and waterways. The deadline to apply is October 31. For more information please visit: <http://www.noaa.gov>



Partners Column

National Park Service Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month

Running from September 15 thru October 15, Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates the rich Hispanic traditions that exist across the country. To learn more about the 40 national parks with a direct connection to Hispanic heritage visit NPS' bilingual website, <http://heritagenews.cr.nps.gov/index/Index.cfm>

Conferences, Workshops and Events



National Public Lands Day Celebrated on Sept. 29th

All national parks offered free admission on September 29 in celebration of National Public Lands Day. One third of the land in the United States – 600 million acres – has been set aside as public parks, refuges, forests, wetlands, and cultural sites. National Public Lands Day is the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance public places and space. In 2006, 100,000 volunteers built trails and bridges, planted trees and plants, and removed trash and invasive plants. More information is online at <http://www.publiclandsday.org/>



National Council on Public History (NCPH) Issues Call for Proposals for 2007 Conference Working Groups

Working Groups at the 2008 NCPH Annual Meeting, Louisville

The 2008 NCPH Annual Meeting will introduce a new session format called "Working Groups," led by senior practitioners and involving up to twelve participants. It will allow conferees to explore in depth a subject of shared concern. In these innovative seminar-like conversations, participants will have a chance to discuss questions raised by specific programs, problems, or initiatives in their own public history practice with peers grappling with similar issues. For 2008, three working groups are being assembled: Public History and Civic Life, Unifying and Dividing Communities through Historic Preservation, Finding Common Ground between Interpreters and Historians. To join a working group, please submit a one-paragraph abstract to nph@iupui.edu describing the case you wish to raise with your peers, together with a one- or two-page resume or CV by October 31 (You may apply to participate in a working group whether or not you have submitted another presentation or session proposal for the conference.)

Oral History Workshops to be held in Mid-Atlantic region on Nov. 2nd

The Oral History of the Mid-Atlantic Region (OHMAR) Association will be hosting its fall oral history workshops in Baltimore, MD on November 2, 2007. These workshops are open to all regardless of level of oral history experience.

The workshop will be held from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of African American History and Culture, 830 E. Pratt Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202. The conference schedule and registration information can be found at: <http://ohmar.org/pastconferences/workshop2007/Fall.htm>

For more information on heritage areas, please visit our websites.

The Alliance Update is a partnership project of the Alliance of National Heritage Areas and the National Park Service National Heritage Areas Program.

Send your heritage area events and news to the editor by the 18th of the month for inclusion in the following month's bulletin.

Please forward this bulletin to others who may be interested, and encourage them to join our e-bulletin address list.

- Reach the editor at Eleanor_Mahoney@contractor.nps.gov
- Reach the National Coordinator for Heritage Areas at Brenda_Barrett@nps.gov
- To subscribe or unsubscribe, send an email to the editor.

John W. Cosgrove
Executive Director
Alliance of National Heritage Areas
202.528.7549
anha.cosgrove@comcast.net
www.nationalheritageareas.org

Eleanor Mahoney
National Park Service
National Heritage Areas
202.354.2268
Eleanor_Mahoney@contractor.nps.gov
www.nps.gov/history/heritageareas/



News from the Heritage Areas

continued from page 2

Silos and Smokestacks Hosts "Teaching with Historic Places"

Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area, in partnership with the Public History Program at the University of Northern Iowa, hosted a "Teaching Places" workshop on September 16-17th. The keynote presentation, entitled "Power of Place," was delivered by Beth Boland, Historian for the National Park Service & Teaching with Historic Places (TwHP) Program Manager. Boland is nationally known for promoting the use of places as an effective teaching tool and a source of historical evidence. A follow-up workshop, offered on the 18th, gave participants an opportunity to learn more about the TwHP curriculum using hands-on teaching methods. For more information, contact Silos and Smokestacks at 319-234-4567.



Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area (NRGNHA) to host "National Heritage Area Partner Workshop"

The NRGNA Board will host a "National Heritage Area Partner Workshop" on November 2, 2007 at Los Luceros, a significant cultural and historic site located north of Espanola, New Mexico. The purpose of the meeting is to share information on the status and scope of the Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area; to share information on key activities and interests of partners to the heritage area; to seek input on heritage area goals and activities; and to identify specific opportunities for partners to work together to advance priorities within the heritage area. For more information on the meeting, contact Mary Padilla, at Mary_Padilla@nps.gov

Augusta Canal National Heritage Area

The Augusta Canal has been in existence since 1845. One of the first successful industrial canals in the southern states, today the scenic waterway is the only American industrial power canal still in continuous use for its original purposes. Unlike some other canal-centered heritage areas that cover many square miles along transportation canal corridors, the Augusta Canal is one of the country's smaller National Heritage Areas, encompassing only about a dozen miles of waterway and adjacent land. Although most of the mighty textile mills along its banks no longer manufacture fabric, three still produce



hydroelectricity as the canal's water surges through turbines on its way back to the Savannah River. In fact, the Augusta Canal NHA earns a significant portion of its operating income from the power generated by the canal.



The Augusta Canal was Georgia's first National Heritage Area, designated 1996. In 2003 the Augusta Canal Interpretive Center at Enterprise Mill opened and later that year, the first of two replica Petersburg Boats began service for guided canal tours. Improvements to enhance recreation and cultural tourism along the canal include renovation of the Headgate structures and 1875 locks, extension of the New Bartram multi-use trail, completion of recreational amenities including a canoe/kayak dock, stairway to the Savannah River and Pedestrian Bridge at Savannah Rapids Park.



ACNHA offers a wide variety of experiences to both local residence and visitors. These include:

Petersburg Boat guided canal tours. One-hour, three-hour and specialty narrated tours offered several times each day and for group charter.

Augusta Canal Interpretive Center at Enterprise Mill. 10,000 square-foot interactive museum housed in refurbished 1880's textile mill. Winner of 2005 Georgia Historical Society Award for best Georgia History Exhibit.

Headgate Historic Structures at Savannah Rapids Park- Locks dating from 1845 and 1875, Lockkeepers Cottage housing Columbia County's Regional Visitor Information Center, docks, bridge and outdoor dining buildings. The popular canal towpath begins here.

Towpath and Trails. Multi-use trail system includes the historic towpath, the New Bartram Trail, and links to downtown Riverwalk and Columbia County's trail systems, creating a 40-mile network of pedestrian and bike trails.

Paddling. Local outfitters provide canoe and kayak rentals on the canal. Access to the Savannah River is available at several points.

Future plans call for mixed-use redevelopment along the canal's urban third level, a previously blighted area that has undergone extensive environmental remediation. As funding becomes available, additional segments of multiuse trail will be added to the existing trail system.

The success of the Augusta Canal since its National Heritage Area designation has sparked renewed interest from city leaders and concerned citizens. They see its potential to become a catalyst for economic development in the 21st Century, just as it was in the 19th. Proposals to reroute the canal through Augusta's downtown and to build an urban kayak course are stimulating lively conversations about the future of the waterway.



AUGUSTA CANAL NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

Featured in National Heritage Area