



Preserve America Summit Implementation **One-Year Progress Report**

Provide more technical assistance to local communities to promote historic preservation and heritage tourism, and explore the concept of a Preserve America Community Agent or similar mechanism to work more actively with local communities.

Lead Agency/Agencies: National Park Service (NPS); Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP)

Summit Recommendation Progress: The agencies have pursued separate but complementary work. NPS has developed local preservation training in Wyoming, and worked with Arkansas on the hiring of a Preserve America Agent. HUD and the ACHP provided training for HUD's 10 Regional Directors about the Preserve America program and historic preservation, and worked with HUD field offices on promotion among their community constituents. Both NPS and ACHP expanded their involvement with the annual meeting of the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions (NAPC).

For the Arkansas State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Program Pilot, Preserve America grant funding has been used for hiring the first statewide Preserve America Agent. Subgrants have also been awarded to eight Preserve America communities in Arkansas to fund heritage tourism/preservation plans. The Agent position is currently being interviewed and is expected to be hired in August 2008.

For the Wyoming Certified Local Government (CLG) Training Pilot, the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Preserve America grant funding has created a basic preservation/tourism training for each of their 20 Certified Local Governments. Beginner level trainings were conducted from May to June 2008 in eight communities. The remaining communities will receive beginner or advanced level training in September 2008. At least one member from each of the beginner trainings will be encouraged to attend advanced training. This pilot is a working partnership between the SHPO, NPS, NAPC, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation to target a part of the country that has less advanced preservation/tourism skills but has many resources to preserve.

Partially funded by a Preserve America Grant, the NAPC Forum biannual meeting was held in New Orleans, Louisiana in July 2008. The City of New Orleans, a Preserve America community, partnered with NAPC to use the grant funds to provide several educational tours and sessions on disaster planning and using heritage tourism for economic development. NPS and ACHP personnel were also active in the opening plenary, as well as information sessions on NPS, Preserve America, and grant writing.

The Certified Local Government (CLG) website has been revised and provides links to the Preserve America website for local communities. It also provides the ability for State CLG coordinators to update each of their CLG's contact information, thereby enabling both NPS and ACHP to have a more accurate list of contacts for distribution of future Preserve America program opportunities.

Next Actions: For the Arkansas pilot, the Arkansas SHPO will review proposals for the Preserve America agent and hire in August, and communities will continue to progress on their subgrants. For the

Wyoming pilot, the fourth set of basic trainings will be held in September 2008, in which representatives from the National Trust for Historic Preservation will participate as staff. The fifth set will be targeted at more advanced communities ready to assume responsibility for design review and more active management/promotion of their historic resources. HUD and the ACHP are working with Tulane University on a Preserve America Mayor's Conference pilot program, expected to be launched in Mississippi in the fall of 2008. HUD will also continue to work with the ACHP on information materials about Preserve America and relevant HUD programs for HUD staff and local partners.

Important Links:

National Alliance of Preservation Commissions: <http://www.uga.edu/sed/pso/programs/napc/napc.htm>

National Trust for Historic Preservation: www.preservationnation.org

Wyoming SHPO: <http://wyoshpo.state.wy.us/>

Arkansas SHPO: <http://www.arkansaspreservation.org/>

National Park Service CLG Program: <http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/clg/index.htm>

HUD Community Planning and Development:

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/environment/library/subjects/preservation/index.cfm>

Comments or Questions? Please send comments or questions to preserveamerica@achp.gov.

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