

## The National Center for Cultural Resources Stewardship and Partnership Programs

**T**he National Center for Cultural Resources Stewardship and Partnership Programs was established on October 1, 1995, as part of a larger restructuring of the National Park Service. The National Center was created by consolidating former headquarters cultural resources program divisions into a single entity. The focus of the National Center is on working cooperatively with and providing assistance to parks, system support offices, and partners on the full range of cultural resources programs that relate to parks and communities nationwide.

The National Center encompasses policy-making expertise provided to the Associate Director, Cultural Resource Stewardship and Partnerships, as well as program administration. It is envisioned as a provider of services to other entities within the National Park Service, governments at all levels, and customers from the private sector who bear much of the responsibility for historic preservation activities in numerous communities throughout the nation. The integration of park and national program activities allows for insights gained in either realm to be brought to bear on common issues and problems. Because we serve

national parks, partners, and the public, the National Center is more varied than most other service centers within the National Park Service.

We are service- and product-oriented. Many of the tools the center provides grew out of legislation dating back to the early-20th century. These include, among many others, the Antiquities Act of 1906, which provides for penalties for destroying historic or pre-historic properties on government lands; the Historic Sites Act of 1935, which established authority for the national survey activities; and the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, which set up the partnership programs of the National Park Service, the State Historic Preservation Offices, Certified Local Governments, Indian tribes, and the private sector in protecting cultural resources throughout the nation.

**Archeology & Ethnography:** The Archeology and Ethnography Program provides national leadership and coordination for archeology and ethnography. It encourages and supports the protection, preservation, and interpretation of America's archeological resources inside the national park system and beyond. It identifies, protects, and interprets cultural and natural resources that have traditional value for contempo-



The National Historic Preservation Act encouraged federal agencies to identify and appropriately manage historic properties under their jurisdiction. In 1997, the National Park Service will be implementing a Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI) to document the cultural landscapes of the national park system, such as Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site, MT, and the Blue Ridge Parkway, VA. As envisioned, the CLI will include information about the location, historical development, and current management of these resources, pro-



viding valuable information for planning, treatment, and interpretation.

The right photograph illustrates the buildings, structures, and landscape features that make up the Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site. Photo by Jonna Mihalic, courtesy National Park Service.

The left photograph dates from the 1940s and shows a view from Flat Top Mountain towards Grandfather Mountain, Blue Ridge Parkway, VA, courtesy National Park Service.

rary communities within existing and proposed units of the national park system.

**HABS/HAER:** The Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) and the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) reflect the federal government's commitment to preserve important architectural, engineering, and industrial properties through programs that document outstanding examples of this country's heritage. Project teams produce measured drawings, large-format photography, and written histories. These documents are available to the public through the HABS/HAER collections that are housed, serviced, and maintained by the Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division.

**Heritage Preservation Services:** HPS provides a wide variety of educational and assistance tools to help communities identify and preserve historic properties for future generations. It manages interdisciplinary programs and provides financial assistance and incentives, guidance, and technical information that cover the full spectrum of historic preservation practice in the nation. Its programs are intended to empower other governmental entities and organizations to accomplish the work of historic preservation.

**Museum Management:** The Museum Management Program supports development and coordination of servicewide policies, standards, and procedures for managing museum collections, including natural, cultural, archival, and manuscript materials. The program provides staff advice, technical assistance, and professional development pertaining to museum collections acquisition, documentation, preservation, protection, use, and disposal for the National Park Service. It provides similar services to Department of the Interior bureaus. The program develops and maintains a servicewide catalogue and other statistics on museum collections.

**National Register, History & Education:** This program promotes the recognition, appreciation, and preservation of historic places nationwide. It provides leadership throughout the national park system and beyond through a variety of activities that includes the identification, evaluation, documentation, and interpretation of these places. Its programmatic responsibilities are implemented within the following functional areas: Administrative History, National Historic Landmarks Survey, National Maritime Initiative, National Register of Historic Places, Park History (research, education, and park planning), and Teaching With Historic Places.

**Park Historic Structures & Cultural Landscapes:** The Park Historic Structures and Cultural Landscapes Program is responsible for providing support for the development of policies,

and prepares guidelines, standards, techniques, methods, and technical information for inventory, documentation, planning, treatment, management, and use of historic and prehistoric structures, and cultural landscapes in the national park system. It develops and maintains management inventories and information systems for these resources, and provides professional advice and assistance.

The National Program Center works closely with program offices under the Associate Director, Cultural Resource Stewardship and Partnerships.

**Indian Liaison Office:** The Indian Liaison Office works to improve relationships between American Indian tribes, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and the National Park Service through consultation, outreach, technical assistance, education, and advisory services. The office assists the National Park Service field and program managers with carrying out relationships with American Indian tribes and Alaska Native groups on a government-to-government basis and educates them concerning Indian self-determination, tribal self-governance, and effective means of working with tribes. The office helps ensure that American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian concerns are considered in policies that affect them.

**Partnership Liaison Office:** The Partnership Liaison Office helps the National Park Service—its parks and programs—develop, maintain, and enhance partnerships with public and private entities. To accomplish this goal, the Office develops and implements strategies and policies to enhance the ability of NPS and its employees to successfully work with partners. It promotes partnerships internally and externally as an increasingly important method of achieving the NPS mission.

**National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT):** The Center promotes and enhances the preservation of historic and prehistoric resources in the United States for present and future generations through the advancement and dissemination of preservation technology and training. Established by Congress, the Center is an interdisciplinary effort by the National Park Service to advance the art, craft, and science of historic preservation in the fields of archeology, historic architecture, historic landscapes, objects and materials conservation, and interpretation. The center serves public and private practitioners through research, education, and information management.

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## ***Major Divisions and Program Areas of the National Center***

### **Archeology & Ethnography:**

Applied Ethnography  
Archeological Protection Training  
Archeological Sites Management Information System  
*Archeological Technical Briefs/Studies Common Ground*  
Cultural Resources World Wide Web Site:  
Links (co-leadership with Heritage Preservation Services)  
LOOT Clearinghouse—Listing of Outlaw Treachery  
National Archeological Database (NADB)  
Native American Graves and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA)  
Secretary's Report to Congress on the Federal Archeology Program  
Systemwide Archeology Inventory Program

### **HABS/HAER:**

Access to Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division  
HABS/HAER Collections Management  
HABS/HAER Summer Project Teams  
Historic American Buildings Survey  
Historic American Engineering Record  
Mitigation Documentation  
**Heritage Preservation Services:**  
American Battlefield Protection Program  
Certified Local Governments  
Comprehensive Historic Preservation Planning  
Cultural Resources Geographic Information Systems (CRGIS) Laboratory  
Cultural Resources World Wide Web (co-leadership with Archeology and Ethnography)  
Historic Landscapes Initiative  
Historic Preservation Fund  
National Historic Landmarks Initiative  
*Preservation Briefs and Preservation Tech Notes*  
Preservation Software Development and Training  
Preservation Tax Incentives  
Support to the Board of the National Center for Preservation Training and Technology  
Technical Preservation Services  
Tribal Heritage Program

### **Museum Management:**

Clearinghouse  
*Conserve O Gram*  
Interior Museum Property Program  
Museum Management, National Catalog, Automated National Catalog System  
*Museum Management Newsletter, ANCS News, Clearinghouse Classified, and Interior Museum Property Bulletin Board*  
Museum Management Technical Information and Services  
NPS Museum Handbook, DOI Museum Property Handbook  
Servicewide Museum Management Professional Development  
Supply and Equipment Program  
Washington Office Art Collection

### **National Register, History & Education:**

NPS Park History Program  
National Historic Landmarks Survey  
National Maritime Initiative  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Register Archives  
National Register *Bulletins*  
National Register Information System  
Teaching With Historic Places  
**Park Historic Structures & Cultural Landscapes:**  
Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI)  
Cultural Resources Management Bibliography (CRBIB)  
Historic Property Leasing Program  
Historic Structures and Cultural Landscapes Technical Service  
Inventory and Condition Assessment Program (ICAP)  
List of Classified Structures (LCS)