

For Immediate Release
June 26, 2008



Contact:
Allen Tom
(800) 831-4888

Maui County Named Preserve America Community

June 26, 2008—The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) today announced Maui County has been designated a Preserve America Community. Through this prestigious designation, the county becomes eligible for Preserve America Grants and other assistance to its historic preservation and heritage tourism efforts.

Maui County is the second Hawaii community, after Honolulu's Chinatown Historic District, to receive this special designation.

"I'm delighted that Maui County received the well-deserved designation as a Preserve America Community and look forward to the many opportunities this will open up for us," said Maui County Mayor Charmaine Tavares.

ACHP Chairman John L. Nau, III officially welcomed Maui County as a Preserve America Community at a special ceremony June 26 at the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary's Maui site. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Office of National Marine Sanctuaries supported Maui's nomination as a Preserve America Community.

"There are significant economic, educational, and cultural benefits that historic preservation, through efforts such as heritage tourism, provides a community," Nau said. "Sustainable preservation is not a cost for maintaining the past; it is an investment in the future. Preserve America Communities are to be commended for their dedication to historic preservation and their visions for civic improvement. Congratulations to Maui County on their designation."

The Preserve America initiative is a White House effort to encourage and support community efforts for the preservation and enjoyment of America's priceless cultural and natural heritage.

The goals of the initiative, which is administered by the ACHP in partnership with other federal agencies, include a greater shared knowledge about the nation's past; strengthened regional identities and local pride; increased local participation in preserving the country's cultural and natural heritage assets; and support for the economic vitality of communities.

Preserve America began as a White House initiative in 2003. Mrs. Laura Bush, First Lady, is honorary chair of Preserve America. More than 600 cities, counties, tribes, and neighborhoods in all 50 states, Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands have been designated Preserve America Communities.

Preserve America Communities become eligible for technical and financial support for educational and marketing opportunities. Preserve America Grants compliment the bricks and mortar funding of the Save America's Treasures grant program by helping local communities develop sustainable resource and marketing management strategies, sound business practices for the continued preservation and use of heritage assets, and educational and interpretive efforts.

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

1100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 803 • Washington, DC 20004
Phone: 202-606-8503 • Fax: 202-606-8647 • www.PreserveAmerica.gov

“Maui County’s designation as a Preserve America Community will help to elevate the visibility of various communities as nationally important historic sites,” said Sen. Daniel K. Inouye, who supported the designation process.

###