

A training initiative of the Alliance of National Heritage Areas

HDI "House Call" in Montana a Success

The first HDI House Call of 2006 took place at the Silver Bow Club in Butte, Montana, on February 22, 2006. Sponsored by the Montana Preservation Alliance, the Butte-Silver Bow Public Archives, and the Headwaters RC&D, the day-long workshop attracted over 30 residents, property owners, and state and local officials. Also in the audience were Montana House Representative Diane Rice, Montana Senator Lynda Moss, and Barb Pohl, the Mountains/Plains Regional Director of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Van West, the HDI Committee Chair, facilitated the workshop, which began with his review of the current status of federal legislation in Washington, D.C. He followed with a discussion of best practices, as outlined in the recent National Trust publication, "Getting

Started with Heritage Areas," by West and Brenda Barrett of the National Park Service.

Since their initial HDI "Basics" workshop in the fall of 2004, the Butte-Anaconda community had continued its work on identifying the nationally significant resources of the region. In May 2006, their work will be celebrated by the formal announcement of the Butte-Walkerville-Anaconda National Historic Landmark Historic District. This linear district connects properties significant to the mining of copper and other precious metals to the properties where the copper was smelted and then shipped by railroad across the country. It is the largest National Historic Landmark historic district in the nation.

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The workshop also focused on other significant parts of the Butte-Anaconda story, including musical and cultural traditions embracing a growing arts and artisans community as well as the area's much celebrated bar culture and distinctive mining cuisine of ethnic, comfort food.

The participants expressed their interest in informal heritage area partnerships, the national program, and expressed a strong interest in develop a state heritage areas strategy.

The workshop closed with the identification of key partners and a strategy to work with a regional tourism initiative named Gold

West to continue the partnership building. The workshop also made plans to announce its efforts and to extend the partnership with the publicity provided by the announcement of the National Historic Landmark district in May.



ANHA Annual Meeting In Washington, D.C. Recap

The Alliance of National Heritage Areas conducted their annual Board of Directors meeting in Washington, D.C. during the first week in February. The ANHA also hosted its 8th annual Congressional Reception in the Rayburn Building, which drew a crowd of over 150 attendees. Attendees and speakers included Senator Craig Thomas of Wyoming, NPS Deputy Director Don Murphy, NPS Advisory Board member Mayor Jerry Hruby, representatives from the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the National Endowment for the Humanities, staff from the Secretary of the Interior, and staff from the Congressional Delegations from each of the heritage areas.

Spotlight on NHAs: Cane River National Heritage Area

Located south of Natchitoches, Louisiana, the Cane River NHA traverses 35 miles of both sides of the Cane River. This historically French and Spanish settlement is now home to a diverse blend of French, Spanish, American Indian, African and Creole cultures. This largely rural agricultural landscape highlights unique Creole architecture and heritage, with numerous National, State, and local historic landmarks, plantations, churches, and homes. Cane River NHA strives to preserve and interpret Louisiana's rich history while respecting and promoting residents' existing traditions and quality of life through heritage tourism projects, planning, project grants, resource preservation and enhancement, and heritage education.

For more information on this heritage area,
visit
www.caneriverheritage.org



Natchitoches, LA



Upcoming Events of Interest

National Archives and Records Administration
20th Annual Preservation Conference
March 16, 2006
College Park, MD
www.archives.gov

American Institute of Architects
5th National Forum on Historic Preservation Practice: "A Critical Look at Authenticity and Historic Preservation"
March 23-25
Goucher College, Baltimore, MD
www.aia.org/hrc_default

US/ICOMOS
9th Annual International Symposium
April 19-23
Newport, RI
http://www.icomos.org/usicomos/Symposium/SYMP06/2006_Symposium.htm

Additions to Your Heritage Development Reading List

- Barrett, Brenda and Carroll Van West. *Getting Started in Heritage Areas*. National Trust for Historic Preservation: Washington, DC, 2005. Available at www.nationaltrust.org.
- *The Official Index of the National Park Service*, available online at www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/nps/index2005_07.pdf.

For a comprehensive list of sources related to heritage development, visit www.heritagedevelopmentinstitute.org/research. This bibliography is updated monthly.

Future of the National Heritage Areas Program

A Partnerships Committee was formed earlier this year to make recommendations to the National Park Service Advisory Board regarding the future of the National Heritage Areas program within the National Park Service. The Advisory Board will use this report to make recommendations to the Director of the National Park Service and the Secretary of the Interior.

For a copy of the report, visit <http://www.cr.nps.gov/heritageareas/> and click on “Interim Report.”

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The Alliance of National Heritage Areas (ANHA) established the Heritage Development Institute (HDI) as a way of providing leadership to the heritage development field as well as creating training and analysis of the best practices in our heritage areas across the country. The HDI Newsletter is sponsored by the ANHA, Middle Tennessee State University's Center for Historic Preservation, and the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area. To submit information and update e-mail addresses, please e-mail us at hdi@mtsu.edu.