



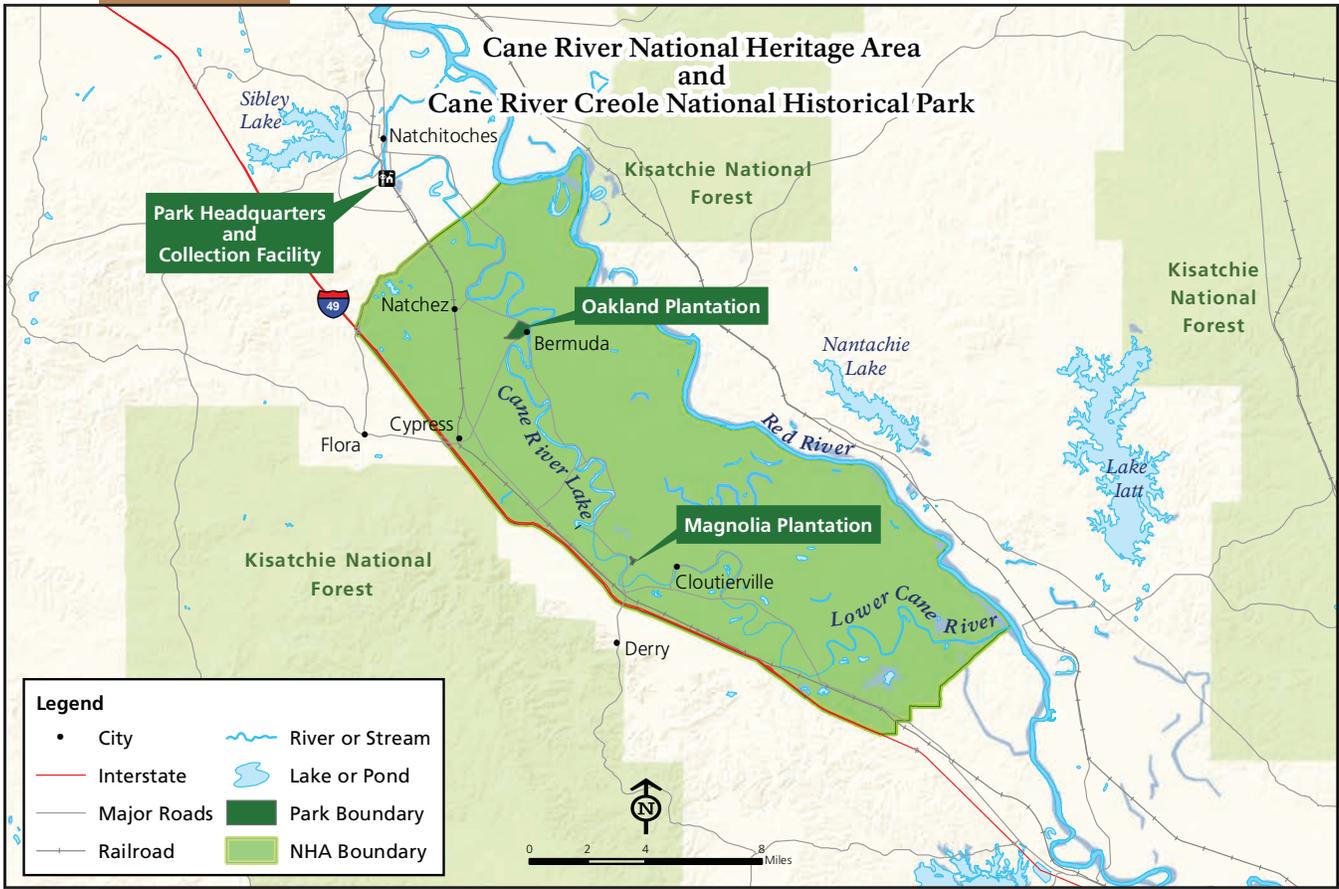
Foundation Document

Cane River Creole National Historical Park

Louisiana

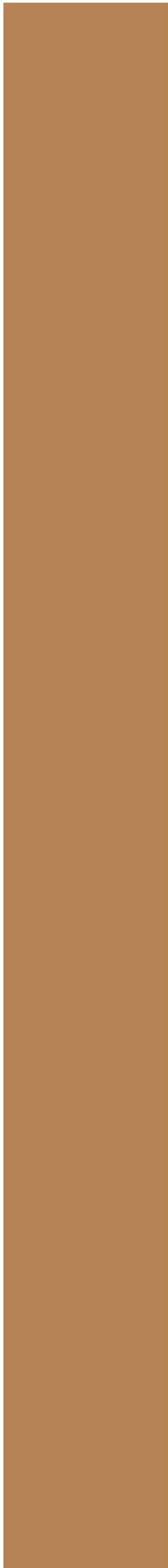
September 2015





Contents

Mission of the National Park Service	1
Introduction.	2
Part 1: Core Components	3
Brief Description of the Park.	3
Park Purpose	5
Park Significance	6
Fundamental Resources and Values	7
Interpretive Themes	10
Part 2: Dynamic Components	11
Special Mandates and Administrative Commitments	11
Assessment of Planning and Data Needs	11
Analysis of Fundamental Resources and Values	11
Identification of Key Issues and Associated Planning and Data Needs	32
Planning and Data Needs	33
Part 3: Contributors	40
Cane River Creole National Historical Park.	40
NPS Southeast Region.	40
Other NPS Staff	40
Partners.	40
Appendixes	41
Appendix A: Enabling Legislation for Cane River Creole National Historical Park and Cane River National Heritage Area	41
Appendix B: Inventory of Administrative Commitments	49





Mission of the National Park Service

The National Park Service (NPS) preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The National Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

The NPS core values are a framework in which the National Park Service accomplishes its mission. They express the manner in which, both individually and collectively, the National Park Service pursues its mission. The NPS core values are:

- **Shared stewardship:** We share a commitment to resource stewardship with the global preservation community.
- **Excellence:** We strive continually to learn and improve so that we may achieve the highest ideals of public service.
- **Integrity:** We deal honestly and fairly with the public and one another.
- **Tradition:** We are proud of it; we learn from it; we are not bound by it.
- **Respect:** We embrace each other's differences so that we may enrich the well-being of everyone.

The National Park Service is a bureau within the Department of the Interior. While numerous national park system units were created prior to 1916, it was not until August 25, 1916, that President Woodrow Wilson signed the National Park Service Organic Act formally establishing the National Park Service.

The national park system continues to grow and comprises more than 400 park units covering more than 84 million acres in every state, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. These units include, but are not limited to, national parks, monuments, battlefields, military parks, historical parks, historic sites, lakeshores, seashores, recreation areas, scenic rivers and trails, and the White House. The variety and diversity of park units throughout the nation require a strong commitment to resource stewardship and management to ensure both the protection and enjoyment of these resources for future generations.



The arrowhead was authorized as the official National Park Service emblem by the Secretary of the Interior on July 20, 1951. The sequoia tree and bison represent vegetation and wildlife, the mountains and water represent scenic and recreational values, and the arrowhead represents historical and archeological values.

Introduction

Every unit of the national park system will have a foundational document to provide basic guidance for planning and management decisions—a foundation for planning and management. The core components of a foundation document include a brief description of the park as well as the park’s purpose, significance, fundamental resources and values, and interpretive themes. The foundation document also includes special mandates and administrative commitments, an assessment of planning and data needs that identifies planning issues, planning products to be developed, and the associated studies and data required for park planning. Along with the core components, the assessment provides a focus for park planning activities and establishes a baseline from which planning documents are developed.

A primary benefit of developing a foundation document is the opportunity to integrate and coordinate all kinds and levels of planning from a single, shared understanding of what is most important about the park. The process of developing a foundation document begins with gathering and integrating information about the park. Next, this information is refined and focused to determine what the most important attributes of the park are. The process of preparing a foundation document aids park managers, staff, and the public in identifying and clearly stating in one document the essential information that is necessary for park management to consider when determining future planning efforts, outlining key planning issues, and protecting resources and values that are integral to park purpose and identity.

While not included in this document, a park atlas is also part of a foundation project. The atlas is a series of maps compiled from available geographic information system (GIS) data on natural and cultural resources, visitor use patterns, facilities, and other topics. It serves as a GIS-based support tool for planning and park operations. The atlas is published as a (hard copy) paper product and as geospatial data for use in a web mapping environment. The park atlas for Cane River Creole National Historical Park can be accessed online at: <http://insideparkatlas.nps.gov/>.



Part 1: Core Components

The core components of a foundation document include a brief description of the park, park purpose, significance statements, fundamental resources and values, and interpretive themes. These components are core because they typically do not change over time. Core components are expected to be used in future planning and management efforts.

Brief Description of the Park

Cane River Creole National Historical Park was created in 1994 to commemorate the mix of cultures whose long and complex history began with American Indian trade and early 18th-century European exploration and settlement in Louisiana's Red River Valley. Set in the largely rural, agricultural surroundings of the Cane River National Heritage Area in Natchitoches Parish, the park sits on the Cane River Lake and Cane River along Interstate 49 between Natchitoches and Monette's Ferry, Louisiana, about 200 miles northwest of Baton Rouge and 80 miles southeast of Shreveport.

The park consists of two units: Oakland Plantation and Magnolia Plantation. The Oakland unit, located 10 miles south of Natchitoches, is the federally owned portion of the larger Oakland/Bermuda Plantation. The descendants of the original settlers (the Prud'homme family) continue to own and operate the majority of lands that were once part of the Oakland Plantation, including 144 acres within the authorized park boundary. The Magnolia unit, located 20 miles south of Natchitoches, is the federally owned portion of the larger Magnolia Plantation, the remainder of which is privately owned and located on property adjacent to the park, still owned by the LeComte-Herzog family. The plantations were two of the first properties west of the Mississippi River to be recognized as National Bicentennial Farms—a designation for farms that have been owned by the same family for at least 200 years—and are also designated as national historic landmarks. Many of the individuals who lived at the plantations and were responsible for the construction and continued development of Oakland and Magnolia's vernacular architecture, agricultural landscapes, and material culture were enslaved. Slavery's legacy can be seen throughout the park from handmade tools used for heavy labor held in the museum collection to the surviving brick slave/tenant quarters standing as a testament of the adversities facing the enslaved living at Oakland Plantation.

The park contains 70 historic structures, a diversity of magnificent landscapes, and nearly 500,000 museum objects and archives that provide an overarching view for understanding the context of everyday plantation life for owners, enslaved individuals, and tenant workers over time throughout the Cane River region. Moreover, the cultural landscapes that makeup Oakland and Magnolia Plantations represent a microcosm of a broader American experience that includes periods of prosperity and depression, war and peace, and dramatic changes in government, agriculture, technology, and labor systems from the 18th through the mid-20th centuries.





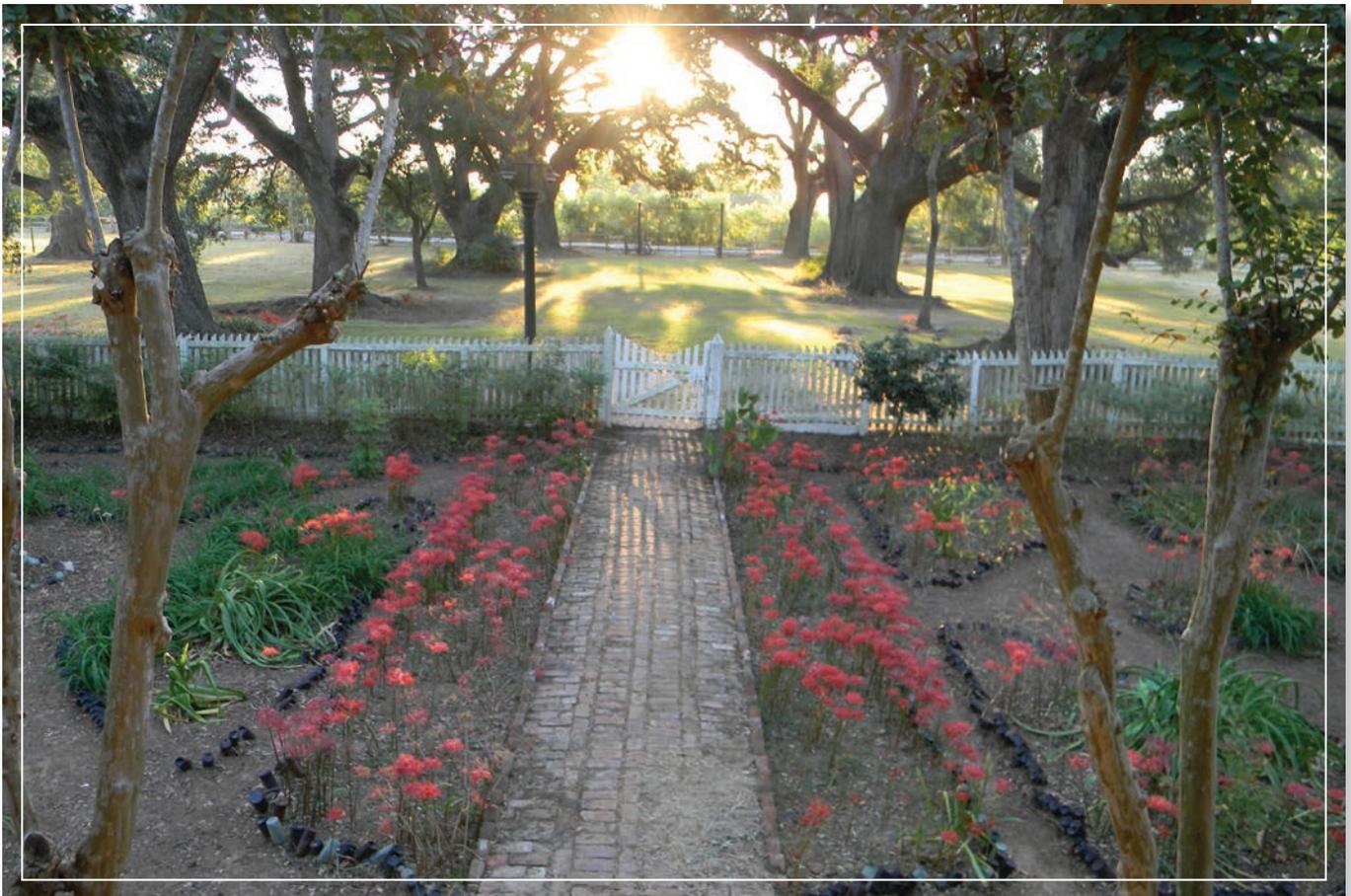
In addition to interpreting the stories of Oakland and Magnolia Plantations, the park celebrates the resulting cultural interaction and interdependence among the French, Spanish, Africans, and American Indians, as well as the subsequent development and evolution of Creole culture and plantation life along the Cane River. “Creole” is a cultural label indicating New World adaptations for French, Spanish, African, and American Indian cultures both to the natural world and to each other. The Cane River area is rich in the evidence of this cultural bricolage, with each influence contributing aspects to create a unique, adaptive, creative, and distinct new group. It is the intense pride in and the attachment to one’s ancestry and culture that is key to understanding what it means to be Creole, and this cultural identification manifests itself in every aspect of living, be it architecture, religious practices, foodways, or language. Congress authorized that Cane River Creole National Historical Park should serve as “the focus of interpretive and educational programs on the history of the Cane River area and to assist in the preservation of certain historic sites along the river” as well as acknowledged that the Cane River Creole culture is a nationally significant element of United States heritage. The park works with the living Cane River Creole, African American, and French communities, and descendants of those who lived and worked on Magnolia and Oakland Plantations to bring the culture and stories of those connected to the region to life through special events and interpretive programming offered at the park and throughout the Cane River region.

Public Law 103-449 (16 USC 410CC), passed by Congress on November 2, 1994, simultaneously created Cane River Creole National Historical Park and Cane River National Heritage Area. This is the only instance of an NPS unit and national heritage area (NHA) being co-legislated to protect and preserve a region’s cultural resources and heritage. The legislation determined a partnership approach would best serve the preservation needs of the area, ensure the vital need for cultural sensitivity, emphasize local partnerships, and minimize the need for federal land acquisition or management. The 116,000-acre national heritage area complements the park by supporting a community-driven approach to heritage conservation and economic development and assists in preservation and enhancement of the cultural landscape and traditions of the region.

Park Purpose

The purpose statement identifies the specific reason(s) for establishment of a particular park. The purpose statement for Cane River Creole National Historical Park was drafted through a careful analysis of its enabling legislation and the legislative history that influenced its development. The park was established when the enabling legislation adopted by Congress was signed into law on November 2, 1994, (see appendix A for enabling legislation). The purpose statement lays the foundation for understanding what is most important about the park.

CANE RIVER CREOLE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK preserves and protects Oakland and Magnolia Plantations and, in partnership with Cane River National Heritage Area and its living communities, preserves the resources of the Cane River region and enhances the understanding of its peoples and traditions through research, interpretation, education, and technical assistance.



Park Significance

Significance statements express why a park’s resources and values are important enough to merit designation as a unit of the national park system. These statements are linked to the purpose of Cane River Creole National Historical Park, and are supported by data, research, and consensus. Statements of significance describe the distinctive nature of the park and why an area is important within a global, national, regional, and systemwide context. They focus on the most important resources and values that will assist in park planning and management.

The following significance statements have been identified for Cane River Creole National Historical Park. (Please note that the sequence of the statements does not reflect the level of significance.)

1. Cane River Creole National Historical Park preserves the most intact French Creole cotton plantations in the United States, which include an outstanding collection of original vernacular architecture and landscape features representative of working plantations that evolved over time.
2. Oakland and Magnolia Plantations were owned and continuously operated by the same French Creole families since their establishment in the 18th century, and the undeveloped, agricultural setting in which the plantations reside today evoke their historical context and farming practices.
3. Cane River Creole National Historical Park tells the story of the oppressive labor systems of plantations initially founded on human slavery during the colonial era and eventually replaced by other legal mechanisms of oppression, including tenant farming, sharecropping, and, later, day labor, from Reconstruction through the 1970s.
4. Representing the continuum of occupation from Precontact to the end of the Plantation era, the Cane River Creole National Historical Park collection includes approximately 500,000 museum objects and archives, including one-of-a-kind examples of tools, furniture, decorative arts, and architectural elements handcrafted by enslaved people in the Cane River region and items imported from around the world. The collection spans the cultures of the Old and New World and represents the global context of Oakland and Magnolia Plantations and the broader Cane River community.
5. Cane River Creole National Historical Park illustrates a centuries-long succession of changing agricultural technologies from Precontact through the 20th century. The heritage of agriculture, from human and draft animal powered labor to mechanized equipment, is illustrated by the park’s collection of farming related structures and tools, including rare examples of pressing and ginning equipment.
6. Cane River National Historical Park interprets a vibrant Creole culture that took root in the rich soil along the Cane River at the borderlands between New France and New Spain in the 1700s. Creole is a culture nurtured by French and Spanish colonial ways, steeped in Africanisms, and enriched by American Indian contact. The broader Creole community found across the country and throughout the world remains intimately connected to the Cane River region and park resources.



photo by Charles Ward

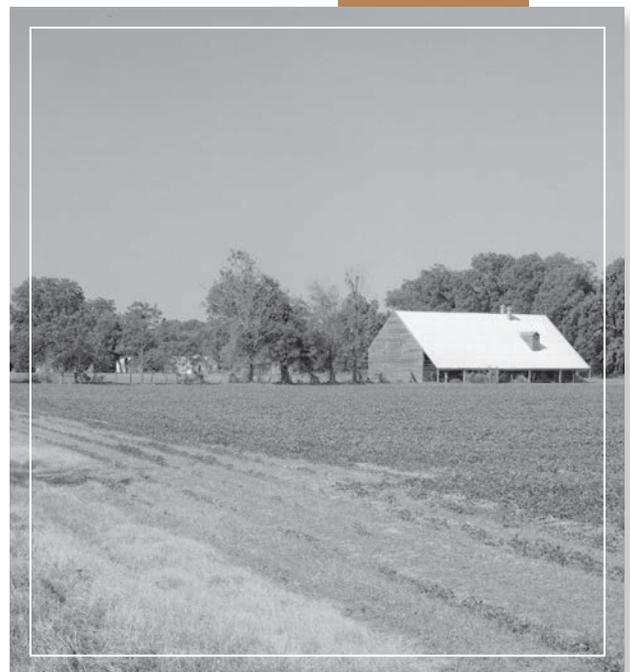
Fundamental Resources and Values

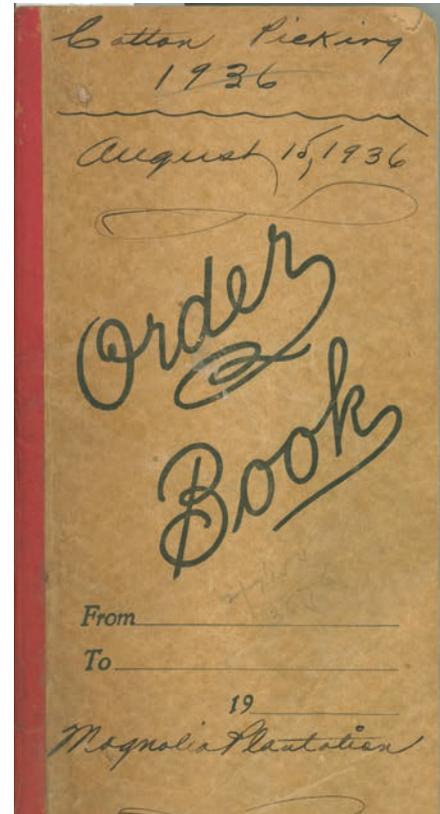
Fundamental resources and values (FRVs) are those features, systems, processes, experiences, stories, scenes, sounds, smells, or other attributes determined to warrant primary consideration during planning and management processes because they are essential to achieving the purpose of the park and maintaining its significance. Fundamental resources and values are closely related to a park's legislative purpose and are more specific than significance statements.

Fundamental resources and values help focus planning and management efforts on what is truly significant about the park. One of the most important responsibilities of NPS managers is to ensure the conservation and public enjoyment of those qualities that are essential (fundamental) to achieving the purpose of the park and maintaining its significance. If fundamental resources and values are allowed to deteriorate, the park purpose and/or significance could be jeopardized.

The following fundamental resources and values have been identified for Cane River Creole National Historical Park:

- Oakland Plantation and Associated Cultural Landscape** – Oakland Plantation is a nearly complete vernacular cultural landscape that contains 45 structures and cultural landscape features set in a rural, agricultural setting. Collectively, the plantation buildings are one of the nation's most complete expressions of the rural French Creole building tradition, including eight buildings featuring bousillage construction (an architectural technique found in the southeast that uses a mixture of clay, Spanish moss, and other binders), one of the hallmarks of rural Creole architecture, and the largest number of bousillage buildings at any single property. Buildings and structures include the Main House, slave quarters / tenant cabins, utilitarian dependencies, Barn, Stable, Seed House, Overseer's House, Carriage House, Cook's House, Pigeonniers (vernacular structures used to house pigeons), and Plantation Store. The park manages 44.16 acres that surround the Main House and outbuildings. Character-defining landscape features include a cast-iron overhead Oakland sign, a live Oak Allée, a pecan grove, a variety of other ornamental shade trees and shrubs, fruit trees, Bottle Garden, fences, a farm road, the bank of Cane River Lake, a manmade pond, and a cultivated field. Viewsheds within the NPS-managed areas and to the actively farmed landscapes outside of the park boundary have a high degree of integrity and contribute to the historical setting and feeling of the plantation.
- Magnolia Plantation and Associated Cultural Landscape** – Magnolia Plantation is a vernacular cultural landscape that contains 25 historic structures and cultural landscape features set in a rural, agricultural setting. Buildings and structures include the Blacksmith's Shop, Overseer's House / Hospital, Cotton Picker Shed, Stable, Plantation Store, Slave Hospital, Pigeonnier, agricultural production facilities, eight rare examples of brick slave quarters, and other structures. The Gin Barn, which has been documented as part of the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER), contains a rare example of an 1840 wooden screw press and late-19th-century gin. Within the park-managed 18.75 acres, character-defining historic landscape features include a live Oak Allée, fences, a farm road, and drainage ditches. Viewsheds within the NPS-managed areas and to the area containing the Main House, and to the farmed, largely undeveloped landscapes outside of the park boundary, have a high degree of integrity and contribute to the historical setting and feeling of the plantation.



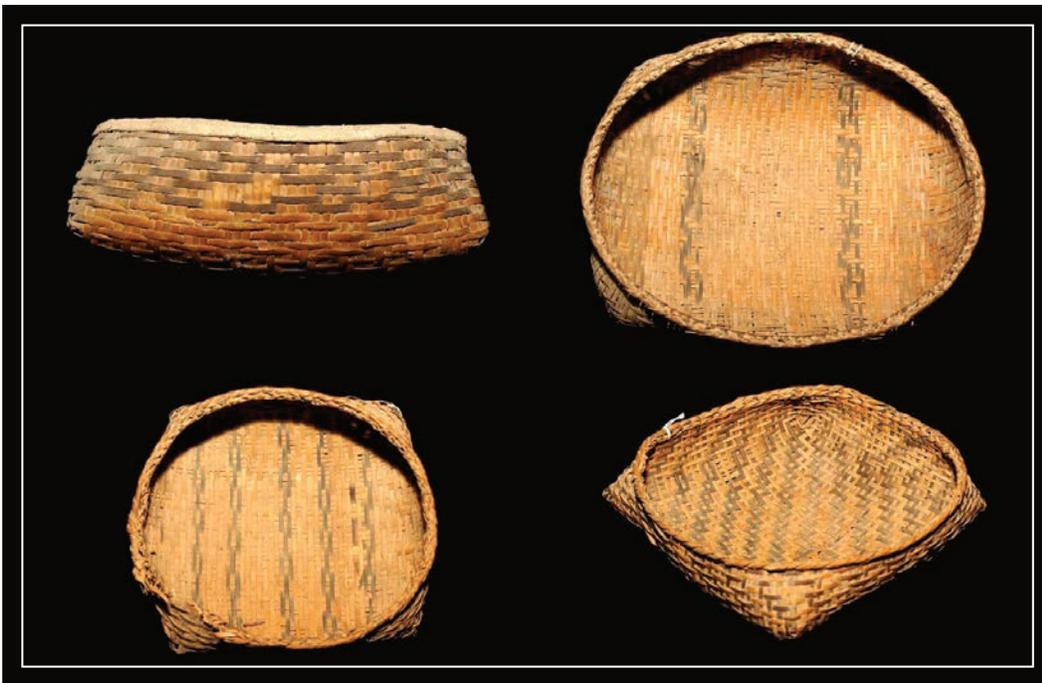


- **Museum Collection** – The park has an extensive, highly diverse museum collection that comprises almost 500,000 three-dimensional objects and archival items. The collection’s breadth and diversity is illustrated by the wide range of history collections, including paintings, decorative arts, hand tools, farming equipment, architectural elements, textiles, works of art on paper, photographs, and extensive archival materials that were created locally or were imported by the Prud’homme and LeComte-Hertzog families from regional and international sources. Many objects are vernacular, one-of-a-kind, handmade tools and decorative items made and used by enslaved workers, American Indians, and others who worked and lived in the Cane River region. The collection is used by park staff, visitors, researchers, and traditionally associated people to understand the material culture and reconnect the lives of enslaved people, owners, overseers, associated families, and Louisiana plantation history and rural life.
- **Cultural Connections to the Cane River Region** – Along with the Cane River National Heritage Area, the park is legislatively mandated to have a “culturally sensitive approach” to maintaining connections with the people and cultural heritage of the Cane River region and beyond. The park supports these connections through its formal partnerships, special events, park programs, and by maintaining relationships with a wide variety of communities who hold traditional associations with Magnolia and Oakland Plantations. Traditionally associated groups include descendant families, groups, and individuals, some of whom hold annual family gatherings at the park or serve as volunteer docents. Ongoing traditional ethnobotany practices at the park include collecting pecans, jujube fruit, and figs. To support regional cultural heritage, the park maintains working relationships with the Louisiana State Museum; Louisiana State Parks, including Los Adaes State Historic Site, Fort St. Jean Baptiste State Historic Site, and Fort Jesup State Historic Site; the El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail; Kisatchie National Forest; and other local historical and cultural organizations.

- Partnerships in Stewardship** – As mandated in its enabling legislation, the park supports stewardship of heritage resources in the Cane River region by providing technical assistance in areas of historic preservation technologies and maintenance of historic buildings and structures, artifact identification and collections management, training, and disaster recovery response, and both academic and nonacademic presentations. Park staff is engaged in outreach with descendants of the plantations and with the general community. The park manages these activities through a variety of formal and informal partnerships, including working with the Cane River National Heritage Area, NPS National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, the City of Natchitoches, the State of Louisiana, Northwestern State University of Louisiana, local historic preservation organizations, and traditionally associated people.



- Archeology** – The park’s archeology includes both sites in situ and an archeological collection of more than 170,000 objects, primarily consisting of metal, glass, ceramic, and wood. Much of the historic archeology is original to the plantation sites and can be viewed as multicultural. The park’s archeological collection is fundamental because it provides information no longer visible or documented in written form. This information is essential to ongoing research and understanding of a population of people forced into illiteracy. The identification of missing buildings, settlement patterns, and archeological artifacts, both as a collection and in situ, is complementary to the park’s archives in that it gives voice to these underrepresented people and allows the park to interpret more fully their lives and sheds light on the development of the plantations. Archeological information gleaned to date has included the identification of missing buildings, trash pits, and the unmarked graves of slave cemeteries.



Interpretive Themes

Interpretive themes are often described as the key stories or concepts that visitors should understand after visiting a park—they define the most important ideas or concepts communicated to visitors about a park unit. Themes are derived from, and should reflect, park purpose, significance, resources, and values. The set of interpretive themes is complete when it provides the structure necessary for park staff to develop opportunities for visitors to explore and relate to all park significance statements and fundamental resources and values.

Interpretive themes are an organizational tool that reveal and clarify meaning, concepts, contexts, and values represented by park resources. Sound themes are accurate and reflect current scholarship and science. They encourage exploration of the context in which events or natural processes occurred and the effects of those events and processes. Interpretive themes go beyond a mere description of the event or process to foster multiple opportunities to experience and consider the park and its resources. These themes help explain why a park story is relevant to people who may otherwise be unaware of connections they have to an event, time, or place associated with the park.

The following interpretive themes have been identified for Cane River Creole National Historical Park:

- Creole culture emerged from this region’s colonial roots as people adapted to each other in the New World environment. Manifestations of this active culture are evident in language, food, music, architecture, religion, agricultural practices, and settlements. The term’s meanings have evolved over time.
- The landscapes and structures of Cane River Creole National Historical Park were affected by the river and its changing course. The river system has affected a continuum of change in the area’s agricultural practices and cultural heritage as well as in the natural environment.
- The lives of the diverse people associated with Oakland and Magnolia Plantations reflect the resilience, resourcefulness, dedication, and continuous interaction of families and communities along Cane River.
- The institution of slavery and the act of emancipation have left indelible imprints on many aspects of Cane River life.
- Changing labor arrangements, such as tenancy and sharecropping, at Oakland and Magnolia Plantations created additional challenges and opportunities in the aftermath of emancipation. With mechanization came the exodus of many people traditionally associated with these plantations.
- The complexity, integrity, and completeness of the park’s extant vernacular architecture illustrate Creole resilience, resourcefulness, and adaptations to the environment and continue to influence contemporary regional architecture.
- Religious traditions and spiritual systems are integral to the development and dynamics of the region’s cultures.
- Agriculture is an integral part of the lives of the people who have lived along Cane River.
- Military conflicts and operations from the 18th to mid-20th century have had a resounding impact on the region’s civilian populations.

Part 2: Dynamic Components

The dynamic components of a foundation document include special mandates and administrative commitments and an assessment of planning and data needs. These components are dynamic because they will change over time. New special mandates can be established and new administrative commitments made. As conditions and trends of fundamental resources and values change over time, the analysis of planning and data needs will need to be revisited and revised, along with key issues. Therefore, this part of the foundation document will be updated accordingly.

Special Mandates and Administrative Commitments

Many management decisions for a park unit are directed or influenced by special mandates and administrative commitments with other federal agencies, state and local governments, utility companies, partnering organizations, and other entities. Special mandates are requirements specific to a park that must be fulfilled. Mandates can be expressed in enabling legislation, in separate legislation following the establishment of the park, or through a judicial process. They may expand on park purpose or introduce elements unrelated to the purpose of the park. Administrative commitments are, in general, agreements that have been reached through formal, documented processes, often through memorandums of agreement. Examples include easements, rights-of-way, arrangements for emergency service responses, etc. Special mandates and administrative commitments can support, in many cases, a network of partnerships that help fulfill the objectives of the park and facilitate working relationships with other organizations. They are an essential component of managing and planning for Cane River Creole National Historical Park.

For more information about the existing administrative commitments for Cane River Creole National Historical Park, please see appendix B

Assessment of Planning and Data Needs

Once the core components of part 1 of the foundation document have been identified, it is important to gather and evaluate existing information about the park's fundamental resources and values, and develop a full assessment of the park's planning and data needs. The assessment of planning and data needs section presents planning issues, the planning projects that will address these issues, and the associated information requirements for planning, such as resource inventories and data collection, including GIS data.

There are three sections in the assessment of planning and data needs:

1. analysis of fundamental resources and values
2. identification of key issues and associated planning and data needs
3. identification of planning and data needs (including spatial mapping activities or GIS maps)

The analysis of fundamental resources and values and identification of key issues leads up to and supports the identification of planning and data collection needs.

Analysis of Fundamental Resources and Values

The fundamental resource or value analysis table includes current conditions, potential threats and opportunities, planning and data needs, and selected laws and NPS policies related to management of the identified resource or value.



Fundamental Resource or Value	Oakland Plantation and Associated Cultural Landscape
Related Significance Statements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statements 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.
Current Conditions and Trends	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The park manages 45 buildings and structures associated with Oakland Plantation, which was designated a national historic landmark in 2001. • In 2014, 28,981 individuals visited Cane River Creole National Historical Park, with the highest visitation happening in the months of May (3,217), June (3,479), and October (3,027). Visitation normally peaks during local events and festivals such as the Fall Tour of Homes, the Natchitoches Christmas Festival of Lights, trail rides, church fairs, and family reunions. • Historic structure reports have been completed for many of the park buildings, including the Main House (big house historic structures report [HSR], 2004), the Gin Complex (HSR 2004), the Plantation Store (Prud’homme Store HSR, 2004), and the Cottage / Doctor’s Complex (HSR 1997). • Historic furnishing plans are in progress for the buildings that are open to the public. • Historic American Building Survey (HABS) documentation exists for many of the buildings, but some of the information is incorrect or incomplete. Filling the existing information gaps would help document current conditions and help staff preserve the structures. • Oakland is in overall good condition and rates high on the Facility Condition Index (FCI) Rating Scale. • The overall condition of the cultural landscape is good. It includes historic elements such as the Bottle Garden, Live Oak Allée, the line of live oak from backdoor of the Main House, trees planted to commemorate special sites, remnants of historic farm roads, as well as restored elements like the pecan orchard, and Cattle Corral, and Cattle Dipping Vat. • Some buildings are constructed of bousillage and handmade brick, fragile architectural techniques that require continuous monitoring and preservation maintenance. • Numerous major construction projects were completed between 1997 and 2007 to help develop the landscape into a park unit. • The park unit maintains the appearance of Oakland Plantation circa 1960, by which planners and staff have utilized historic photos of the site, personal communications with traditionally associated people, and the cultural landscape report to guide restoration and maintenance. • The Doctor’s Complex, which consists of a house, garage, and barn located near Highway 119, is home to the park offices. While the building has been converted to adaptive reuse, the exterior is consistent with the circa 1960 appearance of Oakland. • The historic buildings are strong examples of vernacular architecture and many show signs of adaptive reuse by previous owners and the use of unconventional or reused building materials during construction and repairs. • Due to inherent soil conditions, the historic structures continue to shift and settle, creating some routine maintenance and preservation issues.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Oakland Plantation and Associated Cultural Landscape
<p>Current Conditions and Trends</p>	<p>Conditions (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A portion of Oakland's viewshed retains its rural feel, although development on adjacent private lands has created some visual intrusions. • A riverbank stabilization project was completed in 2014. It addressed erosion and wave action that was compromising NPS land and replanted native species along the bank and LA Highway 494. • Some invasive species are appearing at the site, but it is difficult to monitor and control pests with the park's current staff level and funding. • The Prud'homme family continues to own and lease out farm land adjacent to the park. They also have a key to park gates so they can access their privately owned property via park land. • The vicinity is patrolled by the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office with routine patrols by the NPS Jean Lafitte National Historic Park and Preserve law enforcement staff. The vicinity is included in the jurisdiction of the Natchitoches Parish Volunteer Fire Department District 5. • The family and adjacent neighbors provide unofficial after-hours monitoring for the resources and property. The vigilance of the local community in reporting observations is helpful. • CRNHA has worked with the park to install site identification signage near both plantation units and other sites within the heritage area. Signs were recently installed along Interstate 49. At Exit 119 near Magnolia Plantation and at Exit 127 near Oakland Plantation. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The riverbank is a sloped landscape prone to erosion. This makes it difficult to maintain, but vegetation and soil have been relatively stable in recent years. • Poor site drainage issues have impacted visitor walking paths and buildings. • Recent restoration efforts and increased maintenance have improved landscaped areas such as the Bottle Garden. • Increased visitation has begun to affect structures and landscape features. Wear to the buildings has increased, but having historic buildings open and accessible also helps regulate the interior temperature and humidity. • Increasing severity of storms, high winds, extreme weather that may be attributed to climate change have increased the threat of damage to the property. • The Prud'homme family continues to nurture family ties to site via new generations, and is interested and active in its interpretation and management. • The installation of recreational wayfinding signs along Interstate 49 seem to be responsible for an increase in visitation during fiscal year 2015.
<p>Threats and Opportunities</p>	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear and tear from visitation and staff use is visible in buildings and on the grounds. • Acidification from sulfur deposition could cause damage to stone, painted, and metal cultural resources. Sulfur dioxide from combustion is the main contributor among gaseous pollutants to deterioration of stone and some metals. • Straight-line winds, tornadoes, tropical depressions, and severe storms could destroy buildings, uproot trees, and damage utilities and other systems. • Excessive nitrogen deposition is likely increasing the risk of invasive nonnative plant infestations. • Risk of ozone injury to sensitive park vegetation warrants moderate concern based on NPS Air Resource Division benchmarks. • Increased development contributes to light and sound pollutions and negatively affects the site's agricultural setting. Viewscapes could also be affected by air pollution related to industrial development and other anthropogenic activities.

<p>Fundamental Resource or Value</p>	<p>Oakland Plantation and Associated Cultural Landscape</p>
<p>Threats and Opportunities</p>	<p>Threats (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in mean average temperature with minimum change in mean annual precipitation is projected for the region with more intense and frequent storm events and droughts. This could increase flood events, erosion, and invasive species, impacting infrastructure, archeological resources, and the cultural landscape. • Increased river road traffic has led to more pollution and damage to vegetation. • The high rate of speed along LA Highway 494 is a risk to staff and visitor safety. • Feral hogs could harm the landscape and damage in situ archeology resources. • Looting and metal detecting in the park could disturb archeological resources. • River bank erosion could impact the landscape and uncover archeological resources. • Termites, carpenter bees, rodents, and burrowing animals threaten the landscape and the integrity of the buildings by damaging buildings and landscape features. • Suburban sprawl and gentrification could replace agricultural lands and negatively affect the park's viewsheds and rural setting. • Large agricultural equipment uses local roads and impacts park resources. <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reestablishing historic ditches would improve site drainage and add to the cultural landscape. • Additional remote surveillance could help staff monitor resources afterhours. • Improved wayfinding and signs would make Oakland easier to navigate and improve visitor experiences. • Land that is within the park's authorized boundaries that is still privately owned by the Prud'hommes would be the ideal setting for slave cemetery and natural resource interpretation. • Additional volunteers with special expertise pertaining to preservation or natural resources could assist with interpretation and site maintenance. • Adding recreational vehicle (RV) pads for volunteer use would allow park volunteers to camp onsite while helping with operations or special programs. • New park neighbors and population increase in the area could lead to more public interest, community and individual engagement, and volunteers. • The entrance pavilion could be enclosed and converted into a traditional visitor contact station that could improve accessibility, visitor contact, and wayfinding in a climate-controlled environment. • Accessibility can be improved so the park could better reach and serve visitors with disabilities. • Updates to the cell phone tours to include oral history and archival research could enrich the stories currently being told. • There are multiple opportunities for connecting visitors to the river, an important historic resource that shaped early life on the plantation. Access could be improved at the existing boat launch near Oakland and river tours could draw visitors' attention to the link between Oakland and the Cane River. Historic Bermuda Bridge, which spans Cane River, offers an opportunity to work with Natchitoches Consolidated Government to improve river access and pedestrian access. • Interpretive and educational tools can incorporate more natural resources and communicate the connection between air quality/pollution, scenic views, night sky, sensitive park resources, human health, climate change, and other associated resources. • The park can pursue opportunities to reduce artificial life and noise within its boundaries to help preserve the natural soundscape and dark night skies.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Oakland Plantation and Associated Cultural Landscape
<p>Existing Data and Plans Related to the FRV</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buildings, Structures, and Cultural Landscapes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of Classified Structures (2014). • Oakland Plantation National Historic Landmark documentation (2001). • Big House historic structures report (2004). • Prud'homme Store historic structures report (2004). • Gin Complex historic structures report (2004). • The Cottage / Doctor's Complex historic structures report (2002). • Historic structure assessment report: Oakland Plantation Main House (1998). • Oakland Plantation historic structure assessment reports vol. I, II, III (1998). • Multiple historic furnishing reports. • HABS photos/drawings on numerous buildings. • Historic American Landscape Survey. • Cultural landscape report: part 1 (2004). • Park asset management plan (2009). • Topographic and survey (GPS points) of Oakland. • Archeology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive subsurface investigation of Oakland, NPS Southeast Archeological Center (SEAC) (2000). • Ethnography <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional associated people documentation (project underway as of April 2015). • Special resource study – Cane River, Louisiana (1993). • Haynie, Sandra Prud'homme. "Legends of Oakland Plantation," (2001). • Natural Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amphibian and reptile survey (2003). • Vascular plants survey (2013). • Regional air quality monitoring including visibility, ozone, and deposition.
<p>Data and/or GIS Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Characterization studies for environmental remediation. • Visual resource inventory. • Cultural landscape inventory. • Site security survey. • Climate change vulnerability assessment for select cultural resources. • Additional HABS documentation. • Historic structure reports. • Natural resource overview. • Natural resource surveys – birds, reptiles/amphibians (update), cultivars. • Visitor use survey. • 3D images of structures. • Updated national historic landmark documentation. • LiDAR data. • Additional cultural resource GIS mapping. • Additional historical furnishing reports.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Oakland Plantation and Associated Cultural Landscape
<p>Planning Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remediation/corrective action plan. • Accessibility transition plan. • Visitor circulation and wayfinding plan. • Land protection plan. • Scenery conservation strategy. • Cultural landscape report, phase two, treatment recommendations. • Resource stewardship strategy. • Additional exhibit plans. • Maintenance facility development concept plan. • Integrated pest management plan.
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470) • National Environmental Policy Act of 1970; 42 USC 4321 • Clean Air Act • Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 • Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment" • "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800) • Archaeological Resource Protection Act of 1979 • Antiquities Act of 1906 • Executive Order 13112, "Invasive Species" • Secretarial Order 3289, "Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources" <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director's Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS Management Policies 2006 (§4.4.1) "General Principles for Managing Biological Resources" • NPS Management Policies 2006 (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management" • Director's Order 28: <i>Cultural Resource Management</i> • <i>The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation</i> • Programmatic Agreement among the National Park Service (US Department of the Interior), the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers for Compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act



Fundamental Resource or Value	Magnolia Plantation and Associated Cultural Landscape
Related Significance Statements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statements 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.
Current Conditions and Trends	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The park manages 25 structures associated with Magnolia Plantation. The Main House, re-constructed in the 1890s, and additional historic buildings are privately owned and sit on property adjacent to the park. Magnolia was named a national historic landmark in 1979. • In 2014, 28,981 individuals visited Cane River Creole National Historical Park, with the highest visitation happening in the months of May (3,217), June (3,479), and October (3,027). Visitation normally peaks during local events and festivals such as the Fall Tour of Homes, the Natchitoches Christmas Festival of Lights, cycling trail rides, church fairs, and family reunion. • HABS documentation exists for many of the buildings, but some of the information is incorrect or incomplete. Filling the existing information gaps would help document current conditions and help staff preserve the structures. • Most historic buildings at the park unit are in good condition; very few Magnolia structures are considered fair or poor in the List of Classified Structures. • Magnolia’s cultural landscape includes historic drainage ditches and views of the Main House and surrounding fields. • Handmade bricks used to build the slave cabins and other structures are deteriorating. Modifications, such as the removal of the slave cabin porches, have left the brick walls exposed and vulnerable to additional damage from the freeze-thaw cycle and weather. • Inappropriate cement usage prior to NPS management has damaged historic masonry and bricks. Both historic and replacement masonry require cyclical maintenance. • The historic buildings are strong examples of vernacular architecture and many show signs of adaptive reuse by previous owners and the use of unconventional or reused building materials during construction and repairs. • Due to inherent soil conditions, the historic structures continue to shift and settle, creating some routine maintenance and preservation issues. • Underground cisterns on the grounds have become exposed due erosion, weathering, and deferred maintenance. • Numerous major construction projects were completed between 1997 and 2007 to help develop the landscape into a park unit. • The park has taken steps to make Magnolia more accessible by installing accessible ramps, an accessible lift at the Overseers House, and rubber trail mats that provide stability and support for walking aids and wheelchairs on park trails. • Many visitors are confused by the park’s wayfinding and circulation signs and are not sure how to best navigate the park. • Historic park boundary fences are in poor condition and may allow for trespassing at the site. • CRNHA has worked with the park to install site identification signage near both plantation units and other sites within the heritage area. Signs were recently installed along Interstate 49. At Exit 119 near Magnolia Plantation and at Exit 127 near Oakland Plantation. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been increased interest in and visitation to the site following the Travel Channel production of the television series “Ghost Adventures” filmed at the Magnolia Plantation unit in 2009. • Increased public interest in the African American experience and history has resulted in increased visitation. • An increasing number of recreational visitors are using park facilities. Magnolia has become a popular jumping off point for road cyclists.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Magnolia Plantation and Associated Cultural Landscape
<p>Current Conditions and Trends</p>	<p>Trends (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of the site as a location for professional and amateur photography has increased in recent years. • There seems to be an increase in visitors accessing the site after park hours. • The installation of recreational wayfinding signs along Interstate 49 seem to be responsible for an increase in visitation during fiscal year 2015. • The park experiences spikes in visitation in coordination with local events including the Natchitoches Tri-Centennial, the Fall Tour of Homes, and other themed heritage tourism events.
<p>Threats and Opportunities</p>	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Magnolia park unit is not staffed on weekdays, which creates visitor and resource safety concerns. • With the lack of a consistent staff presence and poor perimeter boundaries, site security is a concern. • Visitors on the grounds outside park operating hours could damage resources or run into safety concerns. • Increased development adjacent to the park could contribute to light and sound pollutions and negatively affect viewscapes and the site’s agricultural setting. • Increase in mean annual temperature with minimal change in mean annual precipitation is projected for the region with more intense and frequent storm events and droughts. This could increase flood events, erosion, and invasive species, impacting infrastructure, archeological resources, and the cultural landscape. • Excessive nitrogen deposition is likely increasing the risk of invasive nonnative plant infestations. • Feral hogs could damage the grounds and expose archeological resources. • Erosion leads to landscape damage and increased threats to trees, buildings, and unearthed archeological resources. • Fire, either associated with the practice of burning fields after harvest or wildfire, could threaten buildings or landscape elements. • Carpenter bees, termites, rodents, and other pest species could undermine building materials and create hazardous conditions. • Poor site drainage could contribute to water damage and increased pest activity. • Incomplete Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility affects visitor’s experience to the site and is a safety issue. <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Magnolia’s remote setting allows for natural resource interpretation and opportunities to view wildlife. • Interpretive and educational tools can incorporate more natural resources and communicate the connection between air quality/pollution, scenic views, night sky, sensitive park resources, human health, climate change, and other associated resources. • Remote surveillance could help staff monitor the grounds when no park personnel are on site. • Improved wayfinding and signs could lead to better visitor experience. • Adding RV pads for volunteer use would allow park volunteers to camp onsite while helping with operations or special programs. • An Eastern National sales outlet at Magnolia Plantation unit could provide visitors the opportunity to purchase material related to the Oakland and Magnolia Plantations while raising additional funds for park projects. • Additional property and historic structures associated with Magnolia Plantation could be added to Cane River Creole National Historic Park if legislation authorizing a park boundary adjustment was passed.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Magnolia Plantation and Associated Cultural Landscape
<p>Existing Data and Plans Related to the FRV</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buildings, Structures, and Cultural Landscapes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of Classified Structures and condition assessment (2014). • Magnolia Plantation National Historic Landmark documentation (2001). • Magnolia Plantation National Register of Historic Places nomination (1979). • Magnolia Plantation, cultural landscape report (2006). • “Historic Resource Study: The Magnolia Plantation Overview – DRAFT” (1996). • Eight Slave / Tenant Quarters historic structure report (2013). • The Gin Barn historic structures report (2004). • Overseer’s House historic structure report (2004). • Blacksmith’s Shop, Pigeonnier, and Carriage Shed historic structures reports (2003). • Slave Hospital / Overseer’s House historic structures report (2003). • Magnolia Plantation Cotton Gins and Presses Historic American Engineering Record documentation (1997). • Slave Quarters / Tenant Houses historic structure assessment report (1997). • General Store, Magnolia Plantation historic structure assessment report (1997). • Architectural conservation survey and assessment for museum contents (1993). • Multiple historic furnishing reports. • Historic American Building Survey – Magnolia Plantation (2002). • Archeology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “A Comprehensive Subsurface Investigation at Magnolia Plantation” (SEAC) (1999). • Ethnography <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “An Unlikely Paper Trail: Identifying the Sites and Inhabitants of the Magnolia Plantation Tenant Quarters Community” NPS National Center for Preservation Technology and Training Conference (2014). • “A Brief Ethnography of Magnolia Plantation: Planning for Cane River Creole National Historic Park” <i>NPS Studies in Archeology and Ethnography</i> #4 (2004). • Special resource study – Cane River, Louisiana (1993). • Hunter, Henley. <i>Magnolia Plantation: A Family Farm</i> (2005). • Natural Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional air quality monitoring including visibility, ozone, and deposition.
<p>Data and/or GIS Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Characterization studies for environmental remediation. • Visual resource inventory. • Cultural landscape inventory. • Site security survey. • Climate change vulnerability assessment for select cultural resources. • Additional HABS documentation. • Historic structure report - Magnolia Store • Natural resource overview. • Natural resource surveys – birds, reptiles/amphibians (update), cultivars. • Visitor use survey. • 3D images of structures. • Updated national historic landmark documentation. • LiDAR data. • Additional cultural resource GIS mapping. • Additional historic furnishing reports.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Magnolia Plantation and Associated Cultural Landscape
<p>Planning Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remediation/corrective action plan. • Accessibility transition plan. • Visitor circulation and wayfinding plan. • Land protection plan. • Scenery conservation strategy. • Cultural landscape report, phase two, treatment recommendations. • Resource stewardship strategy. • Additional exhibit plans. • Integrated pest management plan.
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470) • National Environmental Policy Act of 1970; 42 USC 4321 • Clean Air Act • Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 • Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment" • "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800) • Archaeological Resource Protection Act of 1979 • Antiquities Act of 1906 • Executive Order 13112, "Invasive Species" • Secretarial Order 3289, "Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources" <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director's Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS Management Policies 2006 (§4.4.1) "General Principles for Managing Biological Resources" • NPS Management Policies 2006 (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management" • Director's Order 28: <i>Cultural Resource Management</i> • <i>The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation</i> • Programmatic Agreement among the National Park Service (US Department of the Interior), the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers for Compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act



Fundamental Resource or Value	Museum Collection
Related Significance Statements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statements 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.
Current Conditions and Trends	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Condition of individual artifacts and archives varies, but the overall collection is in good condition. • The 2014 collection management report lists 499,206 items within the collection and archives. However, the museum backlog may be underestimated in this total. A revised estimate is needed to better understand the size of the park's holdings. • Items in the collection are exhibited in the park's historic structures, kept in storage in a leased curation facility (Natchitoches, Louisiana) or the NPS Southeast Archeological Center (Tallahassee, Florida), or are on loan to other regional and national museums. • The NPS Southeast Archeological Center currently holds 29,879 catalogued objects and 2.2 linear feet of catalogued archives relating to park archeology, with 20 of the 32 accessions from the park processed; it currently has an onsite backlog of 111 cubic feet of artifacts and 8 linear feet of archives. • Many fragile artifacts have been reproduced for display at the park units so that original museum objects remain protected and preserved. There are multiple Project Management Information System (PMIS) requests related to upcoming reproduction projects. • The park's current collection storage building known as the curation facility was not designed as a collection management facility and has environmental condition, size, and security issues. The headquarters and curation facility is a General Services Administration (GSA) leased space. • Some larger objects are still in place at Magnolia and Oakland and need to be collected. • According to the park's 2014 Automated Checklist Program Checklist for Preservation and Protection of Museum Collections, the park meets 79.64% of the applicable standards for compliance with the NPS Museum Management Program. • According to the park's 2014 collections management report, approximately 71% of the museum collection is cataloged. • During fiscal year 2014, the park fielded 131 research requests: 45 from within the park and 86 from outside the park. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Descendants and other traditionally associated people have been eager to share traditional knowledge regarding the park's museum collection with staff. • Many museum objects have been donated by community members and descendants of families who once lived at Oakland Plantation or Magnolia Plantation and other Cane River National Heritage Area sites. There are still items held in private family collections that the park would be interested in acquiring if there was future interest from the current owners. • The park's museum collection is quite active, with ongoing accessions as descendant families are still actively donating items to the park. • There has been highlighted interest in the collection from the local community in response to publicity related to outgoing artifact loans. • Popular culture, including increased general interest in genealogy and films focusing on African American History, has led to research requests. • The park has been fortunate to receive PMIS funding for conservation treatment and exhibit production projects in the past five years. • The level of PMIS funding for collections management and backlog cataloging has decreased in the past five years. • The park promotes active use of museum collections and frequently engages in outgoing loan agreements and research opportunities. As of fiscal year 2014, the park has 16 outgoing loans.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Museum Collection
<p>Threats and Opportunities</p>	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deficiencies in current GSA-leased curation facility relating to environmental conditions, pest management, fire suppression, and security could affect the long-term condition of artifacts. • The lack of adequate collections management and curatorial storage space, including inadequate environmental controls, threatens the safety and protection of the museum collection. • There is no internal conservation capability at the park and little in terms of NPS agencywide conservation support, which could lead to serious deterioration. • At present, data management and record-keeping is excellent. However, insufficient record keeping related to outgoing loans has the potential to result in future confusion over loan agreements. • Lack of proper field collection documentation could lead to improper storage or care of artifacts and confusion. <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use NPS funds to address deficiencies in the GSA-leased headquarters and curation facility. • A proposed collection conservation center, located on the Northwestern State University of Louisiana (NSULA) campus would address concerns related to the current collection facility and offer a joint project for the park, National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT), and the university. • Regularly scheduled behind-the-scenes collection tours would allow the public additional access to the collection. • Digitization of archives and artifacts and creation of a “virtual museum” could connect those outside the Cane River community with the collection. (A PMIS project is planned for FY 2018.) • As preservation of the park’s historic structures is completed, new exhibits are produced and additional artifacts could be displayed in historic structures. • Additional acquisitions of original objects related to the plantations could enrich interpretation and understanding of the sites. • Cane River National Heritage Area, the NSULA Creole Heritage Center, and NCPTT partnerships could lead to additional community programs and educational opportunities. • Public events could be used to collect oral histories about use of objects to enhance interpretation. • Opportunities exist to partner with other plantation sites in Natchitoches Parish, the State of Louisiana, and in the southern US to enhance interpretation and stewardship. • Opportunities involving the park’s traditionally associated people and the museum collection could provide invaluable data and interpretive materials.
<p>Existing Data and Plans Related to the FRV</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structural fire management plan (2014). • Regional collection management plan (2006 – updating as of April 2015). • Museum collections management plan (2003). • Scope of collections statement (2004/2010). • Collection storage survey and plan (2004). • Museum emergency operations plan (2011). • Textiles conservation survey (2008). • Historic furnishings conservation survey (2008). • Park 0001 resource management records collection. • Lee, Dayna B. & H.F. Gregory. <i>The Work of Tribal Hands</i>, Chapter 10 “Mystery Baskets of Cane River: Who Made Them?” Dustin Fuqua. • Hahn, Thurston III. “Archaeological Investigations of the Magnolia Plantation Slave Quarters, Natchitoches, Louisiana” (1991).

Fundamental Resource or Value	Museum Collection
<p>Data and/or GIS Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional collection condition surveys including conservation triage. • Museum collection backlog cataloging. • Additional historic furnishing reports.
<p>Planning Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Museum housekeeping plans. • Additional exhibit plans. • Deaccession plan. • Scope of collections statement update. • Remediation of historic chemicals / contaminated collections plan.
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470) • Antiquities Act of 1906 • National Environmental Policy Act of 1970; 42 USC 4321 • Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 • Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 • American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978 • Historic Sites Act of 1935 • Museum Act of 1955, as amended • Museum Act (16 USC 18f through 18f-3) • "Curation of Federally-Owned and Administered Archeological Collections" (36 CFR 79) <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director's Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation</i> • NPS Management Policies 2006 (§4.1) "General Management Concepts" • NPS Management Policies 2006 (§4.2) "Studies and Collections" • NPS Management Policies 2006 (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management" • NPS Management Policies 2006 (§8.10) "Natural and Cultural Studies, Research, and Collection Activities" • Director's Order 19: <i>Records Management</i> • Director's Order 24: <i>NPS Museum Collections Management</i> • Director's Order 28: <i>Cultural Resource Management</i> • NPS Museum Handbook, parts I, II, and III • NPS Conserve-O-Grams



Fundamental Resource or Value	Cultural Connections to the Cane River Region
Related Significance Statements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statements 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.
Current Conditions and Trends	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The relationship with Cane River National Heritage Area (NHA) is strong. NHA staff and park division chiefs regularly meet to share management best practices and the heritage area recently hired three staff members that will contribute to individual and shared NHA-park programming. • The park maintains a strong relationship with the NPS National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, which is located on the NSULA campus. • Park staff regularly advises the St. Augustine Historical Society, a nonprofit heritage group centered on the St. Augustine Church and its surrounding Creole community of Isle Brevelle. • The park and heritage area have relationships with African American communities in Natchitoches and Cane River. The park seeks additional ways to better reach this audience. • Some segments of the local population have representative groups which are easy to identify and can field interest and requests. Other segments of population are not involved with formal organizations and are harder to identify and ask for representation at planning and outreach events. • The park maintains connections with families historically associated with Oakland and Magnolia Plantations and looks to these descendants for guidance on the sites' historic appearances and uses. • The park frequently works with traditionally associated people to complete oral history interviews and uses personal communications to share information. • The park has established relationships and frequently consults with associated tribal groups. • Efforts have been made to use local media outlets including the <i>Natchitoches Times</i> and the <i>Real Views</i> to promote park events and share news. • The park has a social media presence and frequently promotes events via local television and radio programs. • The park frequently hosts family reunions and other heritage-related events for descendants and traditionally associated people. • Juneteenth programs over the past 17 years have been successful, with more than 200 students attending the past two annual events. • The NSULA Creole Heritage Center has strong roots and connections to Creole communities throughout state and the nation. The park works with this group to reach a wider Creole audience. • The park has worked closely with the Cloutierville School through the "Class Act" NPS Call to Action initiative to involve students with interpretation and backyard bird counts. • There is a well-established and ongoing relationship between the park and the Association for the Preservation of Historic Natchitoches, a nonprofit dedicated to the preservation of the cultural heritage of Natchitoches and the Cane River area that owns Melrose Plantation. • Most outreach efforts in the City of Natchitoches are led by the Cane River NHA. • The park has established positive relationships with federally and state recognized tribes associated with the Cane River region. The park continuously works to strengthen and improve these relationships through dialogue, agreements, and collaborative projects.

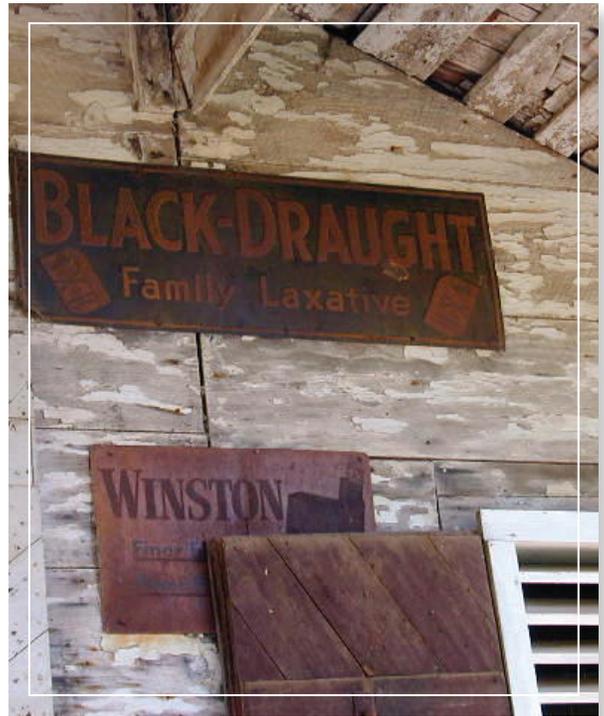
Fundamental Resource or Value	Cultural Connections to the Cane River Region
<p>Current Conditions and Trends</p>	<p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The park's staff has been relatively stable, allowing employees the time to gain the trust of the community, nurture relationships, and gain the reputation of working outside park boundaries to cultivate new agency connections and share stewardship practices. • The heritage area and the park maintain a positive relationship where the parties enjoy mutuality through complimentary skillsets. • The annual park music festival often attracts an audience including local residents and others with family ties to the Cane River community. • New community park programs were developed as a result of National Park Foundation grants. • Downtown Natchitoches National Historic Landmark District walking tours initiated by the park and currently operated by CRNHA continue to be successful. • Regional music festivals and other music events sponsored by park partnerships have stimulated more interest in music in the area. • There has been increased interest in revitalizing the traditional Creole culture and language of the region. • More Natchitoches preservation and social organizations are working toward more formalized and professional operations through branding and 501c3 status.
<p>Threats and Opportunities</p>	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • False information about area history, unsubstantiated oral traditions, and the perpetuation of misnomers could lead to misplaced interest and preservation efforts as well as public distrust. • The park's efforts to accurately convey historical information could alienate visitors and local people. • Decreased school funding and fewer opportunities for field trips make it harder for the park to connect to local schools. • Staff turn-over could threaten the personal relationships made between groups and current park staff. Succession planning is vital to maintain relationships and ensure there is not a lengthy gap in park contact. • Interpretation of the park's and the region's controversial or more difficult history could alienate some partner groups. Maintaining the park's very sensitive and well thought out approach is needed so complicated and challenging stories can still be told. <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The rural location of the park may serve well to interpret climate change. • A park friends group could keep volunteers and other interested parties engaged at the park and expand fundraising opportunities. • Increased communication and collaboration with church leaders in the African American communities could make inroads and help the park meet the community's needs. • The park is becoming a key location for telling the story of slavery for North America by expanding its relationship with universities, researchers, and national institutions such as the Smithsonian and the National Museum of African American History and Culture. • An academic partnership with the NPS Southeast Archeological Center could help connect the park to other slave-related archeology sites and could lead to international internships and additional research and attention. • The park can continue strong relationships with local museums and NCPTT and use these connections to sponsor temporary exhibits and create podcasts or other educational materials. • Expanding the role of Eastern National via a sales outlet at the Magnolia Plantation unit would increase the organization's involvement with the park.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Cultural Connections to the Cane River Region
<p>Threats and Opportunities</p>	<p>Opportunities (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing a stronger park connection in the city of Natchitoches via volunteers, a physical park presence at the Convention and Visitors Bureau, or through cooperation with NCPTT would increase local interest and visitation. Park outreach and educational programs could capitalize on the increased local interest in Creole culture. The park could use its hiring authority to include local people in the park staff work force. Expanded use of social media could lead to enhanced awareness and increased visitation to the park.
<p>Existing Data and Plans Related to the FRV</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traditional associated people documentation (project underway as of April 2015). “Shared Legacies in Cane River National Heritage Area: Linking People, Traditions, and Landscapes” (2008). Ethnographic overview and assessment (2007). Malone, Ann. “Oakland Plantation, Its People’s Testimony” - Unpublished manuscript completed for NPS-Cane River Creole National Historical Park (1998). “We Know Who We Are: An Ethnographic Overview of the Creole Community and Traditions of Isle Brevelle and Cane River, Louisiana” (1996). Ethnographic and oral history collections held by park and local partners. Cultural landscape map created by Cane River National Heritage Area.
<p>Data and/or GIS Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ethnobotanical resource study. Lineal descent study. Traditional use study. Additional cultural resource GIS mapping. Tribal affiliation study. Identify Native American archeological resources.
<p>Planning Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volunteer management plan. Land protection plan.
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Executive Order 11593, “Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment” <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> and <i>Director’s Orders</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§1.6) “Cooperative Conservation Beyond Park Boundaries” NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.1) “General Management Concepts” NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.1.4) “Partnerships” NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.2) “Studies and Collections”



Fundamental Resource or Value	Partnerships in Stewardship
Related Significance Statements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statements 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.
Current Conditions and Trends	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The park, along with its partners, offers technical preservation assistance to interested local parties. • Park staff has instructed seminars and presented information in the form of workshops, blog posts, podcasts, and social media outreach. • Currently the park administers multiple multiyear grants and cooperative agreements annually. Cane River National Heritage Area is involved with park projects and maintains active agreements. • Grants from the National Park Foundation and other NPS sources are often used to fund park and stewardship projects. • Cane River Creole National Historical Park is associated with El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail and the Lower Mississippi Delta Region Initiatives. • The park employs talented staff with expertise in preservation, interpretation, resources management, and agreements management per legislative authority. Through community involvement and outside recognition, the public feels comfortable with accessing those people and skill sets for stewardship projects outside the park. • The National Park Service offers funding for local, related projects. These connections can lead to partnerships and outside interest in park activities and preservation in general. • The park staff makes itself available for assistance requests and instructing classes in the field and the classroom. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most recent stewardship assistance requests to the park are related to collection management, historic preservation guidance, and general resource management. • The park has received more interest from students from regional universities (Tulane, Louisiana State University, University of Texas-San Antonio) for research and thesis materials. • There has been an increase in genealogy-related requests. • Interest in promotional heritage tourism seems to be thriving in Natchitoches and the broader Cane River area.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Partnerships in Stewardship
<p>Threats and Opportunities</p>	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited staff time could decrease the amount of technical assistance the park can provide partners. Staff time dedicated to creating and maintaining partnerships could become burdensome and take resources and efforts away from park resources. Partnerships that are not mutually beneficial to all organizations/parties can be view negatively by partners or the public. Sometimes inter-organization relationships are person-based instead of agency-based; these connections could be negatively affected by staffing changes. Partnerships in stewardship would be threatened if Cane River National Heritage Area lost its funding. <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A park friends group could keep volunteers and other interested parties engaged at the park and expand fundraising opportunities. Increased communication and collaboration with the local African American communities could help build the relationship with the park and NPS as a whole. The parish government could assist in planning and zoning concerns as well as issues relating to easement and conservation. With adequate funding and the help of Natchitoches Parish Public Schools and other Cane River region districts, the park could increase its educational events to include outdoor classroom curriculum, the Parks to Classroom program, and other cultural topics. The park has the opportunity to strengthen its connection to local universities and work as a site for archeology, preservation technology, and history research and applied learning. The park can work to improve park sustainability and environmental leadership by becoming a Climate Friendly Park and implement a park Environmental Management System (Director’s Order 13A).
<p>Existing Data and Plans Related to the FRV</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General management plan (2001). Heritage area management plan (2003). Long-range interpretive plan (2006). “Shared Legacies in Cane River National Heritage Area: Linking People, Traditions, and Landscapes” (2008). Existing memorandums of understanding and cooperative agreements.
<p>Data and/or GIS Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural landscape inventory.
<p>Planning Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volunteer management plan. Land protection plan.
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director’s Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§1.6) “Cooperative Conservation Beyond Park Boundaries” NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.1) “General Management Concepts” NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.1.4) “Partnerships”



Fundamental Resource or Value	Archeology
Related Significance Statements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statements 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.
Current Conditions and Trends	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous archeological surveys have resulted in good baseline data for both the Oakland and Magnolia Plantations units. • Identified archeological sites are generally stable and are in good condition. • Currently the in situ resources are not overly threatened by looting or animal activity. • There are no park plans for construction that would impact archeological resources. • A large percentage of the park has been surveyed, but not all potential sites have been identified. • The majority of archeology artifacts are stored at the NPS Southeast Archeological Center in Tallahassee, Florida. • Some of the park's archeological objects are on loan to local and national museums. • A portion of the park's archeological collection is considered contaminated from its contact with chemical products used while processing cotton. These items are being held by the NPS Southeast Archeological Center until they can be treated and returned to the park for display. • The park promotes active use of archeological resources and collections. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic and general interest in archeology and African-American history continues to grow, which leads to research requests and increased visitation. • As technology advances, less invasive and more precise survey methods are becoming available to researchers. • Increased access to information, additional complementary research, and more available data relating to the African American diaspora and experience are helping inform interpretation and deepen understanding of Magnolia and Oakland Plantations.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Archeology
<p>Threats and Opportunities</p>	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The lack of staff available for archeological collections management and site monitoring could lead to artifact deterioration from neglect and unreported ground disturbances. • Over-mature vegetation (floral turbation) could lead to uprooted trees that expose archeological sites. • Feral hogs and burrowing animals (faunal turbation) could destroy archeological site since many of the park’s archeological resources are located close to the surface. Sometimes ground disturbance and resource damage related to rooting hogs is so severe that it is mistaken for looting. • Increase in more intense and frequent storm events is projected in the region. This could increase flood events and erosion exposing in situ artifacts and disturbing archeological sites. • Future park construction could affect archeological sites. • Magnolia has specific threats from looters since it appears isolated; illegal actions could go undetected and some adjacent owners allow treasure hunters. • Published research related to park resources could increase unauthorized interest and looters. • Insufficient documentation relating to outgoing artifact loans could lead to confusion and public distrust. • Archeological resources could be threatened if the park loses its current staff capacity to complete compliance actions. <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recently published research could bring additional attention to the site. These findings could create positive publicity for the National Park Service and the park, allow the park to update its interpretation to incorporate new information, and open the door for new park audiences. • Field activities could introduce youth to archeology and connect them with the park resources. • New findings and continued research could appeal to underrepresented populations associated with the park’s artifacts. • Public education about archeological artifacts and their low monetary value would help the local community better understand the park’s resources and would hopefully decrease looting. • Archeology could be used to teach science, technology, engineering, and math subjects. The park could incorporate pre-designed curriculum and other educational resources into their public offerings. • Geophysical surveys, ground truthing, and future archeological investigations could verify oral history accounts and answer existing questions about the sites. • The cemeteries associated with Magnolia and Oakland could be used to build connections with descendant populations and families. • Present park resource management staff has unique skillset to accomplish archeological services in-house.
<p>Existing Data and Plans Related to the FRV</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive subsurface investigation of Oakland Plantation– Southeast Archeological Center (2000). • Comprehensive subsurface investigation of Magnolia Plantation – Southeast Archeological Center (1999). • Numerous preliminary Southeast Archeological Center reports and external cooperators on-file at park and with partners.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Archeology
Data and/or GIS Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify cemetery locations and burial sites. • Archeological overview and assessment. • Identify 18th-century plantation sites. • Locate Magnolia brickyard. • Identify Native American archeological resources. • LiDAR data. • Additional cultural resource GIS mapping. • Identify locations of likely archeological sites based on historic maps. • Backlog cataloging of archeological collections.
Planning Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archeological artifact treatment plan – NPS Southeast Archeological Center. • Resource stewardship strategy.
Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antiquities Act of 1906 • Historic Sites Act of 1935 • National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470) • National Environmental Policy Act of 1970; 42 USC 4321 • Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 • American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978 • Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 • Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 • Museum Act (16 USC 18f through 18f-3) • Executive Order 11593, “Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment” • Executive Order 13007, “Indian Sacred Sites” • “Curation of Federally-Owned and Administered Archeological Collections” (36 CFR 79) • Secretarial Order 3289: “Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America’s Water, Land, and other Natural and Cultural Resources” <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director’s Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS Management Policies 2006 (§2.3.1.4) “Science and Scholarship” • NPS Management Policies 2006 (§4.1) “General Management Concepts” • NPS Management Policies 2006 (§4.1.4) “Partnerships” • NPS Management Policies 2006 (§4.2) “Studies and Collections” • NPS Management Policies 2006 (chapter 5) “Cultural Resource Management” • NPS Management Policies 2006 (§8.10) “Natural and Cultural Studies, Research, and Collection Activities” • Director’s Order 24: <i>NPS Museum Collections Management</i> • Director’s Order 28: <i>Cultural Resource Management</i> • Director’s Order 28A: <i>Archeology</i> • NPS Museum Handbook, parts I, II, and III • <i>The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation</i>

Identification of Key Issues and Associated Planning and Data Needs

This section considers key issues to be addressed in planning and management and therefore takes a broader view over the primary focus of part 1. A key issue focuses on a question that is important for a park. Key issues often raise questions regarding park purpose and significance and fundamental resources and values. For example, a key issue may pertain to the potential for a fundamental resource or value in a park to be detrimentally affected by discretionary management decisions. A key issue may also address crucial questions that are not directly related to purpose and significance, but which still affect them indirectly. Usually, a key issue is one that a future planning effort or data collection needs to address and requires a decision by NPS managers.

The following are key issues for Cane River Creole National Historical Park and the associated planning and data needs to address them:

- **Environmental remediation.** As part of historic plantation operations, numerous hazardous chemicals were used while processing cotton and agricultural products. Underground gasoline and diesel storage tanks were installed at Oakland and Magnolia Plantations to serve farm and store gas pumps. Phase one and two environmental site assessments were completed during the NPS's land acquisition, but the park continues to deal with remnants of hazardous materials and continuing issues related to remediation. Corrective action plans have been developed and implemented with the NPS Southeast Region and continue to be used when dealing with hazardous materials management.
 - **Associated Planning and Data Needs** – Updated remediation / corrective action plan and implementation; archeological artifact treatment plan – NPS Southeast Archeological Center; remediation of historic chemicals and contaminated collections plan – park; characterization studies for environmental remediation
- **Visitor orientation and circulation.** In general, visitors have a difficult time with site orientation and deciding how to best navigate the winding Cane River roads and the two park units. Some visitors have difficulty finding the site entrances and parking lots. The parking lot and visitor pavilion at Oakland face the rear of the main house, which confuses visitors who expect their visit to start in the primary plantation residence. Some visitors try to park their vehicles along Highway 494 at the Oakland Main House and Prud'homme Store entrances, which is a safety concern. Others do not make it to the store, which is staffed and acts as the primary visitor contact station. Since Magnolia is not staffed on weekdays, visitors often do not know where to begin and are not sure what buildings are open to the public and contain exhibits or interpretive text. Moreover, safety concerns associated with the LA Highway 119 further threaten visitor safety.

In addition, some steps have been taken to meet ADA guidelines throughout the park, but accessibility remains an issue at both the Oakland and Magnolia sites. The park installed reversible, minimally invasive rubber surface mats to increase access and mobility on trails between buildings and added exterior elevators to the Oakland Main House and Overseer's House, and to the Magnolia Overseer's House. But not all structures that are open to the public are accessible to those with mobility issues. Interpretive panels are not ADA compliant and there are few concessions for visual and hearing impaired guests within the park or on the park's website.

- **Associated Planning and Data Needs** – Accessibility transition plan; visitor circulation and wayfinding plan; site security survey; visitor use survey

- **Encroachment from nonagricultural land uses.** Agricultural context is important to the core experience of the two park units since it helps convey the sites' long histories of agricultural use and the transition of plantations from slave labor to sharecropping and tenant farming. Property adjacent to the park units remains primarily agricultural, which creates the impression of being on a large plantation and helps create a powerful visitor experience through the seemingly unchanged historic viewsheds and cultural soundscapes. Increasing residential development in the form of subdivisions and large modern homes has started to affect the agricultural setting of Oakland Plantation. While threatened with encroachment, the agricultural setting of the Magnolia Plantation site vicinity remains much more intact.
 - **Associated Planning and Data Needs** – Land protection plan; visual resource inventory; scenery conservation strategy

- **Caring for the museum collection.** The park uses its vast museum collection to inform the interpretation of Oakland and Magnolia Plantations, assist in recreating historically furnished interiors, and strengthen the connection to the Cane River and Creole communities at large. Correct treatment and management of the collection is also important in allowing the park to continue to be good stewards of the rich and complicated history of Oakland and Magnolia. Currently, the majority of the collection, which includes nearly one million 3D and paper artifacts, is housed in a GSA-leased building adjacent to park headquarters in Natchitoches. The building, which was not originally designed for collection storage, has limited space and does not have the desired environmental control or fire suppression systems. While moving part or all of the collection to an off-site NPS storage facility was previously proposed, it is crucial that the park collection remains local since access to the items is vital in maintaining the trust of the community and Oakland and Magnolia descendants. The park has plans for a \$12 million Collection Conservation Center on the Northwest State University of Louisiana campus, but the project has not yet been funded.
 - **Associated Planning and Data Needs** – Remediation of historic chemicals / contaminated collections plan – park; museum housekeeping plans; additional collection condition surveys, including priorities for conservation treatment; museum collection backlog cataloging

Planning and Data Needs

To maintain connection to the core elements of the foundation and the importance of these core foundation elements, the planning and data needs listed here are directly related to protecting fundamental resources and values, park significance, and park purpose, as well as addressing key issues. To successfully undertake a planning effort, information from sources such as inventories, studies, research activities, and analyses may be required to provide adequate knowledge of park resources and visitor information. Such information sources have been identified as data needs. Geospatial mapping tasks and products are included in data needs.

Items considered of the utmost importance were identified as high priority, and other items identified, but not rising to the level of high priority, were listed as either medium- or low-priority needs. These priorities inform park management efforts to secure funding and support for planning projects.



Planning Needs – Where a Decision-Making Process Is Needed			
Related to an FRV?	Planning Needs	Priority (H, M, L)	Notes
FRV, Key Issue	Remediation/corrective action plan and implementation	H	In light of the common use of hazardous chemicals as a regular part of everyday plantation operation in the late 19th and 20th centuries, environmental remediation has been an ongoing issue since the park's establishment and original land acquisition. Remediation is being addressed with help from the region, but continues to be a parkwide issue. Updated corrective action plans and additional remediation projects are needed to keep the park within environmental regulations and to improve visitor and staff health and safety.
FRV, Key Issue	Archeological artifact treatment plan – NPS Southeast Archeological Center	H	Many archeological artifacts currently being held at NPS Southeast Archeological Center are considered potentially hazardous from their prolonged exposure to arsenic and other chemicals used in cotton processing. A treatment plan will outline the process for treating artifacts so they could be returned to the park and potentially exhibited.
FRV, Key Issue	Accessibility transition plan (Oakland and Magnolia)	H	Buildings and grounds at both park units are not completely ADA compliant, creating visitor safety concerns. An accessibility transition plan includes an assessment of current conditions and prioritization of forthcoming accessibility projects to help mitigate issues.
FRV, Key Issue	Visitor circulation and wayfinding plan (Oakland and Magnolia)	H	An overarching circulation and wayfinding plan will use information from the visitor use survey to formulate better park signs and wayfinding tools and accessibility suggestions for park walking paths. This plan will directly address identified key parkwide issues of accessibility and visitor use. (As of April 2015, a project for new orientation signage and wayside exhibits is formulated for PMIS funding in 2016.)
FRV, Key Issue	Land protection plan	H	Encroachment is a key issue for the park, which is located in a predominantly agricultural setting. A land protection plan will address encroachment and adjacent resources as well as highlight funding and mechanisms that could be used to protect the park from the effects of inappropriate adjacent development.
FRV, Key Issue	Scenery conservation strategy	H	Using the visual resource inventory, the plan will help identify protection strategies and collaboration efforts for protection of scenic views.
FRV	Cultural landscape report phase two treatment recommendations (Oakland and Magnolia)	H	A comprehensive cultural landscape report has been completed, but it does not include later phases and recommendations that help guide maintenance of landscapes. The operational portion of the document is needed to provide direction for the maintenance staff. (This project request has been submitted in PMIS but not yet funded.)

Planning Needs – Where a Decision-Making Process Is Needed			
Related to an FRV?	Planning Needs	Priority (H, M, L)	Notes
FRV	Integrated pest management plan	H	Invasive and nuisance species, including squirrels and hogs, can cause major damage to natural and cultural resources. An integrated pest management plan will lay out management guidelines and treatment dealing with pest removal.
FRV, Key Issue	Remediation of historic chemicals and contaminated collections plan	M	Similar to the archeological artifact treatment plan for SEAC, this plan will outline how to handle and treat potentially contaminated museum collection artifacts stored at the park.
FRV	Resource stewardship strategy	M	Current resource management guidelines for the park come from the dated information in the general management plan. A resource stewardship strategy outlines existing natural and cultural resource conditions and develops comprehensive strategies to improve conditions of all of the park's resources.
FRV	Additional exhibits plans (Oakland and Magnolia)	M	Currently, the park uses historic furnishings plans developed by Harper's Ferry Center to produce exhibits. Exhibit plans would help the park furnish exhibits and create additional opportunities for displaying pieces from its museum collection.
FRV	Museum housekeeping plans	M	Currently, the park uses historic structures plans developed in-house for maintaining historic interiors and exhibits. A comprehensive housekeeping plan would cover all museum structures and would address a park museum checklist deficiency.
FRV	Maintenance facility development concept plan	L	Park maintenance facilities are now housed in temporary structures and adaptively reused historic buildings at both units. This plan will create a concept and design for a larger, permanent facility at Oakland.
FRV	Volunteer management plan	L	This plan will address volunteer recruitment, management, and retentions and also address friends group formation.
FRV	Deaccession plan	L	A deaccession plan will allow the park to determine the formal process for removing objects that do not meet the park's scope of collection from its growing museum collection and archives.
FRV	Scope of collection statement update	L	The park continues to acquire 3D and paper objects through archeology and donations made by descendants and local community members. An updated scope of collection statement would provide formal guidance for the type of objects that would strengthen the park's current collection and its resulting interpretation of Oakland and Magnolia Plantations, the surrounding Cane River area, and the broader Creole community. This document would inform a museum collection deaccession plan.

Data Needs – Where Information Is Needed Before Decisions Can Be Made			
Related to an FRV?	Data and GIS Needs	Priority (H, M, L)	Notes
FRV, Key Issue	Characterization studies for environmental remediation	H	There are environmental concerns in the park related to hazardous material and environmental remediation. Characterization studies will help identify remaining problems, address gaps in previous reports, and help determine if there is a need for additional corrective action plans.
FRV, Key Issue	Visual resource inventory	H	A viewsshed analysis provides data regarding significant views, scenic quality and NPS/visitor values of important views that may be impacted by encroachment or pollution. This will provide baseline information for local communities and stakeholders to consider in land use planning to protect important park views. The inventory would also complement cultural landscape inventories.
FRV	Cultural landscape inventory	H	While the park completed cultural landscape reports for Magnolia and Oakland, the park units need to be surveyed for inclusion in the NPS cultural landscapes inventory database, which is required of the park. Future funding is dependent on being included in the database.
FRV	Ethnobotanical resource survey	H	Information on local ethnobotanicals provides a connection between natural resources and the Creole cultural community. Much of the information is held by aging community members and will be conveyed through oral history interviews, making this a time-sensitive project and a high-priority data need.
FRV, Key Issue	Site security survey	H	This is a baseline museum program document is needed for compliance and addresses a key park issue.
FRV	Lineal descent study	H	A lineal descent study will highlight traditional and cultural associations to the plantations, show the importance of the park's connection to local community and descendant community, and allow for additional interpretation opportunities.
FRV	Identify cemetery locations and burial sites (Oakland and Magnolia)	M	Though two cemeteries associated with the Oakland Plantation and Magnolia Plantation sites have been identified, the property on which each is located is privately owned. Archeological surveys of two such cemeteries have been completed, yet precise data regarding individuals interred therein and exact grave locations remain incomplete. Research and further investigations could help clarify provenience data so that each site could be better monitored and protected from looting, construction and development, and disrespectful activity.

Data Needs – Where Information Is Needed Before Decisions Can Be Made			
Related to an FRV?	Data and GIS Needs	Priority (H, M, L)	Notes
FRV	Archeological overview and assessment (Oakland and Magnolia)	M	An archeological overview and assessment would summarize previous research and findings at Oakland and Magnolia plantations, which will assist with future research requests and archeology project formulation.
FRV	Climate change vulnerability assessment for select cultural resources	M	Climate change is a major concern for all NPS units. This study will assess the effects of climate change on the park's priority natural and cultural resources, focusing on site-specific issues such as how change would affect bousillage and limewash on historic structures and possible changes to the cultural landscape.
FRV	Historic structures report – Magnolia Store	M	The Magnolia Store is the only key park building that does not have a completed historic structures report. While there is a buildings file for the store, maintenance and management decisions are based on old documentation. A historic structures report would fill in missing data for the park's List of Classified Structures and allow for better maintenance and preservation practices.
FRV	Additional HABS documentation (Oakland and Magnolia)	M	Many park buildings have HABS documentation, but some buildings have not been documented and other building documentation remains incomplete or incorrect. Building files exist for all historic structures, but these range in quality, completeness, and length. Updated and complete HABS documents for all historic structures will guide maintenance and future preservation projects.
FRV, Key Issue	Additional collection condition surveys including priorities for conservation treatment	M	Collection condition surveys are a critical sequential step used to start the conservation process on the park's fragile and deteriorating artifacts. Surveys relating to the most threatened collections have already been completed, but a comprehensive survey would help establish current conditions and develop future management guidance.
FRV, Key Issue	Museum collection backlog cataloging	M	As of April 2015, 29.7% of the park's collection (nearly 30,000 objects and archives) is not catalogued. Cataloguing the remaining collection backlog is integral to completing an entire collection inventory and maintaining accountability over the collection.
FRV	Historic structure reports	M	Historic structure reports are critical for understanding and maintaining vernacular buildings. New historic structures reports are required for undocumented buildings and some existing historic structures reports need to have conditions, traditional practice, and defining features updated.

Data Needs – Where Information Is Needed Before Decisions Can Be Made			
Related to an FRV?	Data and GIS Needs	Priority (H, M, L)	Notes
FRV	Natural resource surveys (Oakland and Magnolia)	M	Existing natural resource surveys contain dated and incomplete information. Additional surveys are needed to inform the natural resource overview.
FRV	Natural resource overview (Oakland and Magnolia)	M	While limited resource surveys have been completed, overall baseline data has not been compiled. This document would be used to inform natural resource management, resource stewardship strategy development, and additional interpretation.
FRV	Traditional use study	M	A traditional use study would clarify the relationships between associated people and ethnographic resources. These data would cover gaps identified by ethnographic overview and assessment.
FRV	Tribal affiliation study	M	A tribal affiliation study will help the park and NHA better understand the American Indian groups associated with the plantations so they can be included in interpretation and management decisions.
FRV, Key Issue	Visitor use survey	M	This survey would capture visitor thoughts and experiences relating to accessibility, site circulation, and wayfinding and signage.
FRV	3D imaging of structures (Oakland and Magnolia)	M	A 3D model of each plantation would help inform management, interpretation, and archeology, as well as be used on the website and for outreach opportunities. This imaging can also help address inconsistencies in historic structure documentation and help the maintenance staff preserve park resources. NCPTT has been identified as a potential partner for LiDAR and imaging projects.
FRV	Identify 18th-century plantation sites (Oakland and Magnolia)	L	While Oakland and Magnolia plantations were established during the late 1700s, the current house sites and buildings date to the 19th-century. Additional archival using primary sources, combined with archeological testing, could unveil the original location of the first residences and support buildings of each plantation.
FRV	Locate Magnolia brickyard	L	The handmade bricks used to construct Magnolia structures, including the rare examples of brick slave quarters, were made at the plantation. Primary research, oral histories, archeological surveys, and ground truthing could pinpoint where the 19th-century brickyard was located.

Data Needs – Where Information Is Needed Before Decisions Can Be Made			
Related to an FRV?	Data and GIS Needs	Priority (H, M, L)	Notes
FRV	Identify Native American archeological resources (Oakland and Magnolia)	L	No archeological work has been completed that would have surveyed deep enough to reach Native American archeological resources. Identifying potential sites and artifacts would help strengthen connections with tribal groups and tell the story of American Indian day labor at plantations.
FRV	Update National Historic Landmark documentation	L	The park's current national historic landmark documentation, completed for each site in 2001, omits historic structures, misinterprets some contributing structures, and does not address the importance of the plantations' cultural landscapes, the relationship of buildings throughout the property, the significance of the sites' vernacular architecture, or the common local practice of moving and reusing buildings over time. An update would include identification of resources found both on park property and adjacent private lands.
FRV	LiDAR Data	L	LiDAR imaging helps track land use change and topography and can give detailed images of buildings. The park has some LiDAR documentation, but it can be updated for better accuracy and used to locate archeological resources and historic drainage paths through a vegetative canopy.
FRV	Additional cultural resource GIS mapping	L	Connecting GIS to contextual data from Cane River National Heritage Area and historic plantation lands not owned by park would help document neighboring historic resources and inform future planning and management.
FRV	Identify locations of likely archeological sites based on historic maps	L	This type of survey is normally associated with section 110 compliance, but having the information completed independent of compliance activities would give the park additional information relating to areas of concern and would help guide future construction and archeology projects.
FRV	Additional historic furnishing reports (Oakland and Magnolia)	L	Additional historic furnishing reports and exhibit planning documents would allow the park additional opportunities to document buildings' historical occupancy and would include recommended furnishing that would help interpret additional rooms/buildings for visitors.

Part 3: Contributors

Cane River Creole National Historical Park

Eric Ford, Facility Manager

Dustin Fuqua, Chief of Resource Management

Laura Gates, Superintendent

Nathan Hatfield, Chief of Interpretation

NPS Southeast Region

Ben West, Chief, Planning and Compliance Division, Southeast Regional Office

Other NPS Staff

Tabitha Carver-Roberts, Contract Editor, Denver Service Center – Planning

Kirk Cordell, Director, National Center for Preservation Technology and Training

Andrew Ferrell, Chief of Architecture, National Center for Preservation
Technology and Training

John Paul Jones, Visual Information Specialist, Denver Service Center – Planning

Ray McPadden, Project Manager, Denver Service Center – Planning

Carrie Miller, Cultural Resource Specialist, Denver Service Center – Planning

David Morgan, Director, Southeast Archeological Center

Hilary Retseck, Cultural Resource Specialist, Denver Service Center – Planning

Partners

Elvin Shields, Park Volunteer

Cynthia Sutton, President, Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.

Appendixes

Appendix A: Enabling Legislation for Cane River Creole National Historical Park and Cane River National Heritage Area

PUBLIC LAW 103-449—NOV. 2, 1994

108 STAT. 4757

TITLE III—CANE RIVER CREOLE NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK

Cane River
Creole National
Historical
Park and
National
Heritage
Area Act.
16 USC 410ccc
note.

SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.

Titles III and IV of this Act may be cited as the “Cane River Creole National Historical Park and National Heritage Area Act”.

SEC. 302. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

16 USC 410ccc.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

(1) the Natchitoches area along Cane River, established in 1714, is the oldest permanent settlement in the Louisiana Purchase territory;

(2) the Cane River area is the locale of the development of Creole culture, from French-Spanish interactions of the early 18th century of today’s living communities;

(3) the Cane River, historically a segment of the Red River, provided the focal point for early settlement, serving as a transportation route upon which commerce and communication reached all parts of the colony;

(4) although a number of Creole structures, sites, and landscapes exist in Louisiana and elsewhere, unlike the Cane River area, most are isolated examples, and lack original outbuilding complexes or integrity;

(5) the Cane River area includes a great variety of historical features with original elements in both rural and urban settings and a cultural landscape that represents various aspects of Creole culture, providing the base for a holistic approach to understanding the broad continuum of history within the region;

(6) the Cane River region includes the Natchitoches National Historic Landmark District, composed of approximately 300 publicly and privately owned properties, four other national historic landmarks, and other structures and sites that may meet criteria for landmark significance following further study;

(7) historic preservation within the Cane River area has greatly benefitted from individuals and organizations that have strived to protect their heritage and educate others about their rich history; and

(8) because of the complexity and magnitude of preservation needs in the Cane River area, and the vital need for a culturally sensitive approach, a partnership approach is desirable for addressing the many preservation and educational needs.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of titles III and IV of this Act are to—

(1) recognize the importance of the Cane River Creole culture as a nationally significant element of the cultural heritage of the United States;

(2) establish a Cane River Creole National Historical Park to serve as the focus of interpretive and educational programs on the history of the Cane River area and to assist in the preservation of certain historic sites along the river; and

(3) establish a Cane River National Heritage Area and Commission to be undertaken in partnership with the State of Louisiana, the City of Natchitoches, local communities and settlements of the Cane River area, preservation organizations,

and private landowners, with full recognition that programs must fully involve the local communities and landowners.

16 USC 410ccc-1. **SEC. 303. ESTABLISHMENT OF CANE RIVER CREOLE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—In order to assist in the preservation and interpretation of, and education concerning, the Creole culture and diverse history of the Natchitoches region, and to provide technical assistance to a broad range of public and private landowners and preservation organizations, there is hereby established the Cane River Creole National Historical Park in the State of Louisiana (hereinafter in titles III and IV of this Act referred to as the “historical park”).

(b) **AREA INCLUDED.**—The historical park shall consist of lands and interests therein as follows:

(1) Lands and structures associated with the Oakland Plantation as depicted on map CARI, 80,002, dated January 1994.

(2) Lands and structures owned or acquired by Museum Contents, Inc. as depicted on map CARI, 80,001A, dated May 1994.

(3) Sites that may be the subject of cooperative agreements with the National Park Service for the purposes of historic preservation and interpretation including, but not limited to, the Melrose Plantation, the Badin-Rouge site, the Cherokee Plantation, the Beau Fort Plantation, and sites within the Natchitoches National Historical Landmark District: *Provided*, That such sites may not be added to the historical park unless the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the “Secretary”) determines, based on further research and planning, that such sites meet the applicable criteria for national historical significance, suitability, and feasibility, and notification of the proposed addition has been transmitted to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate and the appropriate committees of the House of Representatives.

(4) Not to exceed 10 acres of land that the Secretary may designate for an interpretive visitor center complex to serve the needs of the historical park and heritage area established in title IV of this Act.

16 USC 410ccc-2. **SEC. 304. ADMINISTRATION.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall administer the historical park in accordance with this title and with provisions of law generally applicable to units of the National Park System, including the Act entitled “An Act to establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes”, approved August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535; 16 U.S.C. 1, 2-4); and the Act of August 21, 1935 (49 Stat. 666, 16 U.S.C. 461-467). The Secretary shall manage the historical park in such a manner as will preserve resources and cultural landscapes relating to the Creole culture of the Cane River and enhance public understanding of the important cultural heritage of the Cane River region.

(b) **DONATIONS.**—The Secretary may accept and retain donations of funds, property, or services from individuals, foundations, or other public or private entities for the purposes of providing programs, services, facilities, or technical assistance that further the purposes of titles III and IV of this Act. Any funds donated

to the Secretary pursuant to this subsection may be expended without further appropriation.

(c) **INTERPRETIVE CENTER.**—The Secretary is authorized to construct, operate, and maintain an interpretive center on lands identified by the Secretary pursuant to section 303(b)(4). Such center shall provide for the general information and orientation needs of the historical park and the heritage area. The Secretary shall consult with the State of Louisiana, the City of Natchitoches, the Association for the Preservation of Historic Natchitoches, and the Cane River National Heritage Area Commission pursuant to section 402 of this Act in the planning and development of the interpretive center.

(d) **COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**—
(1) The Secretary, after consultation with the Cane River Heritage Area Commission established pursuant to section 402 of this Act, is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with owners of properties within the heritage area and owners of properties within the historical park that provide important educational and interpretive opportunities relating to the heritage of the Cane River region. The Secretary may also enter into cooperative agreements for the purpose of facilitating the preservation of important historic sites and structures identified in the historical park's general management plan or other heritage elements related to the heritage of the Cane River region. Such cooperative agreements shall specify that the National Park Service shall have reasonable rights of access for operational and visitor use needs and that preservation treatments will meet the Secretary's standards for rehabilitation of historic buildings.

(2) The Secretary is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with the City of Natchitoches, the State of Louisiana, and other public or private organizations for the development of the interpretive center, educational programs, and other materials that will facilitate public use of the historical park and heritage area.

(e) **RESEARCH.**—The Secretary, acting through the National Park Service, shall coordinate a comprehensive research program on the complex history of the Cane River region, including ethnography studies of the living communities along the Cane River, and how past and present generations have adapted to their environment, including genealogical studies of families within the Cane River area. Research shall include, but not be limited to, the extensive primary historic documents within the Natchitoches and Cane River areas, and curation methods for their care and exhibition. The research program shall be coordinated with Northwestern State University of Louisiana, and the National Center for Preservation of Technology and Training in Natchitoches.

SEC. 305. ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY.

16 USC 410ccc-3.

(a) **GENERAL AUTHORITY.**—Except as otherwise provided in this section, the Secretary is authorized to acquire lands and interest therein within the boundaries of the historical park by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange.

(b) **STATE AND LOCAL PROPERTIES.**—Lands and interests therein that are owned by the State of Louisiana, or any political subdivision thereof, may be acquired only by donation or exchange.

(c) **MUSEUM CONTENTS, INC.**—Lands and structures identified in section 303(b)(2) may be acquired only by donation.

108 STAT. 4760

PUBLIC LAW 103-449—NOV. 2, 1994

(d) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT SITES.—Lands and interests therein that are the subject of cooperative agreements pursuant to section 303(b)(3) shall not be acquired except with the consent of the owner thereof.

16 USC 410ccc-4. **SEC. 306. GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN.**

Within 3 years after the date funds are made available therefor and in consultation with the Cane River Heritage Area Commission, the National Park Service shall prepare a general management plan for the historical park. The plan shall include, but need not be limited to—

(1) a visitor use plan indicating programs and facilities that will be provided for public use, including the location and cost of an interpretive center;

(2) programs and management actions that the National Park Service will undertake cooperatively with the heritage area commission, including preservation treatments for important sites, structures, objects, and research materials. Planning shall address educational media, roadway signing, and brochures that could be coordinated with the Commission pursuant to section 403 of this Act; and

(3) preservation and use plans for any sites and structures that are identified for National Park Service involvement through cooperative agreements.

Short title.
Ante, p. 4757.

TITLE IV—CANE RIVER NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

16 USC
410ccc-21.

SEC. 401. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CANE RIVER NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby established the Cane River National Heritage Area (hereinafter in this title referred to as the “heritage area”).

(b) PURPOSE.—In furtherance of the need to recognize the value and importance of the Cane River region and in recognition of the findings of section 302(a) of this Act, it is the purpose of this title to establish a heritage area to complement the historical park and to provide for a culturally sensitive approach to the preservation of the heritage of the Cane River region, and for other needs including—

(1) recognizing areas important to the Nation’s heritage and identity;

(2) assisting in the preservation and enhancement of the cultural landscape and traditions of the Cane River region;

(3) providing a framework for those who live within this important dynamic cultural landscape to assist in preservation and educational actions; and

(4) minimizing the need for Federal land acquisition and management.

(c) AREA INCLUDED.—The heritage area shall include—

(1) an area approximately 1 mile on both sides of the Cane River as depicted on map CARI, 80,000A, dated May 1994;

(2) those properties within the Natchitoches National Historic Landmark District which are the subject of cooperative agreements pursuant to section 304(d) of this Act;

PUBLIC LAW 103-449—NOV. 2, 1994

108 STAT. 4761

- (3) the Los Adaes State Commemorative Area;
 - (4) the Fort Jesup State Commemorative Area;
 - (5) the Fort St. Jean Baptiste State Commemorative Area;
- and
- (6) the Kate Chopin House.

A final identification of all areas and sites to be included in the heritage area shall be included in the heritage area management plan as required in section 403.

SEC. 402. CANE RIVER NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA COMMISSION.

16 USC
410ccc-22.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—To assist in implementing the purposes of titles II and III of this Act and to provide guidance for the management of the heritage area, there is established the Cane River National Heritage Area Commission (hereinafter in this title referred to as the “Commission”).

(b) **MEMBERSHIP.**—The Commission shall consist of 19 members to be appointed no later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this title. The Commission shall be appointed by the Secretary as follows—

- (1) one member from recommendations submitted by the Mayor of Natchitoches;
- (2) one member from recommendations submitted by the Association for the Preservation of Historic Natchitoches;
- (3) one member from recommendations submitted by the Natchitoches Historic Foundation, Inc.;
- (4) two members with experience in and knowledge of tourism in the heritage area from recommendations submitted by local business and tourism organizations;
- (5) one member from recommendations submitted by the Governor of the State of Louisiana;
- (6) one member from recommendations submitted by the Police Jury of Natchitoches Parish;
- (7) one member from recommendations submitted by the Concern Citizens of Cloutierville;
- (8) one member from recommendations submitted by the St. Augustine Historical Society;
- (9) one member from recommendations submitted by the Black Heritage Committee;
- (10) one member from recommendations submitted by the Los Adaes/Robeline Community;
- (11) one member from recommendations submitted by the Natchitoches Historic District Commission;
- (12) one member from recommendations submitted by the Cane River Waterway Commission;
- (13) two members who are landowners in and residents of the heritage area;
- (14) one member with experience and knowledge of historic preservation from recommendations submitted by the Museum Contents, Inc.;
- (15) one member with experience and knowledge of historic preservation from recommendations submitted by the President of Northwestern State University of Louisiana;
- (16) one member with experience in and knowledge of environmental, recreational and conservation matters affecting the heritage area from recommendations submitted by the Natchitoches Sportsmans Association and other local recreational and environmental organizations; and

(17) the director of the National Park Service, or the Director's designee, ex officio.

(c) DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION.—The Commission shall—

(1) prepare a management plan for the heritage area in consultation with the National Park Service, the State of Louisiana, the City of Natchitoches, Natchitoches Parish, interested groups, property owners, and the public;

(2) consult with the Secretary on the preparation of the general management plan for the historical park;

(3) develop cooperative agreements with property owners, preservation groups, educational groups, the State of Louisiana, the City of Natchitoches, universities, and tourism groups, and other groups to further the purposes of titles III and IV of this Act; and

(4) identify appropriate entities, such as a non-profit corporation, that could be established to assume the responsibilities of the Commission following its termination.

(d) POWERS OF THE COMMISSION.—In furtherance of the purposes of titles III and IV of this Act, the Commission is authorized to—

(1) procure temporary and intermittent services to the same extent that is authorized by section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, but at rates determined by the Commission to be reasonable;

(2) accept the services of personnel detailed from the State of Louisiana or any political subdivision thereof, and may reimburse the State or political subdivision for such services;

(3) upon the request of the Commission, the head of any Federal agency may detail, on a reimbursable basis, any of the personnel of such agency to the Commission to assist the Commission in carrying out its duties;

(4) appoint and fix the compensation of such staff as may be necessary to carry out its duties. Staff shall be appointed subject to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, and shall be paid in accordance with the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates;

(5) enter into cooperative agreements with public or private individuals or entities for research, historic preservation, and education purposes;

(6) make grants to assist in the preparation of studies that identify, preserve, and plan for the management of the heritage area;

(7) notwithstanding any other provision of law, seek and accept donations of funds or services from individuals, foundations, or other public or private entities and expend the same for the purposes of providing services and programs in furtherance of the purposes of titles III and IV of this Act;

(8) assist others in developing educational, informational, and interpretive programs and facilities;

(9) hold such hearings, sit and act at such times and places, take such testimony, and receive such evidence, as the Commission may consider appropriate; and

(10) use the United States mails in the same manner and under the same conditions as other departments or agencies of the United States.

(e) **COMPENSATION.**—Members of the Commission shall receive no compensation for their service on the Commission. While away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of services for the Commission, members shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in the Government service are allowed expenses under section 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

(f) **CHAIRMAN.**—The Commission shall elect a chairman from among its members. The term of the chairman shall be for 3 years.

(g) **TERMS.**—The terms of Commission members shall be for 3 years. Any member of the Commission appointed by the Secretary for a 3-year term may serve after expiration of his or her term until a successor is appointed. Any vacancy shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made. Any member appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve for the remainder of the term for which the predecessor was appointed.

(h) **ANNUAL REPORTS.**—The Commission shall submit an annual report to the Secretary identifying its expenses and any income, the entities to which any grants or technical assistance were made during the year for which the report is made, and actions that are planned for the following year.

SEC. 403. PREPARATION OF THE PLAN.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Within 3 years after the Commission conducts its first meeting, it shall prepare and submit a heritage area management plan to the Governor of the State of Louisiana. The Governor shall, if the Governor approves the plan, submit it to the Secretary for review and approval. The Secretary shall provide technical assistance to the Commission in the preparation and implementation of the plan, in concert with actions by the National Park Service to prepare a general management plan for the historical park. The plan shall consider local government plans and shall present a unified heritage preservation and education plan for the heritage area. The plan shall include, but not be limited to—

(1) an inventory of important properties and cultural landscapes that should be preserved, managed, developed, and maintained because of their cultural, natural, and public use significance;

(2) an analysis of current land uses within the area and how they affect the goals of preservation and public use of the heritage area;

(3) an interpretive plan to address the cultural and natural history of the area, and actions to enhance visitor use. This element of the plan shall be undertaken in consultation with the National Park Service and visitor use plans for the historical park;

(4) recommendations for coordinating actions by local, State, and Federal governments within the heritage area, to further the purposes of titles III and IV of this Act; and

(5) an implementation program for the plan including desired actions by State and local governments and other involved groups and entities.

(b) **APPROVAL OF THE PLAN.**—The Secretary shall approve or disapprove the plan within 90 days after receipt of the plan from the Commission. The Commission shall notify the Secretary of

16 USC
410ccc-23.

Technical
assistance.

08 STAT. 4764

PUBLIC LAW 103-449—NOV. 2, 1994

the status of approval by the Governor of Louisiana when the plan is submitted for review and approval. In determining whether or not to approve the plan the Secretary shall consider—

(1) whether the Commission has afforded adequate opportunity, including public meetings and hearings, for public and governmental involvement in the preparation of the plan; and

(2) whether reasonable assurances have been received from the State and local governments that the plan is supported and that the implementation program is feasible.

(c) **DISAPPROVAL OF THE PLAN.**—If the Secretary disapproves the plan, he shall advise the Commission in writing of the reasons for disapproval, and shall provide recommendations and assistance in the revision plan. Following completion of any revisions to the plan, the Commission shall resubmit the plan to the Governor of Louisiana for approval, and to the Secretary, who shall approve or disapprove the plan within 90 days after the date that the plan is revised.

6 USC
10ccc-24.

SEC. 404. TERMINATION OF HERITAGE AREA COMMISSION.

(a) **TERMINATION.**—The Commission shall terminate on the day occurring 10 years after the first official meeting of the Commission.

(b) **EXTENSION.**—The Commission may petition to be extended for a period of not more than 5 years beginning on the day referred to in subsection (a), provided the Commission determines a critical need to fulfill the purposes of titles III and IV of this Act; and the Commission obtains approval from the Secretary, in consultation with the Governor of Louisiana.

(c) **HERITAGE AREA MANAGEMENT FOLLOWING TERMINATION OF THE COMMISSION.**—The national heritage area status for the Cane River region shall continue following the termination of the Commission. The management plan, and partnerships and agreements subject to the plan shall guide the future management of the heritage area. The Commission, prior to its termination, shall recommend to the Governor of the State of Louisiana and the Secretary, appropriate entities, including the potential for a nonprofit corporation, to assume the responsibilities of the Commission.

6 USC
10ccc-25.

SEC. 405. DUTIES OF OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.

Any Federal entity conducting or supporting activities directly affecting the heritage area shall—

(1) consult with the Secretary and the Commission with respect to implementation of their proposed actions; and

(2) to the maximum extent practicable, coordinate such activities with the Commission to minimize potential impacts on the resources of the heritage area.

SEC. 406. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out titles III and IV of this Act.

Approved November 2, 1994.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 1348:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 103-233 (Comm. on Natural Resources).

SENATE REPORTS: No. 103-305 (Comm. on Energy and Natural Resources).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Vol. 139 (1993): Sept. 13, considered and passed House.

Vol. 140 (1994): Oct. 6, considered and passed Senate, amended.

Oct. 7, House concurred in Senate amendment.

Appendix B: Inventory of Administrative Commitments

Name	Agreement Type	Start Date – Expiration Date	Stakeholders	Purpose	Notes
Cooperative Agreement with Cane River National Heritage Area	Cooperative Agreement	8/2013 – 8/2018	Park, Cane River National Heritage Area	Multiple: Umbrella Agreement for mutual partnership assistance, historic preservation, technical assistance, interpretation, education, visitor activities	Umbrella Agreement also included Heritage Ranger Services (2014) and Special Music and Other Events (2014)
“Civil War Commemorative Events”	Task Agreement under above Cooperative Agreement	4/2014 – 8/2014	Park, Cane River National Heritage Area, Louisiana State Parks, Washington Support Office	Civil War Sesquicentennial Activities and Programming	CW 150
“The Crossroads Region of El Camino real de los Tejas National Historic Trail: An Ethnographic Assessment and Related Activities”	Task Agreement under above Cooperative Agreement	7/2014 – 9/2015	Park, Cane River National Heritage Area, Northwestern State University, 10 federally and state recognized Tribes	Complete ethnographic assessment of traditional cultures in Crossroads region of El Camino, focusing on the tribal heritage of the trail; and conduct activities for tribal dialogue to enhance cultural conservation, heritage tourism, and economic development	Connect Trails to Parks
“Interpretive Programming”	Task Agreement under above Cooperative Agreement	5/2015 – 12/2015	Park, Cane River National Heritage Area	Heritage Ranger Services and Interpretive Programming	Park ONPS
“Highlight Delta Culture at 36th Annual NSU Folklife Festival”	Task Agreement under above Cooperative Agreement	5/2015 – 10/2015	Park, Cane River National Heritage Area, Northwestern State University, State of Louisiana Folklife	Provide funding, cooperative programming supporting annual Louisiana Folklife Festival	Lower Mississippi Delta Region Initiatives
Eastern National Cooperative Agreement	Cooperative Agreement	5/1997 – None specified	Eastern National	Agreement to allow Eastern National to operate sales outlet via park staff	2005-001; 2008-001; 2011-extension
Natchitoches Parks Volunteer Fire Cooperative Agreement	Cooperative Agreement	8/2014 – None specified	Natchitoches Parish Volunteer Fire District #5	Agreement for fire support at park units	

Name	Agreement Type	Start Date – Expiration Date	Stakeholders	Purpose	Notes
LA Department of Environmental Quality Cooperative Agreement	Cooperative Agreement		Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality	Agreement for support dealing with arsenic contaminants	
Natchitoches Parish 911 Cooperative Agreement	Cooperative Agreement		Natchitoches Parish 911 System	Radio communication agreement	
Natchitoches Parish and JELA NHP and PRES Mutual Aid Agreement	Mutual Aid Agreement	6/2010 – 6/2015	Natchitoches Parish Sheriff; Jean Lafitte NHP and PRES	Law enforcement supplied by local sheriff and Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve in terms of emergency response and federal cases	
Continuity of Operations Plan	Signed Agreement	Continuous - updated 4/2015 – Updated annually or when necessary	Park, NCPTT, Kisatchie National Forest	Park backup location for continuing operations during disaster	
Creole Heritage Center Technical Support	Informal Agreement		Creole Heritage Center (NSULA)	Computer back-up and technical support	
GSA Facility Lease	Lease		General Services Administration	Park leasing headquarters building from GSA	
Master Cooperative Agreement: Cane River Creole NHP and Northwestern State University of Louisiana (NSULA)	Master Cooperative Agreement	7/2015 – 7/2020	Northwestern State University of Louisiana	Master agreement to serve as basis for future tasks associated with park legislation	P15AC01245
“Complete Ethnographic Overview and Lexicon of Indo-Spanish Communities of Natchitoches and Sabine Parishes”	Grant Agreement	8/2013 – 8/2015	Northwestern State University	Ethnographic summary of communities developed in colonial eras from Spanish and Native American groups who remain in area	
“Complete Traditional Cultural Property Documentation, Choctaw-Apache Community of Ebarb”	Grant Agreement	8/2014 – 12/2015	Choctaw-Apache Ebarb, Inc. and members of the tribe	Documentation of traditional cultural properties, group seeking federal recognition	Lower Mississippi Delta Region Initiatives
“Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana Cultural Programs”	Grant Agreement	5/2015 – 12/2016	Tunica Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana	Produce brochure for tribal museum; revise, update and print Tribal history; conduct demonstrations of tribal traditions	Lower Mississippi Delta Region Initiatives

Name	Agreement Type	Start Date – Expiration Date	Stakeholders	Purpose	Notes
“Design and Print Brochure, Poverty Point World Heritage Site”	Grant Agreement	5/2015 – 10/2015	State of Louisiana	Produce marketing brochures for the most recent US World Heritage Site	Lower Mississippi Delta Region Initiatives
ARPA Permits for archaeological work at Magnolia Plantation	ARPA Permit	2005 – 2012	Park, University of Houston	Complete research, survey, fieldwork, excavations, analysis, artifact cataloguing	CARI 2005-01; 2008-01; 2011-01
Fall Tour of Homes Special Use Permit	Special Use Permit		Prud’homme Family	Permit for Prud’homme family members to utilize Oakland Plantation unit in keeping with historic traditions	
Hay Special Use Permit	Special Use Permit	2011 – 2014	Individuals	Permits to individuals to cut hay and remove vegetation on park property	Renewable on an annual basis for five-year periods
Loan of Museum Objects to Smithsonian Museum of African American History and Culture	Outgoing Loan	2015 – 2025, 10 year renewal option	Park, Smithsonian	Following public meetings that resulted in positive response, outgoing loan of museum objects highlighting lives of people of African descent	L2014.03
Louisiana State Museum, Northwest (Louisiana) History Museum, and Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame Artifact Loans	Outgoing Loan	2013 – 2016	Louisiana State Museum	Outgoing loan of museum objects for exhibition and display	L2013.04
Southeast Archeological Center Artifact Loan	Outgoing Loan	– Unknown	Southeast Archeology Center	Numerous outgoing artifact loans of archeological fragments and archives for research, storage, and collections management	
CRNHA Artifact Loan	Incoming Loan	– Unknown	Cane River National Heritage Area	Numerous incoming loans of artifacts	CARI-16, CARI-26, CARI-44, CARI-130
Creole Heritage Center Artifact Loan	Incoming Loan	– Unknown	Creole Heritage Center (NSULA)	Incoming loan of backup data for storage and collections management	CARI-167
Association of Preservation of Historic Natchitoches Artifact Loan	Incoming Loan	2009 – 2019	Association for the Preservation of Historic Natchitoches	Incoming loan of artifacts recovered from the bayou Folk Museum and Melrose Plantation	

**Southeast Region Foundation Document Recommendation
Cane River Creole National Historical Park**

September 2015

This Foundation Document has been prepared as a collaborative effort between park and regional staff and is recommended for approval by the Southeast Regional Director.

Laura Gates

RECOMMENDED

Laura Gates, Superintendent, Cane River Creole National Historical Park

9/23/15

Date

Stan Austin

APPROVED

Stan Austin, Regional Director, Southeast Region

9/23/15

Date



As the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering sound use of our land and water resources; protecting our fish, wildlife, and biological diversity; preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historic places; and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people by encouraging stewardship and citizen participation in their care. The department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.

CARI 494/129505

September 2015

Foundation Document • Cane River Creole National Historical Park

