

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS Network

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Spring 2002

Fort Leavenworth's St. Ignatius Chapel destroyed in December fire

By Dena Sanford

Fire gutted the 1889 St. Ignatius Chapel at Fort Leavenworth the night of December 16, 2001. Tim Hanna, historic architect at the fort, reported that the intense fire melted all stained-glass windows, caused part of the bell chapel to fall, and the roof to completely collapse, leaving only a burned-out shell. No one was killed or injured by the fire, although the occupant of a nearby house

was hurt when he tried to move his propane tank during the fire's apex.

Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms investigators determined that several sections of the structure should be torn down for safety reasons, including the south section of the building and the west gable end. The Army had hoped to reconstruct the chapel, integrating the surviving walls and tower,

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Firemen pour water into the burning St. Ignatius Chapel at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. Investigators believe the late-night fire was caused by an electrical fault. Photograph courtesy of the NPS Midwest Regional Office.

Oatlands land purchase preserves open space

By Vicki Bendure

David Boyce, executive director of Oatlands, Inc., announced recently that the coalition of conservation groups including Oatlands, the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Jamestown Compact Land Trust cleared the first hurdle in their effort to purchase 67 acres adjacent to Oatlands Plantation. The property, which was slated to become a housing development, will be preserved in open space.

In December 2001, McLean, Va., developer Konterra Elm Street, L.C., agreed to sell the property for \$2.1 million, a price below the appraised value. The coalition had to post a non-refundable deposit by February 28 in order to secure the option to purchase the property at that price.

In addition to Boyce, coalition leaders include Oatlands board member David Williams and the Jamestown Compact Land Trust Executive Director Thomas Dodson. Boyce, Williams and Dodson are working closely with the National Trust to

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The call to stewardship

By Elizabeth Moore Rossi

The most magnificent... the rare... the finest remaining example of... the extraordinary... the superb...

These are all phrases frequently used in reference to National Historic Landmarks. By their very nature, NHL properties are the *crème de la crème*—which is why involvement with and by stewards is critical to the continued vitality of the nation's most historically significant buildings, districts, objects, structures and sites.

While designation as an NHL identifies the exceptional significance of a property, assistance and monitoring continue long after designation in order to ensure that properties retain their integrity and that stewards have the information they need to sustain an enduring and successful stewardship.

National Park Service staff annually monitors properties, uses NHLs as educational tools, develops and researches new theme studies, and encourages further interest in the NHL program. Stewards in turn have the opportunity to take advantage of various NPS programs, including grants, federal historic preservation tax credits and technical assistance.

As seen in this issue, the independent activities of stewards also seek to maintain and protect NHLs—such as through the establishment of organizations designed to promote stewardship, the protection of adjacent properties from inappropriate growth and development, and rehabilitation projects.

Activities such as these attest to the commitment of stewards and to an understanding of the responsibilities stewardship involves.

The loss of an NHL affects not only the people associated with a property, such as in the case of the St. Ignatius Chapel at Fort Leavenworth, but also our collective historic memory. Though not always so unforeseen, damage of other kinds—whether it be caused by deterioration, encroaching development, or apathy borne of a lack of knowledge about and appreciation for history and its physical reminders—can be equally tragic. While proper stewardship directly circumvents the harm caused by neglect, the examples set through appropriate stewardship also advance a better understanding of a property's significance—as well as a greater appreciation for the area of history which a resource represents. Simply put, a good steward is also a good teacher.

Even though fewer than three percent of properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places are designated as National Historic Landmarks, the thousands of individuals who act as NHL stewards are a powerful voice which speaks for the importance of our American past and its physical reminders.

Elizabeth Moore Rossi is an architectural historian with NPS Technical Preservation Services and coordinates National Historic Landmarks Network for the National Historic Landmarks Assistance Initiative.

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MISSION OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

The National Park Service is dedicated to conserving unimpaired the natural and cultural resources of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education and inspiration of this and future generations.

The Service is also responsible for managing a great variety of national and international programs designed to help extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.



ALASKA

Skagway's Moore Block to be rehabilitated

By Grant Crosby

To passersby, the building on the corner of Fifth and State Streets in Skagway, Alaska, looks forlorn. Its windows are haphazardly covered in plywood, weeds grow feverishly under the faux brick sheathing, and a single light bulb illuminates a sign indicating the building's last tenant, an Italian restaurant. It is surprising that the building has not been razed, and it nearly was.

But the building's dejected appearance only adds to its humble beginnings and colorful past. Ironically, the Moore Block may be one of Skagway's oldest and most significant buildings. Built by Skagway's founder, Capt. William Moore, *circa* 1897, the Moore Block has housed numerous occupants over its 105-year history. The building originally served as Moore's office and personal residence, but was later used as office space, a tailor shop, a hotel, a bank, a dry goods store, and most recently as apartments and a restaurant.

Today, the Moore Block contributes to the Skagway Historic District and White Pass National Historic Landmark and Skagway's historic district, a district exemplary for its late-19th-century architecture. Fortunately, the Moore Block's most recent



Soldiers of the 106th Coast Artillery, who were stationed in Skagway, Alaska for much of the summer of 1902, pose on Fifth Street in front of the Moore Block. Ongoing architectural investigation will guide the proposed rehabilitation of the building.

Photograph courtesy of the Skagway Museum and Archives.

and exceptionally enthusiastic owners, Virginia Long and Howard Smith, have begun to study the layers of this building's history with the intent of rehabilitating it to its 1902 appearance. The process has been challenging. Several discoveries revealing the uniqueness of this building have perplexed the owners.

Structurally, the Moore Block defies all sense of reason. Its primary load-bearing walls are constructed of 16-foot-long 1-inch by 12-inch boards assembled in a vertical board-and-batten fashion. Its exterior cladding, typical 5-inch horizontal drop siding, provides little, if any, lateral stability. Even more astonishing is the fact that the second-floor joists and roof rafters bear on 2-inch by 4-inch ledgers nailed simply to the board-and-batten wall.

The Moore Block was built in stages, perhaps reflecting the "boom and bust" nature of a gold rush town. The first portion was built *circa* 1897 and consisted of a simple rectangular building with a gable roof. By 1898, the original portion was extended to create an L-shaped building—an addition revealed by a second, parallel gable roof and a false front detailed with window pediments, scroll trim and an ornate cornice. In 1912, a final addition filled in the remaining segment of the plan and was built, sur-

prisingly, with nominal stud construction.

Realizing the Moore Block's significance and unique construction technology, the owners reconsidered their original plans of developing the lot. Instead, they began working with NPS historians, archeologists, historical architects and a structural engineer to determine how they might rehabilitate the building for contemporary use. Their hope is to retain as much historic fabric as possible while also illustrating the building's local significance and its incomparable construction. Current plans for the rehabilitated structure include commercial space on the ground floor, with offices and one-room efficiency apartments on the second floor.

In situ evidence and other clues are being used to guide this rehabilitation effort to the building's 1902 appearance. The 1902 era was chosen because it includes both major additions and the prominent false front with recessed store entry. This period is also well documented. For example, on the interior, several layers of wall and ceiling papers remain partially intact and reveal the primary spatial organization from the earliest tenants. Similarly, the framing and accompanying "shadows"



The Moore Block building, constructed *circa* 1897, has seen many uses and a variety of modifications in its history. This *circa* 1975 view shows the building much as it appears today—its wood siding covered with asphalt brick sheathing and its windows covered in plywood. Photograph courtesy of NPS Alaska Support Office.

from the storefront entry and window ornamentation are clearly visible and will provide necessary measurements to restore these elements. Period photographs also offer important clues of dominant features.

During the gold rush of 1898, Fifth and State was the center of Skagway and the Moore Block was prominently located. Today, Skagway's main street is Broadway, one block to the east, where visitors stroll and window shop, sometimes unaware of the historic structures on secondary streets. During the height of the summer season, the town's population can grow by 5,000 people per day. Work-in-progress preservation projects, such as the Moore Block rehabilitation, provide an educational experience for the public, offering a first-hand look into how and why the nation's historic structures are preserved. The owners of the Moore Block hope to recapture the spirit of historic Skagway while accommodating a tourist population fascinated by the history of the Yukon gold rush.

Grant Crosby is a Historical Architect with the NPS Alaska Support Office, Anchorage, Alaska.

ALASKA

Group formed to help preserve Russian Orthodox churches

By Grant Crosby

A coalition of preservationists, NPS personnel, Alaska Native leaders, and clergy came together in Anchorage, Alaska, early in 2002 with the aim of preserving Russian Orthodox churches throughout the state. The non-profit group took the name, ROSSIA (Russian Orthodox Sacred Sites in Alaska). It is founded on the realization that many of the Orthodox churches in Alaska are significant structures in need of attention. ROSSIA board members hope not only to preserve these historic buildings, furnishings and related religious icons, but also to educate local and regional communities through project involvement. The group plans an ambitious fund-raising campaign. It notes the precedence of the extensive church restoration project in the Aleutian

and Pribilof Islands, using \$4.9 million appropriated by Congress as part of the Aleut Restitution Act of 1988. The restoration of those six churches was completed in 2001. There are many more in need of similar attention.

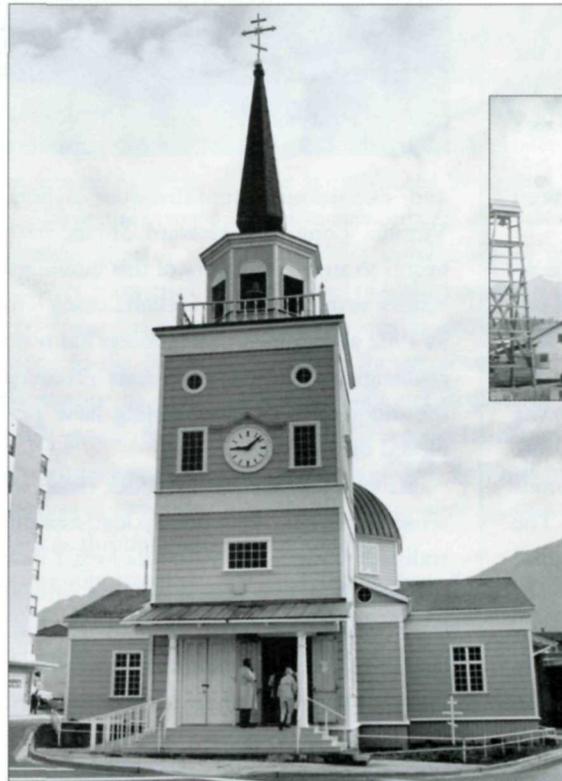
Russia laid claim to Alaska in 1741, following Vitus Bering's pioneer voyage across the Pacific from Siberia. Hundreds of Russian fur-seekers followed, and the Orthodox mission established a presence in 1794. The first Orthodox church was likely built as a chapel on Umnak Island in the Aleutians in the 1760s. The first Russian

Orthodox cathedral, St. Michael Cathedral in Sitka, was built between 1844 and 1848. Today, there are more than 79 active Russian Orthodox churches in the state, seven of which are National Historic Landmarks, and 29 have National Register status.

Grant Crosby is a Historical Architect with the NPS Alaska Support Office, Anchorage, Alaska.

The Cathedral of St. Michael the Archangel was constructed between 1844 and 1848 to serve the Russian Orthodox people of Sitka, Alaska, which was the capital of Russian America from 1808 until 1867. This circa 1890 view reveals the cathedral's classic cruciform construction and onion-shaped dome. The church was designed by the first bishop of Alaska.

Photograph by Edward deGroff, courtesy of Anchorage Museum of History and Art.



Although destroyed by a catastrophic fire in 1966, many of the cathedral's historic icons and relics were saved. Historic American Building Survey (HABS) drawings, based on measurements taken in 1942, were used to reconstruct the cathedral, seen here in 1984. Photograph by Barbara S. Smith, courtesy of NHL Survey.

Members of the St. Nicholas Brotherhood and St. Michael's Parish gather around a model of the cathedral constructed for an exposition, circa 1909. Photograph by E.W. Merrill, courtesy of Alaska State Library, Juneau.



Asian-American resource to be restored

By Rei Terada

In the 1920s and '30s, the Little Tokyo Historic District of downtown Los Angeles was a thriving community of shops, theaters and restaurants. All that remains of that world are a few blocks of original buildings, most of them in disrepair. Now a piece of that lost world is being restored, stirring nostalgia and reflection among Los Angeles' Asian-Americans.

The Far East Building at 347 East First Street has been acquired for restoration by the Little Tokyo Service Center Community Development Corporation. Constructed in 1909, the Far East is an eclectic Beaux Arts-influenced structure with enormous arched windows, a major third-floor skylight, and a 1935 "Chop Suey" sign. The building includes hotel and commercial space, and from 1935 to 1994, housed the Far East Café, a famous local eatery. Generations of Japanese-American families dined and held their wedding and funeral receptions there.

Distinctly American in its hybridity, the Far East Café was owned and run for 59 years by a Chinese family, the Mar family, and served Chinese food for Japanese-American tastes—dishes like "American Chop Suey," "Water Chestnut Hash" and "Pork Chow Mein, Chicago Style." The Far East stood watch over most of the history of Little Tokyo, from its 1930s heyday through internment in the 1940s, the dispersal of the Japanese-American population, and misguided redevelopment in the 1950s. The Chinese-owned Far East Café remained open during relocation, when African-American families moved into apartments vacated by Japanese-Americans. The neighborhood was briefly known as Bronzeville. Andrew Chong, a member of the Mar family, recalls that the café allowed Japanese-Americans returning from internment camps to eat on credit. In Raymond Chandler's *Farewell, My Lovely*, Phillip Marlowe ate there as well!

The Far East Building was condemned



The Far East Café building, located in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo Historic District, is currently undergoing rehabilitation as a mixed-use development, including affordable housing. These pre-rehabilitation views show the building's 1935 neon "Chop Suey" sign and the historic restaurant's unique high-walled lacquered booths. Photographs courtesy of NPS Technical Preservation Services.



after the Northridge earthquake of 1994 and has been vacant and decaying since. Although the Japanese-American community is almost ferocious in its desire to see it restored, it can be difficult to make mainstream contributors and agencies understand what is important about the Little Tokyo Historic District. Not only is it run-down, it is not always architecturally distinguished and it is not "Japanese-looking." Like other ethnic historic landmarks, the historic district presents the public with the challenge of recognizing that cultural significance is not always crafted to meet one's preconceptions.

After years of work, however, the non-profit Little Tokyo Service Center Community Development Corporation will break ground on the rehabilitation of the Far East early in 2002. With funding from the State Housing and Community Development Department, federal historic preservation tax credits, and the Ahmanson Foundation, as well as assistance from the Los Angeles Conservancy, the L.A. Community Redevelopment Agency, and Assemblyman Gil Cedillo,

Little Tokyo Service Center Community Development Corporation will renovate the hotel portion of the building into 16 units of affordable housing, a neighborhood computer center and a gallery. A new Far East Café will occupy the ground-floor retail space. The restoration entails repairing earthquake damage, replacing mechanical systems, and performing seismic retrofitting, while preserving all historically significant features—including the unique high-walled lacquered restaurant booths.

Assemblyman Cedillo calls the project "significant because it addresses the need for affordable housing and is consistent with the vision to revitalize downtown Los Angeles by preserving culture and history."

Ken Bernstein, Director of Preservation Issues at the Los Angeles Conservancy, says the Conservancy is "excited" that this project "will restore a site of such rich architectural and cultural significance."

Rei Terada is affiliated with the Little Tokyo Service Center Community Development Corporation in Los Angeles.

Video highlights maritime landmark

By Donald J. Terras

When people think of Illinois, most make associations with the City of Chicago or the vast stretches of farmland that have sprouted from prairies throughout the state. However, the reality is that Illinois' history is very much intertwined with America's maritime history. The 1999 designation of Grosse Point Lighthouse as a National Historic Landmark underscores the importance of the state's contribution to maritime commerce on the country's inland seas, the Great Lakes.

For many years during the latter half of the 1800s, Chicago's port operations on Lake Michigan competed with—and even surpassed in arrivals and departures—oceanic ports like New York City and San Francisco. This is an impressive fact, made even more so when one considers that Chicago experienced a weather-shortened shipping season that was only eight months long, whereas coastal harbors were open year-round. The Grosse Point Lighthouse symbolizes those early days of tall ships and maritime commerce on the Great Lakes, and for 65 years, acted as the lead navigational aid into Chicago's port.

With the help of a grant received from the National Park Service, the history of this important landmark has been documented on video as an interpretive aid, educating people who visit the Grosse Point Lighthouse and who tour the facility. Although this has been done at many other historic sites around the country, the Grosse Point project took advantage of recent advances in technology.

High-definition video was selected for the documentation project because it produces an extremely high quality image that is easily converted to any other video format, and even to film. Indeed, the image quality and versatility of the medium is so good that no less a technical camera wizard than George Lucas is using high-definition video almost exclusively in the next installments of his "Star Wars" films.



Located on the coast of Lake Michigan in Evanston, Ill., the Grosse Point Light Station is one of nine National Historic Landmark lighthouses. Photograph courtesy of the Lighthouse Park District of Evanston.

In addition, for archival purposes, it has greater durability than standard video, making it a more desirable choice for historic sites and museums. Finally, while more expensive than standard video, high-definition video approaches the visual characteristics of film without the cost, making it an excellent choice for projects that are on a tight budget. The project was managed by Scott Erlinder, a teacher and film maker at nearby Northwestern University, who first used the high-definition video

format while working with the National Geographic Society.

Thanks to high-definition video, the beacon of light from Grosse Point's tower appears as crystal clear on wide screen TV as it is on a cloudless summer night, brightening the dark waters of Lake Michigan.

Donald J. Terras is Director of the Lighthouse Park District of Evanston, Ill.

Fort Mackinac restoration project nears completion

By Timothy G. Putman

More than three years ago, Mackinac Island State Park Commission began an extensive \$4.1 million project to repair the 221-year-old wall of Fort Mackinac. The restoration project should be completed before the May 2002 start of the Mackinac Island tourist season.

Fort Mackinac was built by British troops during the American Revolutionary War. They chose Mackinac Island because its towering limestone cliffs provided the fort with a commanding presence over the strategic Mackinac Straits. The fort changed hands several times and eventually became a living museum and central attraction of Mackinac Island. Mackinac Island was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1960, and the designation was expanded in 2001.

The restoration was critical to the ongoing preservation of the fort. A 1998 report indicated that the massive rough limestone walls required extensive restoration and

partial rebuilding along the entire perimeter. Sections were deemed unstable and, in fact, a small portion of the wall collapsed in the fall of 1999.

The project involved a complex crew of masons, carpenters, painters, archeologists, engineers and architects, all working in the presence of fort visitors. Work was further complicated by Mackinac Island's century-old ban on automobiles. The use of motor vehicles is limited to restricted areas, at specific hours, and is always at the mercy of passing horses that could easily be frightened by the noise.

Despite these hurdles, contractors are completing the restoration project on schedule. "We are very pleased with the efficiency and punctuality of the Fort Mackinac restoration projects," said Mackinac State Historic Parks Deputy Director David Armour. "Everyone involved has been professional and good to work with."

The restoration remained true to the historic fort's beginnings. Approximately 90 percent of the stones were salvaged and reused. Stones that were no longer structurally sound were reused as rubble fill in exterior walls. Masons even recreated a two-and-a-half to three-foot bow in one of the walls that was apparent in early photos. Replacement stones were obtained from a nearby island to ensure compatible materi-

al and hardness with the original wall.

"Archeologists and hydrologists excavated and studied the fort's drainage system to address water flow in and out of the fort," Armour said. "A crew painted the fort walls to their original white color. Wooden palisades were removed and replaced by the carpenters, and wall caps restored to their original appearance when covered with sections of wood planking called 'fraising.'"

"After all restoration projects are completed at Fort Mackinac, the fort as a whole will be in the best and most accurately restored condition ever in its history," said Director Carl R. Nold. "We are very grateful to Chairman Dennis O. Cawthorne and the Mackinac Island State Park Commissioners for approving the restoration project, to Governor Engler and the Michigan legislature for financial support, and to our staff and all project contractors for the excellent work that has been done."

The Mackinac Island State Park Commission governs four living history parks and museums in the Straits of Mackinac collectively known as Mackinac State Historic Parks (MSHP): Fort Mackinac and Mackinac Island State Park on Mackinac Island, and Colonial

The limestone walls surrounding Fort Mackinac, constructed between 1780 and 1812, have recently undergone restoration. The original NHL documentation has been updated to include all of Mackinac Island and more than 440 contributing resources. Photograph by Katherine Cederholm, courtesy of NHL Survey.



Michilimackinac and Historic Mill Creek in Mackinaw City. The historic site museums are accredited by the American Association of Museums and are visited by 420,000 guests each summer from all 50 states and more than 60 countries. Mackinac Island and Colonial Michilimackinac are National Historic Landmarks. The parks are open daily mid-May through mid-October.

Timothy G. Putman is Public Relations and Marketing Officer, Mackinac Island State Park Commission.

NEW MEXICO

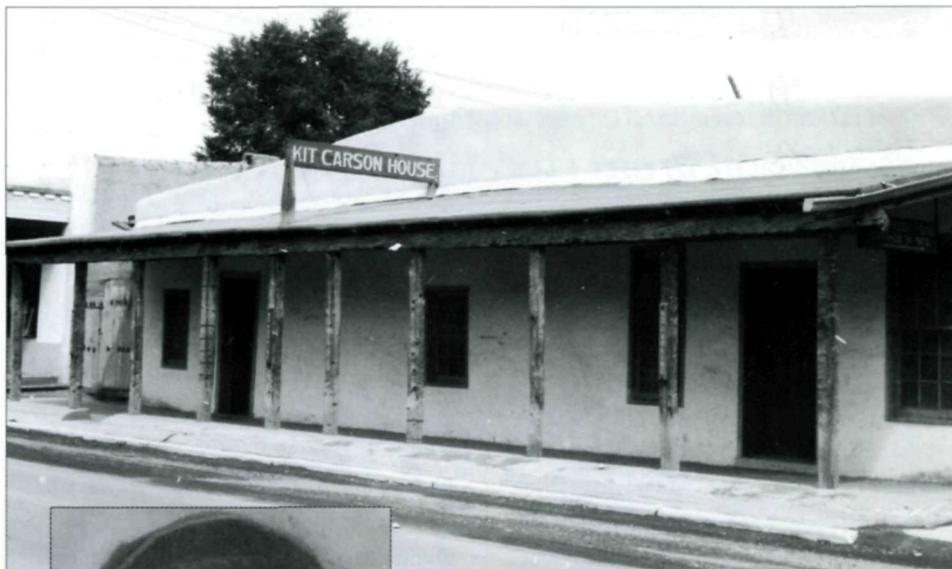
Grant funding preserves Maria Josefa Jaramillo Carson's home

By Victoria Jacobson and Mary Padilla

Known as the Kit Carson House National Historic Landmark, the small adobe building a block from the Taos plaza was really the home of Carson's wife, Maria Josefa Jaramillo, and their eight children for 25 years. The longest period of time Carson spent with the family in the house was from January 1854 to June 1861, when he was agent for the Utes, with headquarters in Taos.

Carson's vocations kept him away from home much of the time, but his family was always there waiting for him when he returned from his various trips as Indian Agent, fur trapper and Army officer. Josefa (whom Carson referred to as his beloved "Chipita") was 15 when she and Carson were married on February 6, 1843. Family tradition has it that Carson purchased the house, built in 1825, as a gift for his beautiful young bride.

Daughter of prominent New Mexican families from the Rio Arriba region, it was Josefa who stayed at home in Taos and raised the children, six or possibly seven of whom may have been born in the house. The Carsons moved from Taos to Boggsville, Colorado Territory, in early 1868, where they died within a month of one another. Interred there initially, their



The Kit Carson House, constructed circa 1825, is a single-story U-shaped adobe structure. This historic view of the building shows the exterior portal as it is to be restored. Photograph courtesy of Taos Historic Museums, Inc.



Maria Josefa Jaramillo Carson, wife of Kit Carson, was the primary resident of the Kit Carson House. The home was purchased by Kit as a wedding gift for his young bride. Photograph courtesy of Taos Historic Museums, Inc.

remains were returned to Taos the following year. A century later, the home became a showcase museum.

This past year, the Kit Carson Home and Museum, leased and managed by Taos Historic Museums from the Taos Masonic Lodge (Carson was a charter member of the parent lodge), received a National Park Service grant of \$16,100 that was to be matched by \$24,717 in non-federal funds. This funding was applied to two projects: a historic structure report and building assessment, and the repair of the deteriorated exterior portal.

The project partnered NPS consultants, Dale F. Zinn Architects, members of the Masonic Lodge, Rocky Mountain Youth Corps interns, and the staff of the Kit Carson Historic Museums. In-kind services from lodge members in the form of donated equipment and supplies were used in the restoration of the portal, which included consolidation of the original wood where possible and replacement in kind where the wood was too deteriorated to be retained.

The Youth Corps interns worked with Dale Zinn to measure the building for the

Work crews repair the façade of Kit and Maria Josefa Jaramillo Carson's home. The project, completed in November 2001, was partially funded by a federal grant. Photograph by Victoria Jacobson.



historic structure report and again with Peter Leighton, Taos Museums facility manager, to restore the deteriorated portal. A grand beam raising celebration occurred last November near the completion of the Challenge Cost-Share Grant project.

Victoria Jacobson is a Historical Architect and Mary Padilla is a HABS/HAER Specialist with the NPS Intermountain Support Office, Santa Fe.

Athenaeum undergoes facelift

By Lorna Higgs

The St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, designated a National Historic Landmark in 1996, has undergone an important and highly visible building project to repair and improve the building's front entrance. The work, which began in October 2001 and concluded on December 31, 2001, included replacing cracked and uneven granite stairs, widening the hazardous top step, restoring original light fixtures and leaning lamp poles, replacing loosened pipe handrails, and repaving the chipped and broken asphalt sidewalk with a brick pattern taken from historic photographs. The project was completed under the direction of preservation architect Jeff Baker of Mesick, Cohen, Wilson, and Baker in Albany, N.Y. The work complied with architectural standards outlined in the Athenaeum's historic structure report.

Built in the Second Empire style in 1871, the Athenaeum is a legacy of the Fairbanks family of St. Johnsbury, Vt. The family was the inventor and manufacturer of the world's first platform scale. With its elaborate woodwork and spiral staircases, this public library and art gallery is remarkable for its architecture and first-class collection of American paintings, including an exquisite group of landscapes in the Hudson River style.

The restoration project was funded by a special legislative appropriation from the 2001 Vermont Capital Construction Bill, a Cultural Facilities grant, gifts from the Flint Family Fund, the Jane B. Cook Charitable Trust, and the Athenaeum's Landmark & Legacy Campaign.

Lorna Higgs is Administrative Officer, St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, Vt.

The little-altered St. Johnsbury Athenaeum has served as an art gallery and public library since its 1868-1873 construction. Their collection contains the original books and paintings endowed by Horace Fairbanks and is considered the nation's oldest such collection in its original condition. Their rehabilitation project was named a Save America's Treasures project by the National Trust for Historic Preservation in 1999.

Photograph by Perry Viles, courtesy of NHL Survey.



Enhanced zoning ordinance benefits NHL town

By Gretchen Luxenberg

The National Historic Landmark town of Port Gamble on the Kitsap Peninsula of Washington state came into the limelight in 2000 when the Kitsap County Zoning Ordinance and the county's comprehensive plan were proposed for amendment to accommodate new development in this privately owned town that, until 1995, was the nation's oldest continuously operating sawmill and lumber town.

Port Gamble's sizeable infrastructure was constructed beginning in the 1850s and included a lumber mill, dozens of single family residences and other living quarters for the mill's hundreds of employees, as well as a gas station, theater, general mercantile store and cemetery. Over the years, Port Gamble has lost buildings, and pastoral open spaces are located where structures once stood. In 1995, the mill closed and, following HABS/HAER recordation by the Columbia Cascades Support Office, was demolished. The formerly bustling town became a quiet backwater community designated as "rural" by the county government. The remaining open spaces reflect the town in its declining years, not in its heyday as the thriving hub of a timber company which had tremendous influence throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Because of the designation of "rural" for zoning purposes, the owners of the town were precluded from further development, since the state's Growth Management Act requires all intensive new development to occur within the boundaries of areas designated as "urban growth." The owners desired to reconstruct the pattern of settlement that once was present along the now-abandoned streets in the company town, and to develop mixed uses where the extensive sawmill buildings once stood along the waterfront.

The proposed amendments to the zoning ordinance would allow counties to des-

ignite “national historic towns” further defined as “national historic landmarks designated by the Secretary of the Interior” and to develop comprehensive plans that would take into account the historic character and resources for which these places were deemed nationally significant. These plans would provide the citizens of Washington state with an important tool to preserve these towns while ensuring their long-term viability. It would allow counties to adopt policies and development regulations for designated historic towns or districts that could include mixed uses and densities based on the historic patterns of the town. The amendments would also incorporate architectural controls to promote the preservation of the historic character of the towns. Any new regulations in these areas would preclude new urban or suburban sprawl.

The National Park Service went on record during the public hearings to say that the sensitive redevelopment of the open areas was consistent with interpreting and preserving the history of Port Gamble. It was also a means of ensuring that the extant historic structures would remain viable. The NHL would not be adversely impacted by the new development because of the “checks and balances” incorporated into the amended ordinance.

The proposed amendments quickly made their way through the public process and were enacted in the summer of 2000. The NPS will continue to work with the owners of Port Gamble, assisting them in the redevelopment strategy proposed for this nationally significant historic town.

Gretchen Luxenberg is a Historian with the NPS Columbia Cascades Support Office, Seattle.

NHL Plaques

Following National Historic Landmark designation and at an owner's request, the National Park Service provides, free of charge, one bronze plaque identifying the resource as an NHL.

One plaque is provided per NHL designation. However, if the plaque is missing from your property or your property is located in a historic district and you would like an individual plaque, the NPS would be pleased to assist you with the wording of the plaque and to facilitate the order through the manufacturer. For more information, contact the NHL staff in your NPS regional office.

Oatlands land purchase...continued from page 1



Oatlands Plantation, designated an NHL in 1971, was constructed circa 1800 and currently operates as a house museum. A recent land acquisition has protected adjacent property from development.

Photograph courtesy of National Register of Historic Places.

raise funds to complete the transaction.

“In meeting this deadline, our board has made a strong statement about the importance of maintaining the rural character of Oatlands’ setting and preserving open space for Loudoun (County) residents to enjoy,” Williams stated.

“We are heartened by the widespread financial support this project has received,” said Dodson.

He noted that several organizations, including the vestry of the Church of Our Savior, the Mosby Heritage area, and the National Trust, as well as neighbors of Oatlands, the entire Oatlands staff, board members from Oatlands, Inc., and the Jamestown Compact Land Trust, contributed funds to meet the February 28 deadline.

“With this significant step, we advance our goal of preserving the historic Route 15 corridor and Loudoun County’s rural heritage,” Dodson added.

Oatlands Plantation is a 261-acre site owned by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and managed by Oatlands, Inc. It is Loudoun County’s leading historic tourist attraction and hosts more than 60,000 visitors annually. The Jamestown Compact Land Trust, Inc. was founded in 2000 by conservationist Magalen O. Bryant to work toward saving historic rural landscapes along the Route 15 and Route 50 corridors in Virginia.

Vicki Bendure coordinates public relations for Oatlands Plantation.

Visit our web site:

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/nhl>

Fort Leavenworth...continued from page 1

and following as closely as possible the original design and materials. However, the investigation from a structural engineer revealed that most of the historic brick had been burnt beyond its usability. If feasible, they would like to include salvaged bricks that retained their structural integrity. In preparation for this work, the Army is collecting photographs, plans and other historic documentation. A contract package for an architecture/engineering firm and contractor is under development, and will be put out for bid soon.

The fire was a terrible loss to the Roman Catholic church members, Fort Leavenworth, and the Leavenworth community. St. Ignatius Chapel was a part of the Fort Leavenworth National Historic Landmark district, and occupied a prominent location at the intersection of Pope and McClelland Avenues. The red brick chapel, built in the Romanesque Revival style, boasted a rose window on the east entry, and included the typical semi-circular arched window and door openings, and blind arcades. Square towers of differing heights flanked the entrance. The two-and-a-half story structure replaced an 1871 church that was torn down in 1885.

The establishment of the earlier structure resulted from the efforts of Fort Leavenworth commander Gen. John Pope, the Archdiocese of Kansas City and the subscription of Fort Leavenworth parishioners. The chapel was named after Ignatius of Loyola, the Spanish soldier-saint who founded the Jesuit Order. Within two decades of its construction, St. Ignatius was surrounded by numerous residential and recreational structures. The predominantly two-story, red brick buildings reflect Classical influences and bring visual cohesion to the area.

In contrast, the Fort Leavenworth NHL district includes a wide variety of building types and uses, reflective of the fort’s long occupation and diverse history. Fort Leavenworth received national recognition in 1960 for its associations with early-19th-century U.S. military history and westward expansion. A revised 1995 draft NHL nomination further identifies the significance of the fort for its ability to represent

The St. Ignatius Chapel at Fort Leavenworth was constructed in 1889. Fort Leavenworth has been continuous operation as a military installation since 1827.

Photograph by Jerry Lamb, courtesy of NHL Survey.

the themes of exploration and settlement, education, architecture, community planning and development, and ethnic heritage.

In continuous military occupation since the time of its establishment, Fort Leavenworth has been identified as perhaps the most significant military post in the Trans-Mississippi West. The fort was established in 1827 as a frontier outpost to protect caravans on the Santa Fe Trail, and later played a major role in the Mexican War, the Border and Civil Wars, and the Plains campaigns against American Indian nations.

Fort Leavenworth was also the base for many exploring expeditions in the West. It became the temporary capital of the new Territory of Kansas in 1854. In 1866, one of the first African-American Regular Army units was organized at the fort. In 1874, the post became the site of the U.S. Army's central military prison, and continued to serve in this capacity from 1877 until 1896, and again from 1906 to the present. The fort has also played a crucial role in the professionalism of the U.S. Army through its role in military education.

Dena Sanford is an Architectural Historian with the NPS Midwest Regional Office, Omaha, Neb.



Smoke continues to billow out of the chapel's devastated interior. Although investigators recovered many of the chapel's religious items, the full impact of the loss has yet to be evaluated. Among the items lost was a new \$35,000 organ, installed in October 2001. *Photograph courtesy of the NPS Midwest Regional Office.*

Technical Preservation Assistance

Looking for guidance on your rehabilitation, repair and maintenance projects?

Check out the NPS Technical Preservation Services web site

<http://www2.cr.nps.gov/tps>

The site provides technical preservation assistance on a variety of issues, including 41 Preservation Briefs (on topics ranging from masonry to accessibility to roofing materials), rehabilitation guidance, a discussion of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, and a link to the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives program, as well as information on obtaining copies of available TPS publications.

Six new members named to the National Park System Advisory Board

On April 4, Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton announced her appointment of six new members to the 12-member National Park System Advisory Board.

The Board advises the Director of the National Park Service and the Secretary of the Interior on issues concerning the national parks and programs managed by NPS, and also makes recommendations concerning National Historic Landmarks, national natural landmarks, and proposed

national historic trails.

Members are selected from among United States citizens and are appointed to serve a term no longer than four years. They have demonstrated their commitment to the mission of NPS and possess outstanding expertise in specified professions and fields of study. Members represent various geographic regions, including each of the administrative regions of the NPS.

The National Park System Advisory Board was established in 1935 to advise the Secretary of the Interior on matters of the National Park System and the Historic Sites Act. When the Board's authorization expired in 1995, it was reestablished administratively. The Board's charter has been extended to January 1, 2006, under legislative authority (Public Law 104-333).

The new members are:

Honorable Jerry Hruby

Mayor of Brecksville, Ohio, adjacent to Cuyahoga Valley National Park; Ohio

Michael Kammen, Ph.D.

Professor of History and Culture, Cornell University
past president, Organization of American Historians; California

Janet Snyder Matthews, Ph.D.

Florida State Historic Preservation Officer
Director, Florida Division of Historical Resources
advisor *emerita*, National Trust for Historic Preservation; Florida

Jake Louis (Jay) Parmer II

Principal Managing Director, American Strategies, Inc. (public affairs consulting firm)
expert in corporate public affairs pertaining to local, state and federal issues; Nevada

Daniel Ritchie

Chancellor, University of Denver
previously, Chairman and CEO of Westinghouse Broadcasting Corporation; Colorado

Douglas Wheeler

Hogan & Hartson LLP (Environmental Section)
former Secretary of California Resources Agency; Washington, D.C.

Members continuing their terms include:

Margaret L. (Margie) Brown

former senior vice president, Cook Inlet Region, Inc; Alaska

Robert S. Chandler

retired, National Park Service; California

Sylvia A. Earle, Ph.D.

explorer in residence, National Geographic Society; Washington, D.C.

Shirley Mahaley Malcom, Ph.D.

head, Directorate for Education and Human Resources Programs,
American Association for the Advancement of Science; Washington, D.C.

Gary Paul Nabhan, Ph.D.

director, Center for Sustainable Environments, Northern Arizona University; Arizona

Thomas B. Williams

former Democratic staff director, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources,
U.S. Senate; Virginia

School desegregation study leads to lesson plan

By John H. Sprinkle, Jr.

In 1998, as part of the legislation establishing the Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site, Congress directed the Department of the Interior to prepare a National Historic Landmark theme study on racial desegregation. Prepared by the NHL Survey, the theme study provides a context for identifying and evaluating historic places that help us understand the school desegregation story. Published in 2000, the theme study is available on the web at http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_book/snhl/school.htm.

One of the untold stories is found in New Kent County, Va., and the pioneering efforts of its African-American citizens to realize the promise of the *Brown v. Board of Education* decisions. The 1968 *Green v. New Kent County* decision defined the standards by which the Court judged whether a violation of the U.S. Constitution had been remedied in school desegregation cases. After *Green*, more than a decade of massive resistance to school desegregation in the South, from 1955 through 1964, was replaced by an era of massive integration, from 1968 through 1973, as the Court placed an affirmative duty on school boards to integrate schools. The *Green* decision is considered the most significant public school case decided by the Supreme Court since the *Brown* cases. The New Kent and George W. Watkins schools illustrate the typical characteristics of a southern rural school system that achieved token desegregation following *Brown* and stand as symbols to the modern Civil Rights Movement to expand the rights of black citizens in the United States.

Having identified the significance of the *Green* case, the National Park Service, in cooperation with the New Kent County Board of Education, nominated the New Kent and Watkins Schools as NHLs. The properties were designated as National Historic Landmarks on August 7, 2001 by the Secretary of the Interior. A copy of this

Workshop explores cultural landscape issues

By Jill Cowley



The New Kent (above) and George W. Watkins Schools, were at the heart of the desegregation controversy in the 1960s, sparking a suit by black students and ultimately, a seminal Supreme Court decision. Prior to integration, New Kent served white students and Watkins served black students; both rural New Kent County, Va., schools educated elementary through high school students. New Kent and Watkins were constructed in phases, beginning in 1930 and 1950 respectively. Photographs courtesy of NHL Survey.



nomination will be available soon at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nhl/NOM.htm>.

National Park Service involvement in the recognition of these schools did not stop with the preparation of a nomination. Teaming with the New Kent County Board of Education and the Department of History at the College of William and Mary, the NPS successfully applied for a 2001 African-American heritage mini-grant from the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities and Public Policy. The purpose of the grant was to increase the level of public recognition for the *Green* case within Virginia and across the nation by preparing a *Teaching with Historic Places* lesson plan.

Teaching with Historic Places is a nationally recognized NPS program that collects and distributes lesson plans for secondary school teachers and other educators.

Written by Jody Allen, Brian Daugherty, and Sarah Trembanis, Ph.D. candidates at the College of William and Mary, with assistance from Frances Davis, Na Dana Smith, and Megan Walsh, class of 2002, New Kent High School, the lesson plan is currently in preparation for publication on the *Teaching with Historic Places* web site at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/twhp>.

John H. Sprinkle, Jr., is the Supervisory Historian for the National Historic Landmarks Survey.

What is the range of types of cultural landscapes suitable for designation as National Historic Landmarks? What are some of the different cultural perspectives on caring for the future of cultural landscapes? What special issues are involved in the nomination of cultural landscapes as NHLs? Do nominations for places interpreted as landscapes differ from other NHL nominations?

These and other related questions were addressed by a group of 40 cultural landscape specialists, community representatives, National Park Service and State Historic Preservation Office staff, and interested individuals from throughout the state of New Mexico at the New Mexico National Historic Landmark Cultural Landscapes Workshop, held February 28, 2002 near Santa Fe. The workshop was organized and moderated by cultural landscapes and NHL staff in the NPS Intermountain Support Office, Santa Fe.

Workshop objectives included the discussion of the NHL designation process and eligibility criteria; a discussion of how to describe and evaluate cultural landscapes; and a discussion of how to approach the nomination of New Mexico cultural landscapes.

Ernest Ortega, superintendent of the NPS Intermountain Support Office, Santa Fe, and Elmo Baca, New Mexico's state historic preservation officer, provided introductory remarks. Ortega stressed cultural diversity and the need for community involvement, and noted that the cultural landscape approach enables a return to the basic heritage preservation and interpretation concept. Baca reminded the attendees that the workshop location was very close to the house of the late John Brinkerhoff Jackson, a leading proponent of vernacular landscapes, and noted that cultural landscapes are living history.



Abo, located in the Salinas Pueblo National Monument, is one of many cultural landscape properties designated as National Historic Landmarks. The site was occupied from late prehistoric times through the Spanish occupation. This 1940 view also reveals the ruins of the 1630s San Gregario de Abo Mission.

Photograph by George Rant, courtesy of NHL Survey.

Participants provided a variety of cultural perspectives on cultural landscapes and how best to retain their historic and other special qualities while also sustaining associated communities. Members of and representatives from Native American communities indicated that within Pueblo communities, it is sometimes better to let nature take its course rather than to intervene in the name of preservation. They also described how the Pueblo of Zuni have developed a workable solution to maintaining the traditional character of the Pueblo while accommodating contemporary housing needs.

A number of participants from Hispanic communities expressed concern over the ongoing disappearance of rural Hispanic

landscapes. Representatives from The Georgia O’Keeffe Foundation described the process of nominating the Georgia O’Keeffe House and Studio complex as an NHL, and how NHL status has influenced their management of the property.

Discussion issues were numerous and included the following: the merits of different preservation approaches such as “pickling,” preservation, and transformation of cultural landscapes, and how an approach should be selected; landscapes as dynamic and constantly changing resources; the landscape as part of a community, and the need to keep associated communities alive; the need to address realities, rather than romanticizing history; historic themes as themes that unify

change over time; continued use as key to preserving the meaning of and motivation to care for landscapes; the ability of preservation to include living traditions; comparing “preservation” with securing and sustaining people’s relationship with the past and with their land; and the need to understand minority views of preservation.

Participants developed recommendations for specific potentially nationally significant landscapes in New Mexico, as well as a range of ideas for community involvement. This information will be used to develop NHL cultural landscape project ideas and nomination priorities.

Jill Cowley is an Historical Landscape Architect, and leads the Intermountain Region Cultural Landscapes Program with the NPS Intermountain Support Office, Santa Fe.

Southeast Region uses NPS grants to fulfill NHL needs

By Mark R. Barnes

In the early 1990s, Paul Hawke, then with the National Register Programs Division of the NPS Southeast Regional Office, undertook a major effort to identify the owners and contacts for every National Historic Landmark in the Southeast Region. This information was digitized to produce address labels to mail inquiries regarding the status of NHLs to every owner or contact and to make the monitoring of NHLs for the NPS annual Report to Congress more efficient.

Building on this effort, the NRPD began a detailed, year-long review of the documentation in all of the NHL files in the office. This produced a “fact sheet” on every NHL in the Southeast, which noted the NHL’s location, owner/contact, date of designation, plaque status, last NPS visit, NHL significance and theme, threats, and photographic coverage.

It also included a “needs” category, which typically noted the need for a site visit, the need to obtain current photos or slides, or the need to assess the adequacy of the documentation in the NHL nomina-

The Glorieta Pass Battlefield, southeast of Santa Fe, was the site of a March 1862 battle between the Union and Confederate armies. The previous month, a 2,500-man company of Confederate Texans had marched through the Rio Grande valley in an effort to reach Denver, but the battle ended their crusade. The site of the Confederate wagon park is seen in this 1959 view. *Photograph by A.H. Schroeder, courtesy of NHL Survey.*



Autumn 2002 deadline

Readers are invited to submit short articles, which will be included as space allows. Articles should be no more than 500 words and must include author's name and affiliation. Electronic text submissions are accepted. *NHL Network* editorial staff may edit articles for length and content. Statements of fact or opinion are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect an opinion of or an endorsement by the editors or the National Park Service. One image in either photographic or slide format may be included per article and must include caption and image credit. Photocopied or electronic images cannot be accepted. Images will not be returned.

The deadline for submission of articles for the Autumn 2002 issue is **September 15**.

Call for photographs

Please review the information on your NHL at the NHL web site <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nhl>, so that the information remains current. Also, forward current photographs of your property—the goal is to provide two photographs of each property on the web site. High-resolution photographs (preferably jpg format) and comments may be sent to susan_escherich@nps.gov.

Did you know...?

... that there are currently 2341 National Historic Landmarks?

- 66% (1,547) are open to the public.
- 48% (1,124) are privately owned.
- 13% (298) are state owned.
- 9% (204) are locally owned.
- 8% (178) are federally owned.
- 57% (1,337) are buildings.
- 19% (436) are districts.
- 14% (325) are sites.
- 10% (223) are structures, such as bridges, lighthouses, etc.
- Fewer than 1% are objects, such as boundary markers, etc.
- 137 landmarks are currently threatened by deterioration, damaging uses, incompatible alterations or new construction, erosion, vandalism or looting.
- 4 former landmarks lost their integrity and had their designation withdrawn in 2000.
- 43 National Historic Landmarks have received federal Save America's Treasures grants for preservation.
- More than 90% of National Historic Landmarks are in good condition.

Want to know more? Visit the NHL web site at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nhl>.

tion. By sending out this "fact sheet" to owners, State Historic Preservation Officers, and selected NPS units as part of the annual monitoring of NHLs, the NRPD has been able to maintain a high percentage of current NHL owners' and contacts' addresses, and a good sense of the threats to NHLs in the region. The mailing to monitor NHLs takes place in January of each year, followed by mailings of the two annual issues of *NHL Network* and the Report to Congress, meaning that the NRPD attempts to contact owners and contacts for all the Southeastern NHLs at least four times per year.

To meet the need to conduct site visits and perform outreach to NHL owners, the NRPD has turned to Challenge Cost-Share Grants. The Challenge Cost-Share Grant Program was established in 1993 to stimulate partnership opportunities between the NPS and groups such as volunteer organizations, universities, and property owners.

Projects must be carried out jointly by the NPS and a partner, and must relate to an NPS program or activity.

For the past two years, the NRPD has used Challenge Coat-Share Grants to provide funds to students at the preservation departments of Savannah College of Art & Design, Middle Tennessee State University, and Georgia State University to conduct site visits, obtain current photos and slides, and fill out simple information sheets on various NHL properties.

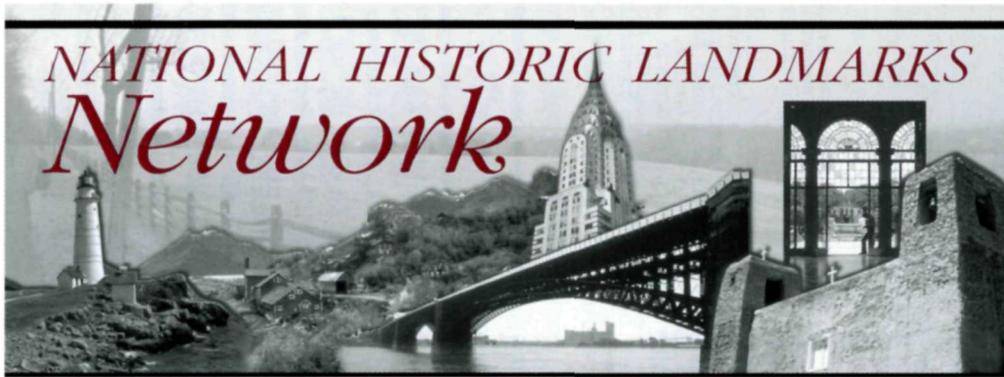
To date, more than 25 percent of the more than 400 NHLs in the Southeast Region have been visited by preservation students. This has provided the NRPD with updated files—including more than 2,000 photos and slides, 100 site information sheets, numerous brochures, and many corrections to the earlier "fact sheets." However, the most significant result has been the closer ties developed between the NPS and the owners/contacts

for NHLs, and the Southeastern academic community.

In addition to this very preliminary work on NHLs, Challenge Grants have also supported preservation students at the University of Memphis and the Savannah College of Art & Design in updating and revising existing NHLs and drafting new NHL nominations. This aspect of supporting preservation students in work on nationally significant properties has also provided many preservation students a required internship with a public agency.

In the Southeast Region, the use of Challenge Grants and the development of good working relationships with academic institutions has greatly enhanced the NRPD's ability to work with NHL owners and contacts and to develop preservation efforts for the same.

Mark R. Barnes is Senior Archeologist, National Register Programs Division, NPS Southeast Regional Office, Atlanta.



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