



ANNUAL PROGRAM REPORT - PART II PROGRESS REPORT
NATIONAL HERITAGE AREAS PROGRAM OFFICE

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Heritage Area Name: Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area
Deadline: Jan. 26, 2024

Purpose

The information collected through this form will be used by the National Park Service (NPS), National Heritage Areas (NHA) Program Office and regional program offices to track each heritage area management or coordinating entity's (coordinating entity) progress on management plan implementation. The progress measures outlined in the categories below capture information about the diverse heritage area activities and approaches to these activities (process measures), direct products or services offered (output measures), and the results of the products or services (outcome measures).

The NPS will use the responses to the questions reported here in annual program reports and publications and to inform individual heritage area evaluations.

Reporting Instructions

The progress measures in this form are grouped under eight categories, capturing the diverse work of the coordinating entities throughout the country. We recognize that each heritage area and coordinating entity is unique. Therefore, not all of the categories or measures presented below will apply.

- The data reported here shall reflect the work that the coordinating entity led, funded or partnered with others to complete this year.
- **Report all work that the coordinating entity was involved in to implement the National Heritage Area Management Plan. Include work supported by Heritage Partnership Program (HPP) funding and other heritage area funding sources.**
- Report data for the same **12-month cycle** (calendar, federal, and fiscal) that you reported last year.
- Measures under categories 2 – 7 are sequenced to capture work in progress, work that is completed, and the outcomes of completed work.
- Follow the specific instructions for each category and measure. Please be consistent in how you categorize your work. When deciding how to categorize a specific project or program, it may be helpful to consider the project or program purpose in relation to your NHA goals.
- If you are implementing or funding multicomponent projects, please count each component separately. *For example, you might be working on a project that involves the preservation of a building or site, site interpretation, and an event. Using this example, each component would be counted as a separate project under the preservation, education and interpretation, and promotion categories.* If it is not possible to separate project components, please report on the project under the category that is most appropriate given the funding amount.
- Retain all supporting documentation used in filling out this form in your office files until a program evaluation has been completed for your heritage area. Per 2CFR Part 215.53, the NPS, as well as the Inspector General or Comptroller General, reserve the right to review supporting documents. The NPS NHA Program Office reviews these forms and may contact you periodically to insure consistent and accurate reporting.

Form Submittal

Identify the name of the heritage area you represent at the top of this page. The complete form includes your NHA name, goals, responses to applicable categories and metrics, and your name, signature, and date verifying the accuracy of the information provided.

Sign and scan in or save as PDF and sign electronically. Email this form to the NHA Program Office at Susan_Teel@nps.gov and copy your regional coordinator and agreements technical representative by close-of-business on the date listed at the top of this form.

Assurance Statement

As the authorized representative of the local coordinating entity, I certify that the progress indicators reported below are supported by documentation that is verifiable in our records.

Name: Michelle Burrelli

Signature:

Date: January 26, 2024

Heritage Area Goals

In the space below please identify the heritage area goals that appear in your management plan or management plan update.

These are the Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area Goals defined in the Management Plan Appendix dated December 6, 2019.

Educational Programs

- National History Academy
 - Continue to offer National History Academy as a signature summer program for high school students from across the nation to visit and explore the JTHG National Heritage Area and its surrounding region
 - Refine the curriculum with help from partners including Harvard Business School, the College Board, the National Park Service, and our partner sites
 - Identify and cultivate additional partners and partner sites
 - Explore additional ways to expand the program and increase the reach to serve more students
- Extreme Journey Summer Camp
 - Continue to offer Extreme Journey Summer Camp to local sixth-eighth grade students near Leesburg, VA
 - Build strategic partnerships with public and private schools within JTHG
 - Continue to engage partners
- Educational Summit for Educators
 - Provide professional development opportunities that will inform and shape the themes, content, and types of programs developed within applicable sites and organizations
 - Provide a training approach that includes and encourages varying perspectives, through the engagement of guest speakers, an exploration of case studies, interactive discussions, and site visits

Heritage Tourism Programs

- Wayfinding
 - Continue to work with VDOT to ensure timely sign fabrication
 - Secure Local Match as needed
- Website
 - Launch the fully re-designed site by the end of 2019
 - Utilize the website for more effective promotion of our partner sites, including individual site pages, news, and an events calendar
 - Keep website up to date with edits
- Social Media
 - Continue to grow social media audience and visitor engagement through informative content and strategic advertising
 - Market the JTHG National Heritage Area with innovative use of technology, including using digital fencing to capture a captive audience of tourists
- Visitor Center Tear-off Map
 - Continue to distribute tear-off maps to Visitor Centers
- National Scenic Byway Map
 - Continue to distribute NSB maps to Visitor Centers and tourists
- Passport to Your National Parks® Program
 - Maintain the Passport program as needed

Preservation/Conservation Programs

- Advocate for Conservation of Open Space
 - Advocate for the conservation of critical open space and better land-use practices within the JTHG NHA, specifically in those parts of the region facing the most pressure for development, by supporting and working with and through partners like the American Battlefield Trust, the Piedmont Environmental Council, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Coalition for Smarter Growth, etc.
 - As more people move to the Capital Region and development encroaches on this singular historic region, utilize the Journey Through Hallowed Ground to encourage the preservation of open space and our cultural landscape.
 - Educate federal government officials about the number of acres conserved since JTHG's creation in 2005 and critical opportunities for future conservation within the region.
 - Work with State, County and Town governmental entities and officials, educating them about the importance of open space and the economic impact of regional heritage tourism.
 - Utilize the Journey's National History Academy initiative to emphasize that the Journey Through Hallowed Ground is the perfect outdoor classroom for adults and students to visit and learn about American history and democracy, and that this outdoor classroom that tells the American story should be preserved and protected.
- Living Legacy

- Seek additional schools to partner with for plantings
- Further develop Bartlett Tree Experts partnership

Please identify your reporting cycle here by name (Federal fiscal, state, calendar, etc.): calendar

1. Financial Assistance and Capacity Building

The numbers captured here reflect the work of the coordinating entity only. Leverage metrics are intended to capture the economic contribution of NHAs.

LEVERAGE

Leverage is using what you already have, in this case HPP funding, to bring about more support than would be possible otherwise. **Include all sources that you secured this past fiscal year that you would not have had unless HPP funds were available. Other federal funds (not including HPP funds) may be included.**

1A.1 Total amount of funding leveraged, including other Federal funds, to implement heritage area activities this year \$ 1,000,000

1A.2 Provide a breakdown of leveraged funds, include cash and in-kind donations in totals.

State \$ Click here to enter text.

Local Government \$ Click here to enter text.

Private \$ **500,000**

Other Federal Funding (not HPP, but include other NPS funding)

(Specify funding source): Click here to enter text. \$ Click here to enter text.

Other (please specify): Click here to enter text. \$ Click here to enter text.

GRANTS

Grants are the transfer of money from a national heritage area coordinating entity to a recipient whose project proposal is selected through a review process. Grants are awarded to recipients to accomplish the goals of the national heritage area. **Grants do not include sponsorships, contracts, or donations.**

1B.1 Total number of grants disbursed¹ this year Click here to enter text.

1B.2 Total grant dollars disbursed this year \$ Click here to enter text.

Please provide a breakdown of the grant funds distributed this year under the categories (2 - 7) below.

CAPACITY BUILDING

Capacity building assistance includes guidance related to historic preservation, education, heritage tourism, natural resource conservation, etc., or the organizational capacity of a partner organization. Capacity building assistance does not include oversight related to administration of sub grants, phone calls directing the individuals to resources or informational meetings, etc.

Count the number of organizations, not people. For example, if one person represents two organizations, the number of organizations is two.

¹ Disbursed is defined as funds that have left the heritage area's account and gone to a grant recipient.

1C.1 Number of organizations to which you provided capacity building assistance through trainings, workshops, onsite assessments, etc. [Click here to enter text.](#)

1C.2 Number of capacity building grants awarded this year [Click here to enter text.](#)

1C.3 Total dollar amount awarded \$ [Click here to enter text.](#)

1C.4 In the space provided below, share any outcomes that have resulted from your capacity building assistance this year or in previous years. Provide a short description with the project name, year project was completed, and indicator and data source for outcome.

2. Historic Preservation & Other Community Enhancement Projects

If you did not engage in historic preservation or community enhancement work this year, please skip these metrics and move on to Category 3: Collections.

WORK in PROGRESS. The numbers reported under 2A – 2B below capture work that is advancing, but not yet completed.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION GRANTS DISBURSED

2A.1 Number of historic or cultural resource preservation grants **disbursed** this year [Click here to enter text.](#)

2A.2 Total dollar amount **disbursed \$** [Click here to enter text.](#)

PROJECTS in PROCESS (Do Not Include Grant Projects Reported Above) - Number of projects begun or continued to enhance listed or eligible National Register properties (e.g., condition assessments, plans, research, etc.). The same project can be reported on over multiple years, until it is completed.

2B. Number of historic preservation projects begun or continued: [Click here to enter text.](#)

COMPLETED WORK. The numbers and information reported under 2C – 2F below captures completed work that the coordinating entity funded, led, or partnered-on with other parties.

2C. NOMINATIONS COMPLETED - Number of historic or cultural resources nominated to the National Register of Historic Places [Click here to enter text.](#)

SITES PRESERVED - Historic sites (i.e. those listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places) preserved through restoration, rehabilitation or adaptive reuse, and reconstruction

2D.1 Number of sites preserved [Click here to enter text.](#) (for a grouping of buildings indicate 1 district/number of contributing buildings)

2D.2 Total acreage of preserved landscapes, such as battlefields, etc. [Click here to enter text.](#)

SITES MAINTAINED – Historic properties (i.e. listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places) maintained through monitoring and small-scale maintenance projects. **Note:** If you own or manage historic building(s) or site(s) this is where you can capture your on-going maintenance efforts.

2E.1 Number of sites maintained [Click here to enter text.](#) (for a grouping of buildings indicate 1 district/number of contributing buildings)

2E.2 Total acreage of preserved landscapes, such as battlefields, etc. [Click here to enter text.](#)

2F. OTHER COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS COMPLETED – In the space provided, provide name and a short description of streetscape or façade improvement projects, as well as other projects that are intended to enhance communities (e.g., art projects or business development projects).

JTHG has continued to work with local, regional, and national partners to advocate for controlled growth of data centers within the National Heritage Area. The industry has rapidly expanded in recent years, with a steady stream of new proposals appearing in counties within the JTHG boundaries. JTHG is part of a coalition of historic preservation and environmental groups including the American Battlefield Trust, Piedmont Environmental Council, Sierra Club, Coalition for Smarter Growth, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Southern Environmental Law Center, and National Parks Conservation Association along with other local organizations. Here, we push for data center development that will protect the historic sites within

the Journey, many of which are directly threatened by proposed projects. JTHG staff members are active in advocacy efforts, including attending regular coalition meetings, speaking at local government hearings, drafting and signing letters to elected officials, and raising public awareness.

- In Orange County, JTHG spearheaded a campaign to include the Wilderness Battlefield Area on the National Trust for Historic Preservation's 11 Most Endangered list and was invited to submit a full nomination after review by NTHP staff. Historic sites in the area are currently threatened by the proposed Wilderness Crossing development, a massive project including more than 5,000 residential units and 200,000 square feet of mixed-use commercial development alongside 700-plus acres of data center development. JTHG drafted the nomination in consultation with American Battlefield Trust, the National Parks Conservation Association, Preservation Virginia, and the Piedmont Environmental Council as a way to bring public attention not only to the threats to historic resources in the Wilderness Battlefield Area but also to the unchecked growth of data centers in the region more broadly.
 - [Lawsuit challenges Wilderness Crossing rezoning in Orange](#)
 - [American Battlefield Trust Appeals Controversial 'Wilderness Crossing' Development](#)
 - ['We're mowed over': colossal data centers are taking over the US countryside](#)
 - [Dominion to Culpeper supervisors: Data centers fueling 214% growth in power demand - Culpeper Star Exponent](#)
- In Prince William County, the Journey was heavily involved in advocacy against the rezoning of 1,760 acres of agricultural land that would pave the way for Prince William Digital Gateway, a proposed campus adjacent to Manassas National Battlefield Park that would include over 23 million square feet of data center space. JTHG worked alongside a coalition of national and local organization in these efforts, including Prince William Conservation Coalition, Manassas Battlefield Trust, Virginia Native Plant Society, The Coalition to Protect America's National Parks, Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area, Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, Sierra Club - Great Falls Group, American Battlefield Trust, Preservation Virginia, and National Parks Conservation Association. JTHG staff members attended weekly meetings with coalition members, and a JTHG representative spoke at Prince William County Planning Commission meetings on October 25 and November 8, 2023 as well as the Prince William Board of County Supervisors public hearing on December 12, 2023. In advance of the meeting, JTHG was one of thirty historic preservation and environmental conservation organizations to co-sign an open letter opposing the project and raising concerns about the damage to historic and natural resources that it would cause. Although the rezoning was narrowly approved, against the recommendation of Prince William County's professional planning staff, JTHG continues to be involved in efforts to protect Manassas National Battlefield Park and its associated historic resources, as well as to protect the unique rural and scenic character of the area.
 - [County officials, heed the National Park Service warnings on the PW Digital Gateway - Prince William Times](#)
 - [Supervisors' meeting on controversial Devlin data centers begins with dueling rallies by supporting labor unions, opposing residents - Prince William Times](#)
- In 2023, JTHG continued working with the Catocin Coalition, the Southern Environmental Law Center, the Coalition for Smarter Growth, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the Piedmont Environmental Council to address safety, access and conservation concerns along the Route 15 Corridor – (a part of the JTHG National Scenic Byway) in Loudoun County, VA. JTHG has

led the coalition that has formed to ensure the historic, cultural and scenic treasures along that section of the JTHG National Scenic Byway are respected and preserved, and that Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act is followed as construction begins to expand the road. This has included organizing driving tours of the historic, agricultural and heritage tourism assets on that stretch of highway for county staff, planning consultants, and our partners. A few recent article about the issue can be viewed at:

- [Loudoun Finalizing Rt. 15 Widening First Phase Plans](#)
- [Three Years Without White's Ferry](#)
- [White's Ferry owners increase offer to buy Virginia dock amid ongoing legal battle](#)

OUTCOMES OF COMPLETED WORK. The outcomes reported under question 2G captures the results of your historic preservation and community development activities. Outcomes do not need to reflect the work that was completed this year, unless outcomes occurred. Outcomes related to individual and cumulative grant activities may be included.

2G. HISTORIC PRESERVATION & COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT OUTCOMES - In the space provided below, please share outcomes that have resulted from your historic preservation work, including grant work, reported this year or in previous years. Provide a short description that includes the project name, year project was completed, project partners, and indicator and data source for outcome.

- JTHG has continued to work with other Friends of Culpeper Battlefields partners towards the opening of Culpeper Battlefields State Park. Other partners include American Battlefield Trust, Brandy Station Foundation, Culpeper Chamber of Commerce, Culpeper Tourism, Friends of Cedar Mountain Battlefield, Germanna Foundation, Museum of Culpeper History, Piedmont Environmental Council, Preservation Virginia, Remington Community Partnership, and Virginia Association for Parks. The State Park was approved in 2022 through the diligent efforts of groups including the Journey and is now set to open on July 1, 2024.
- JTHG is working with the Virginia Department of Transportation to deploy grant funds for the ongoing Living Legacy Project. Between now and 2026, JTHG will use the remaining grant funds to carry out plantings that serve urgent environmental needs in the National Heritage Area, such as creating riparian buffer zones along streams and waterways. Other priorities include furthering public education about the Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Scenic Byway corridor, and contributing to historically significant sites in the National Heritage Area, such as historic landscape restoration efforts on battlefields.
- JTHG worked with VDOT to develop, fabricate and install the wayfinding signage for the JTHG National Scenic Byway since being awarded an 80/20 matching grant in 2011. In 2021, VDOT installed the signage which, with the previously installed signage in Maryland, connects travelers to the history of the region as a whole. The Maryland portion of the JTHG National Scenic Byway also has signage, and we are currently working with Adams County in Pennsylvania to complete the final portion of the wayfinding signage.
- JTHG partner American Battlefield Trust (ABT) actively preserved 1,004.09 acres within our NHA during 2023 across 7 different battlefields and Civil War sites. Since the JTHG NHA was established, ABT has preserved 14,231.04 acres within the Heritage Area.

AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD TRUST

Acreage saved on the Journey Through Hallowed Ground

Battlefield	2023 Acreage	Total Acres
Gettysburg National Military Park	34.99	1,276.95
Antietam National Battlefield	20.00	488.08
South Mountain Battlefield	-	703.56
Monocacy National Battlefield	-	445.06
Harper's Ferry National Historic Park	-	542.25
Aldie/Mt. Zion Church	-	604.88
Auburn	-	-
Ball's Bluff	-	3.22
Brandy Station Battlefield	-	2,157.75
Bristoe Station Battlefield	-	308.65
Buckland	-	90.51
Cedar Mountain	8.10	637.17
Chancellorsville Battlefield	3.00	1,368.77
Kelly's Ford	-	1,369.65
Manassas National Battlefield	-	386.00
Manassas Gap	-	-
Mine Run	703.00	1,393.00
Rappahannock Station Battlefield	-	869.08
Thoroughfare Gap	-	109.00
Unison	-	-
Upperville	190.00	1,004.00
Wilderness Battlefield	178.60	473.46
TOTAL ACRES	1,004.09	14,231.04

Updated January 8, 2024

*Note: Mt. Zion Church acreage also included in Aldie total.

3. Collections: Documentation and Conservation Projects

Paintings, Artifacts, Archives, Oral Histories, Video Histories, etc.

Report here the work in which the primary purpose is to document cultural traditions or conserve artifacts. If you are working on projects that use collections to develop interpretive or educational materials, please report these projects under Category 6: Education and Interpretation Programs.

If you did not engage in work to develop or conserve cultural collections this year, please skip these metrics and move on to the Category 4: Land, Water and Environmental Conservation Projects.

WORK in PROGRESS. The numbers reported under 3A – 3B capture work that is advancing, but not yet completed.

GRANTS FOR COLLECTIONS DISBURSED

3A.1 Number of collections-related grants **disbursed** this year [Click here to enter text.](#)

3A.2 Total dollar amount **disbursed** this year \$ [Click here to enter text.](#)

PROJECTS in PROCESS (Do Not Include Grant Projects Reported Above) – Number of projects begun or continued to conserve heritage area artifacts (e.g., condition assessments, plans, research, etc.). The same project can be reported on over multiple years, until it is completed.

3B. Number of collections projects begun or continued: [Click here to enter text.](#)

COMPLETED WORK. The information reported under 3C below captures completed work that the coordinating entity funded, led, or partnered-on with other parties.

3C. COLLECTION PROJECTS – Provide the name and a brief description of the collections created, documented, or conserved. Collections include oral histories, paintings, murals, historic documents, textiles, archaeology collections or material culture, such as boats or ships.

OUTCOMES OF COMPLETED WORK. The outcomes reported under question 3D capture the results of your the collections conservation activities. Outcomes do not need to reflect the work that was completed this year, unless outcomes occurred. Outcomes related to individual and cumulative grant activities may be included.

3D. COLLECTIONS OUTCOMES - In the space provided below, please share outcomes that have resulted from your collections related work, including grants, reported this year or unreported in previous years. Provide a short description with the project name, year project was completed, project partners, and indicator and data source for outcome.

4. Land, Water & Environmental Conservation Projects

Note: Include wetland work under land restoration, instead of waterway restoration.

If you did not engage in natural resource conservation work this year, please skip these metrics and move on to category 5: recreation development projects.

WORK in PROGRESS. The numbers reported under 4A – 4B below capture work that is advancing, but not yet completed.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION GRANTS AWARDED

4A.1. Number of natural resource conservation grants **disbursed** this year [Click here to enter text.](#)

4A.2 Total dollar amount **disbursed** this year \$ [Click here to enter text.](#)

PROJECTS in PROCESS (Do Not Include Grant Projects Reported Above) - Number of projects begun or continued to conserve natural or scenic areas (i.e., surveys, condition assessments, plans, etc.). The same project can be reported on over multiple years, until it is completed.

4B. Number of conservation projects begun or continued: [Click here to enter text.](#)

COMPLETED WORK. The numbers reported under 4C – 4D below capture completed work that the coordinating entity funded, led, or partnered-on with other parties.

LAND RESTORATION

4C.1. Number of acres of land restored through invasive species removal, replanting, and toxic site clean-up. (one time) [Click here to enter text.](#)

4C.2. Number of acres of land maintained through monitoring and clean-up efforts [Click here to enter text.](#)

WATERWAY RESTORATION (Streams, rivers, creeks, canals, etc.)

4D.1. Number of feet of waterways restored through appropriate in-water and bank restoration techniques (one time) [Click here to enter text.](#)

4D.2. Number of miles of waterways maintained through monitoring and clean-up efforts (please round to the ¼ mile) [Click here to enter text.](#)

OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION PROJECTS

4E. Provide name and a short description of other environmental conservation projects, such as climate change monitoring.

OUTCOMES OF COMPLETED WORK. The outcomes reported in question 4E capture the results of your conservation activities. Outcomes do not need to reflect the work that was completed this year, unless outcomes occurred. Outcomes related to individual and cumulative grant activities may be included.

4F. CONSERVATION OUTCOMES - In the space provided below, please share outcomes that have resulted from your conservation work, including grants, reported this year or unreported in previous years. Provide a short description with the project name, year project was completed, project partners, and indicator and data source for outcome.

5. Recreation Development Projects

Note: This category **does not include recreational events, programs or marketing materials**. Please include recreational events and marketing materials (such as brochures, maps, guides) under Category 7: Outreach and Marketing.

If you did not engage in recreation development projects this year, please skip these metrics and move on to Category 6: Education & Interpretation Programs.

WORK in PROGRESS. The numbers reported under 5A – 5B below capture work that is advancing, but not yet completed.

RECREATION GRANTS AWARDED

5A.1 Number of recreation development grants **disbursed** this year: [Click here to enter text.](#)

5A.2 Total dollar amount **disbursed** this year \$ [Click here to enter text.](#)

PROJECTS in PROCESS (Do Not Include Grant Projects Reported Above) - Number of projects begun or continued to enhance recreational amenities (e.g., feasibility studies, plans, engineering, permitting, etc.). The same project can be reported on over multiple years, until it is completed.

5B. Number of recreation projects begun or continued: [Click here to enter text.](#)

COMPLETED WORK. The numbers reported under 5C – 5E below capture completed work that the coordinating entity funded, led, or partnered-on with other parties.

NEW TRAILS COMPLETED - Number of new miles of on or off road trails developed

5C.1. On-road miles: [Click here to enter text.](#)

5C.2. Off-road miles: [Click here to enter text.](#)

TRAILS MAINTAINED - Number of miles of on or off-road trails maintained through monitoring, clean-up and maintenance projects construction

5D.1. On-road miles: [Click here to enter text.](#)

5D.2. Off-road miles: [Click here to enter text.](#)

OTHER RECREATION DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

5E. Provide name and a short description of other trail or park enhancement projects, such as parking, signage, trail heads, lighting, etc. or trail designation projects. For trail designations please identify the mileage.

OUTCOMES OF COMPLETED WORK. The outcomes reported under question 5G capture the results of your recreation work. Outcomes do not need to reflect the work that was completed this year, unless outcomes occurred. Outcomes related to individual and cumulative grant activities may be included.

5F. RECREATION OUTCOMES - In the space provided below, please share outcomes that have resulted from your recreation work, including grants, reported this year or unreported in previous years. Provide a short description with the project name, year project was completed, project partners and indicator and data source for outcome.

6. Education and Interpretation Programs

The goal of education and interpretation programs is to increase people's understanding of heritage area sites and stories.

Note: Do not include annual meetings, conference presentations, awards ceremonies, open houses, annual fundraisers, and events. These activities are reported under category 7: outreach and marketing.

If you did not conduct interpretation work this year, please skip these metrics and move on to category 7: outreach and marketing.

WORK in PROGRESS. The numbers reported under 6A - 6B capture work that is advancing, but not yet ready to be offered to the public.

EDUCATION GRANTS AWARDED

6A.1 Number of education and interpretation related grants **disbursed** this year: [Click here to enter text.](#)

6A.2 Total dollar amount **disbursed** this year: \$ [Click here to enter text.](#)

PROJECTS in DEVELOPMENT (Do Not Include Grant Projects Reported Above) - Number of education and interpretation projects in development (e.g., assessments, research, etc.). The same project can be reported on over multiple years, until it is offered or made available to the public.

6B. Number of education and interpretation projects in development: [Click here to enter text.](#)

OFFERED PROGRAMS AND PRODUCTS. The information reported under 6C – 6D below captures the work that the coordinating entity funded, led, or partnered with other parties to offer this year.

6C. PROGRAMS OFFERED - In the space below, provide name and a short description of the interpretive or educational programs supported by the NHA coordinating entity this year.

• **National History Academy:** In 2023, we held National History Academy for the fourth time in-person, and also continued to operate an online program.

The residential National History Academy is a four-week residential summer program for high school students begun by JTHG in 2018. In 2023, we received 251 applications and the final class included 80 enrolled students representing 33 states, 2 US Territories and Washington D.C. 71 students received scholarships (45 full scholarships, 26 partial scholarships). The total scholarship funds awarded in 2023 for residential students was \$669,775, and the total scholarships awarded since 2018 is \$2,519,635.

The Academy curriculum combines Case Method Institute cases developed by Harvard Business School Professor David Moss, a College Board-supported parliamentary debate program, a series of nationally-known guest speakers, and visits to over 30 important historic sites.

The program is taught by teachers and college-aged teaching assistants recruited from across the country. In 2023, we had 5 teachers from FL, IN, NJ, NY, and VA. We hired 11 TAs representing University of Arizona, College of William and Mary, Tulane, Troy University, UVA, Lebanon Valley College, University of South Carolina, University of South Florida, and Bowdoin College. 6 of the TAs were former NHA students. We also had a nursing staff and videographer/social media team that assisted us throughout the summer.

Students represented the following ethnicities: 49% White, 13% Asian, 19% Hispanic or Latino, 7% Black, 3% Native Alaskan or Native Hawaiian, and 4% multiracial.

National History Academy: Future Leaders Learn from the Past at Foxcroft

- **National History Academy Online:** In 2023, a diverse group of 55 high school students attended National History Academy Online's intensive one-week programs. High School students were able to select from four 1-week sessions studying: James Madison, the 'Federal Negative,' and the Making of the U.S. Constitution, Debt and Democracy: The New York Constitutional Convention of 1846, The Struggle over Public Education, and The Pecora Hearings.

Thanks to our funding partners, high school students were able to attend at no cost by applying for a scholarship.

- **History Field Trips:** We are continuing our efforts to make virtual learning materials based on place-based-learning available for free as part of History Field Trips (www.historyfieldtrips.org). Our past virtual historic site visit series (viewing stats reported in the past two years' data collection forms) are all available on our Youtube page. In 2023, we worked on developing lesson plans for the pre-recorded site visits and met with video production teams to explore other options for creating video content.

- **EXTREME Journey Summer Camp:** The EXTREME Journey Summer Camp (operated annually since 2006) immerses rising 6th, 7th and 8th grade students in the historic sites within the Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area. JTHG operated two sessions of EXTREME Journey Summer Camp in 2023 for 39 middle school students. Over the course of each two-week session, campers are members of the "JTHG Intelligence Agency," and must uncover the mysteries of history pertaining to historic characters from the region that demonstrated leadership traits. At each site visited, students participate in "extreme" activities—such as cycling, hiking, or canoeing—as they learn. Throughout the camp, campers are also tasked with using examples of historic leaders to script and film a mini-movie, or vodcast, explaining "what leadership means to me." Each session

concludes with a final ceremony where students can share the projects they created throughout the two weeks, attended by teachers, students, and their families.

6D. PRODUCTS OFFERED - In the space below, provide name and a short description of the interpretive or educational products (print, web, or multi-media) supported by the NHA coordinating entity this year.

- Harpers Ferry National Historical Park Beacon Tour: The Journey, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park and Here's My Story, collaborated on the creation of a beacon-based tour and app highlighting the fascinating history of Harpers Ferry's historic Lower Town. The "Time Trekker" app is geared toward upper elementary school students and uses game mechanics and historic characters from Harpers Ferry, WV, to create a "choose your own adventure" experience for users. The public launch took place in April of 2017 at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, with eight local schools bringing over 1,100 students to the park to participate.
- The Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership has worked to provide continued public access to the *Of the Student, By the Student, For the Student*® service-learning project vodcasts at key battlefield sites. iPad stations and kiosks have been installed at Gettysburg National Military Park, Manassas National Battlefield Park, Antietam National Battlefield, Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park, and Harpers Ferry National Historical Park to display the vodcasts as permanent interpretive materials. These education stations grant park visitors the opportunity to view the student generated vodcasts, as well as learn more about the service-learning project. With a combined annual attendance of over 6.4 million, we strongly believe that this will further strengthen the experience for all guests, especially youth at our National Parks. All of the vodcasts produced by this project can be viewed on YouTube, www.EDsitement.org, www.TeachingHistory.org, as well the Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership's website, www.HallowedGround.com.

OUTCOMES of PROGRAM AND PRODUCTS OFFERED. The outcomes reported under question 6E capture the results of your education work. Outcomes do not need to reflect the work that was completed this year, unless outcomes occurred. Outcomes related to individual and cumulative grant activities may be included.

6E. EDUCATION OUTCOMES - In the space provided below, please share any outcomes that have resulted from heritage area educational work, including grants, reported this year or unreported in previous years. Provide a short description with the project name, year project was completed, project partners and indicator and data source for outcome.

National History Academy recruits highly achieving students with an interest in history, government, law, and related fields. Since 2018, 316 students have participated in the National History Academy residential program, and 1,960 students have participated in our online program. Some students have already gone on to further their studies at premier colleges and universities including Penn, UVA, Yale, Ole Miss, Williams, Brigham Young, US Military Academy, University of Richmond, Gettysburg College, and William & Mary, amongst others.

Due to this focus on excellence, JTHG has been able to raise funds toward program expenses and scholarships for the National History Academy through a variety of grants and foundation support. These partners include:

- Americana Corner Foundation
- Bainum Family Foundation

- Beaty Family Fund
- Chai Family Trust
- Charles Hayden Foundation
- Charles Miller Charitable Foundation
- Clark-Winchcole Foundation
- Edison Institute
- Goose Creek Association
- Hillsdale Foundation
- Howard D. Dubin Family Foundation
- John Ben Snow Memorial Trust
- Mars Foundation
- Richard S. Reynolds Foundation
- Virginia Museum of History & Culture

Other important partners for the National History Academy include the College Board, National History Day, the National Park Service, Harvard Business School, and Braver Angels.

7. Outreach and Marketing (include presentations, sponsorships, and other outreach activities here)

Note: Include economic impact studies under products offered.

If you did not conduct outreach or marketing work this year, please skip these metrics and move on to Category 8: Community Engagement.

WORK in PROGRESS. The numbers reported under 7A – 7B capture work that is advancing, but not yet ready to be offered to the public.

OUTREACH & MARKETING GRANTS AWARDED

7A.1 Number of outreach and marketing grants **disbursed** this year [Click here to enter text.](#)

7A.2 Total dollar amount **disbursed** this year \$ [Click here to enter text.](#)

PROJECTS in DEVELOPMENT (Do Not Include Grant Projects Reported Above) - Number of promotion and marketing projects in development (e.g., assessments, research, etc.). The same project can be reported on over multiple years, until it is offered or made available to the public.

7B. Number of promotion and marketing projects in development: [Click here to enter text.](#)

OFFERED EVENTS AND PRODUCTS. The numbers reported under 7C – 7D below capture work that the coordinating entity funded, led, or partnered with other parties to offer to the public this year.

7C. EVENTS OFFERED (RACES, CELEBRATIONS, AWARDS CEREMONIES, FAM TOURS, ETC.) - In the space below, provide name and a short description of promotional activities supported by the coordinating entity.

- Gettysburg 30th Anniversary Celebration - In honor of the 30th Anniversary of the release of the film *Gettysburg*, JTHG partnered with Director Ron Maxwell, Main Street Gettysburg, the American Battlefield Trust, Destination Gettysburg, the Adams County Historical Society, Seminary Ridge Museum & Education Center, the Gettysburg Foundation, the Majestic Theater, and Gettysburg National Military Park to create a weekend long celebration of the film, October 13-15, 2023. In addition to the Director, 14 actors from the film including Tom Berenger and James Patrick Stuart attended the screening. Tickets to the main screening sold out within moments of going up for sale in June, and during the course of the three-day festival, more than 2,000 people came to Gettysburg, PA to participate in screenings, VIP events, and autograph signings.

7D. PRODUCTS OFFERED (BROCHURES, ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDIES, WEBSITES, ETC.) - In the space below, provide name and a short description of promotional products supported by the coordinating entity.

- JTHG Website: JTHG launched an updated website in 2020 and had 43,000 unique visitors in 2023. In December 2023, JTHG began exploring ways to make the JTHG website, www.HallowedGround.org, more mobile responsive and visitor friendly.
- NationalHistoryAcademy.org Website: The National History Academy website has had more than 205,000 unique visitors since it launched in 2018, and 30,000 unique visitors in 2023 alone.
- JTHG Social Media: The JTHG Partnership continues to use our Facebook page, Instagram and Twitter accounts. As of December 2023, the Facebook page had 4,100 followers, Instagram 343 followers and Twitter account, 874 followers.
- National History Academy Social Media: National History Academy has 2,300 followers on Facebook, 850 followers on Instagram, and 103 followers on Twitter.
- Visitor-Center Tear-off Map: The 11" x 17" four-color piece includes a map of the JTHG area. They are distributed at heritage sites, National Park units, visitor centers and all Virginia Welcome Centers.
- National Scenic Byway Map: This 2-sided, 28-panel, folded map brochure of the Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Scenic Byway and National Heritage Area includes road symbols and icons for presidential sites, battle sites, churches, historic sites and cemeteries. Other symbols denote state boundaries, Main Street Communities, the Appalachian Trail, state and national parklands, and scenic byways. Visitor information includes listings of visitors' centers with hours of operation as well as website addresses. Historic towns and villages are listed with website addresses. These maps are distributed at heritage sites, National Park units, visitor centers and all Virginia Welcome Centers.
- Passport to Your National Parks® Program: The Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area participates in the National Park Service's passport program, and the JTHG NHA program includes 38 key sites.
- Publications – JTHG offers several publications for sale through our website, including a guidebook, National Geographic coffee table book, and a book highlighting African American contributions within the NHA.
- Tour Itineraries – trip guides with various themes are available for tourists via the JTHG website.

OUTCOMES of EVENTS AND PRODUCTS OFFERED. The outcomes reported under question 7E capture the results of your promotion and marketing work. Outcomes do not need to reflect the work that was completed this year, unless outcomes occurred. Outcomes related to individual and cumulative grant activities may be included.

7E. OUTREACH & MARKETING OUTCOMES - In the space provided below, please share outcomes that have resulted from heritage area marketing activities reported this year or offered in previous years. Outcomes could include increases in visitation to heritage area sites generated by marketing products. Provide a short description with the project name, year project was completed, project partners, and indicator and data source for outcome.

8. Community Engagement

The numbers captured here reflect the work of the NHA coordinating entity and partnership. Please answer all questions below.

PARTNERSHIPS

A partnership is a relationship between parties to accomplish a common goal, such as developing or implementing a heritage area project or offering heritage area programs. Partnerships are characterized by mutual interest, commitment, and communication. Please count partners one time, either as formal or informal partners.

8A.1 Formal Partners are the organizations who you directly collaborate with on heritage area projects and programs and who are substantially involved in those projects or programs. You may have an agreement in place to formalize your partnership with these organizations, but having an agreement is not a requirement for being a formal partner.

Number of formal partners substantially engaged in National Heritage Area activities this year: Approximately 60

8A.2 Informal Partners are those organizations who you cooperate or coordinate with on projects and programs. These organizations are not substantially involved in your projects or programs.

Number of informal partners engaged in National Heritage Area activities this year: 300

VOLUNTEERISM

Volunteer Count. Please count volunteers who are working on projects or programs that are coordinated and/or funded by the national heritage area coordinating entity. Do not include volunteers at park units or other sites for which there was no investment of heritage area staff time or funding.

8B.1 Total number of volunteers engaged in heritage area projects, programs or activities [Click here to enter text.](#)

8B.2 Total number of volunteer hours [Click here to enter text.](#) *(please round-up to the nearest hour)*

8B.3 Hourly value of volunteer time for your state or region *(refer to www.independentsector.org/volunteer_time for your region)* \$ [Click here to enter text.](#)

8B.4 Total dollar value of volunteer hours \$ [Click here to enter text.](#)

PROGRAM & EVENT PARTICIPANTS

Program and Event Participant Count. Please count participants who attended events or programs that were coordinated and/or funded by the national heritage area coordinating entity. Do not include participants in programs at parks or other sites where there was no investment of heritage area staff time or funding.

8C.1 Number of people who participated in heritage area educational programs this year: 248

8C.2 Number_of people who participated in heritage area events (races, celebrations, ceremonies, etc.) this year:
2,000

Educational Program Attendees:

National History Academy Residential Program - 143

- High School Students - 80
- Teachers - 5
- Teaching Assistants – 11
- Nursing staff – 3
- Videographer - 1
- Guest Speakers - 8
- Site Guides - 35

National History Academy Online - 57

- High School Students - 55
- Teachers - 1
- Teaching Assistants - 1

Extreme Journey Summer Camp - 48

- Students – 39
- Junior Counselors – 4
- Teachers – 4
- Director – 1

Heritage Area Event Attendees:

Gettysburg 30th Anniversary Celebration – approximately 2,000

OTHER ACTIVITIES

8D.1 In the space below, identify any other activities including community development, economic development or community engagement projects that do not fit into the seven categories above.

Best Practice: Highlight a Successful Project or Program

In the space below, please describe a creative, successful project or program undertaken or completed this year. Please include images with captions and credit information.

Also, include numbers if applicable – dollars invested and leveraged, communities or residents involved or impacted, properties preserved, miles of trails improved, etc. Word count recommendation is 200 words.

In honor of the 30th anniversary of the release of the film *Gettysburg*, JTHG partnered with director Ron Maxwell, Main Street Gettysburg, the American Battlefield Trust, Destination Gettysburg, the Adams County Historical Society, Seminary Ridge Museum & Education Center, the Gettysburg Foundation, the Majestic Theater, and Gettysburg National Military Park to hold a weekend-long celebration of the film on October 13-

15, 2023. Events included two sold out screenings of the film *Gettysburg*, a screening of *Copperhead*, autograph signings, a VIP BBQ, and a VIP dinner.

In addition to the film's director, 14 actors including Tom Berenger and James Patrick Stuart attended the screening, signed autographs, and participated in panel discussions and Q&A sessions. Tickets to the main screening sold out in minutes, and during the course of the three-day festival, more than 2,000 people came to Gettysburg, PA to attend one or more of the events.

JTHG invested roughly \$83,000 and brought in \$79,000 in ticket sales, in addition to generating a conservatively estimated \$500,000 for the local economy through festival attendee spending at Gettysburg hotels, restaurants, and shops. The event also strengthened our relationships with partner organizations working in the historic preservation space and increased the visibility of JTHG within the region, as our website was visited by 3,400 new users when the event was announced, and 2,500 new users the weekend of the festival.

Image credit: Vanessa Pellechio Sanders/Gettysburg Times

Director Ron Maxwell and actors Stephen Lang and Tom Berenger discuss the *Gettysburg* film during a press conference at the new *Beyond the Battle Museum* in Gettysburg, PA.



NOTICES

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

General: This information is provided pursuant to Public Law 93-579 (Privacy Act of 1974), December 21, 1984, for individuals completing this form.

Authority: 54 USC Ch. 3201, Historic Sites Act of 1935, as amended; 44 U.S.C. 3501, et seq., Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995; and individual pieces of legislation and associated amendments in 54 USC 100702 that enable the NPS, on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior, to provide federal financial, technical, and other assistance for the preservation of natural, cultural, historic, and scenic resources.

Purposes and Uses: The NPS intends to track the progress of each heritage area on implementing its management plan and meeting performance goals. The information collected is used by the NHA program office in monitoring the progress of each heritage area. The collection of this information is necessary to allow for national oversight, analysis, coordination, technical and financial assistance, and support to National Heritage Areas to ensure consistency and accountability across the country.

Effects of Nondisclosure: Financial disclosure is in accordance with 54 USC Ch. 3201, Pub. L. 113–291, div. B, title XXX, §3052(a)(2), Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 3802.

Information Regarding Disclosure of Your Social Security Number Under Public Law 93-579 Section 7(b): Your Social Security Number is not needed to complete this form.

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT

We are collecting this information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501) in response to the NHAs individual authorizing legislation requiring annual reporting as mandated by Congress. The information provided by NHA Coordinating Entities allows the NHA program office to allocate funding to heritage area management, prepare NPS budget justifications, and track management planning and implementation across NHAs. We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. OMB has reviewed and approved this survey and assigned OMB Control Number 1024-###, which expires ###/###/####.

ESTIMATED BURDEN STATEMENT

Public Reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 42 minutes per response, including the time it takes for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form should be sent to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive, Fort Collins, CO 80525.