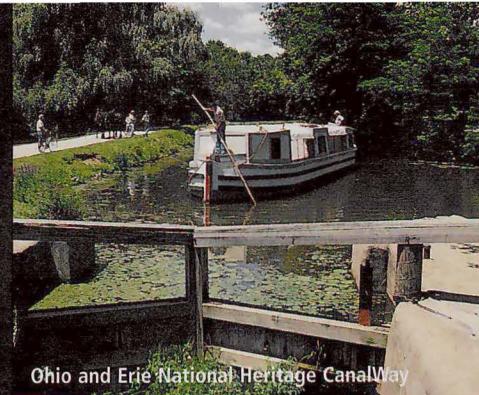


# National Heritage Areas

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
[www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)



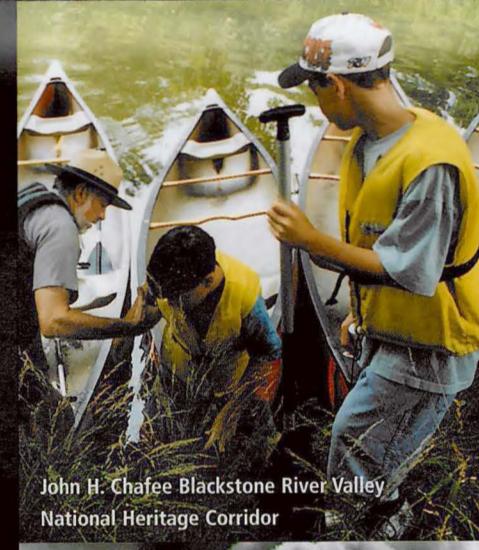
Ohio and Erie National Heritage CanalWay



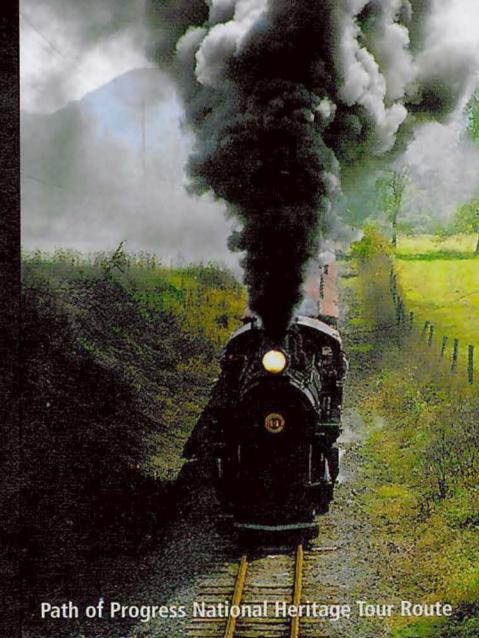
Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area



The South Carolina National Heritage Corridor



John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor



Path of Progress National Heritage Tour Route



National Coal Heritage Area

# Heritage Areas

The 25 national heritage areas present a diverse range of natural, cultural, and historical resources. Urban, rural, recreational, and educational activities provide excitement and enrichment for visitors and residents alike. Whether you choose to explore these varied regions by bike, foot, car, or boat, national heritage areas offer unusual and engaging ways to experience the diversity of America at its best.

## Augusta Canal National Heritage Area

Visitors discover a unique piece of history within the Augusta Canal National Heritage Area. At the Interpretive Center in the renovated Enterprise Mill, interactive exhibits tell the canal story. The seven-mile first level Canal can be explored aboard a replica of the narrow Petersburg Boats once used to transport cotton and tobacco to the markets in Augusta. The natural beauty of the lushly canopied towpath can be enjoyed by canoe or bike. The Augusta Canal National Heritage Area offers many opportunities to picnic, fish, and relax. **706-823-0440** [www.augustacanal.com](http://www.augustacanal.com)



Augusta Canal National Heritage Area

**John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor** is composed of 24 cities and towns on 454 square miles of land in the watershed of the Blackstone River. The Corridor area extends from north of Worcester, Massachusetts south to Providence, Rhode Island. Beginning in the 18th century, the Blackstone Valley provided the setting for a remarkable transformation from farm to factory—a local story that became the model for a national phenomenon: the American Industrial Revolution. Today, the story of the Blackstone River Valley continues as part of a living, evolving landscape. **401-762-0250** [www.nps.gov/blac/home.htm](http://www.nps.gov/blac/home.htm)

**Cane River National Heritage Area** in Louisiana is a largely rural landscape known for its historic plantations, distinctive Creole architecture, and multi-cultural legacy. Historically this region lay at the intersection of French and Spanish realms in the New World. Today it is home to a unique blend of cultures, including French, Spanish, African, American Indian, and Creole. The stories of Cane River's people are brimming with the juxtapositions that comprise our nation's history—conquest and colonialism, militarism and peace, wealth and poverty, slavery and freedom. **318-356-5555** [www.caneriverheritage.org](http://www.caneriverheritage.org)

**Cache La Poudre River Corridor** is located in north-central Colorado. The river begins at the eastern edge of the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest and extends just beyond its confluence with the South Platte River. The boundary of the 40-mile corridor is the river's 100-year floodplain. The region commemorates the role of water development and management in the American West. The enabling legislation provides for regional interpretation of the contributions of its cultural and historical lands, waterways and structures to our national heritage. **970-350-9755** [www.nature.nps.gov/cachelapoudre/index.htm](http://www.nature.nps.gov/cachelapoudre/index.htm)

**Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor** is a 165 mile thread of American history flowing through eastern Pennsylvania. Anthracite coal was discovered here. Canals and railroads transported lumber, hard coal, slate, iron and steel from mountain to market, fueling America's Industrial Revolution. Scenic rivers, canals, roads, towpaths, trails and towns beckon residents and visitors alike with extraordinary natural, cultural and recreational resources. **610-923-3548** [www.nps.gov/dele](http://www.nps.gov/dele)

**Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor** commemorates and celebrates the impact of the canal on the creation of the American nation. The corridor works in partnership with its 230 communities to protect this treasured cultural and historic resource and to promote the 524-mile New York State Canal System as a recreation destination for today's boaters and visitors. **518-237-8643** [www.nps.gov/erie/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/erie/index.htm)

## Essex National Heritage Area

Covering the 500 square miles of eastern Massachusetts just north of Boston, the Essex National Heritage Area is comprised of thousands of natural and historic sites. There are miles of unspoiled coastline, rivers and marshes, and lifetimes of rich experiences and cultures. From the first settlers to the rise of international maritime trade to the leather, textile and shoe entrepreneurs that initiated the Industrial Revolution, the Essex National Heritage Area illuminates almost 400 years of our nation's history. **978-740-0444** [www.essexheritage.org](http://www.essexheritage.org)

**Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area** Encompassing 4 million acres in ten counties from Troy to Yonkers, the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area is defined by people, places, natural resources and events that made American history. There are five National Historic Sites in the Heritage Area, 57 National Historic Landmarks, 89 historic districts, and over 1,000 sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Hudson River Valley Greenway, formed by New York State in 1991, is the management entity for the Heritage Area. **518-473-3835** [www.hudsonvalleyheritagearea.com](http://www.hudsonvalleyheritagearea.com)



Cane River National Heritage Area

## Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area

**MotorCities-Automobile National Heritage Area** At the beginning of the 20th century, a small group of pioneer auto manufacturers assembled a few hundred "horseless carriages" in Michigan. Twenty years later, Michigan had more than 700 automotive-related companies, including 367 in Detroit alone. The Southeast and Central Michigan region, which includes Detroit, Lansing and Flint, "put the world on wheels." A concentration of auto-related museums, attractions, activities and events preserves and interprets the automobile and labor story. **313-259-3425** [www.autoheritage.org](http://www.autoheritage.org)

**Ohio and Erie National Heritage CanalWay**

This area of northeast Ohio, from Cleveland to New Philadelphia, celebrates the canal that enabled shipping between Lake Erie and the Ohio River and vaulted Ohio into commercial prominence in the early 1830s. The canal and Towpath Trail pass through agricultural lands and rural villages into industrial communities such as Akron, Canton, and Cleveland, which trace their prosperity to the coming of the canal. **330-434-5657** [www.ohioericanal.org](http://www.ohioericanal.org)

**Illinois & Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor** The 97-mile Illinois & Michigan Canal, completed in 1848, connected Lake Michigan to the Illinois River along a long-standing Indian portage route. By forging the last link in water transport between the Great Lakes and the Mississippi watershed, the canal rapidly transformed Chicago from a small settlement to a critical transportation hub. It established what is still an active industrial and transportation corridor. The canal, a National Historic Landmark, and towpath, now a recreational trail, are owned and managed by the State of Illinois. A Federal commission works with government and private groups to preserve the corridor's resources. **815-588-6040** or **312-427-3688** [www.nps.gov/ilmi/home.htm](http://www.nps.gov/ilmi/home.htm)

Background images:  
Top: Lackawanna Heritage Valley National Heritage Area  
Middle: Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area



Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor



Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District

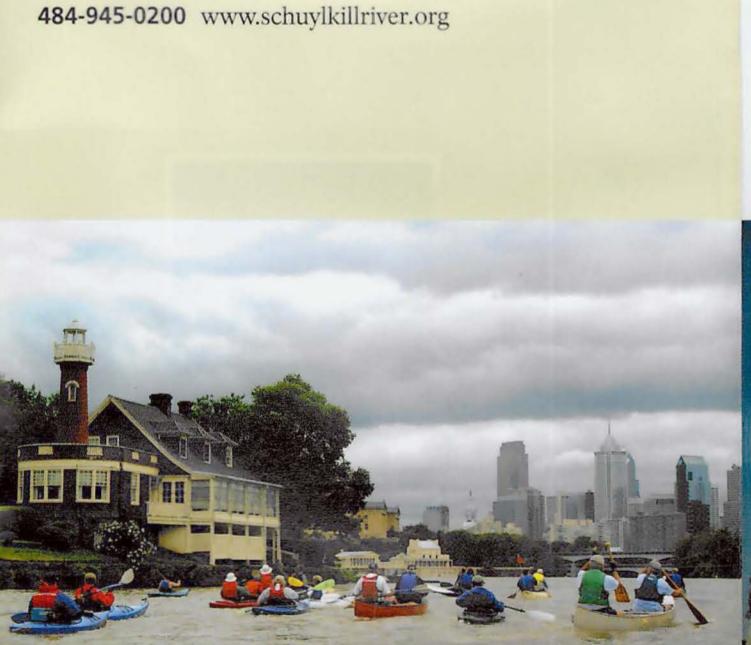
**Path of Progress National Heritage Tour Route**, a wayfinding strategy in Western Pennsylvania, promotes, interprets, and makes available for the public the cultural heritage of a nine-county region in southwestern Pennsylvania associated with the three basic industries of iron and steel, coal, and transportation. The 500-mile tour route connects heritage sites and stories through part of the region known as Westsylvania, presents authentic historical, cultural, and recreational products, services, and experiences and advances a high quality destination in the Central Appalachians. **814-696-9380** [www.sphpc.org](http://www.sphpc.org)

**Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor** in northeast Connecticut and south central Massachusetts is one of the last unspoiled and undeveloped areas in the northeastern U.S. The region includes important aboriginal archeological sites, excellent water quality, beautiful rural landscapes, architecturally significant mill structures and mill villages, and a large acreage of parks and other permanent space. The corridor encompasses 1,086 square miles and includes 35 towns. **860-963-7226** [www.thelastgreenvalley.org](http://www.thelastgreenvalley.org)

**Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area** For over a century Pittsburgh was the "Steel Making Capital of the World." Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area tells this story of Big Steel in seven counties along the Allegheny, Monongahela, and Ohio rivers. Folklife projects, as well as tourism, historic preservation, educational and community development programs and recreation trails help to revitalize the economic and cultural spirit of the region. Rivers of Steel honors southwestern Pennsylvania's past and is helping to build its future. **412-464-4020** [www.riversofsteel.com](http://www.riversofsteel.com)

**Schuykill River Valley National Heritage Area** For generations, the people of southeastern Pennsylvania have viewed the Schuykill River as integral to their way of life. They have established homes, raised families, and shaped the shifting currents of history. From one end to the other—from the mining museum at Ashland past Valley Forge to Historic Fort Mifflin—the Schuykill River Valley National Heritage Area is central to the story of the colonization and industrialization of America. **484-945-0200** [www.schuykillriver.org](http://www.schuykillriver.org)

**Wheeling National Heritage Area** The great 1849 suspension bridge of Wheeling extended the National Road west, bringing people and goods to the city. At the northernmost navigable port on the Ohio River, overland routes, river traffic, and railroads converged, attracting entrepreneurs who manufactured iron, steel, nails, textiles, glass, tobacco, and other goods. The Wheeling National Heritage Area preserves and celebrates the city's dramatic setting, resources, and history, including its role as the birthplace of the state of West Virginia during the Civil War. **304-232-3087** [www.wheelingheritage.org](http://www.wheelingheritage.org)



Schuykill River Valley National Heritage Area

**Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District** From 1861 to 1865, the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia was caught in the crossfire between the North and the South. Because of its strategic location, this fertile agricultural valley became a significant theater of war. Today 15 battlefields, over 320 sites, towns, villages, and farms in this eight-county National Historic District attest to the struggle, courage, and perseverance of the soldiers and civilians who shaped this turning point in American history. **540-740-4545** [www.valleybattlefields.org](http://www.valleybattlefields.org)

For more information: contact the National Heritage Areas Program at 1201 Eye Street, NW, 8th Floor, Washington, DC 20005, or visit [www.cr.nps.gov/heritagesareas/](http://www.cr.nps.gov/heritagesareas/)



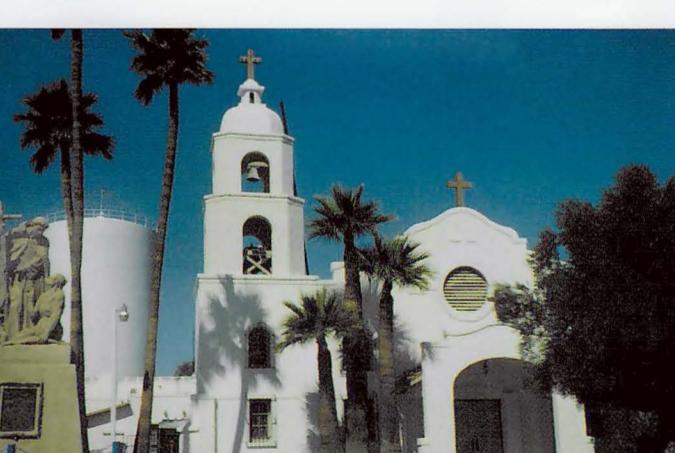
Illinois & Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor

**Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area** tells the story of American agriculture, agribusiness, and farm life through a network of sites, events, and communities. A 37-county region in the northeast quadrant of Iowa, the heritage area is bordered by the Mississippi River, I-80, and I-35. No other region in the United States shares our rich agricultural legacy. From dairy farms and museums, to vineyards and tractor assembly plants, this region is "Where the Story of American Agriculture Comes to Life." **319-234-4567** [www.silosandsmokestacks.org](http://www.silosandsmokestacks.org)

**South Carolina National Heritage Corridor** consists of 14 counties and over 250 miles, divided into four regions: the scenic mountains of Region 1, the political legacy of Region 2, the railroad communities in Region 3, and the low country history of Charleston and surrounding communities in Region 4. These combine to showcase the history, lifestyles, and landscapes of the Palmetto State. Region 2's Discovery Center in Edgefield and Region 1's Discovery Center in Clemson are two of four planned interpretive centers. **803-734-0141** [www.sc-heritagecorridor.org](http://www.sc-heritagecorridor.org)

**Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area** Created in 1996, the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area (TCWNHA) interprets and preserves the legacies of the Civil War and Reconstruction in Tennessee. Coordinated by the Center for Historic Preservation in Murfreesboro, the TCWNHA provides technical assistance across the state, focusing in particular on eight heritage corridors along major river and rail routes. The TCWNHA highlights a range of narratives that illustrate the profound transformations that occurred as a result of the Civil War. **615-494-8910** [www.mtsu.edu/~tncivilwar](http://www.mtsu.edu/~tncivilwar)

**Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area** One of the first Heritage Areas in the West, the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area celebrates the pivotal role Yuma played as a key crossing point of the Colorado River through the 19th Century; its innovative role in water management in the 20th Century; and its leadership in the environmental restoration of the lower Colorado River. Key partners in conservation projects and programs include the Quechan and Cocopah Indian Nations, local farmers, the military, the private sector and local governments. **928-373-5190** [www.yumaheritage.com](http://www.yumaheritage.com)



Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area

The Alliance of National Heritage Areas (ANHA) is a nation-wide, private, non-profit organization that encourages partnerships among heritage constituencies, develops educational activities that support heritage development, and advocates for sustainable heritage programs. For more information, visit [www.nationalheritageareas.com](http://www.nationalheritageareas.com)

# National Heritage Areas

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
[www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)

