



Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor

South Carolina
Georgia
North Carolina
Florida



What is a National Heritage Area?

A National Heritage Area (NHA) is a locally-managed place designated by the United States Congress where natural, cultural, historic and recreational resources combine to form a cohesive, nationally-distinctive landscape arising from patterns of human activity shaped by geography. These areas are built on community partnerships and are planned around a region's shared heritage.

How is a National Heritage Area Different From a National Park?

The designation has both tangible and intangible benefits. Heritage conservation efforts are grounded in a community's pride in its history and traditions, and in residents' interest and involvement in retaining and interpreting the landscape for future generations. Preserving the integrity of the cultural landscape and local stories means that future generations will be able to understand their relationship to the land. Heritage areas provide educational and inspirational opportunities which encourage residents and visitors to stay in a place.

Vision/Mission/Purpose

Vision:

To recognize and sustain an environment that celebrates the legacy and continuing contributions of Gullah/Geechee people to our American heritage.

Mission:

The Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission is committed to:

- nurture pride and facilitating an understanding and awareness of the significance of Gullah/Geechee history and culture within Gullah/Geechee communities;
- sustain and preserving land, language, and cultural assets within the coastal communities of South Carolina, Georgia, North Carolina, and Florida; and
- educate the public on the value and importance of Gullah/Geechee culture.

Purpose:

The purpose of the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor is to:

- recognize the important contributions made to American culture and history by African Americans known as the Gullah/Geechee who settled in the coastal counties of South Carolina, Georgia, North Carolina, and Florida;
- assist State and local governments and public and private entities in South Carolina, Georgia, North Carolina, and Florida in interpreting the story of the Gullah/Geechee and preserving Gullah/Geechee folklore, arts, crafts, and music; and
- assist in identifying and preserving sites, historical data, artifacts, and objects associated with the Gullah/Geechee for the benefit and education of the public.

For more information about the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor or the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission, please contact:

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