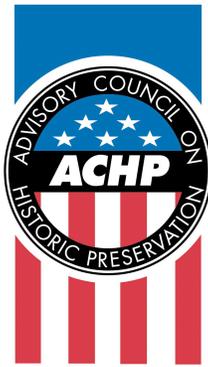


For Immediate Release
August 19, 2009



Contact: Bruce Milhans
202-606-8513
bmilhans@achp.gov

Preserving America's Heritage

Harpers Ferry John Brown Raid Service Learning Project, Bureau of Land Management's Cultural Resources Data Sharing Project, Recognized for Outstanding Historic Preservation Accomplishments

WASHINGTON, D.C.— The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation today lauded two historic preservation efforts as outstanding examples of how to preserve America's heritage.

The Chairman's Award for Federal Achievement in Historic Preservation went to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for its Cultural Resources Data Sharing (CRDS) project, which operates in conjunction with the State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPOs) of 11 western states and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers.

The ACHP Award for Federal Preserve America Accomplishment went to Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, in partnership with Harpers Ferry Middle School and the Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership, for a groundbreaking service learning project called *Of the Student, By the Student, For the Student*.

The awards were presented by ACHP Chairman John L. Nau, III, at the quarterly business meeting held in the Cannon Caucus Room of the Cannon House Office Building. Nau was joined by Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish, Wildlife and Parks (and the Interior Secretary's designate to the ACHP) Will Shafroth; and Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Policy, Management, and Budget Robert G. Stanton, in making the presentations.

The Chairman's Award was in recognition of a combined effort among the BLM and the SHPOs of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, and Wyoming that enables cultural resource professionals to have consistent, reliable, easy-to-use spatial information systems on their desktop computers to support informed federal decision-making. The geographic information data provided describes archaeological information but also can include information on artifacts and historic structures. The CRDS project involves digitizing and automating BLM site records, locations, and surveyed space and making this information widely available and usable to multiple entities.

The Preserve America Award went to the first, unprecedented national effort completed by a federal agency, a historic preservation nonprofit organization, and a school under the Preserve America Service Learning Project. The three organizations enabled students to create six vodcasts centering on a middle school perspective of the John Brown Raid as it commemorates the 150th anniversary of an event crucial to touching off the Civil War. Walking in the footsteps of the raiders, using the places where the raid occurred, and primary historic documents, students interpreted the significance of the John Brown Raid to their peers and created the vodcasts to share their learning with visitors to Harpers Ferry National

—over—

Historical Park and others interested in the John Brown Raid. More information is available at <http://www.hallowedground.org/videos/harpers/of-the-student-videos-harpers-ferry-2009.html>.

For more detailed information, see www.achp.gov.

ABOUT THE ACHP: The ACHP, an independent federal agency, promotes the preservation, enhancement, and productive use of the nation's historic resources, and advises the President and Congress on national historic preservation policy. It also provides a forum for influencing federal activities, programs, and policies that impact historic properties. In addition, the ACHP has a key role in carrying out the Preserve America program. See www.achp.gov for more information.

—end—