

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.



Cane River National Heritage Area is a place where many cultures -- American Indian, French, Spanish, African, Creole, and later American -- came together to create a way of life dependent on the land, the river, and each other.



The Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor reveals the important contributions made to American culture and history by Africans and African Americans known as Gullah/Geechee who settled in coastal communities between Florida and North Carolina.

HOW IS AN NHA DIFFERENT FROM A NATIONAL PARK?

- An NHA is not a unit of the NPS
- An NHA is locally coordinated and managed
- The NPS involvement is advisory in nature

WHAT ARE THE LOCAL BENEFITS TO NHA DESIGNATION?

- Preserve stories, culture, & natural resources
- Community pride
- Education & inspiration
- Economic stimulus
- Sustainable financial future

