

PRESIDENT BUSH RECOGNIZES EXEMPLARY PRESERVATION PROJECTS

May 5, 2006 - On Monday, May 1st, in the White House Rose Garden, President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush recognized the Preserve America Presidential Awardees. The awardees represent projects that exemplify the Administration's preservation ideals. 2006 President Award winners included:

Mission San Luis in Tallahassee, Florida. The State of Florida and many private and public partners worked together to transform the National Historic Landmark, Mission San Luis archaeological site into a 60-acre archaeological park and window into the past. The site now serves as a primary source for year-round education about Spanish colonization, Apalachee Indians and the missions of the southeastern United States.

Maryland Heritage Areas Program: State of Maryland. The Maryland Heritage Areas Program (MHAP), a partnership of 10 Certified Heritage Areas representing 18 counties and 62 municipalities, provides a framework by which heritage tourism is integrated into economic development strategy.

Tauck World Discovery Yellowstone Guest Volunteer Program: Yellowstone National Park – Wyoming, Montana, Idaho. The Tauck World Discovery Program provides an opportunity for hands-on participation in the stewardship of the nation's old recognized National Park. Visitors may donate two hours of labor to a variety of park rehabilitation and preservation projects, and have contributed over 10,000 volunteer hours worth more than \$160,000.

“Explore the Highway with Hampton, Save-A-Landmark Program” United States. Hampton Hotels initiated a program identifying and assisting in the rehabilitation of iconic roadside attractions nationwide. The national hotel chain also encourages travel to special regional heritage sites. Over the course of five years, Hampton Inn invested \$2 million toward the preservation of 25 roadside landmarks and have a goal to preserve landmarks in each state by 2010.