

What Do These People Have in Common?



Joseph Smith
Prophet of the
Mormon Church



Alexander Doniphan
American Lawyer & Soldier



Jesse James
Outlaw



Opothleyahola
Muscogee Creek Indian Leader
Fought for the Union in the Civil War



John Brown
Abolitionist



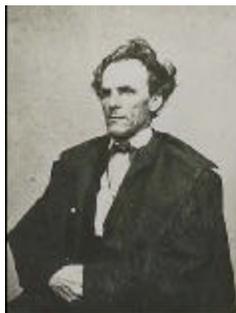
David Rice Atchison
MO Senator & US President
for One Day



Carrie Nation
Bar Room Smasher



Andrew H. Reeder
First Territorial Governor



James Lane
Principal Leader of
Anti-Slavery Forces



Clarina Nichols
Passionate Advocate
for Women's Rights



Buffalo Soldiers



William Clarke Quantrill
Leader of Guerilla Warfare



FREEDOM'S FRONTIER NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA COUNTIES

KANSAS: Allen · Anderson · Atchison · Bourbon · Chautauqua · Cherokee · Clay · Coffey · Crawford · Doniphan · Douglas · Franklin · Geary · Jackson · Jefferson · Johnson · Labette · Leavenworth · Linn · Miami · Montgomery · Neosho · Osage · Pottawatomie · Riley · Shawnee · Wabaunsee · Wilson · Woodson · Wyandotte

MISSOURI: Barton · Bates · Buchanan · Cass · Clay · Jackson · Johnson · Lafayette · Platte · Ray · St. Clair · Vernon



A Compelling Argument for a Compelling Story

On June 2, 1856, in a prairie slough named for a species of oak tree that thrived there, militias from Kansas and Missouri fought the first skirmish in what Abraham Lincoln would call our “great war to determine whether any nation conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal can long endure.” Led by anti-slavery zealot John Brown and future Confederate Colonel Henry Clay Pate, the Battle of Black Jack preceded the siege of Fort Sumter and the formal start of the War Between the States by five years. During those years, the events in our region -- which newspapers nationwide came to refer to as “Bleeding Kansas” -- focused the nation’s attention on the great struggle between state and federal authority over slavery and the humanity of a nation. To call our western Missouri and eastern Kansas homeland the birthplace of the Civil War is no exaggeration.

Our region is the epicenter of conflicts that still define American values, and its struggles to achieve them. The issues of slavery’s abolition, the forced immigration of Native American nations and the inspiring resilience of those nations in the face of oppression, the voluntary immigration of settlers along the Santa Fe and Oregon Trails, and the final resolution of racial segregation in our public schools a century later – all these belong to the story of the Freedom’s Frontier National Heritage Area. This story continues to evolve, to define and influence who we are today, in the region and as a nation.

Our landscape is dotted with places that capture the pivotal role this region played in the development of the nation. Together we will weave these individual stories into a cohesive experience explained through divergent yet integrated philosophical perspectives, connected by maps, virtual guideposts, and honest, accurate explanations designed to educate, enlighten, and bring to life the rich and diverse impact that made this region Freedom's Frontier.

Our Opportunity

Designation as a National Heritage Area brings with it an affiliation with the National Park Service (NPS). With leadership from Freedom’s Frontier National Heritage Area, our region can attract interest and visitors, yielding educational, cultural and economic benefits. Heritage area tourists spend more time, and are more often inclined to become repeat visitors, than are average visitors. This will be especially true as we approach the sesquicentennial of the Civil War in 2011 when national attention will be focused on the how the war came about.

Our Need

Freedom’s Frontier (FFNHA) National Heritage Area must fund an initial 2-year operating budget that includes work with a national consultant to create the FFNHA management program, as required by the National Park Service, which oversees all National Heritage Areas. This budget is \$700,000.

Phase 1 – \$400,000 to be received in commitments by December 31, 2007 which will fund the management consultant (as required by the NPS and Secretary of Interior) and an initial employee to coordinate work with the consultant.

Phase 2 – \$300,000 to be received in donations and commitments by October 1, 2008, which will fund ongoing work with the Grassroots Partners and implementation of the plan.

Thank you for your consideration of our need, and for your support and participation in telling the very special story of Freedom’s Frontier.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

THE NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA PROGRAM

Heritage development is a strategy where citizens, government agencies, non-profit groups and private partners collaboratively plan and implement programs and projects to recognize, preserve, commemorate and celebrate America's defining landscapes as a whole.

A National Heritage Area is a place designated by the U.S. 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. While National Heritage Areas are by no means a new form of National Parks, as Yellowstone celebrates and promotes the unique geologic attributes of Northwest Wyoming, so does Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area celebrate and promote the unique natural, cultural and historic attributes of Western Missouri and Eastern Kansas.

FREEDOM'S FRONTIER NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area (FFNHA) began with the signature of George W. Bush, President of the United States, on October 12, 2006 after seven years of local work and full support from the Kansas/Missouri Congressional delegation. National designation also brings affiliation with the National Park Service.

Our region, with its divisive history still powerfully remembered, still refers to the state boundary as a "border." Yet today our citizens are learning to integrate their differing points of view into a shared story. Citizens will pool resources, set common goals, and encourage dialog to transform that story into a plan of action. This method has produced much success in heritage areas across the nation.

HERITAGE DEVELOPMENT

As a process for regionalizing landscapes around a "big story" instead of political boundaries, heritage development has become a powerful tool for building economic development, tourism and sustainability.

This movement, which continues to grow in popularity, requires like-minded people to share ideas, success stories, lessons learned and spontaneous idea development. Informal dialogues among heritage enthusiasts led to creation of the Alliance of National Heritage Areas (ANHA), a membership organization comprised of national heritage areas and partners that support and practice sustainable heritage development. The ANHA's activities enhance the efforts of individual areas designated by Congress and promote the heritage development movement in America.

The Alliance advocates, facilitates and celebrates excellence in cooperative initiatives that enhance quality of life for citizens and their communities, attracts cultural heritage tourists to communities and provides distinguished examples of sustainable heritage development for the nation.

A 2005 study by ANHA focused on the impact of heritage tourism on local economies. The findings:

- Visitors to the entire NHA network generated \$8.5 billion in direct and indirect sales in 2005.
- These sales were enough to support more than 152,324 jobs, which paid nearly \$3.2 billion in wages and salaries.
- Total direct and indirect value-added to the community from the heritage tourism related activity in the form of personal income to workers, profits and rents to businesses, and indirect business taxes paid to government, is estimated to have reached \$5 billion in 2005.

CURRENT MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

The grassroots *Partnership Team*, consisting of willing partners from each of the 41 counties in the designated area, meets monthly at locations throughout the area. The Lawrence Convention & Visitors Bureau currently serves as the lead organization for this heritage area work and its Director acts as chair of the Partnership Team.

The FFNHA Board of Trustees has updated the Articles and By-laws and have brought the 501C(3) status up to date. This board will oversee hiring of staff, set policy and have fiduciary responsibility, as per the requirements of the National Park Service.

NEXT STEPS

A request for proposals has been sent out nationally to identify a team of consultants to guide us through a public process to develop a comprehensive plan that will provide a roadmap for this heritage area moving into the future. The goal is to begin that process in July of 2007 with completion by the end of 2008.

This plan is required to be approved by the Secretary of Interior before the area can begin the political process to access the \$10M called for in the enabling legislation. A study by ANHA determined that for each federal dollar a heritage area is successful in obtaining, eight more dollars are leveraged from public and private sources to fund projects within the area.

A staff will be hired to facilitate the development of the management plan, facilitate the current Partnership Team's efforts and continue to bring new partners to the table. Staff will assist individual sites in building new ways to link their stories and resources as well as facilitate the creation of partnership tools needed to better accomplish successful results. FFNHA staff will always be the voice of the region as a whole thereby assuring that the regional perspective is always communicated.

Timeline: Past, Present and Future

2001 – 2006	Grassroots work undertaken in 41 counties in both Missouri and Kansas that are covered by the FFNHA
	Promotion of Heritage Area concept to Congress
October, 2006	U.S. Congress passes legislation and sends to President, where it is promptly signed into law
	<u>Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area becomes reality</u>
November, 2006 – Spring, 2007	FFNHA organization refined and work begun with National Park Service to gain final approval to operate
2007 – 2008	Fund raising and ongoing work with Grassroots Partners in all 41 counties
Late 2008	Final approval by National Park Service, which opens doors for Grassroots Partners to be eligible for financial support from multiple sources that fund National Heritage Areas

7.07

DRAFT START- UP BUDGET EXPENSES

	Year 1	Year 2	2 year total
Salaries and Wages			
Director	50,000	51,500	
Administrative	25,000	25,750	
Benefits (28%)	<u>21,000</u>	<u>28,840</u>	
Subtotal	\$96,000	\$106,090	\$202,090
Contractual Services			
ANHA membership	2,500	6,000	
Management Plan Consultants	300,000	-	
Rent	10,000	10,300	
Print/design/graphics	10,000	10,300	
Miscellaneous	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,300</u>	
Subtotal	\$332,500	\$ 33,400	\$365,900
Commodities			
Travel	10,000	10,300	
Miscellaneous	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,150</u>	
Subtotal	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,450	\$ 30,450
Capital Outlay			
Computer/furniture	6,000	6,180	
Miscellaneous	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,150</u>	
Subtotal	\$ 11,000	\$ 11,330	\$ 22,330
Contingency* (+/-8%)	<u>\$ 32,000</u>	<u>\$ 20,000</u>	<u>\$ 60,000</u>
TOTAL	\$486,500	\$186,270	\$672,770

*The contingency line item anticipates additional expenditures in one or more categories. For example, we estimate the consulting contract will be \$300,000 by recognize that proposals may exceed that when the contract is finalized in late 2007.

President Bush Signs S. 203, the "National Heritage Areas Act of 2006"

Today, I have signed into law S. 203, the "National Heritage Areas Act of 2006." The Act establishes national heritage areas and reduces the royalty rate on certain minerals.

A number of provisions of the Act purport to give to management entities or local coordinating entities -- composed of individuals who are not officers of the United States appointed in accordance with the Appointments Clause of the Constitution -- significant governmental authority, such as authority to make grants from Federal appropriated funds to implement management plans for heritage areas. As is consistent with the Appointments Clause and with requirements in the Act concerning approval by the Secretary of the Interior of the management plans, the executive branch shall construe the provisions to require exercise by the Secretary of the Interior of the significant governmental authority given by the provisions, specifically including the exercise by the Secretary of final authority over any disbursement of Federal appropriated funds by a management entity or local coordinating entity.

GEORGE W. BUSH

THE WHITE HOUSE,

October 12, 2006.

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Suspend the Rules And Pass the Bill, H.R. 413, with Amendments
(The amendments strike all after the enacting clause and insert a new text and a new title)

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 413

To establish the Bleeding Kansas and the Enduring Struggle for Freedom National Heritage Area, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 26, 2005

Mr. RYUN of Kansas (for himself, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, and Mr. MOORE of Kansas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To establish the Bleeding Kansas and the Enduring Struggle for Freedom National Heritage Area, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Freedom’s Frontier
5 National Heritage Area Act”.



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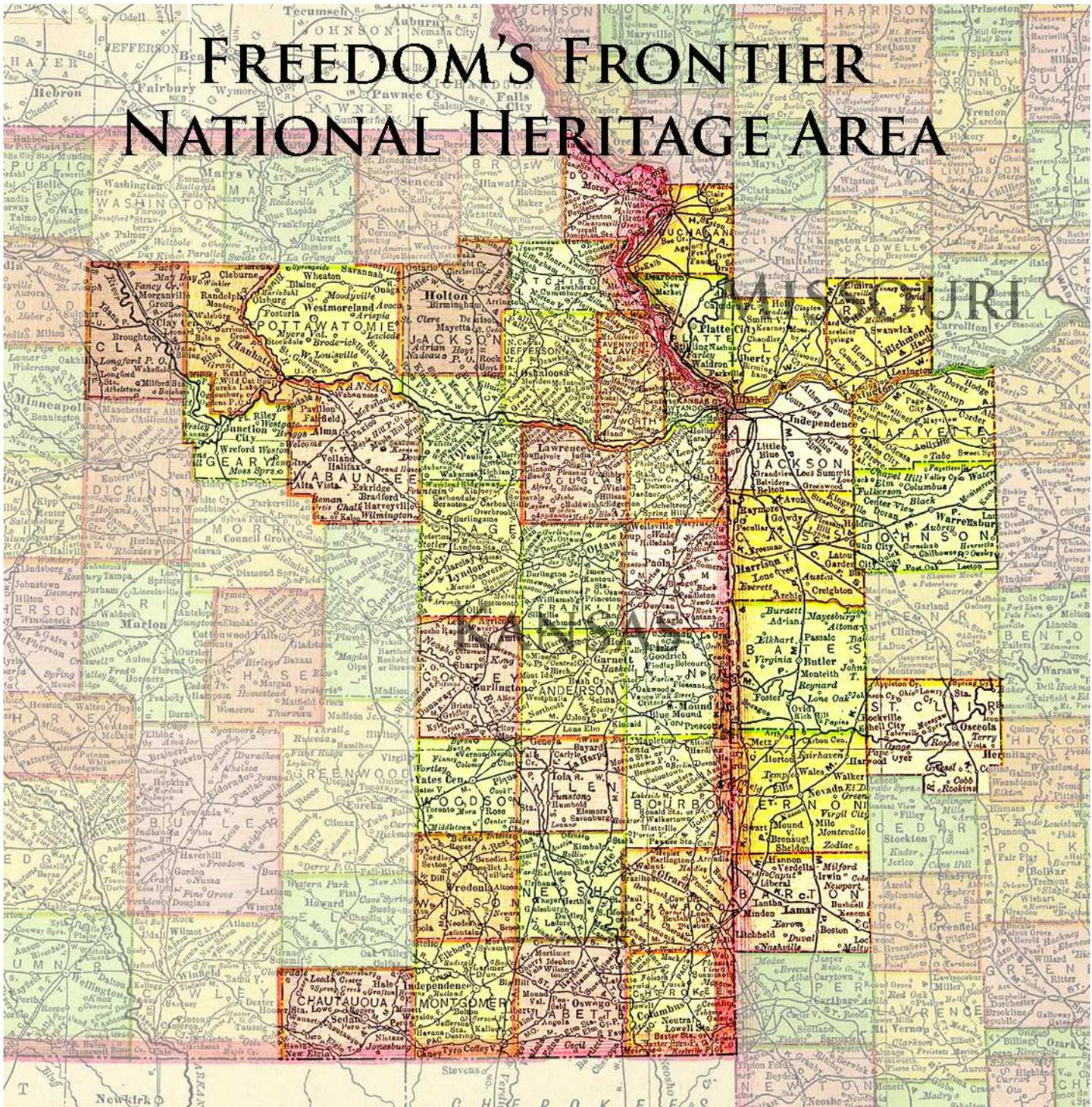
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FREEDOM'S FRONTIER NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA



Congress approves national heritage area in Kansas, Missouri

SAM HANANEL

Associated Press

WASHINGTON - A wide swath of eastern Kansas and western Missouri will become a national heritage area that highlights the region's Civil War history, under legislation approved in Congress on Friday.

The Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area includes 29 counties in Kansas and 12 in Missouri, where the heated dispute over slavery played out in the months leading up to the Civil War.

The measure, approved by voice vote in the Senate and sent to the president for his signature, means money and other resources from the National Park Service will help the area preserve its history and attract a new generation of tourists to the region.

"It's been a huge grassroots efforts over these last four years," said Judy Billings, director of the Lawrence, Kan., Convention and Visitors Bureau. "We are now at the goal line pulling more people into the effort."

The area was a hotbed of violence and political strife - known as Bleeding Kansas - following the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854, which allowed a popular vote to determine if Kansas would be added to the country as a free or slave state. Three months after Kansas was admitted as a free state, the Civil War began in 1861.

"Though far from the main campaigns, Bleeding Kansas became a prominent symbol in the fight for the freedom of all people, and the territory would become a battleground over the question of slavery," said Sen. Pat Roberts, R-Kan., who sponsored the bill together with Sen. Sam Brownback, R-Kan.

Heritage areas can qualify for up to \$10 million over 15 years in federal funds, though funds won't begin flowing until a management plan is completed and approved by the Secretary of Interior.

Once that happens, planners will budget money to improve and enhance exhibits at museums and historic sites, Billings said. New projects, like developing the riverfront in Lawrence or building a bike trail connecting historic sites, may also be considered, she said.

Though the bill originally applied only to Kansas, a dozen Missouri counties were later added to expand the scope of the project.

"This legislation will not only preserve and showcase the pivotal history of our state and the subsequent contribution Kansas made to the nation, but it will also serve as a tool to promote economic development through travel and tourism for our state," Brownback said.

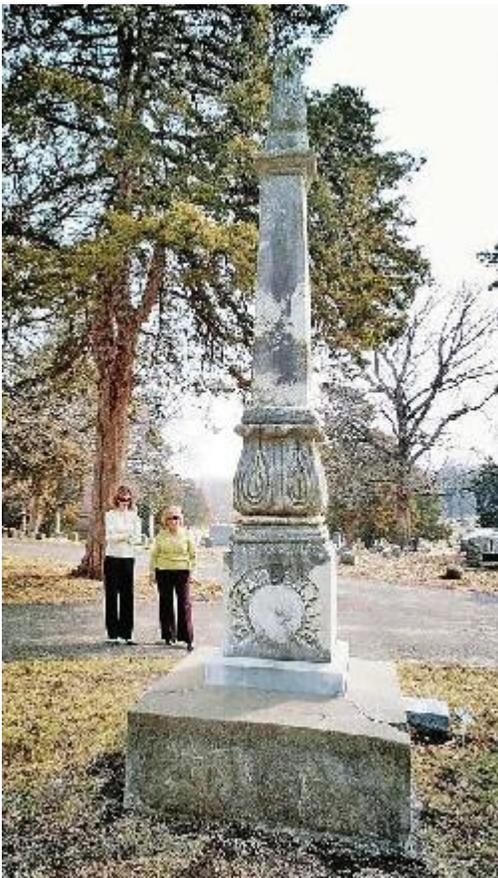
The region joins at least 24 other national heritage areas around the country where federal, state and local officials work to conserve historic landscapes and cultures.

A museum without any walls

A newly designated National Heritage Area will highlight Civil War history in Kansas and Missouri and let visitors download stories to take a self-guided tour.

BY BECCY TANNER

The Wichita Eagle



Photos by Mike Hutmacher/The Wichita Eagle
Susan Henderson, left, and Judy Billings look at the Lawrence grave marker of James Lane, a Kansas senator who helped set up the Underground Railroad leading slaves to freedom.

- [View photos of sites in the proposed area](#)

Twenty-nine Kansas counties are in line to receive up to \$10 million in federal money to help people relive history with an iPod.

It's all about freedom.

From its inception, Kansas was about struggles for freedom and survival -- those of American Indians, black Americans, women and states.

To recognize that, Congress has designated 29 counties in eastern Kansas and 12 in Missouri a National Heritage Area, creating the second largest historic area in the nation.

Planning is under way for the area, which will be overseen by the National Park Service and is eligible for up to \$10 million in federal funding to preserve existing historic sites and trails and to promote the area.

The Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area's organizers, a grassroots group that pushed for the designation, are planning a new type of museum.

Rather than constructing a multimillion-dollar museum building -- the kind that is attracting fewer visitors these days -- organizers are planning to allow visitors to download stories on their iPods and computers for self-guided tours of Kansas. Planning is expected to take three years.

A matter of state pride

Visitors will be able to hear the story of James Lane, a Kansas senator who helped set up the Underground Railroad leading slaves to freedom, and learn about the Battle of Black Jack, which many historians believe was the first battle of the Civil War.

Currently, visitors to the area may see small markers or road signs at the various sites, but there is nothing that ties together the stories of freedoms won and lost.

Eileen Robertson, 78, a former teacher living in Humboldt, hopes it will help Kansans be prouder of where they live.

"We are educating our own people," she said. "At this point, it is very difficult for them to see themselves as anything but people living in 2007. It's like a fairy tale to them -- they haven't grasped all that took place here."

She likens the heritage area to a giant jigsaw puzzle, where each county is responsible for contributing one of the pieces.

"Each county has its own stories," she says.

Allen County, for instance, can contribute along with the Osage Indians a story of the Osage Indian Mission.

"Humboldt was established as a free-state town during the time when free-staters were unpopular," Robertson said. "The entire nation was pro-slave -- the president, the Supreme Court, the Senate."

Stories to tell

Although there are more than three dozen National Heritage Areas, the Kansas-Missouri area is the second largest.

Others include the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area in North Carolina, the Ohio and Erie National Heritage Canal Way in Ohio, and the Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area in Utah.

The Kansas and Missouri area will tell stories of the Mexican Wars, the Mormon Wars, Bleeding Kansas, the Civil War -- and the triggers for what came after the wars.

When Kansas became a territory in 1854, popular sovereignty gave settlers a chance to determine how they would enter the union.

Missouri was a slave state. Most people assumed Kansas would be, as well. After seven years of bloodshed, Kansas emerged as a free state.

"The border war between Kansas and Missouri was real," said John Dillingham of Kansas City, whose great-grandfather helped settle Missouri. "It has taken 150 years for Missouri and Kansas to be civil with each other.

"You've got sites on the border wars that are real, places that were looted and burned."

'Bleeding Kansas'

The scene at the Battle of Black Jack near Baldwin City is now pastoral.

On this ground in Douglas County, historians now believe the first true battle of the Civil War was fought -- five years before the cannon fire at Fort Sumter, helping earn Kansas its nickname during its territorial years: "Bleeding Kansas."

Black Jack was fought on June 2, 1856, involving pro-slavery forces and fiery abolitionist John Brown and his sons. After a three-hour battle, Brown's anti-slavery troops forced the surrender of the pro-slavery group.

The grounds were threatened a few years ago by housing developments, but the National Heritage Area helped save the site -- in its pristine condition.

People like Dillingham are hoping the preserved site can now be used in telling the stories of freedoms won and lost.

"Kansas would not be what it is today without Missouri," Dillingham said. "The Bushwhacker influence is still felt, Jayhawks are still fighting back. This is frontier land. We have our own history right here. That's our heritage."

EXERPTS FROM
“Charting a Future for National Heritage Areas”
A report by the National Park System Advisory Board
2006

National Heritage Areas are places where natural, cultural, historic, and scenic resources combine to form a cohesive, nationally important landscape arising from patterns of human activity shaped by geography. These patterns make National Heritage Areas representative of the national experience through the physical features that remain and the traditions that have evolved in them. These regions are acknowledged by Congress for their capacity to tell nationally important stories about our nation.

National Heritage Areas (NHA) add a new dimension to the National Park Service (NPS), providing an opportunity to conserve nationally important living landscapes and cultures.

1. **Tell Authentic American Stories** – NHAs are a powerful way for the diverse people of this nation to tell their stories with integrity and authenticity.
2. **Weave Together Nature and Culture** – NHAs knit together the whole landscape and provide an integrated approach to conserving the natural, cultural, historic and scenic resources that define sense of place and shared heritage values, and encourage compatible economic growth.
3. **Work Beyond Park Boundaries** –NHAs offer the National Park Service and national parks a new strategy to meet their stewardship mission by engaging the public outside of park boundaries while recognizing the people who live there.
4. **Conserve Landscapes and Traditions** –NHAs reflect the evolution of our nation’s thinking about how to best conserve revered and valued landscapes and cultures and make them available for the enjoyment of future generations.
5. **Engage Youth in Our Future** - NHAs provide people of all ages with outstanding opportunities for place-based education and a forum for public engagement.
6. **Build New Constituencies** – NHAs assist the National Park Service in building new constituencies and staying relevant by looking not just to the past or present, but also to the future.
7. **Benefit from National Park Service Expertise** – NPS is one of many heritage area partners; however, the NPS has an important role as an expert, convener, and catalyst, providing credibility, planning, and interpretation expertise to emerging and designated heritage areas.
8. **Demonstrate Community Partnerships** – The Alliance of National Heritage Areas (ANHA) plays a major role in promoting heritage-based partnerships and can assist the NPS in extending the heritage area approach as a component of the National Park System.

Published Friday, March 18, 2005

Civil War in Kansas - Remember us

Creating a Civil War heritage area would remind people of Kansas' role in history

By The Capital-Journal editorial board

The argument can be made that the Civil War actually started in Kansas. A lot of people don't know that.

And that's why a proposal by U.S. Sens. Sam Brownback and Pat Roberts to create a heritage area in eastern Kansas is important. People should know that the Civil War wasn't limited to famous battle sites such as Gettysburg in Pennsylvania, Shiloh in Tennessee and Antietam in Maryland.

It all started here with the creation of the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854. As pro-slavery and anti-slavery forces flooded into the state, violence was occurring long before Confederate forces fired on Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861, generally regarded as the start of the Civil War.

Kansas' two senators have sponsored legislation to designate 23 counties of eastern Kansas as the Bleeding Kansas and Enduring Struggle for Freedom National Heritage Area.

The designation would authorize the National Park Service to create historic markers, signs, brochures and museums at significant historic locations. It also could mean \$1 million a year in federal funds for up to 10 years.

Park Service officials are urging a go-slow approach to the idea to give them time to develop guidelines for deciding what areas are nationally significant. That's OK. They make a good point that creating too many heritage areas takes away from the significance of all heritage areas.

But Brownback and Roberts should be encouraged to keep Kansas on the minds of the people who will make those decisions. We'll put our history up against any other state's for significance. We just don't want to be forgotten.

National Heritage Areas by National Park Service Region.
 (New Areas as of 2006 indicated in Bold)
 As of October 17, 2006



Northeast Region:

- Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership (NY and VT)**
- Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area (NJ)**
- Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor (PA)**
- Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor (NY)**
- Essex National Heritage Area (MA)**
- Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area (NY)**
- John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor (MA/RI)**
- Lackawanna Heritage Valley (PA)**
- National Coal Heritage Area (WV)**
- Oil Region National Heritage Area (PA)**
- Path of Progress National Heritage Tour Route (PA)**
- Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor (CT/MA)**
- Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area (PA)**
- Schuylkill River Valley National Heritage Area (PA)**
- Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District (VA)**
- Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area (MA and CT)**
- Wheeling National Heritage Area (WV)**

National Heritage Areas by National Park Service Region
(New Areas as of 2006 indicated in **Bold**)
As of October 17, 2006



Southeast Region:

Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area (GA)
Atchafalaya National Heritage Area (LA)
Augusta Canal National Heritage Area (GA)
Blue Ridge National Heritage Area (NC)
Cane River National Heritage Area (LA)
Gullah/Geechee Heritage Corridor (NC, SC, GA, and FL)
Mississippi Gulf National Heritage Area (MS)
South Carolina National Heritage Corridor (SC)
Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area (TN)

Midwest Region:

Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area (KS and MO)
Illinois and Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor (IL)
Motor-Cities National Heritage Area (MI)
National Aviation Heritage Area (OH)
Ohio and Erie National Heritage CanalWay (OH)
Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area (IA)

Intermountain Region:

Cache La Poudre River Corridor (CO)
Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area (UT)
Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area (NM)
Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area (AZ)

Pacific West Region:

Great Basin National Heritage Route (UT and NV)