



# CULTURAL HERITAGE IN THE FOREST



Cultural Heritage in the Forest is a program developed by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) and the United States Department of Agriculture's Forest Service Heritage Program. Cultural Heritage in the Forest promotes the work of the Heritage Program, which protects and shares significant cultural resources on public lands, ensuring that future generations will understand the human stories present on the landscapes of our national forests and grasslands. The program also promotes the benefit of historic preservation and the work of the ACHP and the joint efforts of the two agencies to protect, restore, and interpret hundreds of thousands of historic sites.

The program works with local communities, stakeholders, professionals, and tribes to educate and inform students studying history, Black history, archaeology, and related majors from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) about the responsibilities and commitment cultural resources management professionals have to manage areas of traditional importance and to interpret and understand the histories and cultures that have existed for thousands of years.



## Program Goals:

- Bring African American young professionals into cultural resource management, historic preservation, conservation, and related careers
- Bring future generations of students into careers in the Forest Service's Heritage Program, address workplace shortages, and bring more diversity into these traditionally nondiverse fields
- Bring attention to the need for trained cultural resources management professionals within the Forest Service, as well as the need for individuals with training in historic preservation



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## Program Goals Continued:

- Raise awareness of the rich cultural legacy of the historic buildings on HBCU campuses
- Create new ways of improving the relationship between the federal government and HBCUs

Cultural Heritage in the Forest opens doors for HBCU students into new career paths. The program offers interaction with professionals who will serve as mentors and create numerous networking opportunities for the students.

**Students will be able to do the following:**



- Experience how a career in historic preservation plays a critical role in supporting the stewardship of public lands
- Learn how the Forest Service collaborates with partners and tribes to meet its mission and stewardship responsibilities
- Work to preserve and restore a historic site on public lands
- Participate in archaeological surveys, uncovering the history beneath the forest ground
- Network with conservation and preservation professionals, elected officials, tribal leaders, and federal leaders
- Participate in authentic experiences at historic sites and gain exposure to original source documents and artifacts, including those related to African American and Native American histories
- Integrate knowledge of and appreciation for the past into the present and future
- Be encouraged to connect to and reflect on the legacies of historic resources and those cultures who have lived on Forest Service lands for thousands of years

**Learn more about this program by visiting [www.achp.gov/CHIF](http://www.achp.gov/CHIF)**