

## *The National Register of Historic Places*

For section 2A participants must learn about the National Register of Historic Places and find out if there are any properties in their area.

- ◆ To learn about the National Historic register, visit: <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/>
- ◆ To find out about National Register places in your area, visit: <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/research/nris.htm>

Included in the Register of National Historic places are over 2,400 National Historic Landmarks. In 1986, USS COBIA was designated as a National Historic Landmark.

National Historic Landmarks are places that all Americans can relate to and understand. They create a common bond between Americans. The following are excerpts from the National Historic Landmark online brochure.

### **What does National Historic Landmark Designation Mean?**

- ◆ National Historic Landmark designation recognizes properties that are important to the entire nation.
- ◆ National Historic Landmarks are listed in the National Register of Historic Places.
- ◆ A bronze plaque bearing the name of the National Historic Landmark and attesting to its national significance is presented to the owner upon request.

### **What are Endangered Landmarks?**

Some 16% of designated Landmarks are at risk for destruction or loss, due to the following reasons:

- ◆ Owners cannot afford the upkeep of their Landmarks or chose not to.
- ◆ Deterioration
- ◆ Demolition
- ◆ Natural disasters
- ◆ Commercial and residential development pressure
- ◆ Inappropriate alterations
- ◆ Vandalism

### **What can you do to help?**

You help preserve National Historic Landmarks when you:

- ◆ Visit National Historic Landmarks open to the public that are located across the nation and discover the stories of these places.
- ◆ Become familiar with historic preservation issues and techniques.
- ◆ Join your local, statewide, and national historic preservation organizations, and become involved in the founding of a National Historic Landmarks "friends" group.
- ◆ Volunteer at National Historic Landmarks.

To learn more about National Historic Landmarks view the online brochure at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nhl/publications/bro1.htm>

For a list of National Historic Landmarks visit: <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nhl/designations/listsofNHLs.htm>

Have you heard of these other famous National Historic Landmarks?

- ◆ The White House
- ◆ Library of Congress
- ◆ Wisconsin State Capitol
- ◆ Gateway Arch (St. Louis, MO)
- ◆ Valley Forge
- ◆ Abraham Lincoln's Tomb and Home
- ◆ Shedd Aquarium (Chicago, IL)
- ◆ United States Naval Base & USS ARIZONA (Pearl Harbor, HI)
- ◆ Pentagon
- ◆ Paul Revere's House
- ◆ Wounded Knee Battlefield (SD)
- ◆ Oregon Trail Ruts
- ◆ Alamo (San Antonio, TX)
- ◆ Brooklyn Bridge
- ◆ Central Park (Manhattan, NY)
- ◆ Fort Ticonderoga

### Discussion Questions

1. What did you learn about the National Register of Historic places while visiting their website?
2. What type of properties are listed on the Register?
3. How old should a property be before it can become eligible for listing on the Register?
4. Is there a property in or near your hometown that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places? If yes, what is its significance? If no, can you think of a property in or near your hometown that should be listed on the Register?
5. Why do think USS COBIA has been designated a National Historic Landmark?