

The Basics of National Heritage Areas



What is a heritage area?



Historic Preservation



Conservation

National Park Service | National Heritage Areas

Recreation





Education and Interpretation

Tourism and Economic Development



How do heritage areas tie these elements together?



- **Jumping boundaries**
- **Building Partnerships**
- **Planning around *shared heritage***

Heritage Areas are a Strategy

National Heritage Areas **Facts**

- **24 National Heritage Areas**
- **Designated between 1984-2003**
- **Primarily in the East**

National Heritage Areas

Statistics

- **18 States**
- **159,000 square miles**
- **113 Congressional Districts**
- **46 million people**
- **20% of all National Historic Landmarks**

A blue-tinted photograph of a wooden fence in a misty field. The fence is made of vertical posts and horizontal rails, stretching across the middle ground. The background is filled with mist and silhouettes of trees. The foreground shows dark, leafy branches hanging down from the top. The overall mood is serene and historical.

National Interest

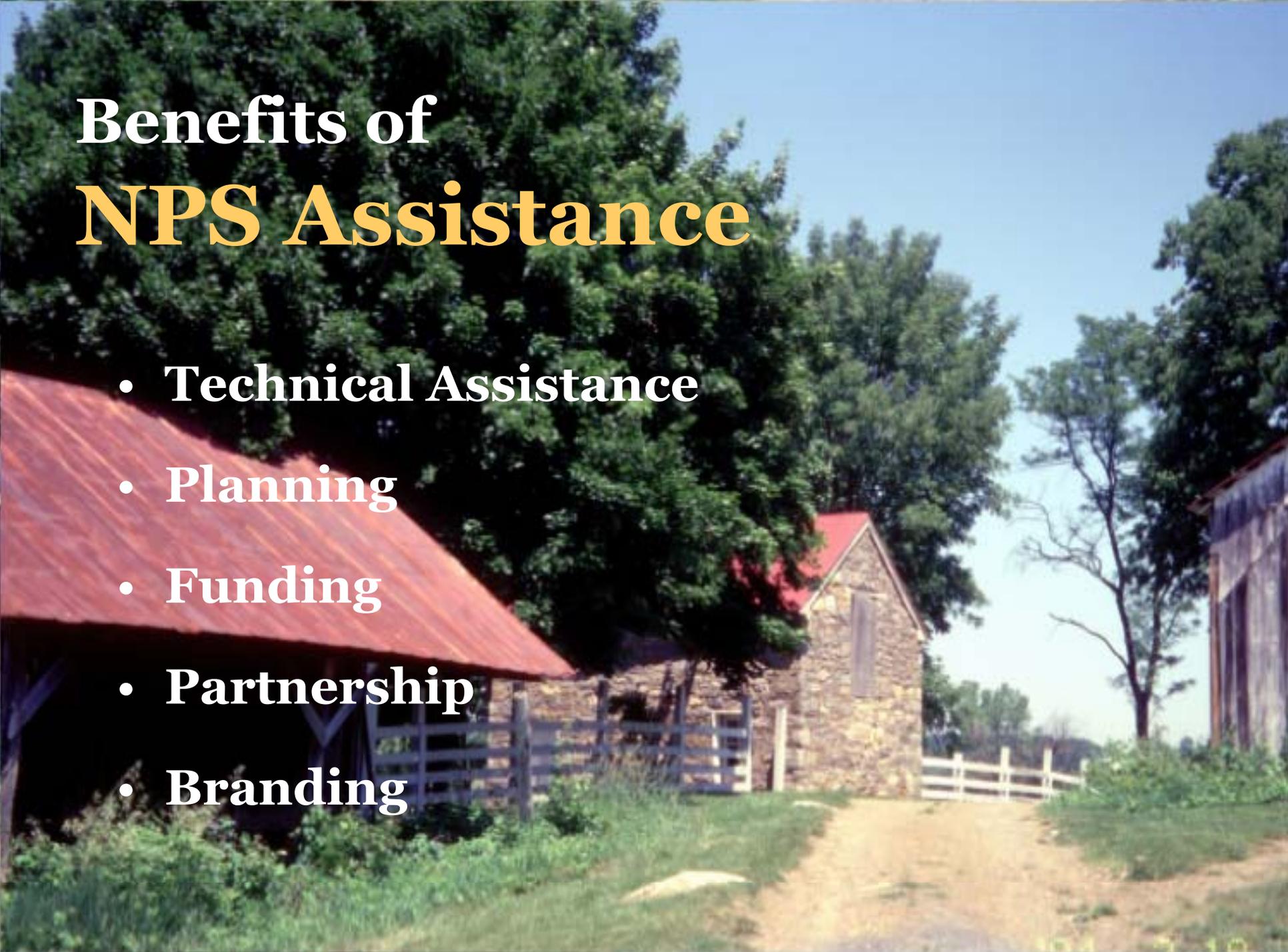
4 Critical Steps

- **Completion of suitability/ feasibility study**
- **Public involvement in planning**
- **Demonstration of widespread community involvement**
- **Commitment from key constituents**

- **Feasibility Studies**
- **National Importance**
- **Management Planning**
- **Continued partnership**



The Role of the National Park Service

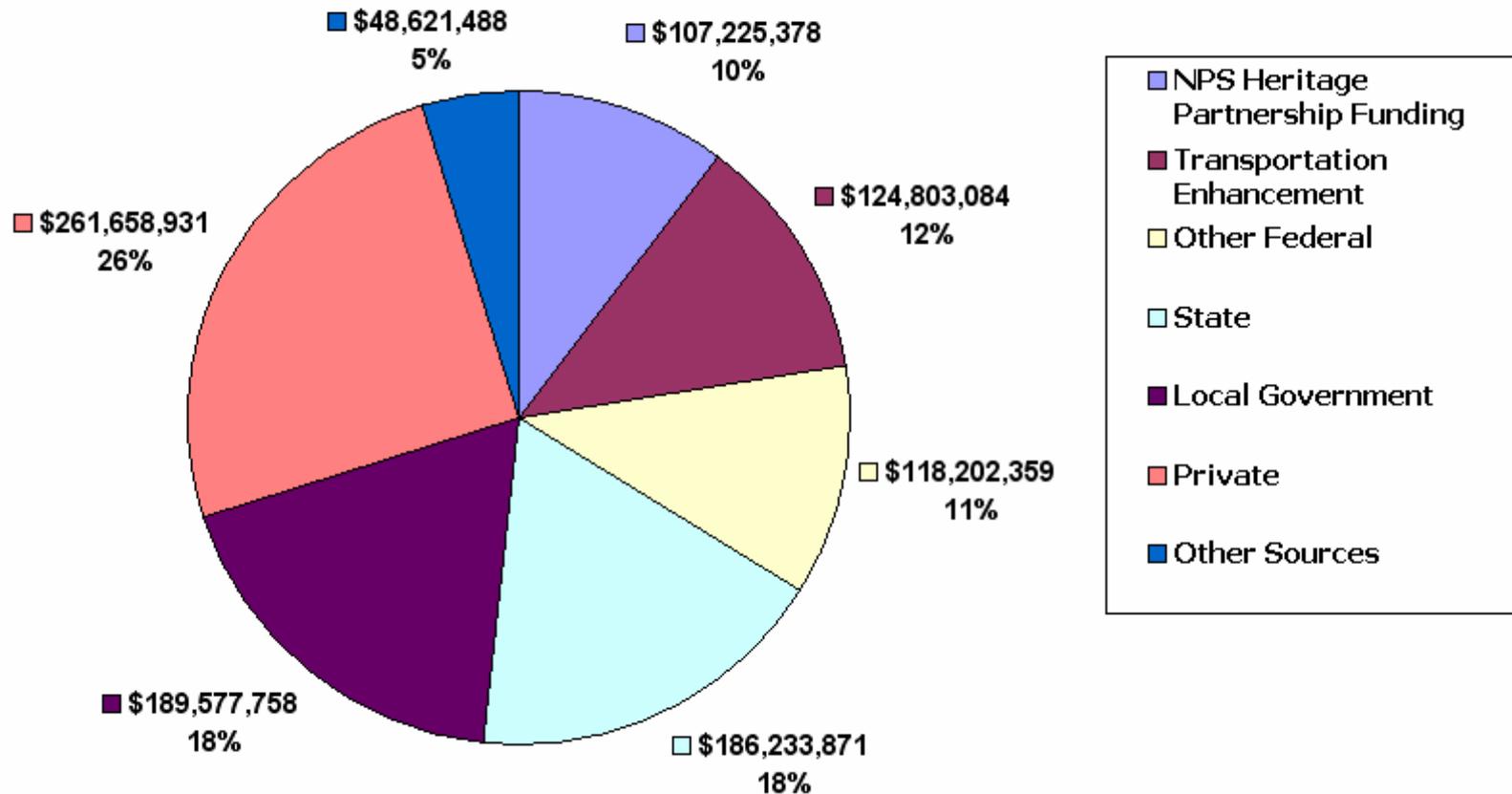


Benefits of **NPS Assistance**

- **Technical Assistance**
- **Planning**
- **Funding**
- **Partnership**
- **Branding**

Economic leveraging impact

Total National Heritage Areas Leveraging
(Since NPS funding began)



Growth of the Heritage Areas Movement

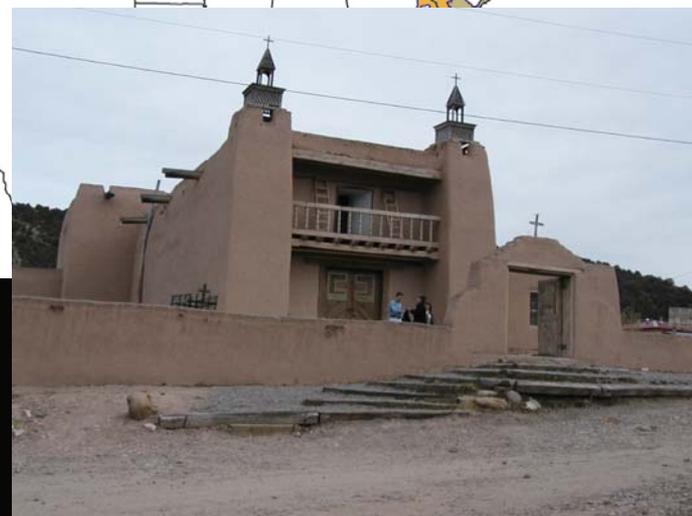


- **Study bills for 6 areas; designation bills for 16 areas**
- **State Programs multiplying: PA, LA, NY, UT, MD**
- **Over 200 “AD HOC” Areas**

Trends

as the Movement Continues

- **Moving West**
- **Better Planning**
- **More Diverse**
- **Partnering with NPS Units**





Questions?

202.354.2222

www.cr.nps.gov/heritageareas/

550