



On January 15, 2004, First Lady Laura Bush presented a Preserve America Community Award to Hudson River Valley Institute's Executive Director James M. Johnson and Hudson River Navigator Vincent Tamagna in a ceremony in the East Room of the White House. The award designated Putnam County, New York, as one of the first eight Preserve American Communities in the United States honored for their commitment to protecting their heritage. The First Lady announced that \$10 million in grants will assist communities to preserve their cultural and natural resources. At the same time, the Hudson River Valley Greenway nominated the Hudson River Valley Institute for one of the two Preserve America Presidential Awards that will be announced during National Historic Preservation Week, May 3<sup>rd</sup> through the 9<sup>th</sup> for its activities to advance heritage tourism by promoting the 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the American Revolution. For details of the Preserve America program, see <http://www.preserveamerica.gov>.

