



In 2009, we celebrated the tenth anniversary of the National Historic Landmark Photo Contest. The past decade has brought us over 1,000 incredible images from almost every state in the union. These images were submitted by people from all walks of life who care for and cherish these special places that represent our American story. Many images were submitted by owners or caretakers. Many others were submitted by visitors, both from the United States and abroad. We originally titled the contest, “Imaging Our National Heritage” to encourage people to use their cameras to capture the meaning of their National Historic Landmark in a photo. We hope these images inspire you to visit our nation’s National Historic Landmarks, seek out the stories that have formed our American history, and create your own image.

On this, our 10th anniversary, we welcomed almost 200 outstanding images, many picturing landmarks that have not previously been part of the contest. National Park Service employees nationwide voted to select the winning images contained in this announcement. All of the winning images will be featured in our annual planner, available in January. This year’s planner cover (above) features a sampling of the winning images from our ten year history while the pages within highlight the winning images from the 2009 Photo Contest. View the list of winning images below and enjoy a journey through the history and diversity of our great nation.

For more information on the Tenth Annual National Historic Landmarks Photo Contest, please visit: www.nps.gov/nero/nhlphoto The winning images will be posted to the website in early 2010.

The Tenth Annual NHL Photo Contest



First Place Winner

Belle of Louisville (Steamboat)

Louisville, Kentucky

Photographer

Philip Groshong

Belle of Louisville, launched in 1914 as *Idlewild* from Pittsburgh, is one of only two sternwheel river passenger boats operating under steam and is the sole remaining Western Rivers day packet boat. When she was built, the boat served primarily as a ferry. In later years, she served as a day packet carrying freight and passengers, an excursion boat carrying tourists, and a towboat during the Second World War. Today, the *Belle of Louisville* serves as an excursion steamboat on the Ohio River in downtown Louisville, Kentucky. With its canopied pilothouse, jaunty stacks, and sternwheel, the *Belle of Louisville* epitomizes the majestic riverboat era on America's western waters.

www.belleoflouisville.org

Second Place Winner



Gateway Arch

St Louis, Missouri

Photographer

Marla Jordon

Reaching 630 feet in height, the Gateway Arch is the tallest monument in the United States. Modernist architect Eero Saarinen based his complicated 1947 design on an inverted catenary, the shape that a chain takes when held by the two ends. When the monument was later constructed between 1963 and 1968, the unique structural system had never been attempted on such a large scale. Towering over downtown Saint Louis and the Mississippi River, the shining stainless steel arch symbolizes the gateway to the

West. The Gateway Arch is now open to the public as part of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial administered by the National Park Service. www.nps.gov/jeff/index.htm

Third Place Winner



Taos Pueblo

Taos, New Mexico

Photographer

Ron Blakeley

The five-story, tiered communal adobe buildings of the Tigua Indians of the American Southwest awed Spanish explorers with Coronado's expedition who first visited Taos Pueblo in 1540. One of the most traditional of the Eastern Pueblos, Taos has since borrowed from Anglo- and Spanish-American cultures over centuries of contact, while retaining its cultural integrity and identity as a community. Because of their iconic beauty, traditional construction, and vernacular design, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) recognized this community as a World Heritage Site in 1982.

www.taospueblo.com

The Tenth Annual NHL Photo Contest

Honorable Mentions



Holy Assumption Russian Orthodox Church

Kenai, Alaska

Photographer

Dirk Spennemann

Holy Assumption Russian Orthodox Church, dating from the 1890s, is the most enduring representative of Russian culture in south central Alaska. The site consists of the church, rectory, cemetery, and chapel (1906), located on the Russian Mission Reserve in the City of Kenai. The church is a classic example of Russian ship design, and it is fronted by a square

tower base supporting an octagonal cupola and onion dome. Behind the tower, the square nave and polygonal sanctuary also have onion domes. Inside, a richly appointed iconostas contains several rare examples of Russian iconography that predate the church. www.rossialaska.org/holy_assumption.html



Johnson's Island Civil War Prison

Danbury, Ohio

Photographer

David R. Bush

Johnson's Island, the site of a prisoners of war camp during much of the Civil War, is located in Sandusky Bay, an arm of Lake Erie. The wooded island was close to Sandusky, where provisions could be obtained yet small enough to be easily managed. The prison was designed to house 1,000 prisoners, but at times more than 3,000 Confederates, most of them officers, were confined to the island. Although plots and conspiracies by Confederate agents operating from Canadian sanctuaries with Northern Copperheads to foment mass escapes came to naught, they compelled the Lincoln Administration to divert needed resources of men and material from more important theaters of the war. The prison cemetery and memorial statue installed in 1910, "Southern" by Moses Ezekiel, serve as poignant reminders of Johnson's Island's role in the turbulent Civil War. www.johnsonsisland.com



Oak Alley Plantation

Vacherie, Louisiana

Photographer

Marla Jordon

Originally named "Bon Sejour," this plantation was constructed between 1837 and 1839 on the Mississippi River between New Orleans and Baton Rouge. It is a fine example of the few remaining full peripheral plantation houses, with a colonnade of twenty-eight Doric columns. A double row of giant live oak trees

forms the 800-foot-long "oak alley" that was an important component of the processional landscape leading to the main house. The house is now open to the public and captures the iconic image of the grand southern plantation.

www.oakalleyplantation.com

The Tenth Annual NHL Photo Contest



Quarai

Torrance County, New Mexico

Photographer

Gary Koutsoubis

The pueblo, church, and monastery ruins that remain at this abandoned site represent the early contact in the American Southwest between native Pueblo Indian groups and Spanish colonials. Spanish missionary work began at Quarai pueblo around 1620. Mission La Purisima Concepcion de Cuarac was built in 1629 and abandoned in 1674. At some point during

its operations, the site served as the ecclesiastical headquarters of the Inquisition in New Mexico. By 1678, due to Apache raiding and severe famines, Quarai was abandoned. The ruins are now part of the Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument administered by the National Park Service. www.nps.gov/SAPU/



Pine Mountain Settlement School

Bledsoe, Kentucky

Photographer

Wendy Wheatcraft

The Pine Mountain Settlement School, launched in 1913, was one of the most important efforts to adapt the urban settlement house model to a rural community. Katherine Pettit and Ethel de Long, the founders of this school, were moved by the limitations of the one-room schools, the primitive dwellings, and the harsh lives of women living in the region. The school offered instruction in traditional subjects and practical arts such as furniture making, home nursing, weaving, and stockraising. In addition, the preservation of ballads, folk songs, and dances instilled a knowledge and appreciation of mountain heritage to attendees. The small, traditional log structure known as Creech Cabin stands as a testament to the local resident who donated the land for this important educational initiative.

www.pinemountainsettlementschool.com



St. Luke's Church

Smithfield, Virginia

Photographer

Keith Lanpher

This brick building is one of the nation's premier architectural links to its medieval British heritage. Founded in 1632, but likely dating from the last quarter of the 17th century, the church has a prominent tower, lancet-arched windows, wall buttresses, and a traceried east window shown here — all hallmarks of English Gothic architecture. Surrounding the church is a

cemetery dotted with stone grave markers, reminiscent of small, medieval parish churchyards. The church no longer serves an active parish, but remains open as a historic and religious shrine. www.historicstlukes.org

The Tenth Annual NHL Photo Contest



Alamo

San Antonio, Texas

Photographer

Steven W. Martin

On February 24, 1836, during the Texan War for Independence, approximately 5,000 Mexican soldiers under the command of Antonio Lopez de Santa Ana besieged less than 200 Texans and their supporters in this mission church. Thirteen days later, the Mexicans stormed the Alamo from all sides and killed all 187 defenders, including famed frontiersmen James Bowie and David Crockett. This defeat won sympathy for the Texan cause in the United States and strengthened Texan will to throw off Mexican domination. The Alamo is now open to the public as a monument to the Texas patriots who died within its walls. www.thealamo.org



Historic Augusta Canal and Industrial District

Augusta, Georgia

Photographer

Reginald (Reggie) Fraser

This intact canal system and mills, constructed in 1845 to 1846 and enlarged in 1874 to 1877, represents the Southern industrial experience both before and after the Civil War. Attendant textile mills along the canal date primarily from the 1870s and 1880s. The mills helped Augusta become one of the South's leading textile centers in the early 20th century.

The headgate and lock depicted here mark the separation of the canal system from the Savannah River. The system of canals, towpaths, and mills in the district now compose part of the Augusta Canal National Heritage Area.

www.augustacanal.com



Adventuress (Schooner)

Seattle, Washington

Photographer

Elizabeth T. Becker

A schooner yacht and pilot boat, *Adventuress* is a significant example of the "fisherman profile" favored by Bowdoin B. Crowninshield, a noted early 20th-century American naval architect whose work was influential in the development of American yachts and fishing schooners. Built in 1913 for the purpose of private Arctic exploration and hunting, the San Francisco Bar Pilots acquired *Adventuress* the following year for use as a pilot boat. Until

1952, *Adventuress* guided maritime traffic across the treacherous San Francisco Bar into the busy port of San Francisco. Sound Experience, a nonprofit in the Washington Puget Sound area, now operates *Adventuress* as a sailing school vessel. www.soundexp.org

The Tenth Annual NHL Photo Contest



*Shakertown at Pleasant Hill Historic District
Trustees' Office, Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill*

Mercer County, Kentucky

Photographer

A. Sayre Hutchison

Shakertown at Pleasant Hill was founded in 1805, and by 1820 approximately 500 members of The United Society of Believers in Christ's Second Appearing were living and worshiping in this community. Micajah Burnett was in charge of building operations, and most of his work typifies

the straightforward, no-nonsense Shaker aesthetic. The spiral staircase of the Trustees' Office exemplifies the simplistic beauty of the Shaker style. Shakertown, one of the most successful 19th-century religious communitarian settlements, dissolved in 1910. www.shakervillageky.org