

Scenario B: Revolutionary Legacies

One way to think of the American Revolution is that it has continued, evolving over the past 235 years. Issues at the time of our nation's founding are similar to those we face today, and principles of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness remain relevant. This scenario plays out the idea of working at the community level to explore this legacy and its presence today. Communities will explore differences and similarities between their current historic and cultural identities and their roots, and their relationships to themes of the American Revolution. Following Crossroads guidelines, communities will set and pursue priorities in education, preservation, and community development.

VISITOR EXPERIENCE: Interpretation B: Interpretation will focus on the Revolution's **ideas and ideals** over events, and emphasize community conversations and interpretation of historical and modern **experiences rather than the physical heritage** of the Revolution that has survived unevenly across the heritage area. The National Heritage Area will encourage **programs that engage residents**, especially the young, and which support community-building. **Historic sites will use local stories** to illustrate the economic, ethnic, religious, social, political issues experienced by Americans then and now

VISITOR EXPERIENCE: Heritage Tourism, Linkages & Wayfinding, Recreation B: Though this scenario emphasizes programming for and marketing to residents, the development of **small-scale community visitor centers, local touring routes, walking tours**, and locally produced brochures and guidebooks will attract and support visitors. Visitor services will be strengthened in downtown centers with an **emphasis on dining and shopping**. Wayfinding will use **community signage systems**, brochures, and electronic media. Interpreted walking trails will encourage outdoor recreation; touring routes will link communities. Family-oriented activities and such events as marathons and bicycle races will support community revitalization.

RESOURCE PROTECTION: Historic Preservation, Community Planning & Revitalization B: Historic preservation will be integral to comprehensive revitalization programs addressing many **community development and social needs**. It will strengthen communities' character with an appreciation for their evolution over time. Monuments, plaques, and other commemorative resources will be preserved, enhanced, and interpreted.

RESOURCE PROTECTION: Natural & Scenic Resources B: Conservation will be **essential in community and urban planning**, addressing energy use, stormwater, water quality, streetscapes, and community parks, all to **reinforce community and neighborhood character**. **Plans for open space will address** the needs of Revolutionary-era sites and other historic sites that illustrate each community's story.

MANAGEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS, B: The Crossroads Association will establish **regional offices** to work with communities in different geographic areas facing different issues and **partner with local organizations and institutions** to strengthen them and provide programming for local residents. The Crossroads board will remain the same. Staff will focus on **working with communities, identifying those most committed to** programming, interpretation, linkages, historic preservation, stewardship, and community planning through community applications. A "Committee of Correspondence" will help organize community participation. An annual "convention" for **Crossroads communities** will share technical information and build a sense of collaboration among participating communities.