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Preservation 50

Fifty Years of Historic Preservation

The National Historic Preservation Act established the federal review process for protection of historic properties. Under Section 106 of the law, federal agencies must consider the effects on historic properties of projects they carry out, approve, or fund, and must consult with interested parties in order to try to minimize adverse effects. The Hiawatha National Forest manages nearly 3000 heritage resources. Public education and outreach on historic preservation constitutes a valuable component of the Hiawatha's Heritage Program. Since 1999, the Hiawatha has offered a Youth Archaeological Workshop designed to expose young people to the methods of archaeological investigation and to teach them to how to archaeologists study the histories of other cultures through the objects they left behind

Students work alongside FS archaeologists in excavating a site threatened by erosion.

Photo Left: Since 1999 several local youth have continued their education in historic preservation by earning undergraduate and graduate degrees in Archaeology.

Forest Service Archaeologist Eric Drake teaches students how to make stone tools