



# Headlines



April 5, 2004

## First Lady designates RI "Preserve America" Community

Rock Island was honored as one of the nation's newest communities to receive the **Preserve America** designation.

The *Preserve America* initiative is part of a new White House effort to promote and preserve the culture and national heritage of communities. According to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the goals of the initiative include:

- *Greater shared knowledge about the nation's past;*
- *Strengthened regional identities and local pride;*
- *Increased local participation in preserving the country's cultural and natural heritage assets; and,*
- *Support for the economic vitality of communities.*



The RI community benefits from this designation by receiving national attention for many of its **preservation accomplishments**.

In addition, communities meeting the *Preserve America* criteria are eligible to apply for grant opportunities included in the Bush Administration's fiscal year 2005 budget. Matching grant funds would be allocated on a competitive basis to projects that preserve and utilize important historic resources for purposes of promoting heritage tourism and economic revitalization.

For more information about Rock Island's historic preservation efforts, visit the city's **Website** or contact Jill Doak, Urban Planner II 732-2900.