



Minutes
Gateways Network Working Group Meeting
January 23, 2002

Present: Robert Pickett, Derral Jones, Bob Carter, Paige Weiss, Wilmer Henniger, Lee Epstein, Ron Weis, Elizabeth Hughes, Marci Ross, Bob Carter, Lisa Guitierrez, Bob Campbell, Marian Huber, Skip Meehan, Jonathan Doherty

The agenda focused solely on review of pending nominations. See the attached list.

The Working Group discussed three specific topics as a part of the nomination reviews, as described below:

Boats as Gateways:

During review of the “Nathan of Dorchester” nomination, which was approved, some members suggested outlining designation and review criteria specific to boats. The rationale for this is based on the fact that mobile boats are not really “sites”. While Gateway site criteria have been interpreted in the designations of the Nathan, Pride of Baltimore, and Sultana, they are not necessarily the best approach for dealing with boat nominations.

Others felt that the current review criteria have worked reasonably well to date, allowing the Working Group to distinguish between boats that are independent interpretive/educational vessels for the public (while also filling meeting other “site” criteria) and boats that truly have a different focus.

The Working Group did not reach a clear decision on whether to consider separate criteria for boat nominations.

Historic Districts:

During review of the Georgetown Historic District nomination, which was tabled due to insufficient information being provided, members briefly discussed designations of historic districts in general. (To date, one historic district has been designated as a gateway site – Cape Charles Historic District.) Though there was some concern about the feasibility of large urban historic districts functioning as gateways, members expressed an openness to considering such designations. It was suggested that the matter be discussed further prior to or in concert with reconsidering an amended Georgetown nomination.

Local Support:

Working Group members reiterated that all proposed Gateways should be expected to demonstrate local support for the nomination, including support from affected local governments.

The next working group meeting is set for March 13.