

American Latino Heritage

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



St. Augustine, Florida

Loretta Janeta Velázquez

César Chávez

Casa Amadeo

The National Park Service American Latino Heritage programs explore how the legacy of American Latinos can be recognized, preserved, and interpreted for future generations. The National Park Service, as a storyteller of our Nation's past, is committed to connecting and amplifying American Latino stories throughout communities across the United States.

This brochure highlights projects undertaken by National Park Service parks and programs as part of the Service's commitment to telling the American Latino story. Projects vary from increased interpretation, collaboration with community organizations, and the production of scholarly publications.

Recognizing Latino Heritage

National Historic Landmarks Program

A National Historic Landmark is a privately or publically owned historic building, site, structure, object, or district that represents an outstanding aspect of American history, culture, architecture, and archeology. The American Latino Theme Study will assist government agencies and the private sector with identifying and evaluating Latino-related places for their historical significance in communities nationwide and the potential nomination of these places for National Historic Landmark designation and listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The NPS will also use this theme study to examine whether some sites should be recommended for further study as potential national park units or national trails as well as to aid with the broader interpretation of the American Latino experience at its existing national parks. The American Latino Theme Study can be found at www.nps.gov/latino.

The Freedom Tower, designated as a National Historic Landmark in 2008, is considered the "Ellis Island of the South" for its role during a twelve year period between 1962 and 1974, as the Cuban Assistance Center in Miami, Florida, offering nationally sanctioned relief to the Cuban refugees who sought political asylum from the Communist regime of Fidel Castro.

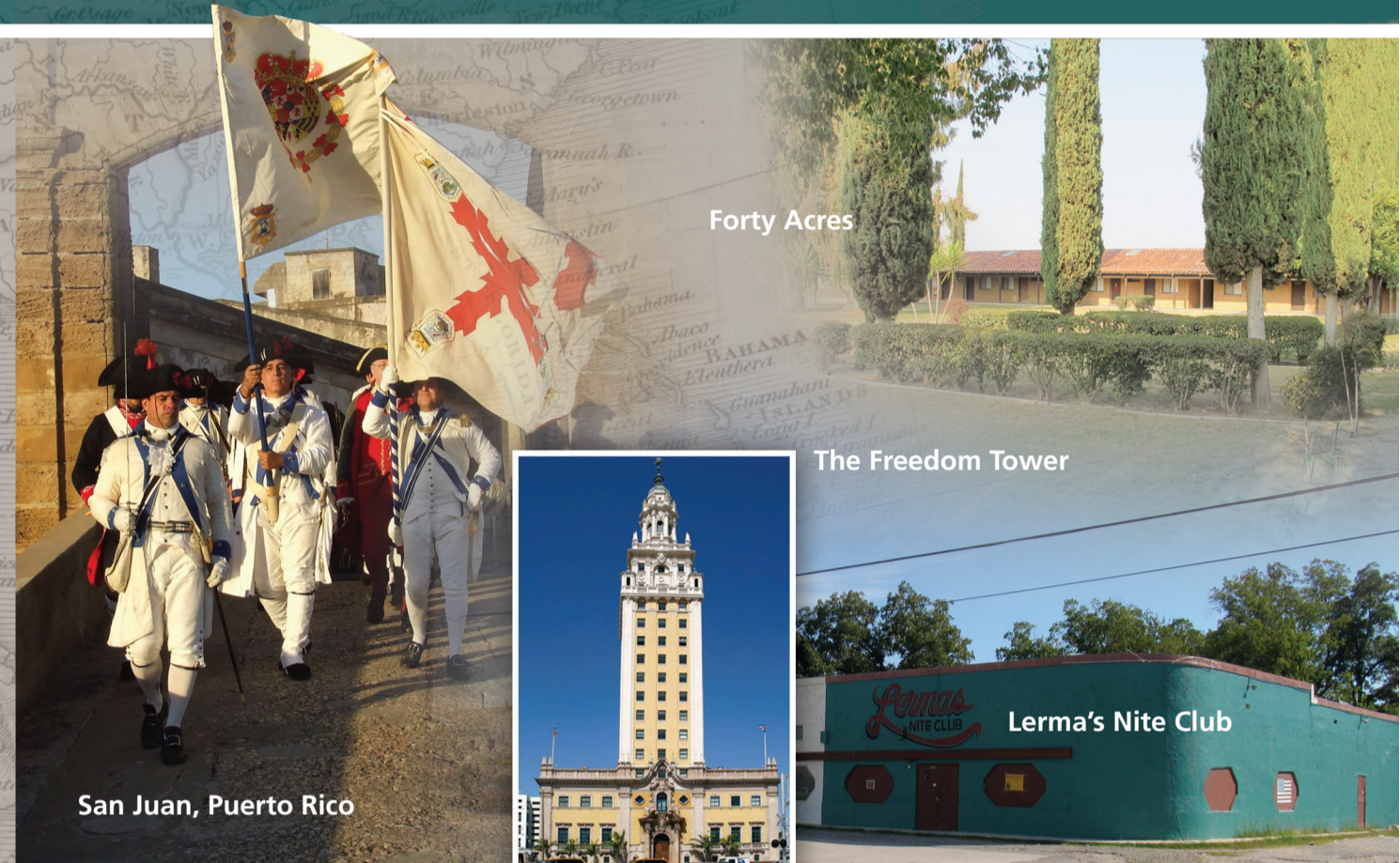
The Forty Acres, located in Delano, California and designated as a National Historic Landmark in 2008, holds multiple layers

of extraordinary national significance for its close association with the productive career of César Chávez, the farmworker movement, and a wider range of reform movements that helped define twentieth-century American history, and in particular, the Chicano Movement. Forty Acres represents not only the legacy of César Chávez's and the union's efforts toward better working conditions for Mexican-American and Filipino agricultural workers, but an overall improvement in civil rights for Mexican-Americans and other minorities in the United States.

National Register of Historic Places

The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the Nation's historic places worthy of preservation. Lerma's Nite Club, listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2011, is located on the west side of San Antonio, Texas, and is a conjuncto music venue that was in continuous operation at the same location from the late 1940s through the summer of 2010.

Casa Amadeo is the oldest Latin music store in New York and played a significant role in the Puerto Rican migration experience. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2001, Casa Amadeo opened as Casa Hernandez in the Bronx, New York in 1941.



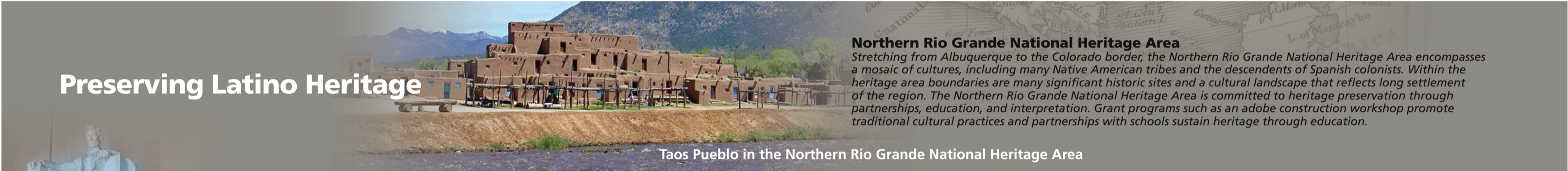
Forty Acres

The Freedom Tower

Lerma's Nite Club

San Juan, Puerto Rico

Preserving Latino Heritage



Taos Pueblo in the Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area

DC Youth Summit

Interpreting Latino Heritage

Cabrillo National Monument, California

Explorer Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo arrived in what is today, California, in 1542. Monument staff is expanding educational programs to schools with park visits and ranger programs in classrooms.

El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail/National Trails Intermountain Region

An online travel itinerary entitled "Discover our Shared Heritage" will introduce and help guide visitors to the rich history and contemporary culture of the 17 historic sites along the Camino Real.

Chamizal National Memorial, Texas

Chamizal National Memorial is the first national park unit to form a partnership with the Pan American Health Organization, Office for the United States-Mexico Border and the World Health Organization in the establishment of an Ecoclub. The Ecoclub promotes the improvement of quality of life by contributing to the well-being of society and preservation of the environment.

Palo Alto Battlefield National Historical Park, Texas

The park implemented the Student Ranger service-learning project to train local high school students in interpretive techniques. The Student Ranger program also serves as an introductory pathway toward future career choices for students.

Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail, California

Nogales, Arizona area high school students make up the Anza Trail Ambassadors. Coordinated by the Santa Fe Ranch Foundation in partnership with the National Park Service, the Student Ambassadors develop leadership skills while learning about the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail and their community history. The students present the Anza story to the local community and teach local elementary school students.

Hispanics and the Civil War

The National Park Service is helping to make the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War relevant to Hispanic Americans. and the companion posters printed in English and Spanish were produced to commemorate the struggles, sacrifices, and achievements of Latinos during the Civil War.

Working in concert with the Southeast Region of the National Park Service, a 5-8 minute digital story will be produced on Loretta Janeta Velázquez, who was a Hispanic woman who fought as a member of the Confederate Army during the American Civil War. The digital story will be produced from a historical documentary entitled "REBEL", which tells the story of Velázquez.

Hispanic Heroes

The brochure "Statues of the Liberators Walking Tour," is a guide to the statues of Latin American Liberators in Washington, DC. The statues were gifts from Argentina, Mexico, Spain, Uruguay, and Venezuela representing the connections between the nation of the Americas. The brochure includes images, an enhanced walking map, new interpretive text, and a walking tour by cell phone.

Heritage Education Services

The Discover our Shared Heritage Travel Itinerary will feature units of the National Park System and National Historic Landmarks associated with the role of Hispanics in American history.

Pilot Youth Summits across the country will use tools and strategies to help students understand the importance of preserving Latino historic places and their associated cultural resources.



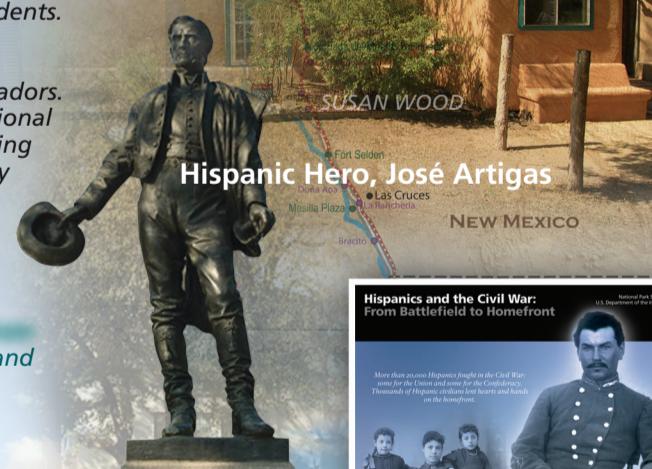
Anza Trail Ambassadors



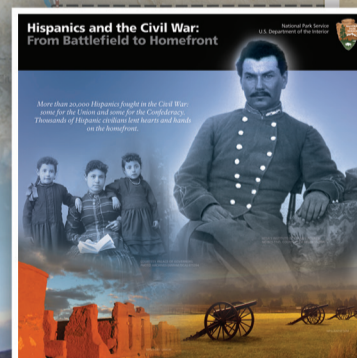
Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo

Palo Alto Battlefield Student Ranger

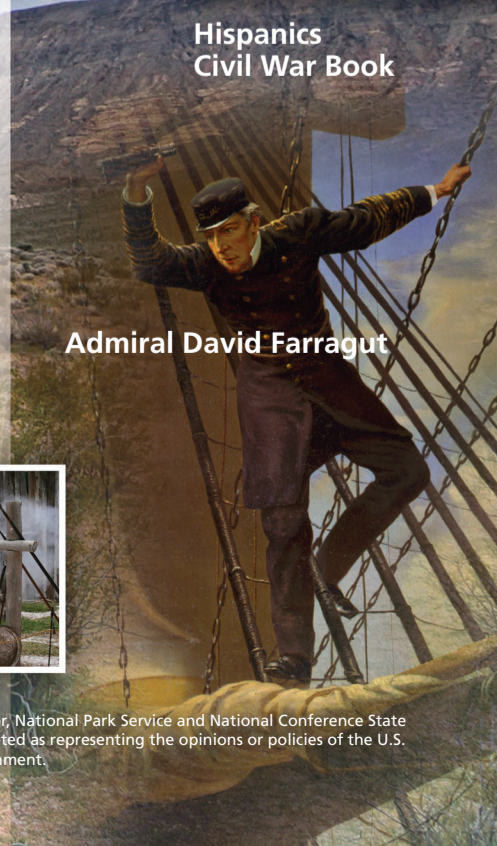
Re-enactors



Hispanic Hero, José Artigas



Hispanics Civil War Book



Admiral David Farragut

Documenting Latino Heritage

El Morro National Monument, New Mexico

El Morro National Monument is conducting an archeological investigation of the Vázquez de Coronado Expedition that will create a new opportunity for discussions about cultural change and exchange from the past through the present. Ancestral Puebloans and Spanish and American travelers carved over 2,000 signatures, dates, messages, and petroglyphs at El Morro over hundreds of years.

César Chávez

The Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) is partnering with California State Polytechnic University at Pomona to create measured drawings, large-format photographs, and a written history of Forty Acres, a site significant for its association with the productive career of César Chávez.

El Morro National Monument

Memorial Garden, Chávez Center

What You Can Do

Latino Heritage in Your Community

Look around your community; do you recognize places of Latino heritage? You can send the name of the significant place, where it is located, and a few sentences about why it tells an important story to American_Latino_Heritage@nps.gov

Contact your State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to find out how you can nominate important places to the National Register of Historic Places. Find your SHPO here: <http://www.ncshpo.org/>

Get youth involved with learning about their communities and heritage by talking with longtime residents.

For more information on the American Latino Heritage programs please visit www.nps.gov/latino

The mission of the National Park Foundation's American Latino Heritage Fund is to support the National Park Service in preserving the full spectrum of American Latino history in the U.S. This will empower Latinos to feel pride in and take ownership of their contributions to the nation's development, and increase the participation of the Latino community in our country's National Park System. The Fund will assist the National Park Service in implementing projects and programs that amplify American Latino stories and experiences in communities nationwide.

For more information on how to support the American Latino Heritage Fund, please visit www.alhf.org

