



## Blue Ridge National Heritage Area PRIORITY INITIATIVE WORKSHEET

<b>Initiative Title:</b>	<b>Henderson County Heritage Resource Inventory and Interactive Map of Cultural, Historic, and Natural Amenities</b>
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<b>Project Narrative:</b>	<p>Cultural, historic, and natural resources provide an important connection to the past and a key to understanding the present and future. Over time, historic buildings, sites, cemeteries, records, films, photos, and other artifacts have been lost, including personal collections. Development and growth in Henderson County, which is the fastest-growing county in WNC, have also endangered or destroyed historic buildings of architectural merit (homes, churches, barns, etc.), family graveyards, Indian mounds, and such. Without a sense of place, a community loses its roots and the link to its past. Identifying and listing items of heritage significance are the first steps in protecting and managing those places and objects that we as a community want to preserve.</p> <p>An inventory and map of historic sites and cultural amenities will enable preservation of our history. Resource surveys and documentation efforts would include archiving and making available oral histories, historic and current photographs and architectural drawings, blue prints, maps, appropriate artifacts, activities, and places that authentically represent the stories and people of the past and present.</p> <p>The Heritage Resource Inventory would include a wide range of existing and potential heritage tourism attractions, including museums, historic buildings, plaques, archaeological sites, historic trails, and other types of resources. These resources would be plotted on a county map in a Geographic Information System (GIS). The information in the GIS database would be made available on the Internet in an interactive context based resource discovery and access system that would link archival and heritage resources and published materials within the one system.</p> <p>In February, 2005 Henderson County approved a Strategic Plan with a strategy to “protect sensitive natural areas and key historic/cultural resources from extensive development.” The Heritage Resource Inventory will identify and map all historic and cultural resources in the County which can be added to the county’s GIS (Geographic Information System) so these resources can be considered in the Growth Management Strategy and Future Land Use Map.</p> <p>This project will create an important link to the past which will help enrich the lives of Henderson County citizens and help preserve the natural, cultural, and historic resources in the county. It will also increase awareness of these “treasures” and serve as a stimulus for</p>
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	heritage tourism development and marketing.
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<b>Goal:</b>	To provide an inventory of cultural, historic, and natural resources in Henderson County to enable local governments, citizens, organizations, committees, and task forces to work toward preserving these landmarks and historic elements.	
<b>Person/Organization Responsible:</b>	<b>Cost to Implement:</b>	<b>Estimated Time to Complete:</b>
Henderson County Travel & Tourism (T&T)	\$8,000	On-going

Action Items:	Resources Required:	Who's Responsible:
Establish a GIS at the Travel and Tourism offices to inventory Henderson County Heritage Resources that are linked to county property records; build and maintain (update) GIS data and information	ArcView desktop GIS software - \$1500  GIS Computer (PC Compatible with Henderson County GIS System) \$1500  GIS Coordinator \$5000/Year	Henderson Co. Travel and Tourism    Contract Staff

<b>Performance Measures:</b>	GIS online, web site online
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<b>Status:</b>	In planning stages
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