

French Heritage Corridor

The French Heritage Corridor initiative comprises seven states in the Midwest (Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin). This network, joined by waterways connecting with the Mississippi River and the Great Lakes, transcends borders to recreate in the Midwest what was once *la Nouvelle France*.

While French history and heritage of eastern Canada and of Louisiana is typically well known and understood by the general public, the region comprising the French Heritage Corridor which lies between them is not as universally appreciated.

The French Heritage Corridor is dedicated to developing synergy and raising the collective awareness about the rich French history and heritage that has, since the 17th century, melded with the vibrant multicultural landscape in what is today the Midwestern United States.

FHC is an initiative of the French Heritage Society - Chicago Chapter whose mission is to amplify and strengthen longstanding ties of Franco-American friendship and to support French heritage sites and communities in the Midwest through restoration grants and other programs. Launched 18 months ago, this initiative acts as a network for the public to better access these sites and communities while creating needed overarching structure and support for the wide range of stakeholders who are predominantly located near and along the Mississippi River. Its goal is to stimulate community-powered cultural and economic development, integrating cultural preservation and education.

French government has supported FHC since its inception

Remarks by The Honorable Philippe Etienne, Ambassador of France to The United States, given at the 2022 FHC Annual Conference:

“The French Heritage Corridor is a wonderful opportunity to forge people-to-people connections, cultural and educational exchanges, partnerships in science and higher education, and expanded prospects for business which will pave the way for growing local development and tourism.”



FRENCH HERITAGE CORRIDOR

For General Information about FHC <https://frenchheritagesociety.org/fhc/>

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