

# MUSEUM on Main Street

# Stories from Main Street

Be a part of the Smithsonian through the Stories from Main Street project!

## What Is It?

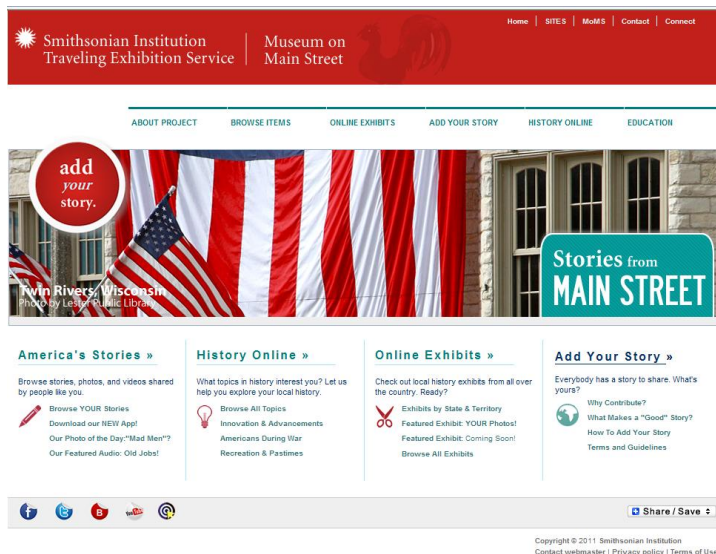
Museum on Main Street's **Stories from Main Street** initiative is a Smithsonian website for stories from small towns across America. Museum on Main Street host states and host communities can contribute content from their own areas. The project website at [www.storiesfrommainstreet.org](http://www.storiesfrommainstreet.org) provides a place where the Smithsonian, state humanities councils, host organizations, and the general public work together to create a home for important stories, images, oral histories, and videos that document life in our small towns and rural communities.

This website is for **you**. Local museums, historical societies, libraries and the public are encouraged to tell the Smithsonian about their unique experiences in America's small and rural communities and share photographs, recordings and videos to help us all learn what's special about your town.

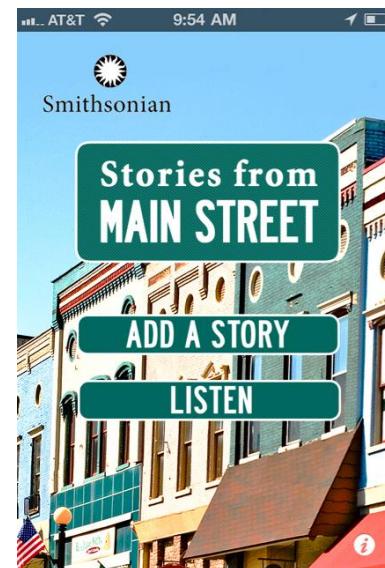
## How Does It Work?

Host councils, host communities and the public can tell the Smithsonian their stories via the project website or with their iPhone or iPad by downloading our Stories from Main Street app from the iTunes App Store.

### Website



### App



## **What Kinds of Stories Will the Initiative Collect?**

We're specifically interested in stories that highlight important traditions in small towns and rural areas. Tell us more about what makes your community unique. What are the traditions passed down through generations in foodways, music, sports and local values?

Stories could reflect questions like:

- What is unique about your small town? What makes it special? What traditions do members of your community celebrate and revere?
- What was your first job? What did you learn from it?
- What did you experience growing up in a rural area?
- How long has your community been around? Why did people settle there?
- What does the land surrounding your community mean to you?
- How do people in your community rally around local sports teams?
- What's your favorite dish that a relative taught you to make?

Do you have photos or interviews that help tell these stories? Those would be great things to add to the website. Remember, you can post a photograph or record your story on audio or video and upload your creation. Or, using the app, you can record your audio story on your iPhone or iPad and send it to the Smithsonian.

## **Where Will the Stories Be Shared?**

Stories contributed to the project are reviewed and considered for a spot on the Stories from Main Street website. Our partnering humanities councils, Museum on Main Street host organizations, and participating schools can use the stories, images, and videos they have uploaded to create online exhibitions that allow them to tell the whole story.

Need More Information?

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