

HERITAGE

Monthly news update from the Office of History and Archaeology
State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources
October 2015

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Alaska Historic Preservation Conference October 20-22 – register now!

The Office of History and Archaeology is hosting an Alaska Historic Preservation Conference in Anchorage, October 20-22, 2015. Donovan Rypkema, a recognized leader in the economics of historic preservation, will give a keynote address at 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 20, and elaborate on his comments in sessions on Wednesday. Since 1983, Rypkema has consulted with public and non-profit sector clients on downtown and neighborhood commercial district revitalization and reuse of historic structures. In 2012 the National Trust for Historic Preservation awarded him its Louise du Pont Crowninshield Award. Interested individuals are invited to attend his talk. There is no charge to attend, but please register so will be enough chairs (the link to register is below).

The conference has sessions for local government planning staff, historic preservation commissions, elected officials, planning commissions, and historic preservation practitioners. A local government specialist from the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development will address commission procedures, and other conference sessions will include presentations about Alaska's local government preservation programs, preservation incentives, and heritage tourism. The agenda and registration information are available at <http://www.planetreg.com/Alaska.Historic.Preservation.Conference.2015> . For more information about the conference contact Summer Rickman (907.269.8717 / summer.rickman@alaska.gov).

Federal legislation and funding for historic preservation programs

Congressional authorization for the Historic Preservation Fund expired September 30, 2015. Created by Congress in 1966, the HPF funded State Historic Preservation Offices, Tribal Historic Preservation Offices, and Certified Local Governments to carry out the federal historic preservation programs. There are two HPF reauthorization bills before Congress. Representatives Michael Turner (R-OH) and Earl Blumenauer (D-OR) introduced the National Historic Preservation Amendment Act of 2015 (H.R. 2817) to reauthorize the HPF for 10 years, through 2025, at the current authorized level of \$150 million annually. Senators Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) and Maria Cantwell (D-WA) introduced the Energy Policy Modernization Act, a comprehensive package that includes permanent authorization for the Historic Preservation Fund, the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and establishes a National Park Service maintenance fund. Congress can still appropriate money for the HPF in annual spending bills from an existing \$3 billion balance, and has proposed to do so in the FY 16 spending bills.

The new federal fiscal year started October 1, and because Congress did not finish the budget bills, it passed a continuing resolution to keep the federal government operating until December 11, 2015. Most federal programs, including the HPF, are funded by the resolution at the same level as FY 15.

Congress's conference committee report for the National Defense Authorization Act removed Section 2853 of the House bill that would have allowed heads of federal agencies to block or revoke National Register nominations for reasons of national security and called for the National Park Service to create an expedited de-listing process. The Senate has scheduled a vote on the report this week. The House has not set a date for their vote.

The Senate road, rail and transit funding bill, HR 22, referred to as the DRIVE Act, has a section disturbing to historic preservationists, Section 11116, that would eliminate Section 4(f) and essentially replace it with Section 106. Preservationists are urging retention of the existing Section 4(f) program.

Alaska Historical Commission plans for 150th anniversary of Purchase

Lt. Governor Byron Mallott, chair of the Alaska Historical Commission, attended the Alaska Historical Society and Museums Alaska annual meetings and conference at Cordova last week. He participated in a 150th anniversary planning session and spoke to both groups at noon. The

Alaska Historical Commission has been discussing how to involve all Alaskans in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Alaska purchase. Planning is underway with the Seward House in New York for a museum exhibit in 2017, a group in Juneau is working to get a statue of William H. Seward for the city, and Sitka has starting planning events to culminate on Alaska Day in October 2017. The Alaska Historical Commission has funded three research grants, and expects to solicit for small research, interpretation and education projects for the commemoration early next year. If you have an idea or plans for a commemorative activity, please contact Jo Antonson, jo.antonson@alaska.gov / 907.269.8714 by November 15th for the Alaska Historical Commission members to discuss at their December 8, 2015 meeting.

Alaska Association for Historic Preservation news

The Alaska Association for Historic Preservation's annual meeting will be November 2, 2015. It will be held at the Pioneer Schoolhouse, 437 W. 3rd Ave., Anchorage, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. The agenda includes program reports, election of members to its Board of Directors, and presentation of its 2015 Historic Preservation Award. The association is seeking nominations for the award that recognizes a project, organization, agency, or individual that exemplifies the highest standards and significant accomplishments in historic preservation in Alaska. The deadline for nominations is October 15, 2015. More information and the nomination form are at www.aahp-online.net or by contacting Allegra Hamer, 907.929.9870 / akpreservation@gmail.com.

Cook Inlet Historical Society seeks grant applications

The Cook Inlet Historical Society awards several grants to help educators and researchers of Alaska history. The upcoming deadline for applications for the Brian Davies Memorial Grant and John Reeder Memorial Travel Grant is October 31, 2015. More information about the grants and how to apply can be found at www.cookinlethistory.org

Alaska Women's Hall of Fame calls for nominations

The Alaska Women's Hall of Fame honors women who have lived in Alaska and have made a contribution of enduring value to their community, the state, or the nation. The organization is seeking nominations for its Class of 2016. The nomination deadline is November 1, 2015. The criteria and nomination form are available at www.alaskawomenshalloffame.org/. The women selected are celebrated at an event during National Women's History Month in March and are profiled on the organization's webpage.

New report on economic impacts of preservation tax incentives program available

Rutgers University Center for Urban Policy Research recently completed a report on the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives Program. The study reported that last year projects contributed more than \$9.1 billion of goods and services in the U.S. and added \$4.6 billion in gross domestic product. Additionally, the projects supported 77,762 jobs and provided 6,540 new low and moderate income housing units, and 19,786 new or renovated housing units. The

numbers show the program encourages private infrastructure investment in communities that helps a local economy and preserves local history. The report is available at <http://www.nps.gov/tps/tax-incentives/taxdocs/economic-impact-2014.pdf>.

National Historic Preservation Act turns 50

Historic preservationists have started *Preservation50: Our Legacy, Our Future*, a nationwide group to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of passage of the National Historic Preservation Act in 2016. The mission is to honor and raise awareness of the public value of historic preservation and to unify, diversify, and grow the preservation community to continue it for the next fifty years. Partners and collaborators include private sector leaders in preservation, public agencies, and national, tribal, state, and local preservation organizations. To join the planning discussion, take a national survey, find and publicize events, download the six Preservation50 logos, and get other tools, go to www.preservation50.org.

The Society for American Archaeology, the Society for Historic Archaeology, the Archaeology Channel, and the organization of registered professional archaeologists are planning to produce an interactive map supplemented by short videos as a 50th anniversary project. Burr Neely, Northern Land Use Research, is the Alaska coordinator for the Making Archaeology Public (MAP) project and is working with the Alaska Anthropological Association's Public Education Group, Jenny Blanchard, Chair. To suggest sites to include, volunteer to provide content, or to get more information contact 907.474.9684 / bjn@northernlanduse.com.

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PUBLIC PROJECT ALERTS:

Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities / Sterling Highway MP 45-60 Project (Quartz Creek Road to Skilak Lake Road in the Cooper Landing area), draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and draft Section 4(f) Evaluation

Project information: www.sterlinghighway.net

Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities / West Susitna Surface Access Reconnaissance Study

Project information: <http://dot.alaska.gov/roadstoresources/westsusitna/index.shtml>

Bureau of Land Management Bering Sea – Western Interior Resource Management Plan

Project information: www.blm.gov/ak/planning/bswi

Contact: 907.267.1246 / 800.478.1263

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission / Alaska Energy Authority, Susitna-Watana Hydroelectric Project

Project information: www.susitna-watanahydro.org/

U.S. Forest Service / Chugach National Forest Plan

Plan revision: fs.usda.gov/chugach / Land and Resource Management

Comments: chugachplanrevision@fs.fed.us

U.S. Forest Service / Tongass National Forest Sustainable Cabin Management Project

Environmental Assessment: <http://go.usa.gov/WQEk>

Contact: Victoria Houser, 907.826.1614 / vhouser@fs.fed.us

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HERITAGE SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION:

Heritage is produced by the Office of History and Archaeology, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, Alaska Department of Natural Resources. Please send your comments, suggestions, and information by e-mail to jo.antonson@alaska.gov, mail to 550 West 7th Ave., Suite 1310, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3565, or telephone 907.269.8721.

All issues are posted to our web site at dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha/ and distributed to subscribers by e-mail. A paper copy can be sent to individuals and organizations that specifically request it.

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If you do not wish to continue to subscribe to *Heritage*, please send an e-mail to oha@alaska.net with “Heritage, unsubscribe” in the subject line.

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PRESERVATION CALENDAR:

October 14-15 National Park Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Wisconsin State Historic Preservation Office, Maritime Cultural Landscape Symposium, Madison, WI (Daina Penkiunas, 608.264.6511 / daina.penkiunas@wisconsinhistory.org, <http://wihist.org/maritime-symposium>)

October 15 Alaska Association for Historic Preservation, 2015 Historic Preservation Award nomination deadline, www.aahp-online.net (Allegra Hamer, 907.929.9870 / akpreservation@gmail.com)

October 20-22 Office of History and Archaeology: Historic Preservation Conference and Certified Local Government training, Anchorage (Summer Rickman, 907.269.8717 / summer.rickman@alaska.gov)

October 20-21 CyArk 2015 summit: Resilience through Innovation, Berlin, Germany (Makenna Murray, 510.832.5440 / www.CyArk.org)

October 28-November 1 Wooshteen Kanaxtulaneegí Haa At Wuskóowu / Sharing Our Knowledge: Haa saaxú, haa latseení / Our Names, Our Strength; A Conference of Tlingit Tribes and Clans, Juneau (clanconference@gmail.com / clanconference.org)

October 31 Cook Inlet Historical Society, Brian Davies and John Reeder memorial grant program application deadline, www.cookinlethistory.org (Bruce Parham, 907.248.6867 / bparham@gci.net)

November 2 Alaska Association for Historic Preservation annual meeting, Anchorage (Allegra Hamer, 907.929.9870 / akpreservation@gmail.com)

November 2-5 Urban Archaeology of Vienna: 20th International Conference on Cultural Heritage and New Technologies, Vienna, Austria (Wolfgang Borner, 43.01.4000.81176 / wolfgang.boerner@stadarchaeologie.at)

November 3-6 National Trust for Historic Preservation: PastForward 2015, Washington, DC (NTHP, 202-588.6100 / conference@savingplaces.org)

December 8 Alaska Historical Commission meeting, Anchorage (Jo Antonson, 907.269.8714 / jo.antonson@alaska.gov)

2016

January 28 Alaska Humanities Forum and State Council on the Arts, Governor's Awards for the Arts and Humanities ceremony, Juneau (Alaska Humanities Forum, 907.272.5341)

February 2 National Preservation Institute: NAGPRA Essentials, Anchorage (Jere Gibber, 703.765.0100 / info@npi.org)

February 3-4 National Preservation Institute: NAGPRA: Preparing for and Writing Grant Proposals, Anchorage (Jere Gibber, 703.765.0100 / info@npi.org)

March 16 National Council on Public History and Society for History in the Federal Government annual meeting: On the Edge of 2016: Commemorating the Past and Shaping the Future of Federal Preservation Activities, Baltimore, MD (Barbara Little, barbara_little@nps.gov or <http://ncph.org/cms/conferences/working-groups/>)

April 21 Alaska Office of History and Archaeology workshop, Anchorage (Mark Rollins, 907.269.8722 / mark.rollins@alaska.gov)

April 26-27 National Preservation Institute: GIS: Practical Applications for Cultural Resource Projects, Anchorage (Jere Gibber, 703.765.0100 / info@npi.org)

May 4-7 Canadian Archaeological Association annual meeting, Whitehorse, YT (Greg Hare or Jeff Hunston, heritage.resources@gov.yk.ca)

May 9-12 Yukon Historical and Museum Association, International Centre for Northern Governance and Development, University of Saskatchewan, and Yukon College: The North and the First World War Conference, Whitehorse, YT (conference@heritageyukon.ca / www.heritageyukon.ca)

May 9-10 National Preservation Institute: The Secretary of the Interior's Standards: Treatment Considerations, Anchorage (Jere Gibber, 703.765.0100 / info@npi.org)

May 12-13 National Preservation Institute: The Secretary of the Interior's Standards: Treatment Considerations, Sitka (Jere Gibber, 703.765.0100 / info@npi.org)

July National Alliance of Preservation Commissions Forum, Mobile, AL (NAPC, 706.369.5881 / napc@uga.edu)