2017: THE ALASKA YEAR OF HISTORY AND HERITAGE

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Historic Preservation Fund FY 17 and FY 18 budgets

President Trump’s FY 2018 budget proposal recommends significant reductions to the Historic Preservation Fund programs. It proposes to reduce the amount of funding for the state and tribal offices, and eliminate all competitive grant programs. The House of Representative’s proposed FY 2018 budget also reduces the funding for the state and tribal offices. The House budget, however, includes funds for the underserved communities, civil rights movement, historically black colleges, and Save American Treasures programs, but reduces the appropriations for all but the underserved communities from FY 2017 levels.
**Figure 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>States</th>
<th>$ 47.925*</th>
<th>$ 42.1</th>
<th>$46.9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tribes</td>
<td>10.485</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>9.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Underserved communities initiative</td>
<td>.500</td>
<td></td>
<td>.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil rights movement initiative</td>
<td>13.000</td>
<td>10.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historic Black colleges/universities</td>
<td>4.000</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Save America’s Treasures grants</td>
<td>5.000</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTALS**          | $ 80.910  | $ 51.1 | $ 74.5 |

* Figures are in millions.
**Figure** is for both states and tribes

Senators Lisa Murkowski and Maria Cantwell have introduced an energy bill (S. 1460) that includes a provision to permanently reauthorize the Historic Preservation Fund. It is similar to the bill they had in the last Congress that did not get passed. The Senate hopes to pass the bill this year, then work with the House of Representatives to get it enacted.

The Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations of the U.S. House Natural Resources Committee held a hearing in July to address the federal government’s implementation of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 and the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. The hearing was titled “Examining Impacts of Federal Natural Resources Laws Gone Astray, Part II.” Amos Loveday (Ohio SHPO 1996-2002, Federal Communications Commission’s Federal Preservation Officer 2002-2005, and cellular communications industry consultant 2006-present) testified that Section 106 has resulted in projects being abandoned, yet provided no specific examples. Patty Brandt (owner, Eastmoreland Neighborhood, Portland, OR) said notification of a potential historic district was inadequate, but then said the city sent letters to all residents, the SHPO had a website with good information and acknowledged letters of objection, the neighborhood association sent out information and had a website, and those opposed to the district had a website.

**Office of History and Archaeology and Alaska Historical Commission news**

Governor Walker appointed Talis Colberg of Palmer and reappointed Michael Hawfield and Wayne Jensen to three-years terms on the Alaska Historical Commission. Talis Colberg is the director of the Matanuska-Susitna Assembly and mayor. Colberg received his Ph.D. from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Mike Hawfield is retired from Kenai Peninsula College in Homer, but continues to teach history there, and is on the Alaska Historical Society’s Board of Directors. Wayne Jensen is an architect in Juneau with Jensen Yorba Lott Architects. He is active with the Treadwell Historic Preservation and Restoration Society and was part of the Juneau Seward Statue Committee.

The Alaska Historical Commission met July 17, 2017, in Anchorage. Members discussed and voted to recommend to Governor Walker designation of the 4th Avenue Theatre as a state historic monument. They reviewed Certified Local Government project proposals, and recommended funding a Fairbanks North Star Borough project to survey historic buildings in North Pole and Salcha in advance of the military’s expansion plans, and partially fund a City and Borough of Juneau project for signage at the Treadwell Mine. Members found the Old Willow Community Center eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and after discussion, tabled the Ch’u’intu Traditional Cultural Landscape nomination. They approved the Lake Ahkivgak proposal to name an unnamed lake in the North Slope Borough. For more information about the meeting contact Jo Antonson, 907.269.8714 / jo.antonson@alaska.gov.
The draft 2018-2023 Alaska historic preservation plan being prepared by the Office of History and Archaeology will be available for comment this month. It will be posted at [http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha/planning/hpplanupdate](http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha/planning/hpplanupdate). For more information contact Summer Louthan, 907.269.8717 / summer.louthan@alaska.gov.

Shina duVall, head of the Review and Compliance Section, Office of History and Archaeology, has resigned and accepted a job at the Anchorage Museum. She is wished all the best.

The Office of History and Archaeology is in a temporary office on the second floor of the Atwood Building for the next several months. The phone numbers, mailing and email addresses for the office and staff have not changed.

**150th anniversary of the Alaska Treaty of Cession**

Alaskans dedicated the new William Seward statue in the park across from the Alaska State Capitol on July 3rd. There are two signs as well, that discuss Seward, his significance to the nation, and his 1869 visit to Alaska. Moving forward, planning is underway for several conferences with sessions on the Alaska Treaty of Cession that will take place this fall. There will be a day-long symposium at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History on September 16 with Willie Hensley as keynote speaker. At the annual Alaska Historical Society/Museums Alaska conference, September 27-30, one keynote speaker is Willie Hensley and presentations around the theme *Exploring the Legacy of the Alaska Purchase* fill the conference program. Two weeks later, October 13-17, is the biennial clan conference of Tlingit Tribes, *Haa Shagoon, Ye'i Sh Natoosneix* at Sitka, with several panels on the Treaty of Cession and on Native rights under Russian and early American administrations.

Several museum exhibits related to Alaska at the time of the Treaty of Cession open this fall. The Alaska State Museum will have the original Emanuel Leutze painting and an exhibit on conservation of 19th century documents. The Museum of the North in Fairbanks will open an exhibit featuring artifacts from several interior Alaska archaeological sites addressing changes the arrival of Americans brought to the Native people and their lifeways. The Sheldon Museum at Haines will open a new exhibit, *Across the Shaman’s River*. At the International Gallery of Contemporary Art in Anchorage artists will respond to the Treaty of Cession and explore its meaning today.

Sitka will hold its annual Alaska Day festival on October 18, and visitors can see the Sitka Museum’s new exhibits, enjoy the parade, watch the reenactment of the transfer ceremony on Castle Hill, and attend the Governor’s Ball. Other communities are hosting lectures and panel discussions. Information on them, and other commemorative activities, is on the Alaska Historical Society website, [http://alaskahistoricalsociety.org/about-ahs/150treaty/calendar/](http://alaskahistoricalsociety.org/about-ahs/150treaty/calendar/).

The eight-panel 1860s Alaska travelling exhibit prepared by the offices of History and Archaeology and Interpretation and Education, Alaska Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, is available to community organizations, libraries, and schools for a three-week period. The application to get them for exhibit is at [http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha/designations/150Anniversary](http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha/designations/150Anniversary). A companion booklet is available. Individuals interested in a copy of the booklet can get one by sending a mailing address to dnr.oha@alaska.gov.

**National Park Service updates**
A revised edition of *The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring and Reconstructing Historic Buildings* is available. The standards have not changed, but the guidelines have been updated to reflect best practices in historic preservation, to apply to 20th century building types, materials and systems now considered historic, and to incorporate modern methods and technologies. Copies of the publication can be ordered from the Government Printing Office or can be downloaded from https://www.nps.gov/tps/.

The National Park Service has created a Directory of NPS Community Assistance Programs, available at https://www.nps.gov/getinvolved/community-assistance.htm. The site has information on 54 programs that provide funding, technical assistance, and other resources to community groups for historic preservation, investment in historic sites, recreation and improved access to public lands, and education and professional development in and outside national parks.

The National Register of Historic Places program plans to update and revise its bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register Registration Form*, also known as Bulletin 16A. Comments, clarifications, and recommendations on the current document are being solicited. The deadline for comments is December 31, 2017. Feedback may be submitted at http://parkplanning.nps.gov/NRBulletinUpdate or by email to NR_Bulletin16@nps.gov. For questions or more information contact Edson Beall, 202.354.2255 / edson_beall@nps.gov.

The National Park Service, National Maritime Heritage Program is accepting grant proposals for education and preservation projects. The deadline to apply is September 1, 2017. More information and links to the application are at https://www.nps.gov/maritime/grants/apply.htm.

**Alaska’s Ten Most Endangered Historic Properties 2017 list**

The Alaska Association for Historic Preservation will have a reception August 11, 2017, to formally announce its 2017 list of ten most endangered historic properties in the state. On the list this year are:

4th Avenue Theatre, Anchorage  
<NN> Cannery, South Naknek  
Eldred Rock Lighthouse, Lynn Canal  
Chase-Chapman building, Aniak  
3 German Bachelors Cabin, Talleetna  
Wireless Transmitter Site, Anchorage  
Meiers Lake Church, Richardson Highway Mile 170  
Polaris Building, Fairbanks  
Pratt Museum, Homer  
Coastal Archaeological Sites, Statewide  

The program provides small seed money grants to several of the properties on the annual list to leverage funding from other sources. For more information about the list, the properties, and the grant program, go to www.aahp-online.net, call 907.929.9870, or email akpreservation@gmail.com.

**Friends of Nike Site Summit remaining 2017 tour dates**

Tours of the historic Cold War era Nike Site Summit near Anchorage are scheduled for August 5, August 20, and September 9. The three-hour tours are for those ages 12 and older. Joint Base Elmendorf-
Richardson (JBER) requires registration ten days in advance. Registration is at www.nikesitesummit.net/nike-site-summit-tours.html.

NOAA offers free training on collaborative meetings

Alaska Sea Grant and Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve are offering a workshop on planning and facilitating collaborative meetings, September 20-21, 2017, at the Gorsuch Commons, University of Alaska Anchorage. The trainers are with the NOAA Office of Coastal Management. The workshop is free. It is directed to those who facilitate workshops in Alaska coastal communities. The class is limited to 35 participants. Additional information and registration is at https://seagrant.uaf.edu/events/2017/planning-collaborative-meetings/

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PUBLIC PROJECT ALERTS:

National Park Service, Update/revision of National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register Registration Form

Request for comments: http://parkplanning.nps.gov/NRBulletinUpdate or NR_Bulletin16@nps.gov
Comments due: December 31, 2017
Contact: Edson Beall, 202.354.2255 / edson_beall@nps.gov

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers / Donlin Gold Project: Draft Environmental Impact Statement and ANILCA 810 Analysis comments available. The draft programmatic agreement is expected to be posted soon for a short review and comment period.

Project information: www.donlingoldeis.com

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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.

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PRESERVATION CALENDAR:

August 10-11 Historic Theaters Conference, Morilton, AR (http://rockefellerinstitute.org/institute-programs/historic-theaters)

August 14-17 National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT), Native American Graves Protection & Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) for Archeologists: Methods, Dialogue, and Technologies, New Orleans, LA (Tad Britt, NPS, 318.521.5641 / ncptt@nps.gov)


September 6-9 American Association for State and Local History 2017 annual meeting: I AM History, Austin, TX (Bethany Hawkins, 615.320.3203 / hawkins@aaslh.org)

September 25-29 Window Preservation Standards Collaborative, Window Preservation Summit III, Pine Mountain, KY (Craig Potts, 502.564.7005 / craig.potts@ky.gov)

September 27-30 Alaska Historical Society / Museums Alaska annual meetings and conference, Anchorage (Adam Baldwin, 907.929.9254 / abaldwin@anchoragemuseum.org)

October 3 Historic Preservation Education Foundation, Partners in Training grant proposal deadline (www.hpef.us / info@hpef.us)

October 11-12 National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, Asbestos Awareness Training for Historic Buildings and Objects, Dearborn, MI (NCPTT, 318.356.9119 / ncptt@nps.gov)

October 18-21 International Society for Landscapes, Place, and Material Culture 49th annual conference: Mormons, Miners and the American West, Salt Lake City, UT, http://www.pioneeramerica.org/annualmeetingregister.html (Cory Jensen, 801.245.7242 / coryjensen@utah.gov)

October 29-November 1 City of Annapolis and Newport Restoration Foundation, Keeping History Above Water international conference addressing sea level rise, tidal flooding, extreme precipitation, and subsidence, Annapolis, MD (Lisa Craig, lmCraig@annapolis.gov)

November 8-10 International Conference on Cultural Heritage and New Technologies, Vienna, Austria (Wolfgang Boerner, #43(0)1 4000 81176 / wolfgang.boerner@stadtarchaeologie.at)

December 31  National Register of Historic Places, Bulletin 16A: How to Complete the National Register Registration Form comment deadline (Edson Beall, 202.354.2255 / Edson_beall@nps.gov)

2018

March 12-14  National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers (NCSHPO) annual conference, Washington, DC (Ted Monoson, 202.624.5476 / monoson@ncshpo.org)

March 19-20  National Preservation Institute, NAGPRA Essentials, Anchorage (info@npi.org / 703.765.0100)

March 21-24  Alaska Anthropological Association 45th annual meeting, Anchorage (alaskaanthro.gmail.com)

March 21-23  National Preservation Institute, Archaeological Curation and Collections Management, Anchorage (info@npi.org / 703.765.0100)

April 20  Alaska Office of History and Archaeology, Annual Workshop, Anchorage (Mark Rollins, 907.269.8722 / mark.rollins@alaska.gov)

July 18-22  National Alliance of Preservation Commissions, Forum 2018, www.napcommissions.org, Des Moines, IA (director@napcommissions.org)