Federal Historic Preservation Fund FY 2019 budget and legislation

As the administration did last year, the President’s FY 2019 budget proposal for Historic Preservation Fund programs only supports the state and tribal preservation offices at a minimum level, and does not fund any of the special initiative grant programs.

The House of Representatives voted in July to equal the amount for HPF funding allocated in FY 2018, incorporating into their budget the historic revitalization grant program to assist rural communities the Senate added last year, and increasing funding for the civil rights and historic Black colleges grant programs. The Senate Interior Appropriations Committee has recommended $88.91 million for the HPF for FY 2019.

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Save America’s Treasures grants 13.00 13.00 5.00
Historic Revitalization grants 5.00 .50 .50

TOTALS $ 96.91 $ 32.67 $ 96.91 $88.91
* Figures are in millions.

Senator Brian Schatz (Hawaii) introduced the Explore America Act of 2018 (S. 2395) earlier this year. The Senate bill has six cosponsors, including Alaska’s Dan Sullivan. The bill authorizes the provision of technical assistance under the Preserve America program and directs the Secretary of the Interior to enter into partnerships with communities adjacent to national parks to leverage cultural heritage assets. The stated purposes of the act are to support cultural heritage tourism and historic preservation activities, and to leverage these assets to strengthen economic development in gateway communities. Alaska’s Representative Don Young introduced a companion bill in the House of Representatives (H.R. 5608) in April. The Senate has referred its bill to the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and the House has referred its bill to the Natural Resources Subcommittee on Federal Lands.

Grant funds available for historic preservation development / predevelopment projects

The Office of History and Archaeology is soliciting for development and predevelopment grant proposals to help with rehabilitation costs for historic properties. Owners of buildings and structures listed in the National Register of Historic Places individually or as contributing properties in a registered historic district are eligible to apply. The grants are for up to 50 percent of the total project costs. Predevelopment grants are limited to $3,500 minimum and $10,000 maximum in matching assistance, and development grants are limited to $10,000 minimum and $25,000 maximum in matching assistance. The application deadline is 4:00 p.m., Friday, August 24, 2018. The application package is available online at http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha/index.htm or by contacting Jean Ayers, Grants Administrator, 907.269.8694 / jean.ayers@alaska.gov.

Alaska Historical Commission news

Governor Walker reappointed Alisha Drabek of Kodiak and Rebecca Poulson of Sitka to 3-year terms on the Alaska Historical Commission. For additional information about the commission contact Jo Antonson, 907.269.8714 / jo.antonson@alaska.gov.

New edition of Federal Historic Preservation Laws available

The National Park Service has revised and updated its indispensable Federal Historic Preservation Laws publication, an anthology of laws related to the preservation of the nation’s cultural heritage. Most of the revisions pertain to the laws now contained in Title 54 of the United States Code, but include amendments to existing laws and several newly enacted programs. A web version of the book is available at go.nps.gov/preservationlaws and print copies will be available this fall from the Government Publishing Office.

Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm National Heritage Area seeks grant projects
The Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm National Heritage Area annually makes grants for community projects that enhance cultural, scenic and recreational resources in the designated area. This includes the road, rail and trail corridors between Bird and Seward and the communities of Girdwood, Portage, Moose Pass, Cooper Landing, Sunrise, Hope, Portage, Whittier, and Indian. The application deadline is August 15, 2018. More information and the application instructions are at https://www.kmtacorridor.org/grants/ or by contacting Katherine Schake, 907.205.0235 / katherineschake@kmtacorridor.org.

Alaska Association of Environmental Professionals hosts talks on cultural resources

The Alaska Association of Environmental Professionals has scheduled two brown bag talks this fall on cultural resources topics. On September 19th Kristine Bunnell will discuss the Municipality of Anchorage’s historic preservation plan. On October 16th Morgan Blanchard will speak about the World War II Japanese Internment Camp at Fort Richardson. The programs are held at the BP Energy Center in Anchorage from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information contact Lucy Flynn O’Quinn, 907.865.1209 / loquinn@dowl.com.

National Trust for Historic Preservation news

Stephanie Meeks, President and CEO of the National Trust for Historic Preservation is stepping down at the end of this calendar year after leading the organization the past eight years. Timothy P. Whalen, Chair of the Board of Trustees, thanked Meeks and credited her with implementing a new strategic vision, successfully raising funds for preservation and the Trust’s properties, working to save the federal historic tax credit, implementing policies to encourage protection and economic growth in historic urban neighborhoods, and launching the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund. A search has started for her replacement.

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PUBLIC PROJECT ALERTS:

Comment deadline: August 30, 2018
Contact: Jonathan Schick, 907.269.8776 / jonathan.schick@alaska.gov

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HERITAGE SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION:

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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 15  Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm National Heritage Area, grant application deadline, https://www.kmtacorridor.org/grants/ (Katherine Schake, 907.205.0235 / katherineschake@kmtacorridor.org)

August 20-24  National Center for Preservation Technology and Training: Advanced Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) workshop, Avoyelles Parish, LA (Tad Britt, tad_britt@nps.gov)

August 24  Alaska Office of History and Archaeology, development/predevelopment grant application deadline, http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha/index.htm (Jean Ayers, 907.269.8694 / jean.ayers@alaska.gov)


September 12-15  Alaska Historical Society / Museums Alaska, annual meetings and conference: Tundra and Ice: History in Alaska’s Arctic / Reflections, Nome (Amy Phillips-Chan, 907.443.6630 / museum@nomealaska.org)

September 13-16  Preserving the Historic Road Conference, http://historicroads.org/, Fort Collins, CO (Terry Klein, 505.892.5587 / tklein@srifoundation.org)

September 19  Alaska Association of Environmental Professionals, talk on Municipality of Anchorage’s Historic Preservation Plan, Kristine Bunnell, Anchorage (Lucy Flynn O’Quinn, 907.865.1209 / loquinn@dowl.com)


September 26-29  American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) annual meeting: Truth or Consequences, Kansas City, MO (AASLH, 615.320.3203 / info@AASLH.org)

October 15-18  National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT): Advanced 3-D Imaging and Morphometrics for Archeology, Tucson, AZ (Tadd Britt, fax 318.356.9119 / tad_britt@nps.gov)

October 16  Alaska Association of Environmental Professionals, talk on World War II Fort Richardson Japanese Internment Camp, Morgan Blanchard (Lucy Flynn O’Quinn, 907.865.1209 / loquinn@dowl.com)


November 12-15  Cultural Heritage and New Technologies, Visual Heritage 2018, Digitize: Research – Record – Reactivate – Reconstruct symposium (Boerner Wolfgang, +43 (0)1 4000 81176 / wolfgang.boerner@stadtarchaeologie.at)


2019

February 27-March 2  Alaska Anthropological Association annual meeting: Alaska Anthropology in the Age of Engagement: Communities, Collections and Collaboration, Nome ([www.alaskaanthropology.org](http://www.alaskaanthropology.org) / alaskaanthro@gmail.com)

March 13-19  National Park Service, Historic Preservation Education Foundation, University of Southern California School of Architecture, Preserving the Recent Past 3 conference, [https://www.prp3.org](https://www.prp3.org), Los Angeles, CA ([info@prp3.org](mailto:info@prp3.org))


April 24  Alaska Office of History and Archaeology, Annual Workshop, Anchorage, AK (Sarah Meitl, 907.269.8720 / sarah.meitl@alaska.gov)
May 5-8 Keeping History Above Water conference, http://historyabovewater.org/2019-st-augustine, St. Augustine, FL (Leslee Keys, 904.819.6443 / lkeys@flagler.edu)

May 7-8 National Preservation Institute, Landscape Preservation: An Introduction, Anchorage, AK, www.npi.org (Jere Gibber, 703.765.0100 / jgibber@aol.com)

May 9 National Preservation Institute, Landscape Preservation: Advanced Tools for Managing Change, Anchorage, AK, www.npi.org (Jere Gibber, 703.765.0100 / jgibber@aol.com)