

HERITAGE

Monthly news update from the Office of History and Archaeology
State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources
April 2020

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Federal Legislation

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act),

This \$2 trillion economic stimulus bill is the third in a series of emergency relief bills in response to COVID 19. Some sections of the bill of interest to the preservation community:

The portion of the bill that provides \$275 million for the General Services Administration's Federal Building Fund includes language that says:

No action taken by the Administrator to acquire real property and interests in real property or to improve real property in response to coronavirus shall be deemed a Federal action or undertaking and subject to review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 or the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

The bill includes \$75 million for the National Endowment for the Arts and \$75 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities, which can pass on the money to institutions that need it. Another \$50 million was designated to the Institute of Museum and Library Services, which distributes funds to museums and libraries. The CARES Act does not include any direct funding for historic preservation.

The following is a guide for how the \$75M in NEH funding will be distributed:
https://www.neh.gov/COVID19_FAQs

Approximately 40 percent of the appropriation, or \$30 million, will go directly to the 56 state and jurisdictional humanities councils, based on the standard population formula used for their annual appropriation. The remaining 60 percent, or \$45 million, will support at-risk humanities positions and projects at museums, libraries and archives, historic sites, colleges and universities, and other cultural nonprofits that have been financially impacted by the coronavirus. All NEH supplemental funds must be obligated to projects by September 30, 2021.

Historic Preservation Advocacy Week, March 9-12, 2020

Historic preservationists from across the country met in Washington D.C, in March for Historic Preservation Advocacy Week. They requested from Congress full funding at \$150 million for the Historic Preservation Fund, including increases for State and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers and key historic preservation grant programs like the Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization grant program, Civil Right Movement grants and the Save America's Treasures program. They requested:

- State Historic Preservation Offices: **\$61 million**
- Tribal Historic Preservation Offices: **\$22 million**
- African-American Civil Rights Movement Grants: **\$20 million**
- Civil Rights Grants for All Americans: **\$8 million**
- Historically Black Colleges and Universities: **\$10 million**
- Survey Grants for Underrepresented Communities: **\$1 million**
- Save America's Treasures Grants: **\$18 million**
- Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grants: **\$10 million**

Preservation Action's Senate Interior Appropriations testimony:

<https://preservationaction.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Preservation-Action-FY21-Senate-Interior-Appropriations-Testimony.pdf>

Office of History and Archaeology and Alaska Historical Commission news

COVID 19 Adjustments

OHA employees have been working remotely since March 23rd. This means that correspondence, phone calls, and the processing of invoices/payments may be delayed. Please have patience as we all work together during this difficult time. Thank you!

While the Office of History and Archaeology staff are working remotely, we recommend people contact staff by email. If you have a general inquiry, a project for review, or state cultural resources investigation permit application please use one of the following email addresses:

General inquiry, geographic names, Alaska Historical Commission, etc: dnr.oha@alaska.gov

Review/compliance, Section 106, project review: oha.revcomp@alaska.gov

State Cultural Resource Investigation Permits: oha.permits@alaska.gov

Section 106 COVID 19 guidance from the Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer is available at the following link: <http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha/shpo/shpocovid19.pdf>

The Alaska SHPO has invoked tolling effective March 19, 2020 regarding the timelines outlined in 36 CFR 800. With tolling, the 30-day regulatory clock that would allow agencies to proceed with their undertaking following non-response after 30 days does not apply. SHPO will be allowed to comment beyond the 30 days.

The Office of History and Archaeology's annual workshop scheduled for April 21, 2020 has been postponed to a possible fall date.

Staff News

Sylvia Elliott, Architectural Historian and review/compliance staff, retired from state service as of March 31, 2020. Best wishes go out to Sylvia. She was with the Office of History and Archaeology for seven years.

Alaska Historical Commission

The next meeting of the Alaska Historical Commission will be by teleconference on Monday, April 27, 2020. The agenda includes review of applications for grant projects from Certified Local Governments and for development/predevelopment historic preservation grant projects. The agenda also includes geographic name proposals and updates on Office of History and Archaeology programs. The tentative agenda is posted at <http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha/>

National Park Service

The Technical Preservation Services office, which administers the Federal Historic Preservation Tax program is open but the staff are currently working remotely. They may ask that project information be emailed to them. Expect delays but TPS review process is moving forward.

The National Register nominations listed from 1966-2012 are now online at the National Archives and Record Administration's (NARA) Electronic Records Archive (ERA). Scanned by the Western Archaeological and Conservation Center (WACC) of the National Park Service, the electronic nominations are now available to the public online at <https://catalog.archives.gov> or can be reached by utilizing the National Register guides online at <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/database-research.htm>. In the future, the National Register nominations will be permanently held at the National Archives and available online for researchers, excepting those restricted nominations that are withheld from public distribution under the authority of Section 304 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. §307103). Plans call for the National Register program to soon provide scanned copies of National Register documentation for properties listed from 1913 through 1918 to the National Archives.

Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park is hiring a GS-11 permanent (subject to non-pay) Archaeologist with a focus on historic archaeology.

The park, designated to commemorate the Klondike Gold Rush on 1897-99, has a broad collection of historic sites including homesteads and business spaces in Skagway, AK; the now-abandoned boom towns of Dyea and White Pass City, AK; the Chilkoot Trail; and pieces of the White Pass Trail.

There are two ways to apply for 1 available position.

<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/564091300> (Federal Employees)

<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/564091100> (Open to the Public)

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation staff are working remotely from home. The staff are available via phone and email. The Council does not envision any changes in managing project review, except in certain extraordinary circumstances. Section 106 deadlines for a State or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO/THPO) response will be considered tolled due to the coronavirus outbreak impacts on SHPO/THPO offices. For additional information visit the ACHP's website: www.achp.gov

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announce the call for nominations for the 2020 ACHP/HUD Secretary's Award for Excellence in Historic Preservation. This award honors outstanding historic preservation efforts with affordable housing and community revitalization successes. Agencies, developers, Indian tribes, and organizations are encouraged to nominate projects or activities that advance the goals of historic preservation while providing affordable housing and/or expanded economic opportunities for low- and moderate-income families and individuals.

Nominations for the 2020 cycle are due by 11:59 p.m. PDT on April 20, 2020.

Nomination details can be viewed at

<https://www.huduser.gov/portal/sites/default/files/pdf/HUD-Sec-Award-excellence-historic-preservation-2020.pdf>. Questions may be addressed to helpdesk@huduser.gov. See highlights of previous award winners at <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/about/HistoricPres-intro.html>.

National Trust for Historic Preservation:

The National Trust for Historic Preservation has compiled a list of virtual learning resources from the National Trust's Historic Sites, partners, and other museums. For information visit their website: <https://savingplaces.org/coronavirus>

Where Women Made History: The National Trust is asking for participation in their celebration of women in American history during this year as the United States commemorates the 100th anniversary of women gaining the right to vote. The National Trust is asking for submittals of a photograph and a short description of a place where a woman made history. Their goal is 1,000 places connected to women's history and they are over half way there. Visit their site for details: <https://savingplaces.org/where-women-made-history>

Annual Grants: The National Trust for Historic Preservation is accepting applications for its annual grants program. The funding ranges from \$2,500 to \$5,000 and supports preservation planning and educational projects. Application deadlines are June 1 and October 1. Applications are available eight weeks before the deadline. The National Trust reports that past grant projects have included engineering and architectural consulting services; tours that are accessible via smart devices; and market studies to assist in prioritizing preservation objectives. For more information visit <http://forum.savingplaces.org/build/funding/grant-seekers/preservation-funds> or contact Grants@savingplaces.org.

National Fund for Sacred Places

The National Fund for Sacred Places provides training, planning grants, technical assistance, capacity-building support, and capital grants up to \$250,000 to historic houses of worship of all faiths. Apply by April 22, 2020. Visit www.FundsforSacredPlaces.org for more information.

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PUBLIC PROJECT ALERTS:

Section 106 large project consultation in progress:

USDA Forest Service Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Facility Improvements

Review and compliance agreement development for large projects in progress:

Alaska LNG Project

Programmatic Agreement

Pebble Project

Programmatic Agreement

Ambler Industrial Access Road

Programmatic Agreement

Long Lake Section, Glenn Highway Rehabilitation

Programmatic Agreement

Formerly Used Defense Sites Program

Programmatic Agreement

U. S. Coast Guard Base Kodiak

Programmatic Agreement and ICRMP

For information on how to participate in the process, or on how to review and comment on the above projects, contact Sarah Meitl, 907.269.8720 / sarah.meitl@alaska.gov.

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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 judy.bittner@alaska.gov, mail to 550 West 7th Ave., Suite 1310, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3565, or telephone 907.269.8700.

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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PRESERVATION CALENDAR:

2020

April 2-4 Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation annual meeting: Conserving Cultural Landscapes, <http://ahlp.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/CFP-AHLP-2020.pdf>, Natchitoches, LA (Kimball Erdman, kerdman@uark.edu) CANCELLED

April 21 Alaska Office of History and Archaeology, Annual Workshop, BP Energy Center, 1014 Energy Court, Anchorage, AK. CANCELLED. May be rescheduled to fall.

April 22-26, SAA 85th Annual Meeting, <https://www.saa.org/annual-meeting> Austin, TX. CANCELLED

April 27 Alaska Historical Commission meeting, www.dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha, Anchorage (Judy Bittner, 907-269-8715)/ judy.bittner@alaska.gov

May 6-10 Vernacular Architecture Forum 2020 conference: Landscapes of Succession, <http://www.vernaculararchitectureforum.org/San-Antonio-2020>, San Antonio, TX (Michelle Jones, conference@vafweb.org) VIRTUAL SESSION SATURDAY MAY 9. Full conference postponed.

May 11-15, 2020 National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers Annual Meeting, <http://www.nathpo.org>, Elton, LA POSTPONED

May 29-30 Construction History Society of America 7th Biennial Meeting: Quarrying History, <https://www.constructionhistorysociety.org/7th-biennial-meeting>, Bloomington, IN (Melanie Feerst, melaniefeerst@gmail.com) POSTPONED

July 22-26 National Alliance of Preservation Commissions, Forum 2020: Preservation Coast to Coast, www.napcommissions.org, Tacoma, WA (director@napcommissions.org)

September 23-26 American Association for State and Local History annual meeting: What Kind of Ancestor Will You Be?, Las Vegas, NV (AASLH, 615.320.3203 / info@aaalh.org)

October 9-10 National Center for Preservation Technology and Training and Tulane School of Architecture Preservation Studies, 8th National Forum on Historic Preservation Policy: A Critical Examination of Preservation & the 21st Century City, New Orleans, LA (Laura Blokker, lblokker@tulane.edu or National Preservation Institute, 703.765.0100 / info@npi.org)

October 14-17, 2020 Alaska Historical Society annual meeting and conference at Sitka, Alaska.

October 28-30 National Trust for Historic Preservation, PastForward, the National Preservation Conference, Miami, FL (NTHP, 202.588.6000 / info@savingplaces.org)