

HERITAGE

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

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Federal Legislation

Congress passed in April an additional coronavirus relief package totaling \$484 billion. Historic Preservation organizations, including National Conference for State Historic Preservation Officers, and National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, are advocating for historic preservation programs to be part of future recovery and stimulus legislation.

HPF Fiscal Year 2021 funding, along with other historic preservation issues, are pending because of the coronavirus. Congress continues to work through the regular appropriations process. It is very possible that before Fiscal Year 2020 ends on September 30th, 2020, lawmakers will have to pass a continuing resolution that continues to fund the government at Fiscal Year 2020 levels until they can complete Fiscal Year 2021 legislation.

Office of History and Archaeology and Alaska Historical Commission news

COVID 19 Adjustments

OHA employees continue to work remotely. This means that correspondence, phone calls, and the processing of invoices/payments may be delayed.

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.

Staff News

Jean Ayers, Grants Administrator, retired April 30. Jean worked closely with the many historic preservation program grantees during her tenure as grants administrator for the state's historic preservation program. We wish her well.

Alaska Historical Commission

The Alaska Historical Commission held a meeting on Monday, April 27, 2020. The AHC approved four Certified Local Government grants, nine predevelopment and development grants, and three geographic name proposals.

National Park Service

Updates about the overall NPS response to COVID-19, including safety information, are posted on www.nps.gov/coronavirus.

Currently, the State, Tribal, Local, Plans & Grants (STLPG) division of the National Park Service is on mandatory telework. They request you reach out to your grant manager through email, or call at 202-354-2020. They ask that you do not send physical mail as they are unable to retrieve it, and instead send as much information digitally as you can. Regular updates are available on the State, Tribal, Local, Plans & Grants Division website: nps.gov/stlpg

The Technical Preservation Services (TPS) office remains open, with TPS staff primarily teleworking from home. The review of tax incentive applications continues (including Part 1 applications and appeals), mail continues to be received and sent out, and staff remains reachable by email and phone. Regular updates are available on Technical Preservation Services website: nps.gov/tps

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

The ACHP has implemented a coronavirus disease (COVID-19) continuity of operations plan, which includes encouraging staff to telework until further notice in an effort to limit face-to-face interactions that can contribute to a spike in infections and the spread of the virus. ACHP staff will be as accessible as always and will be working the same schedules. The staff is conducting significantly less travel and will conduct meetings via teleconference or video conference unless impracticable.

While the ACHP has staff checking regular mail, they ask that formal communications be done by electronic mail as much as possible during this time. All Section 106 notices of adverse effect

should be submitted through the e106 system until further notice. Check their website for updates: www.achp.gov

National Trust for Historic Preservation:

The National Trust for Historic Preservation, throughout the Historic Preservation month of May, is going digital with Virtual Preservation Month. To sign up, go to their website: savingplaces.org

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 still need submissions. 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.

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PUBLIC PROJECT ALERTS:

Section 106 large project consultation in progress:
Long Lake Section, Glenn Highway Rehabilitation

USDA Forest Service Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Facility Improvements

USDA Forest Service Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Programmatic Agreement amendment. Public can submit comments regarding mitigation measures on how to resolve potential adverse effects to the historic Wolf Creek Boatworks shop building through May 22, 2020. For information go to <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r10/home/?cid=FSEPRD570965>
To submit written comments go to: sm.fs.WC_Boatworks@usda.gov

Review and compliance agreement development for large projects in progress:

Alaska LNG Project

Programmatic Agreement

Pebble Project

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, 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.

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PRESERVATION CALENDAR:

2020

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) In Person meeting CANCELLED. ONLINE TRAINING offered. Registration open June 15, 2020.

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@aaslh.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)