

HERITAGE

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

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Federal Legislation

The federal fiscal year 2020 ends on September 30th and it is expected Congress will not complete a fiscal year 2021 budget bill before then. On September 22 the House of Representatives passed a continuing resolution through December 10,. The Senate needs to pass the measure and the President would need to sign it.

The House passed a Fiscal Year 2021 Department of Interior bill that provides \$136 million for the Historic Preservation Fund Historic Preservation

Fund.				FY		
2020	FY2021	FY 2021	FY2021	Admin	House	Senate
States			\$ 52.675	26.9	\$55.675	awaiting
Tribes			13.735	5.7	15.0	action
Underrepresented communities			.75	-0-	1.0	
Civil Rights Movement grants			15.50	-0-	18.0	
Civil rights – All Americans			2.50	-0-	4.25	
Historic Black colleges			10.00	8.0	10.0	
Save America’s Treasures			16.00	-0-	25.0	
Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization			7.50	-		
0-	7.5					

TOTALS \$ 118.67 \$ 40.6 \$ 136.425

* Figures are in millions.

Office of History and Archaeology and Alaska Historical Commission news

Governor Dunleavy recently appointed two new members to the Alaska Historical Commission. Forgiveness “Givey” Kochanowski, from Anchorage, is appointed to the public member seat and Raymond Bonnell, from Fairbanks, is appointed to an Alaska Historical Society recommended seat. The nine member Commission includes the Lt. Governor, citizens appointed by the Governor who are trained in archaeology, history, and architecture, a representative of Alaska Native ethnic groups, two members recommended by the Alaska Historical Society, a member from the public, and the State Historic Preservation Officer. The Commission advises the Governor on programs concerning history and prehistory, historic sites and buildings, geographic names, and review documentation for the National Register of Historic Places, and grant proposals from Certified Local Governments. The Commission also encourages and supports research, writing, and publication of information about Alaska’s past and special studies related to the state’s cultural resources.

At its September 10 meeting, the Board of Geographic Names acted on two geographic name proposals that had been considered by the Alaska Historical Commission. Every Lake, located in the Kenai Peninsula was approved. Jade Lake, located in the wilderness area of the Lake Clark National Park and Preserve was not approved.

https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/f?p=geonames_web:review_lists

A piece of Alaska history, the 1940’s era bus, made famous by the book and film “Into the Wild,” is now at the University of Alaska Fairbanks where it will receive conservation treatment. OHA helped bring the Department of Natural Resources and the university together as DNR considered disposition of the bus once it was removed from its Stampede Trail location near Healy. We look forward to the day when the bus is ready for display in an outdoor exhibit.

<https://news.uaf.edu/stampede-trail-bus-arrives-in-fairbanks-for-conservation-work/>

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.

National Park Service

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

The National Park Service announced that Joy Beasley has been appointed the permanent Associate Director of Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science. Ms. Beasley was Acting Associate Director for Cultural Resources from June 2017 until the announcement that she received the permanent job. She is also the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

Chairman Aimee Jorjani announced the issuance of a Program Comment that provides the Department of the Army with an alternate way to comply with its responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). This Program Comment specifically addresses the Army's inventory of housing, associated buildings and structures, and landscape features constructed on Army installations nationwide during the Inter-War period from 1919-1940. The Program Comment went into effect on September 4, 2020, after ACHP members voted in favor of its issuance.

On August 24, 2020, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) received a request from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to issue a Program Comment for collocations on "twilight towers." In accordance with Section 800.14(e) of the regulations implementing Section 106, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800), FCC would like to develop a tailored process for considering the effects of collocations on towers that were built between March 16, 2001 and March 7, 2005. Currently, telecommunications companies do not use these towers for collocations because FCC cannot confirm that the Section 106 process was completed for the original tower construction. In accordance with the Section 106 regulations, the ACHP has 45 days in which to review the Twilight Towers Program Comment and decide whether to approve it as proposed, approve it with revisions, request an extension, or decline to comment.

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation is offering digital classrooms for their Section 106 courses: The Section 106 Essentials and Section 106 Agreements Seminar. They will use Zoomgov.com. To learn more and register, go to www.achp.gov/training/classroom.

Council on Environmental Quality/NEPA

On September 14, the revised NEPA regulations that the Trump Administration proposed in April went into effect. The changes reduce consideration of cultural resources on infrastructure projects. <https://ceq.doe.gov/laws-regulations/regulations.html>

National Trust for Historic Preservation:

The National Trust for Historic Preservation announced its annual list of America's 11th Most Endangered Historic Places. They are examples of the nation's architectural and cultural heritage that are at risk of destruction or irreparable damage. The 2020 list includes the Yates Memorial Hospital Ketchikan, Alaska. https://savingplaces.org/stories/discover-americas-11-most-endangered-historic-places-for-2020#.X2zUc_3saUk

The National Trust listing:

Yates Memorial Hospital: Built in 1905 as a clergy house for the Episcopal Mission, the building was re-purposed in 1909 to serve as a 12-bed hospital during the boom years of Ketchikan's growth. Many dedicated and determined women worked tirelessly as nurses, under very difficult conditions, to care for the sick and injured there. The building has been vacant for 15 years and is suffering from a failing roof, foundations, and interior deterioration. Local supporters are raising funds to restore the building to include a museum featuring the nurses' stories, although the future financial impacts of the COVID crisis on Ketchikan's tourism-based economy are still unknown.

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 deadline is 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 Preservation Institute news

As a precautionary measure during COVID-19, NPI has temporarily suspended in-person training. The online training initiative complements their in-person seminar curriculum. NPI offers the option of online customized training with interested organizations. Look for training options at www.npi.org. Modules available or under development include **GIS, Historic Wood Windows, Section 106: The Meaning of Effects, Corridor Development, New Sources of Funding, Native America, Streetscapes, Cultural Landscapes, and additional Section 106 modules.**

PUBLIC PROJECT ALERTS:

Section 106 large project consultation in progress:

USDA Forest Service Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Facility

Improvements: Constructing facility improvements to accommodate visitor growth.

Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=53780

Estimated comment period October 2020.

Pebble Project

The Corps of Engineers released the Final EIS. For more information visit

<https://pebbleprojecteis.com>

Review and compliance agreement development for large projects in progress:

Pebble Project

Programmatic Agreement and CRMP

Formerly Used Defense Sites Program

Programmatic Agreement

U. S. Coast Guard Base Kodiak

Programmatic Agreement and ICRMP

Kensington Mine

Programmatic Agreement

USFS Nationwide Phasing Programmatic Agreement

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/heritage/programmatic-agreement>

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.

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

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

September 30 National Trust for Historic Preservation, Webinar, Broadening our Understanding of *Brown v Board of Education*. Free. 11am ET. <https://forum.savingplaces.org/forum-webinar>

October 13-14 Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, *Section 106 Essentials*. Digital Classroom. Two four-hour sessions on consecutive days. Class size limit – 30 participants. 12:30-4:30pm EST. Registration Fee \$350.00. To learn more and register, go to www.achp.gov/training/classroom.

October 15 Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, *Section 106 Agreements Seminar*. Digital Classroom. One four-hour session. Class size limit – 30 participants. 12:30-4:30pm EST. Registration Fee \$300.00. To learn more and register, go to www.achp.gov/training/classroom.

October 14-17 Alaska Historical Society annual meeting and conference at Sitka, Alaska. Virtual meeting under discussion. To register go to: alaskahistoricalociety.org/

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

November 10-11 Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, *Section 106 Essentials*. Digital Classroom. Two four-hour sessions on consecutive days. Class size limit – 30 participants. 12:30-4:30pm EST. Registration Fee \$350.00. To learn more and register, go to www.achp.gov/training/classroom.

November 12 Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, *Section 106 Agreements Seminar*. Digital Classroom. One four-hour session. Class size limit – 30 participants. 12:30-4:30pm EST. Registration Fee \$300.00. To learn more and register, go to www.achp.gov/training/classroom

December 8-9 Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, *Section 106 Essentials*. Digital Classroom. Two four-hour sessions on consecutive days. Class size limit – 30 participants. 12:30-4:30pm EST. Registration Fee \$350.00. To learn more and register, go to www.achp.gov/training/classroom.

December 10 Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, *Section 106 Agreements Seminar*. Digital Classroom. One four-hour session. Class size limit – 30 participants. 12:30-4:30pm EST. Registration Fee \$300.00. To learn more and register, go to www.achp.gov/training/classroom