

HERITAGE

Monthly news update from the Office of History and Archaeology
State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources
August 2016

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Federal funding and legislation for historic preservation programs

The authorization of the federal Historic Preservation Fund that supports state and tribal historic preservation programs and funds special initiatives expired September 30, 2015. Four bills being considered in Congress have HPF reauthorization provisions, and the administration's FY17 budget proposal included a provision for permanent authorization. The bills:

- 1) The National Historic Preservation Amendment Act of 2015 (H.R. 2817) would authorize the HPF through 2025 at \$150 million annually. The House Committee on Natural Resources passed H.R. 2817 in July with a provision to reauthorize the HPF for seven instead of ten years. In addition, an amendment was adopted to change the National Register of Historic Places process for sites on federal lands. The changes specify that if the State Historic Preservation Officer does not comment in 45 days on a nomination sent to him/her for review, the SHPO is considered to be opposed to the nomination; and if the Keeper chooses to reject the SHPO's recommendation, an explanation must be published in the Federal Register.

- 2) The Energy Policy Modernization Act (S. 2012) would permanently authorize the HPF. The Senate passed this bill in April, and the House passed its energy bill in May. The House bill does not include a provision of HPF authorization. The House has appointed its members to the conference committee to work on a compromise bill, however the Senate has not yet done so.
- 3) The American Energy Innovation Act (S. 2089) would permanently authorize the HPF, but goes further than S. 2012 towards full, permanent funding by requiring the funds to be available without needing an appropriation.
- 4) S. 556, called the sportsmen's package bill, has a provision to permanently authorize the HPF.

The Administration's budget proposal for FY 17 (October 1, 2016-September 30, 2017) requests \$87.4 million for the Historic Preservation Fund, \$22 million more than the FY 16 appropriation. The proposal has \$46.9 million for State Historic Preservation Offices (same as FY 16), \$11.98 million for Tribal Historic Preservation Offices (\$2 million more than FY 16), \$25 million for the Civil Rights Movement Initiative (\$17 million more than FY 16), \$500,000 for survey grants for underrepresented communities (same as FY 16), and \$3 million for Historic Black Colleges and Universities (new).

The House of Representatives passed its FY 17 budget for the Department of the Interior. It appropriates \$79.4 million for the Historic Preservation Fund. It adopts the Administration's proposed appropriations with three exceptions: increasing the appropriation for the state historic preservation offices by \$1 million, adding \$5 million for the Save America's Treasures program and reducing the Civil Rights Movement Initiative to \$11 million.

The draft Senate budget bill for the Department of the Interior provides \$67.4 million for the HPF. It increases the appropriation for state historic preservation offices by \$1 million, funds Tribal Historic Preservation Offices at \$9.985 million (same as FY 16), and funds the Civil Rights Movement Initiative at \$9 million. Senators Lisa Murkowski and Bill Cassidy led the effort to increase the funding for the state programs (the first increase in five years). Thank you Senator Murkowski!

Historic Preservation Fund:	FY 2016 Final	FY 2017 President	FY 2017 House	FY 2017 Senate proposal
States	\$ 46.925*	\$ 46.925	\$ 47.925	\$ 47.925
Tribes	9.985	11.985	11.985	9.985
Underrepresented communities grants	.500	.500	.500	.500
Civil Rights Movement initiative	8.000	25.000	11.000	9.000
Historic Black Colleges/Universities		3.000	3.000	
Save America's Treasures grants			5.000	
TOTALS	\$ 65.410	\$ 87.410	\$ 79.410	\$ 67.410

* Figures are in millions.

The House Armed Services Committee adopted an amendment to the FY 17 National Defense Authorization Act that would prevent designation of federal properties as National Historic Landmarks, World Heritage Sites, or as listings in the National Register of Historic Places when objections are raised based on national security. The amendment also directs the National Park Service to identify how to expeditiously remove federally owned historic sites when there are national security concerns. Similar amendments have been debated in prior years, but have not been included in the acts signed into

law. The National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers and other preservation groups are working to make sure the amendment is not in the final bill.

Office of History and Archaeology and Alaska Historical Commission news

Governor Walker reappointed Jonathon Ross and Douglas Veltre to three-year terms on the Alaska Historical Commission. Jon is in the designated Native representative seat on the board, and Doug in the archaeologist seat. Congratulations Jon and Doug!

The Alaska Historical Commission met July 25, 2016. Commission members discussed plans for the 150th anniversary of the Alaska Treaty of Cession commemoration. They approved two geographic name proposals for previously unnamed features, Buster Gene Lake near Gakona and Carrie Creek near Homer, and approved revised multiple property documentation on the Iditarod Trail and determined a shelter cabin in the Ophir vicinity associated with the trail is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The next commission meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, November 16, 2016. For more information contact Jo Antonson, 907.269.8714 / jo.antonson@alaska.gov.

The Office of History and Archaeology is reviewing the state's historic preservation plan, and will be writing the 2018-23 plan next year. An online survey has been created to hear from Alaskans about historic places in the state that should be preserved and what policies and programs would help promote stewardship, protection, and use of Alaska's historic properties. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AKHPP>. For additional information about the plan revision contact Summer Rickman, 907.269.8717 / summer.rickman@alaska.gov.

The office has *#ThisPlaceMatters Alaska*, an interactive map on its website, for the public to view and add photos of historic properties around the state. The site can be viewed at <http://arcg.is/1TvQihT>, and photos should be submitted to <http://arcg.is/1TvORj2>.

150th anniversary of the Alaska Treaty of Cession

The Governor's Office has contracted with Peter Metcalfe to coordinate events to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Alaska Treaty of Cession. He will be working with visitor marketing groups to publicize the anniversary, seeking funding for and facilitating several signature events, and coordinating with communities and organizations on activities. If you have ideas, he can be contacted at metcom@gci.net. A calendar of events is on the Alaska Historical Society website www.alaskahistoricalsociety.org. Groups, agencies, and individuals should send information about commemoration projects and activities to include on the list to members@alaskahistoricalsociety.org.

The Alaska Historical Commission has \$100,000 available for matching grants to assist with projects for the commemoration of the anniversary. Projects must be conducted and completed in 2017. The grants are for research and publication projects, restoration of significant historic properties, and community and heritage tourism programs. The program's goals are to deepen the understanding of the history and significance of the event and 19th century Alaska, and to encourage projects that address less well studied subjects and perspectives on the event. **The application deadline is Monday, October 17, 2016.** More information and the application are available at <http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha/designations/150Anniversary>. If you have questions about the program or application, contact Jo Antonson, 907.269.8714 / jo.antonson@alaska.gov or Jean Ayers, 907.269.8694 / jean.ayers@alaska.gov.

X'unáxi listed in National Register of Historic Places

The Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places added X'unáxi to the nation's list of historic properties worthy of preservation on July 7, 2016. The site, also known as Indian Point or Auke Cape, is the original habitation site of the Auk Kwaan in the Juneau area. The people moved to the site about 500 years ago. The site, a lookout, refuge, meeting place and place of significant events in Auke history, has ongoing sacred, spiritual and ceremonial significance to contemporary tribal members. For years it was notable for its valued herring run that disappeared from the area in the 1970s.

Denali National Park former superintendent's office receives restoration grant

The National Trust for Historic Preservation, National Geographic, and American Express *Partners in Preservation: National Parks* program selected the former superintendent's log office at Denali National Park to receive one of the twenty grants it awarded last month. The \$220,000 grant will help move the building back to park headquarters, restore it, and open it to the public. The park is partnering with Alaska Geographic on the project.

For celebration of the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act and centennial of the National Park Service, the NPS Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science Directorate continues its campaign to highlight preservation work at #50for50 and #Preservation50. More information is at <http://www.nps.gov/subjects/historicpreservation/50for50.htm> and www.preservation50.org.

U.S. Forest Service Alaska Region updates

The U.S. Forest Service Alaska Region is seeking proposals from the public to lease, adaptively re-use, and preserve the M/V *Chugach*. The boat is a 62-foot, wooden-hulled crew vessel. The last remaining ranger boat, it is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Since 1925 the boat it has been an important transportation and communications link among the communities of Prince William Sound and Southeast Alaska and assisted in many search and rescue operations. More information is available at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/MVChugach>. The project leader is Keri Hicks, Heritage Program, U.S. Forest Service Alaska Region, 907.586.7859 / khicks@fs.fed.us.

The Alaska Region has created a website "49 Sites in the 49th State" to commemorate the 50th anniversary of passage of the National Historic Preservation Act, www.fs.usda.gov/goto/AK49Sites

Association for Preservation Technology addresses climate change and cultural heritage

A focus group of the Association for Preservation Technology undertook reviewing academic papers and gray literature that address climate change and the conservation of cultural heritage. They have written a report, *Climate Change and Cultural Heritage Conservation: A Literature Review*, that is available on the association's technical publications webpage, and at:

<http://www.apti.org/clientuploads/Technical%20Committees/2015-2016/APT%20TC-SP%20Literature%20Review%20Climate%20Change%20%20Cultural%20Heritage%20Conservation%202016June30.pdf>.

Alaska Association for Historic Preservation opens Oscar Anderson House

The Alaska Association for Historic Preservation has the historic Oscar Anderson House in Anchorage open this summer. Tours are offered 12:00-4:00 p.m. except on Mondays, and on Fridays are available only by advance reservation to 907.929.9870 or oscar.anderson.house.museum@gmail.com.

Tour Nike Site Summit

The Friends of Nike Site Summit summer tours for the public to see the Cold War facility near Anchorage are August 6 and September 11. More information and to register for a tour are at www.nikesitesummit.net/nike-site-summit-tours.html. Space is limited and the tours fill fast.

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PUBLIC PROJECT ALERTS:

Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities / Sterling Highway MP 45-60 Project (Quartz Creek Road to Skilak Lake Road in the Cooper Landing area), draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and draft Section 4(f) Evaluation

Project information: www.sterlinghighway.net

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers / Donlin Gold Project draft EIS

Project information: www.donlingoldeis.com

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission / Alaska Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) project (Docket number PF 14-21), <http://www.ferc.gov>

Contact: 202.502.8258 / efining@ferc.gov

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission / Grant Lake Hydroelectric Project (Project No. P-13212-005), <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.asp>

Scoping meetings: September 7 (evening), September 8 (morning), Moose Pass
Community Hall

Contact: Kenneth Hogan, 202.502.2375 / Kenneth.hogan@ferc.gov

Comment deadline: October 10, 2016

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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.

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:

August 15-18 Kargopol State Museum of History, Architecture and Art, XIV All-Russia (with international participation) Scientific-Practical Conference, Kargopol and Russian North in the History and Culture of Russia in the 10th-21st Centuries, Kargopol, Russia (Natalia Tormosova, +7(81841) 2-26-60 / tormosovani@mail.ru)

August 17-21 Paths Across the Pacific IX conference, www.pathsacrossthepacific.org, Sitka (Nancy Yaw Davis, nydavis@gci.net or Nancy Knapp, nancykarolknapp@gmail.com)

August 24-26 National Center for Preservation Technology and Training: Hyperspectral Imaging for Conservators, Santa Fe, NM (<https://ncptt.nps.gov/training-conferences-events/upcoming/>)

September 14-17 American Association for State and Local History annual meeting: The Spirit of Rebirth, Detroit, MI (Bethany Hawkins, hawkins@aaslh.org / 615.320.3203)

September 19-22 National Center for Preservation Technology and Training: NAGPRA for Archeologists: Methods, Dialogue, and Technologies, Lakewood, CO (Tad Britt, 318.521.5641 / Tad_Britt@nps.gov)

September 21-24 Alaska Historical Society and Museums Alaska annual meetings and conference, Juneau, AK (Bob Banghart, 907.465.2912/ bob.banghart@alaska.gov)

October 17 Alaska Historical Commission, 150th anniversary of the Treaty of Cession grants application deadline (Jo Antonson, 907.269.8714 / jo.antonson@alaska.gov)

November 15-18 National Trust for Historic Preservation annual conference: Past Forward: Think big. Places. People. Innovation. Houston, TX (PastForwardConference.org)

November 16 Alaska Historical Commission meeting (Jo Antonson, 907.269.8714 / jo.antonson@alaska.gov)

November 16-18 21st International Conference on Cultural Heritage and New Technologies: Urban Archaeology and Archaeological Data: Re-use and Repurposing of Archaeologist and Historical Material and Date, Vienna, Austria (Wolfgang Borner, +43(0)1 4000 81176 / wolfgang.boerner@stadtarhaeologie.at)

November 18-20 National Center for Preservation Technology and Training: Metal Detecting for Archeologists, Rincon, GA (Tad Britt, 318.521.5641 / Tad_Britt@nps.gov)

2017

April 24 National Preservation Institute: Renewable Energy Development: Impacts on Cultural Resources seminar, Anchorage, AK (Jere Gibber, 703.765.0100 / info@npi.org)

April 25-26 National Preservation Institute: Cultural and Natural Resources: An Integrated Management Strategy seminar, Anchorage, AK (Jere Gibber, 703.765.0100 / info@npi.org)

April 27-28 National Preservation Institute: Native American Cultural Property Law seminar, Anchorage, AK (Jere Gibber, 703.765.0100 / info@npi.org)

OHA is updating Alaska's historic preservation plan and wants to know what historic places matter to you. Please share your thoughts by taking a short survey that is available online at:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AKHPP>