

HERITAGE

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

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Federal legislation and funding for historic preservation programs

Congress passed and the President signed a \$1.1 trillion bill in December funding most government programs through FY 16, including the Historic Preservation Fund. For FY 16 the total HPF appropriation is \$65.41 million, an increase of \$9 million over FY 15. The breakdown has \$46.925 for State Historic Preservation Offices (no increase), \$9.985 million for Tribal Historic Preservation Offices (\$1 million increase), \$500,000 for grants to underrepresented communities (no increase), and a new appropriation of \$8 million for grants to preserve the sites and stories of the Civil Rights Movement.

The bill did not include reauthorization of the HPF, which expired September 30, 2015. Congress can, however, still appropriate money for the HPF in annual spending bills from an existing \$3 billion balance. Currently there are four HPF reauthorization bills before Congress. Representatives Michael Turner (R-OH) and Earl Blumenauer (D-OR) sponsored the National Historic Preservation Amendment Act of 2015 (H.R. 2817) to reauthorize the HPF through 2025 at the current authorized level of \$150 million annually. Senators Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) and Maria Cantwell (D-WA) sponsored the Energy Policy Modernization Act (S. 2012), with a section to permanently authorize the HPF. Separately, Cantwell sponsored the American Energy Innovation Act (S. 2089) with a section to permanently authorize the HPF. This act differs from S. 2012 in that it goes a step further towards full and permanent funding by requiring the funds to be available without the need for an appropriation. Finally, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee passed S. 556, a bill called a sportsmen's package, with a dozen public lands and water actions including a provision to permanently extend the HPF.

Office of History and Archaeology FY 17 budget

The state administration's FY 2017 operating budget proposal for the Office of History and Archaeology has a \$13,500 decrease in General Fund Match (GFM). The state funds match the annual federal Historic Preservation Fund award which provides the state 60% of expenditures for Alaska's historic preservation program (SHPO). The proposed decrease will be a larger overall reduction for the office with the loss of the federal match funds. Much of the total amount for the Office of History and Archaeology in state budget documents is authorization-to-receive grant and project money from a variety of sources including the HPF. The OHA budget can be found at: <https://www.omb.alaska.gov/html/budget-report/department-table.html?dept=DNR&fy=17&type=Proposed>

Application deadline January 22 for 150th anniversary of the Treaty of Cession project grants

The Alaska Historical Commission has \$125,000 available for matching grants to assist with projects for the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Treaty of Cession in 2017. The grants are for research and publication projects, restoration of significant historic properties, and community and heritage tourism programs. Among the program's goals are: (1) to deepen the understanding of the history and significance of the event and 19th century Alaska, and (2) to encourage projects that address less well studied subjects and perspectives on the event. The application deadline is Friday, January 22, 2016. More information and the application are available at www.dnr.state.ak.us/parks/oha/index.htm. 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.

Rolfe Buzzell to retire

After over 35 years working for the State of Alaska, historian Rolfe Buzzell is retiring. Rolfe worked in the Archaeological Survey Unit for most of his tenure with the Office of History and Archaeology, but the last years he headed the Navigability and Trails Unit that conducted research and wrote about travel, trade, and commerce on Alaska's rivers and overland routes. In

the course of his years researching and conducting field surveys in all corners of the state, Rolfe worked with residents knowledgeable about the area where they lived and worked. He is well-known and highly regarded for his community histories. Rolfe is the author of a number of books, reports, and historical articles; perhaps his best known publication is *Memories of Old Sunrise*. He is the editor of a publication to be available this spring, *Gold Rush Wife: The Adventures of Nellie Frost on Turnagain Arm, 1895-1901 As Told To Her Daughter Dorothy Frost*. His plans are to continue to research and write about Alaska history and to keep playing music.

The Office of History and Archaeology invites friends and colleagues to come visit with Rolfe at a retirement reception Thursday, January 14, 2016, 1:00-3:00 p.m. It will be on the 1st floor of the Atwood State Office Building, 550 West 7th Avenue, in Anchorage.

Alaska Historical Commission news

The Alaska Historical Commission met December 8, 2015, in Anchorage. Commission members found St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Fairbanks eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. They discussed and adopted revisions to their guidelines for geographic names, approved three geographic name proposals and did not approve four geographic name proposals. They recommended funding three Certified Local Government projects: Anchorage and Fairbanks for preservation planning and Sitka for development. Commission members also discussed the 150th anniversary of the Treaty of Cession, possible projects and partnerships to accomplish them, and the announcement of the availability of \$125,000 to be awarded for commemoration projects.

The seat designated for a historian on the Alaska Historical Commission is vacant. Anyone interested in serving on the commission should contact the Governor's Boards and Commissions office. Information on how to apply can be found at <http://gov.alaska.gov/Walker/services/boards-commissions.html>.

For additional information about the commission contact Jo Antonson, 907.269.8714 / jo.antonson@alaska.gov or go to www.dnr.state.ak.us/parks/oha/index.htm.

Anchorage Wireless Station listed in the National Register

The Wireless Station on Government Hill in Anchorage was added to the National Register of Historic Places on December 1, 2015. The federal Alaska Engineering Commission constructed the first of three buildings at the site in 1917 for radio communications to facilitate building the Alaska Railroad. The radio receiving and transmitting system initially had a 500-mile radius, but soon was upgraded to connect with Seattle and the rest of the world. In 1921 the government allowed private citizens access to the system. The federal Washington-Alaska Military Cable and Telegraph System, of which the Wireless Station in Anchorage became a part in 1923 after the railroad was completed, became the Alaska Communication System in 1936. The station operated until the early 1960s. The three buildings at the site today are an excellent example of a government complex that provided essential radio communication for a major construction

project and then for the residents of Anchorage. The Municipality of Anchorage is now the owner of the property and is planning to rehabilitate the buildings.

OHA workshop and Advisory Council training in Anchorage week of April 17th

The Office of History and Archaeology is holding its annual workshop for agency professionals and consultants on Monday, April 18, 2016. The one day workshop will be at the BP Energy Center in Anchorage. To suggest topics for the agenda contact Mark Rollins, 907.269.8722 / mark.rollins@alaska.gov.

Later the same week, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation is offering two courses on Section 106 in Anchorage. its Section 106 Essentials introduction to federal historic preservation compliance on April 19-20; and an Advanced Section 106 Seminar on April 21. More information, including registration, is at www.achp.gov/106. If you need answers to questions contact Cindy Bienvenue, 202.517.0202 / cbienvenue@achp.gov. The Advisory Council also offers training webinars, and information about them is at www.achp.gov/sec106webinar.html.

Alaska Association for Historic Preservation soliciting for endangered properties list

The Alaska Association for Historic Preservation wants to know about historic sites and buildings around the state that are threatened by development, abandonment, vandalism, or climate change, and are in need of preservation. AAHP has been publishing its Ten Most Endangered Historic Properties in Alaska list annually since 1991. Individuals and organizations are encouraged to contact AAHP and provide information and photographs for places to be considered for the 2016 list. The deadline for nominations is March 31, 2016, and additional information is at www.aahp-online.net/10-most-endangered.html. The list will be announced in May as part of National Historic Preservation Month. If you have specific questions about the program contact Allegra Hamer, 907.929.9870 / akpreservation@gmail.com.

National Historic Preservation Act turns 50

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act and the centennial of the National Park Service, the NPS Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science directorate has started a social media campaign to highlight preservation work done in all 50 states for the last 50 years. Using the hashtag #50for50 with #Preservation50 all are invited to post about places and share preservation stories. More information can be found at <http://www.nps.gov/subjects/historicpreservation/50for50.htm>.

There is also *Preservation50: Our Legacy, Our Future*, a nationwide initiative to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of passage of the act. To join the planning discussion, take a national survey, find and publicize events, download the six Preservation50 logos, and get other tools, go to www.preservation50.org.

The Society for American Archaeology, the Society for Historic Archaeology, the Archaeology Channel, and the organization of registered professional archaeologists are planning to produce an interactive map supplemented by short videos as a 50th anniversary project. Burr Neely,

Northern Land Use Research, is the Alaska coordinator for the Making Archaeology Public (MAP) project and is working with the Alaska Anthropological Association's Public Education Group, Jenny Blanchard, Chair. To suggest sites to include, volunteer to provide content, or to get more information contact Burr Neely, 907.474.9684 / bjn@northernlanduse.com.

Russian America conference to be held in Moscow in April

The Institute of World History, Russian Academy of Sciences and the Kennan Institute are holding an international conference, "The History and Heritage of Russian America," on April 13-14, 2016 in Moscow. Papers presented will address the Russian Orthodox Church, Fort Ross, indigenous peoples, the joint-stock Russian-American and Hudson's Bay companies, as well as Russian-American relations and how they influenced the development of the North Pacific. The conference also will have presentations on contemporary international cooperation in the North Pacific and subarctic space around Siberia, Alaska, and Canada. The agenda with speakers and topics will be available in February. For more information contact Alexander Petrov, +7 916.531.6305 / alaska13@yandex.ru or Dave McMahan, 907.230.8880 / ugruk@hotmail.com.

Archaeological internship program for Alaska Native youth available

The Kivlii Heritage Foundation, a community-based consortium including the U.S. Forest Service, Kenaitze Dena'ina Tribe, Cook Inlet Tribal Council, University of Alaska Fairbanks Museum of the North, and Applied Archaeology International, are seeking applicants for an Alaska field school, June 1-July 30, 2016. Paid internships for Alaska Native youth are available. Students will work at sites near Juneau, Kenai, and outside Fairbanks. More information is available at www.appliedarchaeology.com.au. For a field school handbook, more information, and registration form contact David R. Guilfoyle, Coordinator, 907.297.8224 / dg@appliedarchaeology.com.au.

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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

Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities / West Susitna Surface Access Reconnaissance Study
Project information: <http://dot.alaska.gov/roadstoresources/westsusitna/index.shtml>

Bureau of Land Management Bering Sea – Western Interior Resource Management Plan
Project information: www.blm.gov/ak/planning/bswi
Contact: 907.267.1246 / 800.478.1263

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission / Alaska Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) project (Docket number PF 14-21)

Contact: 202.502.8258 / efining@ferc.gov

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

Project information: www.donlingoldeis.com

Comments: due April 30, 2016

Public meetings to be scheduled starting in January

U.S. Forest Service / Chugach National Forest Plan

Plan revision: www.fs.usda.gov/chugach / Land and Resource Management

Comments: chugachplanrevision@fs.fed.us

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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.

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PRESERVATION CALENDAR:

January 1 Alaska Historical Society, Historic Canneries Initiative, grant application deadline (AHS, 907.276.1596 / members@alaskahistoricalsociety.org)

January 4 Society for Commercial Archeology, 2016 Falling By the Wayside list of endangered resources nomination deadline (Ralph Wilcox, 501.324.9880 / <http://sca-roadside.org/falling-by-the-wayside>)

January 6-9 Society for Historical Archaeology and Underwater Conference, Washington, DC (shadc2016@gmail.com / 301.972.9684)

January 14 Rolfe Buzzell retirement open house, Anchorage (Judy Bittner, 907.269.8715 / judy.buttner@alaska.gov)

January 14 (January 2 if mailing) American Battlefield Protection Program, preservation grant application deadline (Kristen McMasters, 202.354.2037 / www.cr.nps.gov/abpp)

January 22 Alaska Historical Commission 150th anniversary of the Treaty of Cession grant project application deadline (Jo Antonson, 907.269.8714 / jo.antonson@alaska.gov)

January 28 Alaska Humanities Forum and State Council on the Arts, Governor's Awards for the Arts and Humanities ceremony, Juneau (Alaska Humanities Forum, 907.272.5341 / www.akhf.org)

February 2 National Preservation Institute: NAGPRA Essentials, Anchorage (Jere Gibber, 703.765.0100 / info@npi.org)

February 3-4 National Preservation Institute: NAGPRA: Preparing for and Writing Grant Proposals, Anchorage (Jere Gibber, 703.765.0100 / info@npi.org)

March 2-6 Alaska Anthropological Association annual meeting, Sitka, AK (Brinnen Carter, brinnen_carter@nps.gov)

March 8-10 National Council of State Historic Preservation Officers (NCSHPO) annual meeting and advocacy day, Washington, DC (202.624.5465 / www.ncshpo.org)

March 9-10 National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT): Petrography for Archeologists, Phoenix, AZ (Tad Britt, 318.351.5641 / Tad_Britt@nps.gov)

March 16 National Council on Public History and Society for History in the Federal Government annual meeting: On the Edge of 2016: Commemorating the Past and Shaping the Future of Federal Preservation Activities, Baltimore, MD (Barbara Little, barbara_little@nps.gov or <http://ncph.org/cms/conferences/working-groups/>)

March 19-20 Goucher College, National Forum on Historic Preservation Practice: A Critical Examination of the Next 50 Years, Baltimore, MD (Richard Wagner, rwagner@goucher.edu)

March 22-23 National Center for Preservation Technology and Training: Dance Halls, Juke Joints, and Honky Tonks: Placemaking and Cultural Sustainability Symposium, Lafayette, LA (<https://ncptt.nps.gov/events/dance-halls-2016/>)

March 31 Alaska Association for Historic Preservation, 2016 Ten Most Endangered Historic Properties nomination deadline (Allegra Hamer, 907.929.9870 / akpreservation@gmail.com)

April 6-10 Society for American Archaeology annual meeting, Orlando, FL (www.saa.org)

April 13-14 Institute of World History, Russian Academy of Sciences, and Kennan Institute: The History and Heritage of Russian America international conference, Moscow, Russia (Alexander Petrov, +7 916.531.6305 / alaska13@yandex.ru or Dave McMahan, 907.230.8880 / ugruk@hotmail.com)

April 13-16 Friends of NCPTT, Mid-Century Modern Structures: Materials and Preservation 2015 Symposium, St. Louis, MO (Mary Striegel, 318.356.7444 x224 / mary_striegel@nps.gov)

April 18 Alaska Office of History and Archaeology workshop, Anchorage (Mark Rollins, 907.269.8722 / mark.rollins@alaska.gov)

April 19-20 Advisory Council on Historic Preservation: The Section 106 Essentials, www.achp.gov/sec106webinar.html, Anchorage, AK (Cindy Bienvenue, 202.517.0202 / cbienvenue@achp.gov)

April 21 Advisory Council on Historic Preservation: Advanced Section 106 Seminar, www.achp.gov/sec106webinar.html, Anchorage (Cindy Bienvenue, 202.517.0202 / cbienvenue@achp.gov)

April 26-27 National Preservation Institute: GIS: Practical Applications for Cultural Resource Projects, Anchorage (Jere Gibber, 703.765.0100 / info@npi.org)

April 28-30 Statewide Arts and Culture Biennial Conference, Anchorage, AK (Alaska State Council on the Arts, aksca.info@alaska.gov)

May 4-7 Canadian Archaeological Association annual meeting, Whitehorse, YT (Greg Hare or Jeff Hunston, heritage.resources@gov.yk.ca)

May 9-12 Yukon Historical and Museum Association, International Centre for Northern Governance and Development, University of Saskatchewan, and Yukon College: The North and the First World War Conference, Whitehorse, YT (conference@heritageyukon.ca / www.heritageyukon.ca)

May 9-10 National Preservation Institute: The Secretary of the Interior's Standards: Treatment Considerations, Anchorage (Jere Gibber, 703.765.0100 / info@npi.org)

May 12-13 National Preservation Institute: The Secretary of the Interior's Standards: Treatment Considerations, Sitka (Jere Gibber, 703.765.0100 / info@npi.org)

May 16-20 National Park Service 2016 Archaeological Prospection Workshop, <http://www.nps.gov/mwac/>, Tallahassee, FL (Steve DeVore, 402.437.5392 / steve_de_vore@nps.gov)

May 23-June 24 Smithsonian Institution, International Course on First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis, aidincrisis@iccrom.org , Washington, DC (Lori Foley, 781.259.8652 / lori.foley@fema.dhs.gov)

May 26-29 Construction History Society of America biennial meeting: Knowledge Exchange and Transference of Building Technology, Austin, TX (<http://www.chsa-5thbiennial.org/chsa-austin-callforabstracts> / melaniefeerst@gmail.com)

June 21-23 National Center for Preservation Technology and Training: A Century of Design in the Parks, Preserving the Built Environment in National and State Parks, Santa Fe, NM (Debbie Smith, 318.356.7444 / Debbie_Smith@nps.gov)

July 27-31 National Alliance of Preservation Commissions Forum: Hip, Happening Historic Preservation@50, Mobile, AL (NAPC, 757.802.4141 / forum2016@napcommissions.org)

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

November 21-23 21st International Conference on Cultural Heritage and New Technologies: Urban Archaeology and Archaeological Data: Preservation, Re-use and Repurposing, Vienna, Austria (Wolfgang Boerner, +43(0)1 4000 81176 / wolfgang.boerner@stadtarchaeologie.at)