

## *HERITAGE*

Monthly news update from the Office of History and Archaeology  
State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources  
June 2015

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### **Federal legislation and funding for historic preservation programs**

Congressional authorization for the Historic Preservation Fund expires on September 30, 2015. Created by Congress in 1966, the HPF provides essential funding to state and tribal historic preservation offices. SHPOs, THPOs, and Certified Local Governments carry out the federal historic preservation programs. As authorized, the HPF gets its funding from outer continental shelf leases not taxpayer dollars. The National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers and its preservation partners are asking for permanent reauthorization of the HPF and full funding at \$150 million a year (the current appropriation is \$56.4 million, less than half that amount). It is important to let Alaska's congressional delegation know of the importance of the program and the need for adequate funding to preserve and protect historic properties.

President Obama's proposed budget for FY 16 (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016) has \$89.1 million for the Historic Preservation Fund, a significant increase over the FY 15 appropriation of \$56.4 million. The budget proposes \$46.9 million for state programs (same as FY 15), \$10 million for tribal programs (\$1 million increase), \$500,000 for the underrepresented grant program (same as FY 15), and two new programs: \$30.5 million for a grant program related to the Civil Rights movement, and \$2.5 million for Historically Black Colleges & Universities to

preserve Civil Rights movement resources. The proposed budget reduces funding for National Heritage Areas, funded under the Recreation and Preservation Account, by fifty percent to \$10.0 million.

The House passed the National Defense Authorization Act with Section 2853 that allows heads of federal agencies to block or revoke National Register nominations for reasons of national security and calls for the National Park Service to create an expedited de-listing process. The Senate Armed Services subcommittee did not include the section in its mark-up of its companion NDAA bill that has been sent to the full committee to act on and send to the full Senate for a vote. The Administration's Statement of Administrative Policy (SAP) on the bill objects to the provision.

### Recent Alaska listings in National Register

On March 17, 2015, the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places added two Alaska properties, the Rudy-Kodzoff House in Juneau and the Magnetic Island Site in Lake Clark National Park and Preserve, to the nation's list of over 85,000 properties worthy of preservation.

The Rudy-Kodzoff House in Juneau is significant for its unique construction of concrete and as one of the first Mendenhall Valley homestead houses. Gustav Fagerson, Concrete Products Manufacturing Company, built the house in 1915 on Charles Rudy's Ranch, a fur farm. The house served as a model home for Fagerson's locally manufactured products and he quarried his raw material near the Rudy's homestead. The house embodies Craftsman Bungalow style characteristics, a popular style for reasonably priced, energy efficient houses. It was promoted as a "Thermos Bottle" house, "warm in winter and cool in summer." The decorative elements are concrete block. A 10" thick reinforced concrete slab deck spans the front of the house and a portion of the south side. Rudy sold the house in 1930 to George and Anita Kodzoff. In the 1960s they converted the fur farm into a mobile home park that operates today. The house continues to be used as a residence and office, and is essentially unaltered from when it was built.

The Magnetic Island Site in Lake Clark National Park and Preserve is significant because it has yielded important information about the cultural chronology of Cook Inlet. The site has distinctive chipped stone artifacts that have been radiocarbon dated to 3,400-3,800 years ago. To date, few sites in the area from this period of time have been found and investigated. Site investigations revealed slab-stone square hearths and artifacts including tool types for hunting, fishing, and animal processing characteristic of the Arctic Small Tool tradition. The site has the potential to yield data important to understand cultural attribution, land use patterns, exchange networks, and population movements as well.

### National Historic Preservation Act turns 50

Historic preservationists have started *Preservation50: Our Legacy, Our Future*, a nationwide group to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of passage of the National Historic Preservation Act in 2016. The mission is to honor and raise awareness of the public value of historic preservation and to unify, diversify, and grow the preservation community to continue it for the next fifty

years. Partners and collaborators include private sector leaders in preservation, public agencies, and national, tribal, state, and local preservation organizations. To join the planning discussion, take a national survey, find and publicize events, and download the six Preservation50 logos and get other tools, go to [www.preservation50.org](http://www.preservation50.org).

The Society for American Archaeology, the Society for Historic Archaeology, the Archaeology Channel, and the organization of registered professional archaeologists have undertaken a project to produce an interactive map supplemented by short videos as a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemoration 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 907.474.9684 / [bjn@northernlanduse.com](mailto:bjn@northernlanduse.com).

### Captain Cook and Anchorage Centennial symposium June 18-21

The Cook Inlet Historical Society is hosting an international symposium, June 18-21, 2015, to accompany two major exhibits at the Anchorage Museum: *Arctic Ambitions* and *City Lights*. Captain James Cook came to the North Pacific in 1778. In his search for the Northwest Passage he sailed up the inlet now named for him. Years later, in 1915, a railroad construction camp at the head of the inlet was established that has become Alaska's largest city. Historians, former mayors, and Anchorage leaders will discuss Cook's voyage and its significance, then the early days of Anchorage and events and people who contributed to the town's story. More information about the program, and to register for *Imagining Anchorage* is available at [www.cookinlethistory.org](http://www.cookinlethistory.org)

### Oscar Anderson House in Anchorage open this summer

Starting May 26, 2015, the Oscar Anderson House Museum, at the west end of downtown Anchorage, will be open for guided tours daily except Monday. The hours are 12:00-4:00 p.m. This year, 2015, is Anchorage's centennial, and visiting the house—one of few properties from the city's earliest years—should be on your list of activities this summer if you are visiting Anchorage or if you are entertaining friends and family.

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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](http://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](http://www.blm.gov/ak/planning/bswi)

Contact: 907.267.1246 / 800.478.1263

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission / Alaska Energy Authority, Susitna-Watana  
Hydroelectric Project

Project information: [www.susitna-watanahydro.org/](http://www.susitna-watanahydro.org/)

U.S. Forest Service / Chugach National Forest Plan

Plan revision: [fs.usda.gov/chugach](http://fs.usda.gov/chugach) / Land and Resource Management

Comments: [chugachplanrevision@fs.fed.us](mailto:chugachplanrevision@fs.fed.us)

U.S. Forest Service / Tongass National Forest Sustainable Cabin Management Project

Environmental Assessment: <http://go.usa.gov/WQEk>

Contact: Victoria Houser, 907.826.1614 / [vhouser@fs.fed.us](mailto:vhouser@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](mailto:jo.antonson@alaska.gov), mail to 550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 1310, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3565, or telephone 907.269.8721.

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#### **PRESERVATION CALENDAR:**

June 18-20 Cook Inlet Historical Society, Imagining Anchorage: Captain Cook and The Anchorage Centennial symposium, Anchorage, AK ([www.cookinlethistory.org](http://www.cookinlethistory.org))

June 27-July 1 The Partnership for the National Trails System: Find Your Trail: Planning and Making Pathways into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century conference, Franklin, TN (608.249.7870 / [www.pnts.org/new/2015conference](http://www.pnts.org/new/2015conference))

June 30 National Park Service, Charles E. Peterson Prize Measured Drawings Student Competition submission deadline (Mark Schara, 202.354.2166 / [mark\\_schara@nps.gov](mailto:mark_schara@nps.gov))

June 30 National Park Service, Leicester B. Holland Prize Single-Sheet Measured Drawing Competition entry deadline ([www.nps.gov/hdp/competitions/holland.htm](http://www.nps.gov/hdp/competitions/holland.htm))

July 31 National Park Service, Historic American Landscapes Survey Challenge: Documenting Modernist Landscapes documentation deadline (Chris Stevens, 202.354.2146 / [Chris\\_Stevens@nps.gov](mailto:Chris_Stevens@nps.gov))

September 10-12 Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, & Museums, 2015 International Conference of Indigenous Archives, Libraries, and Museums, Washington, DC (ATALM, [www.atalm.org](http://www.atalm.org))

September 14 National Park Service, Shared Beringian Heritage Program project proposal deadline (Katerina Wessels, 907.644.3602 / [katerina\\_wessels@nps.gov](mailto:katerina_wessels@nps.gov))

September 16-20 American Association for State and Local History, annual meeting: The Power of Possibility, Louisville, KY (Bob Beatty, 635.320.3203 / [beatty@aaalh.org](mailto:beatty@aaalh.org))

September 30-October 3 Alaska Historical Society / Museums Alaska annual meetings: Trade Routes and Crossroads in the North Pacific and Joining Forces: Communities and Collaboration, Cordova (Mimi Briggs, 907.424.6665 / [mbriggs@cordovamuseum.org](mailto:mbriggs@cordovamuseum.org))

October 20-22 Office of History and Archaeology: Historic Preservation Conference and Certified Local Government training, Anchorage (Summer Rickman, 907.269.8717 / [summer.rickman@alaska.gov](mailto:summer.rickman@alaska.gov))

October 28-November 1 Wooshteen Kanax̄tulaneeǵí Haa At Wuskóowu / Sharing Our Knowledge: Haa saaxú, haa latseení / Our Names, Our Strength; A Conference of Tlingit Tribes and Clans, Juneau ([clanconference@gmail.com](mailto:clanconference@gmail.com) / [clanconference.org](http://clanconference.org))

November 2-5 Urban Archaeology of Vienna: 20<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Cultural Heritage and New Technologies, Vienna, Austria (Wolfgang Borner, 43.01.4000.81176 / [wolfgang.boerner@stadarchaeologie.at](mailto:wolfgang.boerner@stadarchaeologie.at))

November 3-6 National Trust for Historic Preservation: PastForward 2015, Washington, DC (NTHP, 202-588.6100 / [conference@savingplaces.org](mailto:conference@savingplaces.org))

2016

March 16 National Council on Public History 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](mailto:barbara_little@nps.gov) or <http://ncph.org/cms/conferences/working-groups/>)

June National Alliance of Preservation Commissions Forum, Mobile, AL (NAPC, 706.369.5881 / [napc@uga.edu](mailto:napc@uga.edu))