

HERITAGE

Monthly news update from the Office of History and Archaeology
State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources
September 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 for HPF authorization. The House has appointed its members to the conference committee to work on a compromise bill, but 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. 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 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 appointed Rebecca Poulson of Sitka to the open seat on the Alaska Historical Commission. Rebecca is an artist in Sitka who publishes *The Outer Coast* calendar of art and poetry yearly and teaches art to young people. She is involved in historic preservation, working to restore the World War II Japonski Island boathouse with the Sitka Maritime Heritage Society and managing several rehabilitation projects on the Sheldon Jackson School National Historic Landmark. She is researching and writing about Sheldon Jackson School and College. Rebecca has served as president of the Alaska Historical Society the past two years. Congratulations Rebecca!

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. They endorsed revised multiple property documentation on the Iditarod Trail and determined that 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 grants available

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.

The Governor's Office has contracted with Peter Metcalfe to coordinate events to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Alaska Treaty of Cession. 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.

Buildings threatened at Big Delta State Historic Park

Serious erosion of the bank overlooking the Tanana River at Big Delta State Historic Park has threatened four of the buildings in the historic district. One of the telegraph station buildings had to be moved back from the riverbank, and the trail between the bank and riverfront buildings has been closed. The Alaska Division of Parks has prepared a video that shows the site, tells of plans for bank stabilization, and invites donations as part of the Fund Your Park initiative of the National Recreation and Park Association, <http://www.fundyourpark.org/campaign/detail/4717>. You can watch it at <https://youtu.be/vRCJmM7rOZI>,

October 13th is the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act

A coalition of Preservation50 partners have created ARCUS, a cultural heritage preservation development initiative of short courses, materials and networking opportunities. Applicants for a six-month fellowship for emerging leaders this year must attend a day-long session November 14 in Houston, Texas (the day before the National Trust for Historic Preservation meeting starts there). The deadline to apply for a fellowship is October 1, 2016. For a spring 2017 fellowship, the application deadline is January 15, 2017. For more information about the initiative and fellowships contact Greg Werkheiser, 703.408.2002 / www.preservation50.org/arcus/.

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.

The Alaska Region of the U.S. Forest Service has printed a poster and 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. Contact the Office of History and Archaeology, 907.269.8721, if you would like a poster sent to you.

Preservation50 has a nationwide photography contest to show off historic places in the United States. The categories are inspiring place, endangered place, underrepresented place, and cultural landscape. The deadline for submitting photos is October 1. More information is at <http://preservation50.org/preservation50-national-photography-contest/>.

Alaska's Ten Most Endangered Historic Properties 2016 list announced

The Alaska Association for Historic Preservation announced its 2016 list of Alaska's Ten Most Endangered Historic Properties. This is the 25th year the organization has published the list to bring public awareness to threatened historically significant places around the state. The association also annually awards matching grants to several of the properties listed for hands-on work to help preserve them. A dinner and silent auction to raise funds for the grant program — Eat.Drink.Preserve.—is

happening Saturday, October 8, 2016 at the Pioneer Schoolhouse in Anchorage. This year's endangered properties list:

Kake Cannery, Kake
3 German Bachelors' Cabin, Talkeetna
Iditarod National Historic Trail, Seward to Nome
Chacon, Chugiak
Ascension of Our Lord Chapel, Karluk
Kate Kennedy House, McCarthy
4th Avenue Theatre, Anchorage
St. Michael's Cathedral, Sitka
Buckner Building, Whittier
Pilgrim Hot Springs, Seward Peninsula

More information about the properties, the organization, and upcoming fundraising dinner is at www.aahp-online.net or by contacting Allegra Hamer, 907.929.9870 / akpreservation@gmail.com

National Park Service grants and tax credit webinar

The National Park Service has a grant program for projects to preserve places and stories related to African Americans. States, tribes, local governments, and non-profit organizations are invited to apply for surveys, interpretation and education, oral histories, architectural services, historic structure reports, planning and bricks and mortar projects. The NPS will reference its study, *Civil Rights in America, A Framework for Identifying Significant Sites* (2008) when considering requests. The deadline to apply is October 14, 2016. Additional information about the program and application is available at preservation_grants_info@nps.gov.

The NPS also has a grant program for projects to preserve or to educate about confinement sites where Japanese Americans were detained during World War II. The deadline to apply for a grant from the program this year is November 1, 2016. Additional information is available at <https://www.nps.gov/jacs/> or by contacting Tom Leatherman, 510.778.4171 / tom_leatherman@nps.gov.

The Technical Preservation Services office of the National Park Service is hosting an Introduction to Rehabilitation Tax Credits webinar on September 15, 2016. Interested participants need to register at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/921183313227655684>.

New guidance from the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation issued guidance in a "frequently asked questions" format on protecting sensitive information about historic properties. It specifically addresses Section 304 of the National Historic Preservation Act that authorizes federal agencies and public officials who receive grants under the national Historic Preservation Act to withhold sensitive information about historic properties to prevent harm to them. The guidance is available at <http://www.achp.gov/304guidance.html>. For questions about the guidance, contact Kelly Fanizzo at 202.517.0200 / kfanizzo@achp.gov or Tom McCulloch at tmcculloch@achp.gov.

The council's fall Section 106 webinars have been announced. Topics include "Defining the Area of Potential Effects," "Preservation Compliance and Property Disposal," and "Overview of Program

Alternatives.” A complete list and descriptions of courses, dates, and registration instructions are posted at www.achp.gov/sec106webinar.html.

Tour Nike Site Summit

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

Mining History Association meeting in Fairbanks

The Mining History Association plans to hold its 28th annual conference in Fairbanks, June 15-19, 2017. The program committee has issued a call for papers on any topic or aspect of mining history—no temporal or geographic limits, although there is special encouragement of proposals that address mining history in Alaska and the Far North. Proposals are due November 30, 2016, and should include a title, an abstract not to exceed one page, and biographical information about the presenter and contact information. Proposals should be sent to Eric Nystrom, Program Chair, eric.nystrom@asu.edu, Arizona State University, MC 2780, 7271 Sonoran Arroyo Mall, Mesa, AZ 85212.

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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.

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PRESERVATION CALENDAR:

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

September 15-18 American Cultural Resources Association: From Midcentury to Modern: 50 Years of CRM conference, Palm Springs, California (Kerri Barile, 540.899.9170 / kbarile@dovetailcrg.com)

September 15 National Park Service, Introduction to Rehabilitation Tax Credits webinar, <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/921183313227655684> (Karen Brandt, karen_brandt@nps.gov)

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 8 Alaska Association for Historic Preservation, eat.drink.preserve dinner and silent auction, Anchorage (Allegra Hamer, 907.929.9870 / akpreservation@gmail.com)

October 16 National Park Service, Civil Rights Grant application deadline, preservation_grants_info@nps.gov (Jeremy Barnum, 202.208.6843 / jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)

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

October 21 Office of History and Archaeology, Certified Local Government grant application deadline (Jean Ayers, 907.269.8694 / jean.ayers@alaska.gov)

November 1 National Park Service FY 2017 Japanese American Confinement Sites grant application deadline, <https://www.nps.gov/jacs/> (Tom Leatherman, 510.778.4171 / tom_leatherman@nps.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)14000 81176 / wolfgang.boerner@stadtarchaeologie.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)

November 30 Mining History Association annual conference: call for proposals deadline, Fairbanks, AK (Eric Nystrom, eric.nystrom@asu.edu)

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)

June 15-19 Mining History Association's 28th annual conference, Fairbanks, AK (Eric Nystrom, eric.nystrom@asu.edu)

